

WELCOME

To

CHICOPEE COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL CHORUS

We love music because we're human being and we do have passion.

Choral director/Piano/Keyboard/Guitar Instructor
Ms. Borowiec

Chorus ensembles

Chorus handbook

Forms

Links

Music notation:

<http://www.finalemusic.com>

<http://www.finalemusic.com/notepad>

Music recourses:

<http://jwpepper.com>

<http://www.musictheory.net>

www.smartmusic.com

Entertainment:

<http://www.bushnell.org>

<http://www.springfieldsymphony.org>

Piano/Keyboard

Guitar Class

Vocabulary

CHORAL ENSEMBLES

MIXED CHORUS

7062-01 Chorus A (1st semester)

7072-01 Chorus B (2nd semester)

CREDITS: 2,5

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: Elective. Meets one-half of fine arts graduation requirement.

Grades 9,10,11,12

No audition necessary

The Mixed Choir performs high quality literature for men's and women's (mixed) voices. Choir is open to any student who wishes to sing. The curriculum is designed to cover the basic foundations of music reading and vocal techniques for the beginning musician. The Mixed Choir performs at two concerts a year and at the CCHS Graduation ceremony. Participation will be under teacher discretion.

CONCERT CHORUS

Full year course

CREDITS: 5

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: Elective. Meets the fine arts graduation requirement.

Grades 9,10,11,12

Interview or prior musical experience is required

No audition necessary

The curriculum is designed to increase musical skills and abilities to an advanced level. Emphasis is placed on vocal and performance techniques and on the development of musicianship. Students sing high quality choral literature in three and four parts. The Concert Choir performs at two concerts a year and at the CCHS Graduation ceremony. Participation is mandatory. Competitions, recordings, solos, and small ensemble opportunities will be available.

PIANO/KEYBOARD

7122-01 Keyboard A (1st semester)

7132-01 Keyboard B (2nd semester)

7122-02 Keyboard A (1st semester)

7132-02 Keyboard B (2nd semester)

CREDITS: 2,5

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: Elective. Meets one-half of fine arts graduation requirement.

Grades 9,10,11,12

No previous piano/keyboard experience is necessary.

This course is offered to all students who are interested in developing piano/keyboard skills; beginner through advanced levels. Students learn on their own pace on an individual piano or keyboard. Emphasis is placed on student's individual achievement at the piano/keyboard including fundamentals of musicianship. Recording opportunities will be available.

GUITAR COURSE

CREDITS: 2,5

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: Elective. Meets one-half of fine arts graduation requirement.

Grades: 9,10,11,12

Pre-requisites: none

This introductory course is designed to give the beginning guitarist an opportunity to develop the fundamentals of guitar. The course study will include note reading, chord structure, scale patterns, fingering, strumming rhythms, finger picking, flat picking, and performance. Recording opportunities will be available.

CCHS CHORUS HANDBOOK

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Chicopee Comprehensive High School Chorus members are dedicated to developing musical knowledge and experience a wide variety of types and styles of music. Members are to give 100% of their cooperation, concern, and support of the Director and of each other. Together WE strive to meet CCHS Chorus Curriculum goals:

Students will develop:

- sight-reading
- music technology skills
- strong, mature vocal quality
- tonal memory capability
- self-confidence and pride on stage
- understanding of high quality choral literature
- aesthetic appreciation

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

1. Chorus Members are expected to behave as ladies and gentlemen at all times and treat each other with mutual respect.
2. The quality of performance is determined by the quality of daily practice. Members must *focus* with mind, body, and spirit. Additional rehearsals will be announced and are mandatory to attend.

DAILY EXPECTATIONS

(CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADE LOWERED FOR INFRACTIONS)

1. Get your choral folders as you enter the room; be seated, *make sure you have a pencil* to arrange your music during rehearsal. Actively observe, mark music, and learn.
2. Check boards for dates and announcements.
3. Place all books/bags beneath your chair. Under no circumstances should you go into someone else's folder unless asked to do so by the Director.
4. If for some reason you cannot participate in rehearsal, clear with the Director before the beginning of the class.
5. Misbehavior, talking without being recognized, or any other disruptions will not be tolerated at any time.

6. If you have money to turn in, do it only prior to class startup. Be sure your name and what the money is for is clearly marked. Checks are preferable. If you have forms to turn in, do it only prior to rehearsal startup.
7. **No chewing gum, candy, food, drinks, or hats are allowed in the chorus room.**
8. Replace folders in proper slots on shelves, straighten chairs and pick up trash at end of rehearsal. (Section Leaders responsible for your area.)
9. The student will strive to utilize all vocal technique aspects learned throughout the class period...including proper posture and music marking.
10. If music is missing or you need to be issued a copy, **write a note** to the Choral director; indicate your vocal part and the title of the song.
11. Hands off the piano and other musical equipment, including stereo and recording studio, unless agreed to by the Director.
12. **No Admittance** into the Director's office, storage room, or library without Director's permission.
13. Disrespect, offensive/suggestive language will not be tolerated.
14. No one allowed outside Chorus Room without permission.

CONCERT ETIQUETTE EXPECTATIONS

1. Expected dress/uniform will be announced far in advance.
2. Warm-up rehearsal order will be posted far in advance to allow for sound/lighting checks; tardiness/absence from this warm-up will affect grade.
3. You are expected to focus on the Director from the time you arrive on stage until you depart stage; no talking/glancing to anyone while on stage. Watch Director attentively. If using music, hold professionally; folder is in LEFT hand while approaching stage.
4. The only proper recognition of appreciation is applause; no screaming/yelling, etc.
5. **NO FOOD/DRINK/CANDY/GUM** in performance area or dressing areas!
6. Do not leave performance area without clearing with Choral Director. You are expected to attentively stay in your seat for the **DURATION** of the performance. Parents **SHOULD NOT** expect you to leave after you perform or to arrive to a performance **LATE** in order to only be present for your particular group's performance. You are expected to appreciate the efforts of all of your peers with respectful comments. You are expected to remain in assigned concert dress for the duration of the performance.

CHORAL FOLDERS

Students are financially responsible for their folders and the contents provided by the school.

All folders are to be returned to the folder cabinets after each rehearsal. Students should return to the choir room after school to take their folder home for study and practice.

GRADING SYSTEM

All choral music classes are curricular courses. Activities and performances are considered curricular whether during school hours or after school and are justifiably graded. Students also will periodically complete a self assessment reflecting his/her achievement in the required activities.

Attendance and Participation	- 40%
Performance	- 40%
Written and vocal quizzes	- 20%
Final Exams	- Winter concert (1 st semester) - Spring concert (2 nd semester)

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Attendance and participation are essential for maintaining excellence in choral performance and will therefore constitute a large segment of the student grade. All chorus students are required to attend all scheduled after school rehearsals and performances. In the event of a schedule conflict, the student must report to the Chorus Director in advance at least 24 hours prior to the conflict.

Any physical condition which prevents a student from singing in class should be reported to the director **BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**. Even then, the student is expected to sit in his/her proper place and actively, yet silently, study the music being rehearsed that day.

WRITTEN and VOCAL QUIZZES

Written/singing quizzes will also constitute a portion of the student's grade. These quizzes will evaluate the student's achievements in vocal development, sight-singing skills, and general musical knowledge.