Massabesic High School – Chamber Singers

Block 4 - GREEN

Ms. Guilfoyle

Email: heatherguilfoyle@rsu57.org

Office hours: By request

**Course Objective:** Chamber Singers is an advanced vocal **performance**-**based** course in which students improve their vocal ability through rehearsals, individual practice, and performances. Students will also gain a better knowledge of music literacy, theory, and terminology. Singing in a choral ensemble is a group activity. The most successful choral groups are ones that have a feeling of responsibility shared amongst all of its members. The drive to succeed needs to come from more than the conductor.

**Class Materials**

-Black 1” 3 ring Binder

-Pencil (one should always be kept in your binder)

-Water (Only Water, no other food or drink)

-Positive attitude (I like people who smile)

**Concert Attendance and Attire**

**Concert Date: Thursday December 17th, Auditorium**

 **Call Time: 6:15PM**

 **Concert: 7:00PM**

Concert Performances will occur outside of normal class hours, attendance to these are **MANDATORY** and will be part of your final grade.

**Females –** Black Dress (Provided with contract)

 Black Dress Shoes

**Males –** Black Dress Pants

 Black Collared Shirt

 Green bow tie (provided)

 Black Dress Shoes

If you think you may have a problem with the attire please come speak to me as early as possible.

At performance, please refrain from wearing strong perfumes and body sprays as it can be an issue if others have allergies.

**Attendance**

As an advanced ensemble, students have more responsibilities than those in chorus. Included in these responsibilities are to attend extra rehearsals outside of normal rehearsal hours. Attendance is MANDATORY.

 **Morning Rehearsals:** Start at 7AM and occur every week unless cancelled by the teacher.

 Monday – Basses

 Tuesday – Sopranos

 Wednesday – Altos

 Thursday – Tenors

 **Grading** – If you attend all sectionals you will get a 4.0 or 100.

 One Absence – Okay, things happen. **NO** **PENALTY.**

Two Absences – Grade will go down to a 3.5 or 96

Three Absences – Grade will go down to a 3.0 or 92. Guiding principles will be impacted.

Four Absences - Grade will go down to a 2.5 or 80 Guiding Principles will be impacted.

Five Absences – Grade will go down to a 2.0 or 67 Guiding principles will be impacted.

 **Make up** – If you are unable to attend morning rehearsals. You will be required to make up the time by coming in during activity, or attending a make up after school rehearsal. (Day of Week to be decided)

 **Sectionals-** Each Sectional will be counted as its own grade and if they attend they will receive a 100. If a student is performing poorly in the class they are requested to miss, the teacher will request that they not be taken out of that class for that sectional. The student will be exempt from going to the sectional. If there is no communication the student will be given a 0.

 **Concert** – Participation in the concert is **MANDATORY.** Only students who have a doctor’s note or proof of a family emergency can be exempt from this.

 **Field Trips** – Attendance on field trips is encouraged but optional.

**Student Leadership** – Student Leaders will be **STUDENT** picked. Student leaders should be students who demonstrate commitment to the group and wish to do more for it. Student leaders should have excellent communication skills and be comfortable working with others. The four position titles will be President, Vice President and Secretary and Representative.

 **Tasks:**

-Attendance taking.

 -Lead smaller groups of singers in rehearsal and performance (ex. Christmas Caroling groups)

 -Be a role model for good rehearsal etiquette.

 -Be able to attend an occasional extra after school meeting to discuss topics like fundraising, and meeting with other chorus class leaders. (15 meetings total. Leaders can miss up to 2 meetings with prior notification. If a leader misses more there will be a re-election.)

 -Assist with use of the Activity account

**Grading**

Grades will be given on a 1-4 scale:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Proficiency Level | 4.0 Scale Correlation | 0 – 100 Scale Correlation  |
| Mastery | 4 | 101 |
| Proficient | 3 | 92-100 |
| Partially Proficient | 2 | 67 -91 |
| Developing | 1 | 40-66 |

\*Students falling in between Proficiency levels will receive a .5

**There will be two types of assessments**

*Formative Assessment:* Include such things as observations during class and class work. You will receive both formal and informal feedback. Will be reflected in your work habits assessment

*Summative Assessment:* Include Quizzes, Tests, Projects, and Performances. Will be recorded and viewable on Infinite Campus and/or Empower as evidence.

**Guiding Principles**

Guiding Principles will be assessed separately from academic grades. Guided principles will be evaluated during rehearsal and taken into consideration on every graded assignment.

The guiding principle grades include coming to class prepared with all of the above materials, rehearsal etiquette and handing in assignments on time.

**Assignments**

This class is not a homework intensive class. However students are expected to do some work on their own outside of class. For some assignments class time will be allotted, but for others, none will and students are expected to complete them in their own time. From time to time students may be assigned something that is not on this list.

 **Live Performance Evaluation –** Students are expected to complete **TWO** Live Performance Evaluations in a semester. Students are encouraged to check out music events hosted by the school. They can also attend local concerts, church services. The forms will be in the room on Empower and in the classroom. Students are responsible for completing this in their own time.

 **Practice Journals** – Students will be asked to keep a weekly practice journal. They are not expected to practice everyday but should log at least **THREE** 15 minute practice sessions a week. Practice journal sheets can be found on empower and in the classroom.

 **Create your own arrangement –** Students will be agreeing on a song they would like to sing. Figuring out its chordal structure and then coming up with their own arrangement which they will write down and perform in the final concert.

**Measurement Topics**

This class will aim to make you proficient in the following Measurement Topics

 **Performance: Voice**

 **Literacy: Melody**

 **Literacy: Rhythm**

 **Literacy: Dynamics**

 **Sight Reading**

 **Music ICA**

 **VPA: Criticism**

 **VPA: Aesthetics**

 **VPA: Culture and History**

I am looking forward to a great semester!

**Acknowledgement of Responsibility**

I have read the syllabus and understand what is expected. I agree that I will bring up any conflict or issues with Ms. Guilfoyle immediately.

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Student)

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Parent)

**Dress Contract**

Dress Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Students are responsible for taking care of their dresses.

At the end of the trimester/year. Students are required to return their dresses to the Massabesic Music department.

**On Return**

Dresses must be washed and returned on a hanger **AND** in a Bag.

These dresses **ARE** machine washable.

If a dress comes back damaged (ex. Stained or torn.) it must be replaced. The student will be *responsible* for the replacement costs, in the amount of $60.

I agree to the conditions and responsibilities stated above.

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Student)

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Parent)