

MVHS CHOIR

2018-2019 Disclosure Documents

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Consultation time: by appointment only

Chamber Choir

A CAPPELLA

Con Brio

MAN CHOIR

Symphonic Voices

CONCERT CHOIR

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)

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

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. Students will receive a maximum of 10 points for each day they are on time and participating in class activities. Inappropriate cell phone use, distracting comments or behavior, and excessive talking will all result in a loss of daily participation points.

Because of the vital nature of rehearsal time, students cannot make up participation points for unexcused absences. For excused absences, students may complete the “Choir Make Up Work” form to redeem the points missed, but **it must be completed within a week of the missed day**. School excused events need not be made up.

SICK POLICY

If a student is too sick to sing, then it is advisable that they not attend school. Should they decide to attend school anyway, the student will be under quarantine so as to not negatively affect the rest of the choir. Sick students will sit at the front of the classroom, facing the rest of the choir and take notes. They then use these notes to practice at least 30 min on their own time within a week of the sick day. Students then use the “Choir Make Up Work” form to indicate their completion of this time. By turning in the make up form and their notes, the student will receive full participation points for the day.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Students are not to use cell phones during rehearsal unless given permission. There is a zero-tolerance policy for cell phones. If a student is caught using a cell phone without permission, Mr. Taylor will simply take note of it and the student will lose all of their participation points for the day. These points cannot be made up.

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS

GRADING SCALE

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

ASSIGNMENTS LISTED

Assignment	Point Value
Performance	100
Exam	50
Dress Rehearsal	50
Comfort Zone Assignment	50
Concert Critique	50
Solo and Ensemble Participation	50
Quartet Rehearsals (Chamber only)	30
After School Rehearsals	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 absolutely mandatory. Families are expected to plan accordingly so as to allow their students to fulfill their commitment as members of a performing ensemble.

Students receive points for each of five categories: physical preparation, concert etiquette, memorization, performance, and punctuality. Some categories are self-assessed by the student, others are impacted by student leadership reports, and others are graded by Mr. Taylor. Each performance is worth a total of 100 points.

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.

CONCERT CRITIQUES

In order to understand what makes a great choral performance, all students in the MVHS Choir Program will attend a choral concert separate from those in which they perform. The chosen concert must be choral in nature, of a high-school level or higher, and be at least 45 minutes in length. Students will then complete the green Concert Critique form and submit. While some concerts will be posted and announced to students, it is ultimately the responsibility of the student to ensure the completion of this assignment.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE PARTICIPATION

Members of Man Choir and Symphonic Voices are required to participate in the Mountain View High School Solo and Ensemble Festival. Students will sign up for a time on one of the available days. Help will be provided, but students are ultimately responsible for finding music and an accompanist. Members of Chamber Choir, A Cappella, Con Brio and Concert Choir are encouraged, but not required to participate.

ENSEMBLE 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

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. There are a limited number of used dresses available that will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis as announced in class. Those that need to order new dresses will be sized in class. Cost for Con Brio dresses is \$55 for a new dress and \$35 for a used dress. Cost for Con Brio shoes is \$20 for new shoes and \$10 for used shoes. Cost for Symphonic Voices dresses is \$70 for a new dress and \$50 for a used dress. Symphonic Voices girls 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 tie will be rented to you.

OTHER

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. They will also pay for the cost of the Masterworks Festival (\$10 for sheet music, \$35 for festival participation), which is in late January.

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 determined in September in a parent's 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 - \$1,200.

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

Event Name	Date	Event Time (for audience)	Call Time (for students)	Those Involved
A Cappella Retreat	Sept. 22		9:00-3:00	A Cappella
Dress Rehearsal	Oct. 8		2:30-4:30	All choirs
Fall Concert	Oct. 9	7:00	6:00	All choirs
ACDA Conference	Oct. 27		TBD	Chamber Choir
Masterworks Rehearsal @ OHS	Oct. 29		2:00-3:30	Chamber Choir
MVHS Piano and Vocal Solo & Ensemble Festival	Nov. 2		2:30-5:00 <small>(individual time slots)</small>	Any interested
Veterans Day Performance	Nov. 10	10:00	9:00-12:00	Chamber Choir
WHS Choir Share	Dec. 3		1:00-5:00	Man Choir, Symphonic Voices and Concert Choir
Winter Celebration Dress Rehearsal	Dec. 10		2:30-4:30	All choirs
Winter Celebration Concert	Dec. 11	7:00	6:00	All choirs
Mini-Tour	TBD			Con Brio
Temple Square Performances	Dec. 12	12pm Church History (CH/CB) 2pm JSMB (AC) 7pm NVC (MC/SV/CC)	TBD	All choirs
Christmas Assembly	Dec. 18	8:00 (am)	7:00 (am)	Chamber Choir and A Cappella
Mega-Concert Rehearsal	Jan. 10		6:30-8:30pm	All choirs
Chamber Masterworks Rehearsal	Jan. 12		9:00-12:00	Chamber Choir
Mega-Concert Rehearsal	Jan. 16		2:30-4:30	All choirs
Mega-Concert Rehearsal	Jan. 22		6:30-8:30	All choirs
Chamber Masterworks Rehearsal	Jan. 23		3:00-9:00	Chamber Choir
Chamber Masterworks Rehearsal	Jan. 24		9:00-5:00	Chamber Choir
Chamber Masterworks Performance	Jan. 24	7:00	TBD	Chamber Choir
Mega-Concert Rehearsal	Jan. 31		2:30-4:30	All choirs
Mega-Concert Tech Rehearsal	Feb. 4		2:30-6:00	All choirs
Mega-Concert Dress Rehearsal	Feb. 5		2:30-6:00	All choirs
Mega-Concert Performances	Feb. 6-7	7:00	TBD	All choirs
Valentines	Feb. 14		All day	Chamber Choir
Region Solo and Ensemble	Mar. 13		3:00-7:00 <small>(individual time slots)</small>	Individuals who qualify
Region Chamber Choir Festival	Mar. 13		TBD <small>(late afternoon)</small>	Chamber Choir
Choir Tour	Mar. 13-18			Chamber, A Cappella, Con Brio
Region Large Choir Festival	Apr. 17		TBD <small>(right after school)</small>	A Cappella, Con Brio
Region Training Choir Festival	Apr. 24		TBD <small>(right after school)</small>	Man Choir, Symphonic Voices
State Solo and Ensemble	Apr. 27		9am-6pm <small>(individual time slots)</small>	Individuals who qualify
State Chamber Choir Festival	Apr. 27		TBD	Chamber Choir (if qualifying)
State Large Choir Festival	May 10		TBD	Choirs that qualify
Final Concert	May 16	7:00	6:00	All choirs
Graduation Performance	May 30	9:00am		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 B8 Symphonic Voices

Student Name _____ Student Signature _____

Parent Name _____ Parent Signature _____

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