

Centaur Choir

Grades 10-12

Course Description

Centaur Choir provides students the opportunity to develop individual musicianship within the large ensemble context. Students will learn healthy vocal technique while rehearsing and performing music from a wide range of styles and periods.

The IB Learner Profile in music

- **Inquirers** – explore new styles of music outside of our day-to-day experiences
- **Knowledgeable** – develop your understanding of the voice, the structure/form of music, and the deeper meanings of song texts
- **Thinkers** – apply what you know about a piece to how you *perform* the piece
- **Communicators** – move beyond singing a song and into telling the story
- **Principled** – hold yourself to a higher standard of musicianship and take responsibility for your own development.
- **Open-minded** – give each piece of music its due, and perform it to the best of your ability
- **Caring** – enable the vocal development of the singers around you by providing support and encouragement
- **Risk-Takers** – sing fearlessly
- **Balanced** – develop all aspects of musicianship equally (intellectual, emotional, and physical)
- **Reflective** – let your mistakes teach you

Course Objectives

At the end of this course, students should be able to...

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the vocal process
- apply appropriate terminology to show aesthetic and critical awareness
- define and set goals, solve problems, and make decisions
- sing confidently as a form of expression and communication while demonstrating a range of skills
- present work through formal and informal performance and exhibition
- reflect upon and evaluate their work in order to set goals for future development
- use group discussion/feedback to support and promote creative development
- assess and appraise their work and that of others
- accept and incorporate views and feedback from others to further develop artistic potential

Essential Questions

- Why sing?
- What is the function of music in our culture and cultures around the world?
- Is music powerful?
- How is singing a song different from performing a song?

Materials

These items need to be brought to class everyday.

- Pencil
- Music scores (handed out in class)
- A readiness to participate

Students are encouraged to have a water bottle and a set of highlighter markers for score marking.

Teaching and Assessment

As choir is a performance-based class, all students are expected to participate in the class activities. Class activities include, but are not limited to:

- Daily rehearsal
- Small group lessons
- Daily sight-singing activities
- Home practice journals

A weekly participation grade will be given for the above activities.

Concerts are the final assessments, and make up the bulk of points awarded during the semester. **Attendance at concerts is mandatory.** Unexcused absences will result in a complete loss of points for that performance. Students with excused absences will be allowed to make up the points for missed concerts, but it is the responsibility of the student to get the make-up assignment from Mr. Countryman, and to turn it in on time. If a student's absence from the concert is excused, the parent/guardian must contact Mr. Countryman to verify the absence.

Concert dates are still to be determined.

Performance attire at concerts is black pants and a plain white shirt, no t-shirts (please note that this may change based upon the cost of getting new choir polo's).

Grading Scale

A – 90-100%

B – 80-89%

C – 70-79%

D – 60-69%

F – 59% and below

Class Expectations

- NO GUM
- Be polite
- Sing

Please sign the attached form to indicate your understanding of the information presented in this syllabus and return the form to Mr. Countryman by Friday, Sept. 12th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. E-mail is the best way to reach me and facilitates the quickest response.

Josh Countryman
jcountryman@brookcntr.k12.mn.us
763.561.2120 ext. 2601

Choir info and student resources can be found at www.BCHSchoir.com.

Students and Parents/Guardians, please sign and return this form by Friday, Sept. 12th.

We have read and understood the information presented on Centaur Choir.

Student name (printed)

Student signature

Parent name (printed)

Parent signature