

JPJMS Choir Addendums

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“Sing, then. Sing, indeed, with shoulders back, and head up so that song might go to the roof and beyond to the sky. Mass on mass of tone, with a hard edge, and rich with quality, every single note a carpet of color woven from basso . . . and baritone, and alto, and tenor, and soprano, and also mezzo, and contralto, singing and singing, until life and all things living are become a song.” - Richard Llewellyn, “How Green Was My Valley”

Hello, and let me say how gratifying it is to have you join the wonderful world of singing! Music will become (if it isn't already) a big part of your life after taking this class & I can personally guarantee that you won't regret your time spent here. If you will put in the effort & practice required to learn the concepts and techniques I teach you, you will become a singer of fine music & your voice will forever make someone smile.

Requirements:

- Minus/rehearsal tracks will be found on Canvas for the songs you are singing. You will be expected to practice* your music outside of class for 20 minutes each night. This is important so you learn your part & commit it to memory. We spend class time refining parts, making the music more aesthetically pleasing, but it would definitely be beneficial if you would practice @ home each & every day.
- Biweekly practice records are due & are a big part of your grade in these classes.
- Singing exams where you will have to come up in smaller groups (usually 4-8 people or 1/2 on each part) & test on your memorized knowledge of the songs we are singing (lyrics, rhythm, etc.)
- Theory exams/quizzes & aural listening/singing tests: in addition to learning songs, you will be taught basic music theory in order to become better musicians.
- Attendance @ concert performances & live performances in the community (dates to be announced soon). These performances are not optional - they are part of your grade! You are part of this choir & we need your voice @ the performance. We've practiced with you every day in class & we've come to rely on the sound we have during rehearsal - don't demean our sound during performance by being absent. Your presence is essential to our success.

***NOTE FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS: Please help your student find these 20 minutes (whether it be before bed each night, right after they get home from school, after their chores, or in the morning after they get up) where they can practice their music so they can be a better musician @ school.**

CONCERT CHOIR - Additional Information

Being a member of an advanced group such as Concert Choir requires students to be wonderful ambassadors of our school. Students will follow the PROWL Expectations (Be Prepared, Be Respectful, Be On Time, Have a Winning Attitude, and Listen) in school, out of school, & especially on field trips.

As members of this performance group, I encourage you to be a self-motivator. If you will miss school, check with your teachers before the activity to get your assignments, so you can stay caught up. It is a privilege to be @ these performances; schoolwork comes before extra-curricular activities. It's important to keep your grades up & make sure you don't let your GPA slip below a “B” average.