

# MVHS CHOIR

2020-2021 Disclosure Documents

Teacher: Mr. Brett S. Taylor  
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Consultation time: by appointment only

*Chamber Choir*

ACAPPELLA

*Con Brio*

MAN CHOIR

CONCERT CHOIR

Motive

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The choirs of Mountain View High School provide students with high-level choral training and performance opportunities. Students will learn fundamentals of healthy vocal production, basic and advanced musical literacies, music history, and successful performance and rehearsal habits. Students will perform frequently outside of class in both solo and ensemble settings. In addition, students will interact with and find meaning in music by listening, understanding and creating.

## OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

- Performance – Students will use body, voice, and instruments as means of musical expression.
  - Understand basic vocal physiology.
  - Produce a beautiful tone.
  - Demonstrate technical performance skills (vowel formation, balanced attacks, unified releases, crisp diction, etc.)
  - Demonstrate mastery of successful choral habits.
  - Demonstrate productive rehearsal and performance behavior.
- Literacy – Students will learn to read a variety of music texts.
  - Understand, read, and write the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) symbols pertinent to choral music.
  - Develop the audiation skills necessary for accurate intonation in vocal performance.
  - Understand, read, and write standard music notation.
  - Accurately interpret and follow conducting gestures.
- Listen/Analyze/Evaluate – Students will expand music listening skills and use musical vocabulary to describe, analyze and evaluate music.
  - Analyze and evaluate musical examples.
  - Evaluate ensemble performances.
  - Describe the musical elements present in a performance.
  - Document personal growth as a singer.
- Discover Meaning – Students will find avenues of understanding and communication through connecting music to personal growth, culture and history.
  - Examine how music relates to personal development and enjoyment of life.
  - Experience how music connects us to history, culture, heritage and community.
- Personal – Students will develop positive character traits as applicable to a music classroom.
  - Develop a bold, confident and fearless performance demeanor.
  - Set, track and achieve personal music goals.

## NATIONAL STANDARDS ([nationalartsstandards.org](http://nationalartsstandards.org))

Create: Generate, organize, develop, and refine ideas into a complete artistic work.

Perform: Interpret artistic ideas, refine artistic work and convey meaning through presentation.

Respond: Analyze, interpret, and evaluate artistic work.

Connect: Relate personal experiences, culture, and history with artistic ideas.

# THE CHORAL CLASSROOM

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## CLASSROOM MATERIALS

Students are to have the following in their seat with them every day of class:

- Assigned music and folder
- Pencil (sharpened or filled)
- Water bottle

## CLASSROOM PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to be focused and work hard in class. The refining of music is not an easy task and requires great patience and attention to detail. It is our intention that students learn to “find fun in being focused.” The following guidelines will ensure success and satisfaction for all:

- Students will make all necessary bathroom stops before class.
- Students will leave all personal belongings (except required classroom materials) along the front and sides of the classroom. Students will not bring their backpacks or books to their seats with them.
- Students are to be in their seats with the necessary materials when the tardy bell rings.
- No cell phones are to be used during class, except when given permission.
- No food, gum or drinks (except water) are permitted in the choir room.

## PARTICIPATION

Choral music by definition is very much a group effort. Each member of the ensemble is vital to the group’s success. Each singer must be present and punctual at rehearsals so as to receive the same instruction so that we may perform with unity. Nothing is more important than daily participation in our rehearsals.

## ABSENCES

If a student misses class for any reason, they are expected to spend 30 minutes of personal practice to make up for the 70 minutes of ensemble rehearsal missed. Visit [mvhschoir.org/misc](http://mvhschoir.org/misc) for the make up form; this contains detailed instructions and is to be turned in upon completion.

## GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS

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### GRADING SCALE

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| A | 90-100%  |
| B | 80-89.9% |
| C | 70-79.9% |
| D | 60-69.9% |
| F | 0-59.9%  |

### ASSIGNMENTS LISTED

| <b>Assignment</b>                 | <b>Point Value</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Exam                              | 50                 |
| Comfort Zone Assignment           | 50                 |
| Quartet Rehearsals (Chamber only) | 30                 |
| Goal Writing and Reflections      | 30                 |
| Sight-Reading Checks              | 25                 |
| Ear Training Assignments          | 25                 |
| Music Transcription Assignments   | 25                 |
| Disclosure Document Signature     | 10                 |
| Quizzes                           | 10                 |

Other assignments will come up as applicable to isolated units and a point value will be allocated appropriately.

### PERFORMANCES

The performance is the culmination and celebration of months of hard work and focus. Each member of the choir is vital to the success of the performance and attendance is essential to success. Families are expected to plan accordingly so as to allow their students to fulfill their commitment as members of a performing ensemble.

### COMFORT ZONE ASSIGNMENTS

Students will complete a Comfort Zone assignment once every term (once per semester for AC). The CZ Assignment is designed to build the confidence necessary for successful choral performance. Students are to identify a situation that would put them out of their comfort zone (with the stipulation that it not be illegal or against school policy) and then willingly and consciously step into such a situation. Students then write a one-page reflection describing the event and its significance to them.

### QUARTET REHEARSALS

Chamber Choir members are required to rehearse weekly for 30-minutes with their assigned small ensemble. The members of the ensemble will arrange a time and a location that is mutually agreeable in order to accomplish this.

### GOAL WRITING AND REFLECTIONS

Without a goal, nothing is accomplished. Students will periodically set, track, revise and assess personal learning goals. Students may handwrite or type their goals and submit them either in hard-copy or electronically.

## CONCERT ATTIRE

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### A CAPPELLA – ROBES

Each student will be assigned a robe, stole and garment bag. When not in use, always hang up the robe with the stole placed over the shoulders of the robe. Always keep your robe in the garment bag provided. There is a \$50 robe fee (\$25 per semester), which covers the maintenance of robes as well as periodic robe, stole and garment bag replacement due to normal wear and tear. Fines will be assessed for any lost or damaged robes. **This robe is to be worn for performances only, never for personal use.** The replacement cost of each robe is \$250.

Underneath their choir robe, students are to wear all black. Students may choose to wear their black choir shirt or another suitable black shirt in addition to the following:

Men – Black dress pants (must hold a crease down the front), long black socks, black dress shoes (must be able to hold a polish)

Women – Long black dress pants or dress (ankle length); black socks, hose or tights (opaque); black closed-toe dress shoes (no heels)

### CON BRIO AND SYMPHONIC VOICES – DRESSES

Dresses for Con Brio and Symphonic Voices are coordinated through the choir program. Girls in both classes will be measured and sized during class hours. Girls will be given less than a week to coordinate with used dress sellers and purchase a used dress, if they would like. Cost for used dresses is \$50. After that time has passed, a new dress will be ordered for them. Cost for Con Brio dresses is \$75. Cost for Symphonic Voices dresses is \$70. Girls in both choirs will wear black flats underneath their dress (provided by the student).

### MAN CHOIR – SHIRT AND TIE

Half of the Man Choir performance attire is coordinated through the choir program; the other half is the responsibility of the individual student. The responsibility of the student is to provide black dress pants (must hold a crease down the front), plain black belt (with conservative buckle), long black socks, and black dress shoes (must be able to hold a polish). Through the choir program, each singer is sized for a black dress shirt and red tie. In order to maintain uniformity, these shirts and ties must be obtained through the choir program. The cost for the shirt and tie together is \$25 and must be paid in full to the finance office before students can pick-up them up.

### CHAMBER CHOIR – DRESSES AND SUITS

Chamber performance attire changes every year, and is coordinated between Mr. Taylor and student leaders. While the class at large is polled, the final decision lies solely with Mr. Taylor. Students purchase their dresses and suits and are responsible for their maintenance. Prices are generally between \$100-\$200.

### CONCERT CHOIR

Performance attire for Concert Choir is the responsibility of the student.

Women – All black with white accents. Ladies may wear dress pants or dresses (must be at least knee length; longer is preferred). Footwear must be closed-toe; no heels.

Men – Black dress pants (must hold a crease down the front), long black socks, black dress shoes (must be able to hold a polish), plain black belt, long-sleeved white dress shirt (ironed, if necessary). A black skinny tie will be checked out to you on the night of the concert, and must be returned immediately after.

## OTHER

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### FEES

Participation in Mountain View High School choirs requires a \$50 participation fee (\$25 per semester). The participation fee allows our program to run independent of the school's finances. Participation fees cover but are not limited to the following: purchase and maintenance of sheet music, festival fees, travel costs, t-shirt costs, classroom resources and supplies, classroom technology, accompanist fees, recording costs, guest clinicians fees, professional organization memberships and conferences (UMEA, ACDA, AEA, UEA, LMA), costumes, props, microphones, piano tuning, choir risers, sound shell, audio speakers, awards and rewards, room decoration, publicity, guest artists, festival adjudicators, etc.

All fees are due to the finance office before the first concert of each semester.

### CHAMBER CHOIR ADDITIONAL COSTS

Participation in Chamber Choir brings additional costs. Member will purchase a cardigan (approximately \$30), which is used throughout the year for informal performances.

### TOUR

One of the features and thrills of the school year is the choir's annual tour. The three most advanced choirs (Chamber Choir, A Cappella and Con Brio) are expected to participate in tour. Tour location, dates and cost will be presented and vetted in a September parent meeting. We invite all parents to participate in this important decision. Parents will receive information via e-mail as it becomes available. Tour can cost anywhere from \$200 - \$1,400.

### RELIGIOUS MUSIC IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“It is the position of MENC: The National Association for Music Education that the study and performance of religious music within an educational context is a vital and appropriate part of a comprehensive music education. The omission of sacred music from the school curriculum would result in an incomplete educational experience.” (<http://www.nafme.org/my-classroom/music-selection/sacred-music/sacred-music-in-schools-position-statement/>)

The study of sacred music at MVHS does not therefore promote any specific religion, its beliefs, intents, or purposes and the study of such music in the choral classroom will be limited to its musical, historical, and cultural elements.

## CALENDAR

| <b>Event Name</b>                  | <b>Date</b> | <b>Event Time<br/>(for audience)</b> | <b>Call Time<br/>(for students)</b>  | <b>Those Involved</b>         |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Choir Opening Social               | Aug. 27     |                                      | 1:30-3:30                            | All Choirs                    |
| A Cappella Fall Retreat            | Sept. 12    |                                      | 9:00-3:00                            | A Cappella                    |
| Fall Concert Dress Rehearsal       | Oct. 5      |                                      | 1:30-3:30                            | All Choirs                    |
| Fall Concert Performance           | Oct. 6      | 7:00                                 | 6:00                                 | All Choirs                    |
| Veterans Day Performance           | Nov. 14     | 10:00 (am)                           | 9:00-12:00                           | Chamber Choir                 |
| Winter Celebration Dress Rehearsal | Dec. 9      |                                      | 1:30-3:30                            | All Choirs                    |
| Winter Celebration Performance     | Dec. 10     | 7:00                                 | 6:00                                 | All Choirs                    |
| Winter Educational Tour            | TBD         |                                      |                                      | Chamber Choir                 |
| Christmas Assembly                 | Dec. 16     | 11:00 (am)                           | 10:45                                | Chamber Choir and A Cappella  |
| Mega-Concert Rehearsal             | Jan. 13     |                                      | 6:30-8:30pm                          | All Choirs                    |
| Mega-Concert Rehearsal             | Jan. 21     |                                      | 6:30-8:30pm                          | All Choirs                    |
| Mega-Concert Rehearsal             | Jan. 26     |                                      | 6:30-8:30pm                          | All Choirs                    |
| Mega-Concert Rehearsal             | Feb. 3      |                                      | 6:30-8:30pm                          | All Choirs                    |
| Mega-Concert Tech Rehearsal        | Feb. 8      |                                      | 2:30-6:00                            | All Choirs                    |
| Mega-Concert Dress Rehearsal       | Feb. 9      |                                      | 2:30-6:00                            | All Choirs                    |
| Mega-Concert Performances          | Feb. 10-11  | 7:00                                 | TBD                                  | All Choirs                    |
| Valentines                         | Feb. 12-13  |                                      | All day                              | Chamber Choir                 |
| Region Solo and Ensemble           | Mar. 10     |                                      | 3:00-7:00<br>(individual time slots) | Individuals who qualify       |
| Region Chamber Choir Festival      | Mar. 10     |                                      | TBD (late<br>afternoon)              | Chamber Choir                 |
| Region Training Choir Festival     | Mar. 17     |                                      | TBD (right after<br>school)          | Man Choir, Con Brio           |
| Region Large Choir Festival        | Apr. 14     |                                      | TBD (right after<br>school)          | A Cappella                    |
| Choir Tour                         | TBD         |                                      |                                      | Chamber, A Cappella, Motive   |
| State Solo and Ensemble            | May 1       |                                      | 9am-6pm<br>(individual time slots)   | Individuals who qualify       |
| State Chamber Choir Festival       | May 1       |                                      | TBD                                  | Chamber Choir (if qualifying) |
| State Large Choir Festival         | May 14      |                                      | TBD                                  | Choirs that qualify           |
| Final Concert Dress Rehearsal      | May 12      |                                      | 1:30-3:30                            | All Choirs                    |
| Final Concert Performance          | May 13      | 7:00                                 | 6:00                                 | All Choirs                    |
| Final Motive Performance           | May 18      | 7:00                                 | 6:00                                 | Motive                        |
| Graduation Performance             | May 25      | 3:30                                 | TBD                                  | Chamber Choir                 |

\*\*\*It is very difficult to anticipate every event. Please be flexible as things come up and schedules change. Sufficient notice will always be given.

Mountain View High School offers education to all students and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin. Students who have a grievance with another student or any school employee should talk to the school administration or a counselor about their concerns.

## DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT SIGNATURES

By signing below, you agree that have read the disclosure document in its entirety and agree to abide by the policies, procedures and expectations expressed therein.

Choir Class in which student is registered (circle all that apply):

A2 Chamber Choir    A3 Con Brio    A4 Man Choir    B6 A Cappella    B7 Concert Choir    B9 Motive

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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## PARENT SUPPORT

Please indicate any areas in which you are willing to assist the choir program.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact: \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to contribute in the following areas (circle all that apply):

Sewing  
Costume Design  
Ticket Sales  
Makeup  
Stage Managing  
Sound Recording  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Chaperoning on Choir Tour (if student is in touring choir)  
Chaperoning on Choir trips (retreat, festivals, Temple Square)  
Videography  
Photography  
Pro Audio  
Food Preparation/Serving