



CC Griffin Chorus

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Course Overview

In this class we will learn the basic elements of music, how to read it. We will SING - even online! The goal is always to produce a quality sound and to enjoy and appreciate the beauty of music and what it does for our spirit as human beings. If we get to do concerts this year, all the better!

Course Objectives

Students will learn to:

- ♪ Distinguish and apply unison and part singing - alone, at first, then in ensemble as we return to school
- ♪ Recognize and use standard musical terms and markings within the choral repertoire.
- ♪ Recognize and apply proper vocal techniques: seamless transitions from low to high range, tone quality, intonation, diction, phrasing, and care of the voice.
- ♪ Demonstrate awareness of and appreciation for the diversity of choral repertoire. We will explore different genres and styles in our singing, and in our listening.
- ♪ Develop sensitivity toward musical text as it relates to meaning and emotional quality.
- ♪ Evaluate musical performances
- ♪ Demonstrate appropriate stage presence, proper performance and audience etiquette and, if applicable, correct microphone technique (when we return to school).
- ♪ Participate in a variety of public performances in varying genres, and at state and local competitions (when we return to school).
- ♪ Use synchronized movement or choreography in conjunction with vocal performance, when appropriate.
- ♪ Develop music reading skills.
- ♪ Acquire and apply "sight reading" and ear training skills.
- ♪ Recognize and read rhythms in duple and triple meter.
- ♪ Recognize and read melodies in the key signatures of C, F, G, D and Bb majors.
- ♪ Recognize and read melodies with diatonic (stepwise) motion and skips of at least 3rds.
- ♪ Apply a minimum of two-part singing. (We begin 6th grade in unison and progress to 2-part. By 8th grade we are singing at least three and often four part harmonies.)
- ♪ Compose melodies with guided directions.
- ♪ Learn the basics of the piano keyboard.

Expectations

Students are expected to participate in live online classes on their assigned days. If there is a reason you cannot “go live” with us, you will need to view the recorded class and make up the work.

You will participate in a respectful manner - free of disruption and inappropriate conversation.

Please make sure you are in a quiet location where you can give your full attention to the class. NO playing of video games or watching TV while you are online with the live class.

When we return to the building, the following expectations will be enforced.

- 👉 When the bell rings, students are to be in their seats with their binders out, and pencils ready.
- 👉 There will be NO food, chewing gum, or candy allowed in class. The only exception is a water bottle with a lid.
- 👉 Students will wash their hands in the classroom sink before class. There will be no bathroom breaks or water fountain breaks.
- 👉 Students will maintain a positive attitude while showing respect for themselves, the director, and others at all times.
- 👉 Students will actively participate and show interest in the class.
- 👉 Students will take pride in their accomplishments and support classmates’ positive efforts.
- 👉 Choir is a **SAFE CLASS!** This means that every student has a voice, and no ridicule, mocking, shaming, or making fun of anyone else will be tolerated. I will show respect for you, and I expect the same in return.

Grading

No one learns at the same rate or in the same manner and everyone comes to class with different skill sets and musical knowledge. However, your grade is within your control. I do NOT “give grades”. You EARN them. You will be evaluated based on your class participation, vocal and music reading skill mastery, your responsibility in showing up for class and participating, turning in any assignments on time, and (when we are back in school), attendance at ALL performances. It’s totally up to you! Your grade will be computed as follows:

CLASS PARTICIPATION, ASSIGNMENTS, QUIZZES: 30%

PERFORMANCES, TESTS: 70%

This is designed to be a PERFORMANCE class. ALL PERFORMANCES ARE MANDATORY AND WILL NOT BE EXCUSED WITHOUT A DOCTOR’S NOTE! You will NOT be excused for not having a ride, not feeling well, not having the ‘right’ clothes, forgetting, or for sports/other activities. Make sure you are aware of the BEFORE signing up for this class!

Final Comments

I believe EVERY person is a musician! Pablo Picasso said that every child is an artist, but the trick is to remember that skill once they've grown up. The same holds true with music. Whether or not we ever learn how to play an instrument, we ARE instruments!

Music has the ability to help us enjoy life, share joy, comfort those who are hurting, and develop confidence in our abilities and our "being" as our skills improve. Music is not a job for me. It is a passion and a joy that I want to share with each of you!

I look forward to working with you - and being back in class soon!!

Mrs. Young



Chorus Fee

There is a \$10 per semester chorus fee required for this class. This helps cover the purchase of music, fees for posting said music online for students, and - when we return to school - travel expenses for field trips, registration fees, etc.... You can pay \$10 and \$10 at the beginning of each semester, or \$20 up front. Please pay this on the school website under fees.

Performance Attire

When we return to school, this will be the required clothing for all performances, unless specifically stated otherwise.

We dress PROFESSIONALLY for concerts!

Boys: Black dress pants, black dress socks, black dress shoes, white long-sleeved, collared shirts and a black ties. NO BLACK JEANS! (Jackets are not required)

Girls: You may wear black shirts or DRESSY slacks with a dressy white blouse, OR you may wear a black dress. Shoes must be black dressy, but NOT HEELS. No sandals, boots, flip-flops, crocs, tennis shoes, etc.... Open toed shoes are not preferred because of the risers. You could catch on the corner and fall. Nothing that is skin-tight will be accepted - therefore, NO leggings, skinny pants, or black jeans.

Fundraisers

I haven't decided if we will attempt fundraisers this year or not. Our usual fall fundraiser company is no longer doing fundraisers and since we are online, we may skip it. If we are back in the spring, I'll be in touch about a fundraiser then.

Normally, we will do two fundraisers per year to cover expenses for travel, etc.... There is NO budget for the arts in Cabarrus County, so whatever we do, we have to raise the money for it. Normally I purchase 15-30 pieces of music per year and just one of them can cost \$75 or more. Bus expense is also quite costly. When we do fundraisers, I would greatly appreciate your help!

Concert Dates

I usually have the calendar completely planned for this syllabus, but since we don't know what to expect for this year, I'm leaving this section blank. More information will follow when our circumstances change.