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CLEVELAND CHOIRS

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CHOIRS

“Body, Mind, Spirit, Voice,

It takes a whole person to sing and rejoice”

-Helen Kemp

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**LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR**

**Hello Cleveland Choir Parents, Guardians & Students!**

We hope you have enjoyed your summer, relaxed, and re-energized for an exciting school year! It is my pleasure to welcome you all as members of the 2019-2020 Cleveland Choral Department! New beginnings are exciting and full of energy and we have many things ahead of us this year as a department! I am excited to build on the work we did last year with those of you who are returning to the program and I can’t wait to get to know those of you who have just joined us. Your Choir Council and I have many fun things planned for this year!

***Here are a few highlights:***

We have our first new piano from the Key Change project in our rehearsal space, A’Choir is going on retreat this year (info given in class), we have many activities and get-togethers for all choirs planned thanks to the Choir Council team, our *Friends of Cleveland Choirs* is continuing to expand, and we have numerous fabulous concerts and festivals coming your way. As we grow as a program, so do our opportunities. We hope that you will dive into this program and truly make choir a highlight of your day and years at CHS!

***Fundraising needs this year at a glance – more info within the handbook***

*The Friends of Cleveland Choirs will be meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month see website for locations!*

Fundraisers are a big part of our choir program. We love to be able to offer students with ample opportunities for travel, activities, choir “gear”, and experiences. Fundraising greatly helps with this. Here are just a few reasons your child might want to fundraise in choir.

* Tour or Retreats - We hope to provide a tour for our A’Choir members every other year starting **next** year. We need to begin crafting a long-term plan and fundraising so all our members can attend. If you are interested in helping with these trips please email me and consider becoming a part of our FOCC.
* Choir Gear – We will be offering a department sweatshirt this year for all choirs, A’Choir will have its own unique gear
* Choir trips to musicals/operas/choir concerts – student tickets available
* Working with expert clinicians in town and from out of state – fees to pay them & travel expenses
* Pay for a senior outing – We hope to offer a senior outing each year. Funds to help offset costs will be raised and saved for each year so that all seniors can go.

***Concert Information***

Our Concerts are mandatory. Think of them as final exams. Our students want to be able to participate, so please help them prioritize and plan for their robust activity obligations as you organize your schedules for the year.

We want and need the whole choir present to showcase our music.

Please put these dates on your calendars NOW! [The calendar is also posted on the choir website.](https://clevelandhschoirs.weebly.com/calendar.html)

I am so excited to get to work!!

With Harmony,

Allison M. Bassett

Director of Choirs

[abassett@pps.net](mailto:abassett@pps.net)

[www.clevelandhschoirs.weebly.com](http://www.clevelandhschoirs.weebly.com)

**STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

The CHS Choral Department believes that every human being needs and deserves a first-hand experience in learning and creating music. We are committed to providing challenging and diverse musical ensembles and experiences that are available to everyone. Students who are an active part of our choral program will develop strong music literary skills, healthy choral technique, and a growing global perspective. We believe strongly that choir helps young students develop a healthier self-esteem and emotional intelligence, improved self-discipline, a positive work ethic, and empathy for others.

Studying and mastering music takes time and dedication. Students who engage with music deeply and mindfully will see the immense benefits a musical education can bring to their lives.

Students in our ensembles will:

* Discover, appreciate and value one’s own abilities, the abilities of others, and the beauty of all types of musical expression
* Improve their musical abilities, increase vocal skills, and gain knowledge and awareness of the voice, music theory, musicianship and music history
* Develop creative self-expression in rehearsals, performances, and everyday life
* Develop an awareness of the aesthetics of music, and enhance one’s musical artistry
* Gain self-confidence by communicating with others through music and social situations in choir
* Become motivated and inspired to become a life-long performer and connoisseur of music in any context
* Seek-out musical experiences as a performer or audience member to enrich their lives and the lives of others

**BECOMING A TRUE MUSICIAN**

Becoming a true musician takes time, commitment, and hard work. The skills, habits, and frame of mind one needs to become a fierce musician can be extremely challenging to maintain. Your growth towards this goal will depend on you and the choices you make on your musical journey. The reward for this hard work however is immeasurable and perhaps one of the most profound human experiences one can have – creating and sharing music with others.

***Practice and Discipline = Freedom***

*The following skills and habits will help you become a well-rounded musician*

* *Attend ALL REHEARSALS, on time, with all needed materials*
* *Practice outside of class time regularly – find a routine and stick to it*
* *Ask questions and be curious about musical skills you have yet to master*
* *Attend concerts and performances of various styles, genres, and skill levels*
* *Listen to music beyond your typical “go-to” tunes and bands*
* *Record yourself singing and listen with a gently critical ear*
* *Consider taking voice lessons or instrumental lessons, especially the piano*

**CHORAL ENSEMBLE OFFERINGS**

**TB Chorus -** *”Nova Basso” (same class period as Nova Altus)*

A vocal ensemble composed of tenor/bass voices grades 9-12, *TB Chorus* is designed to develop vocal technique and musicianship through the exploration of music theory, sight-reading & TTBB choral literature at an introductory level. This ensemble performs at regular concerts and other civic/special event opportunities through the community and can be taken in addition to other ensembles.

**SA Chorus -** *”Nova Altus” (same class period as Nova Basso)*

A vocal ensemble composed of treble voices grades 9-12. Nova Altus is designed to develop vocal technique and musicianship through the exploration of music theory, sight-reading, & treble choral literature at an introductory level. This ensemble performs at regular concerts and other civic/special event opportunities through the community and can be taken in addition to other ensembles.

**SSA Chorus -** *”Vox Harmonia”*

A vocal ensemble composed of treble voices grades 10-12 with instructor approval. *Vox Harmonia* is designed to provide training for the treble voice in an isolated setting to help develop treble vocal technique and intermediate level musicianship through the exploration of music theory, sight-reading, & treble choral literature. This ensemble performs at regular concerts and other civic/special event opportunities through the community and can be taken in addition to other ensembles.

**SATB Chorus –** *“ ‘Aureum’ Choir”*

An auditioned choral ensemble composed of mixed voices grades 10-12, *‘A’ Choir* is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to develop and maintain a strong and healthy singing voice within an **advanced choral** setting. Students will experience vocal training using a wide variety of quality choral literature, vocal warm-up techniques, music theory, and diverse performance experiences designed for the advanced choral student. This ensemble travels and attends events such as the OSAA State Competition, Oregon Music Educators Association and American Choral Director sponsored choral and solo events throughout the year. ‘A’ Choir members are required to attend sectionals as well as attend all required performances to remain as members of the ensemble.

*(Audition only; 10th-12th grade)*

**SATB Contemporary/Chamber Chorus -** *”Daires”*

A vocal ensemble composed of up to 28 singers of mixed voices. *Daires* is designed for advanced musicians to explore a variety of vocal styles including jazz, pop, madrigals and standard choral literature. *Daires* travels to festivals and performs at a variety of civic/special events and venues throughout the year. Each member is essential to the sound of this small ensemble & must be able to commit to attending all events & performances outside of school hours. Ensemble individuals are encouraged to perform at Solo Ensemble and must be enrolled in ‘A’ Choir in order to remain as a member of the ensemble.

*(Audition only & must be enrolled in ‘A’ Choir; 10th-12th grade)*

**TB Choir @ Lunch -** *”The Lunchables” (Tuesday/Thursday Lunches)*

A student led/guided choral ensemble composed of TB voices. *The Lunchables* are an extra-curricular activity that is designed to develop vocal technique and musicianship through the exploration of barbershop, a cappella, and contemporary Tenor/Bass vocal literature.

*(open to all TB Voices, students curious about the choral program are welcome to attend! Bring a friend!)*

**CHORAL CLASSES SCHEDULE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A** | **B** |
| TB / SA CHOIR (NON-AUDITIONED) | IB MUSIC SL/HL |
| STUDY HALL | SSA CHOIR (TEACHER APPROVAL) |
| ‘A’ CHOIR (LRG. SATB AUDITIONED) | PREP |
| PREP | ADVANCED SATB CHOIR (DAIRES) |

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR MUSICAL GROWTH**

**PRIVATE LESSONS**

Private lessons are a great way to further your vocal growth and music education on a more individual level and are strongly encouraged. Private lessons offer a valuable opportunity for one-on-one instruction with a specialist that allows a student to work on improving their vocal technique, accelerate their musicianship skills, and to build vocal confidence singing alone and with others. For recommendations on finding a qualified teacher that would be the right fit for you, please contact Ms. Bassett.

Lessons will also be available during some class periods within the school setting with approved vocal teachers for students to get a chance to experience this type of practice. More information will be given at the beginning of school.

**SOLO/ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL**

Students will have the opportunity to perform at two solo/ensemble festivals, you DO NOT have to have a private voice teacher to participate, BUT it is highly encouraged unless you are deeply motivated.

OMEA Regional Solo/Ensemble Festival

OSAA State Solo/Ensemble Festival (must receive a division “I” rating at regional contest to qualify)

[www.osaa.org](http://www.osaa.org) and more info on here: <https://clevelandhschoirs.weebly.com/honor-choir-info.html>

**OMEA STATEWIDE 9-12 SATB HONOR CHOIR**

**Event:** January 16-19 2020

**Location:** Eugene, Oregon

**Deadline:** Audition materials must be recorded and submitted by OCTOBER 1st, 2019

Please visit <https://www.oregonmusic.org> for more details.

Students must submit auditions and recommendations by the deadline to be considered for this event.

Students who successfully audition and are accepted into the OMEA Honor Choir will be responsible for their registration, travel and lodging expenses. (some scholarships may be available)

**ACDA ALL NORTHWEST 9-12 HONOR CHOIR**

**Event:** March 11-14 2020

**Location:** Spokane, WA

**Deadline:** Audition materials must be recorded and submitted by OCTOBER 1st, 2019

Please visit <http://www.nwacda.org> for more details.

This event is available to students who successfully audition and are accepted into the NAfME-NW Division Honor Choir. Registration, travel and lodging expenses are the responsibility of the auditioning student and their family.

**ACDA 10th-12th NATIONAL HONOR CHOIR**

**Event:** Not Again until 2021 – Think about auditions in 2020 next fall for this event!

**Location:** TBA

**Deadline:** N/A

Please visit <http://acda.org> for more details.

This event is available to students who successfully audition and are accepted into the ACDA SSAA or TTBB Honor Choirs. Registration, travel and lodging expenses are the responsibility of the auditioning student and their family.

**SECTION LEADER POSITIONS**

**Primary Section Leaders:**

* A member in good standing in an ensemble that demonstrates required vocal skills
* Responsible for social events, musical questions, and the overall wellbeing of their respective section
* Has been trained to lead sectional rehearsals and maintain effective compassionate leadership of the section throughout the year (May attend choral leadership workshop in upcoming years)
* Must demonstrate a desire to learn how to mindfully and respectfully work with others

**Secondary Section Leaders:**

* A member in good standing in an ensemble that demonstrates required vocal skills
* Assist primary section leader in creating a strong and effective section
* Records attendance of members in their section at all sectionals

**PERFORMANCE DRESS CODE**

**Performance Attire Philosophy**

We are ONE ensemble made up of many individuals. When we are performing, we want the focus to be on the music we create and the experience we share with our audience. Anything that will distract from this goal should be set aside for our performance, knowing it is not a judgement of your individual tastes or choices in our own daily life. *You represent the CHS Choir on and off the stage. Your dress attire should always reflect our professionalism on and off the stage, especially when we travel.*If you have any questions about what is acceptable and what is not PLEASE come talk to me well in advance of the performance and we will chat about it!

**ALL ENSEMBLES**

* **JEWELRY**
* Minimal is best, small neutral jewelry encouraged
* Facial piercings within reason are completely fine
* **HAIR**
  + Please secure long hair or bangs out of your face so we have minimal reaching up to fix it
  + I have no problem with dyed hair that you regularly have
  + **CLOTHING**

**NOVA CHOIRS & VOX HARMONIA**

SOLID Black Attire

* + Not too short, tight, low, or revealing, and no see-through fabrics
  + Dress or Skirt – KNEE LENGTH OR LONGER
  + Dress pants (no leggings)
  + Dress shirts (no tank tops or thin strap tops)
  + Black nylons (If wearing dress/skirt)
  + Black socks (If wearing pants)
  + ALL black dress shoes - NO HIGHER than 1” heel (important for singing technique)
* Optional accessories: suspenders, vest, bow tie, tie, scarf, pocket squares

ACCENT COLOR NOVA - Blue (teal) or Green (dark)

ACCENT COLOR VOX – RED

**‘A’ CHOIR**

* Assigned Choir Robe
* Black nylons or black pants with black socks
* Black dress shoes - NO HIGHER than 1” heel (important for singing technique)

**DAIRES**

* Agreed upon Choral attire (To be discussed in the first few weeks of the 201/20 school year)

***IMPORTANT POLICIES: PLEASE READ***

*The performance dress code is a part of your \*Performance proficiency grade.*

*Please be prepared for all dates listed in the CALENDAR well in advance.*

*All Members must purchase, fundraise or acquire school assistance to purchase their uniform.*

*At no time is a partial choral uniform to be worn. You are expected to arrive at the performance venue in the proper attire and wear it until you have left the premises.*

**CHOIR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

The Choir Leadership Council provides students with the opportunity to practice leadership skills within a musical organization under the direction and guidance of Ms. Bassett. Students elected into leadership positions will be able to collaborate with each other to cultivate the kind of educational and social atmosphere they wish to see within their choir community!

The leadership team will be busy planning events and social gatherings throughout the year. If you have ideas or desires, feel free to let one of the leadership council members know or leave us a suggestion in our online suggestion box!

<https://clevelandhschoirs.weebly.com/choir-leadership-council.html>

**2019-2020 Leadership Team**

***Presidents:*** *Maggie Carr & Gemma Dallas*

***Vice President:*** *Kate Daley*

***Choir Manager:*** *Hannah Crenshaw*

***Librarian:*** *Elena Breedlove*

***Secretary:*** *Eva Huynh*

***Social Media Specialists:*** *Mia Moore & Jazmyn Billings-McBee*

***Party Pros:*** *Celeste Baird, Becca Nguyen, Ella Stout*

***Aureum Choir Rep:*** *Rachel Chan & Alec Kimball*

***Vox Harmonia Rep:*** *Mariah Hamilton, Fiona Cathey*

***Nova Choirs Rep:*** *Kayden Cummings*

***Leadership email:*** *clevelandchoirleadership@gmail.com*

**COMMUNICATION**



We will be using Remind for communication about events, functions, and general notifications. Please follow these steps!!

DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP – SET UP AN ACCOUNT – JOIN CLASS – USE THE CODES BELLOW FOR THE CORRECT CLASS

OR

Text the following code for you class to: 81010

- Example -

Text #: 81010

Message: @novachoirs

**CLASS CODES:**

A’CHOIR - @achoir2019

DAIRES - @daires

NOVA CHOIRS - @novachoirs

VOX HARMONIA - @voxharmoni

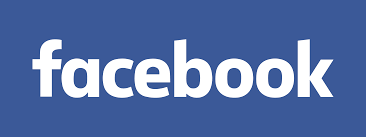
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**Stay connected to what we are doing in the classroom and outside of school by following our Instagram!**

<https://www.instagram.com/clevelandhschoirs/>

Or

Search: clevelandhschoirs

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Search: @clevelandchoraldept

**VOLUNTEERING/CHAPERONES/DONATIONS**

**Friends of Cleveland Choirs (FOCC)**

[**friendsofclevelandchoirs@gmail.com**](mailto:friendsofclevelandchoirs@gmail.com)

**A FOCC is a volunteer organization committed to supporting the choral director, the choral students, and choral program at Cleveland High School. The viability and success of the choir program depends on the amazing support and involvement of the community that supports our CHS Choir Students through the FOCC.**

**What does the FOCC do?**

The FOCC helps with many things, each member can decide their level of involvement and find an area you think you can most contribute to. Things that we help with are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Fundraising efforts; overall and large projects * Merchandise ordering for groups * Concert Assistance; donations, setup, concessions * Help with administrative tasks | * Choir Gatherings: provide your home for a movie/soup night or needed materials at another home * Chaperone trips * Help organize trips, plan trips abroad * Large goal setting for the program (key change for example) * Creative work: goodie bags for trips, parties, etc. |

*There is something for everyone and for various amounts of time you can give to help make choir more than just a few hours a week in the classroom!*

**Leadership 2019-2020**

President: Jane Chan   
Vice President: Cathy Mauger

Vice President of Fundraising: *Open for 2019-20 school year*    
Secretary: Lesley Atlansky  
Treasurer: Jenny Opsahl

Events Coordinator: *Open for 2019-20 school year*

**SIGNUP GENIUS**

*We use the website Signup Genius to coordinate volunteer efforts, please find links on our website or look for emails with direct links as well!*

<https://clevelandhschoirs.weebly.com/friends-of-cleveland-choirs.html>

**DONATIONS**

Please think about the ways in which you can help the program through donation of your time or money. ALL students desrve to participate in our events but may not have the same economic means as others. When paying for a sweatshirt, or the cost of a trip, please consider paying for the cost of two if that is something you are able to afford. That kind of action can make a significant difference in a student’s life.

We are able to take cash, check, or square donations.

**PLEASE FILL OUT & RETURN**

**THE FOLLOWING PAGES**

**BY**

**SEPTEMBER 5TH (A-DAY classes)**

**SEPTEMBER 6TH (B-DAY classes)**

**CHORAL HANDBOOK AGREEMENT**

*I have read and understand the requirements and expectations for this course.*

*I have reviewed the CHS Choral Calendar, syllabus and other documents contained in this handbook.*

*I understand that rehearsals and performances are an integral part of the choral experience and that attendance is mandatory for all students and are a part of the state-approved standards-based assessments that will determine the grade your student will receive for this performance course.*

If you have any questions about the information in the packet or questions about the music program, please do not hesitate to call or write Ms. Bassett. Thank you.

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Student’s printed name Student’s signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s printed name Parent/Guardian’s signature Date

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**PARENT INFORMATION**

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Name of Parent/Guardian (Please print) Daytime/Work Phone

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Parent Email Address Alternate Phone/Email

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Name of Parent/Guardian (Please print) Daytime/Work Phone

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Parent Email Address Alternate Phone/Email

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*I AM INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF THE CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL* ***FRIENDS OF******CLEVELAND CHOIRS (FOCC)***

*NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**CALENDAR 2019-2020**

DATES MAY BE ADDED TO THIS CALENDAR AS GIGS AND OTHER OPPORTUNITES ARE OFFERED

THESE WILL BE COMMUNICATED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO THE GROUPS THAT NEED TO KNOW

SEPTEMBER

6 **Choir “Breakfast” – All Choirs**

7:45am

Hanging out with your choir friends is a part of a complete breakfast! Bring your breakfast, or bring something to share to kick off the month with the best meal of the day and chat with other choir folks!

20-21 **A’Choir Fall Retreat – A’Choir**

More info to come: Leaving School on Friday, Coming Home Saturday

OCTOBER

1 **Dealine for ALL STATE and ALL NORTHWEST Auditions**

4 **Choir “Breakfast” – All Choirs**

7:45am

**5 Leadership Workshop – Section Leaders**

All Day workshop at Willamette University; Lunch Provided

16 **Tech Rehearsal – All Choirs**

3:30pm-5pm; choir room/auditorium

**Fall Potuck – A’Choir**

5:30-7:30pm

17 **Harvest Festival – All Choirs**

5:30pm CALL – Be Dressed and ready to go in the choir room

7:00pm CONCERT

NOVEMBER

5 **Middle School Visits – Daires**

8 **Choir “Breakfast” – All Choirs**

7:45am

DECEMBER

6 **Choir “Breakfast” – All Choirs**

7:45am

12 **Bridging the Gap – Daires**

More info on arrival time etc. later

16 **Tech Rehearsal – All Choirs**

3:30pm-5pm or 5:30pm; choir room/auditorium

17 **Winter Festival – All Choirs**

5:30pm CALL – Be Dressed and ready to go in the choir room

7:00pm CONCERT

JANUARY

10 **Choir “Breakfast” – All Choirs**

7:45am

16 **Tom Grant “Key Change” Benefit Concert – All Choirs**

Student & Community performs will be holding a benefit concert for the Key-Change Project

17-19 **OMEA All State Choir – Any accepted students**

Honor Choir performances in Eugene

27-28 **PIL Honor Choir – All accepted students**

Honor Choir students from all Portland High Schools come together at Franklin HS to perform choral music together at a high level.

FEBRUARY

10 **Choir “Breakfast” – All Choirs**

7:45am

29 **Solo & Ensemble District Festival – Participating students**

Wilson High School

29 Eric Whitacre Honor Choir Rehearsal – All selected students

12:00-5:30pm – First United Methodist Church

**CALENDAR 2019-2020 cont.**

MARCH

1 **Eric Whitacre Honor Choir Performance – All selected students**

2:00pm – Concert Call; Viking Pavilion

4:00pm – Concert; Viking Pavilion

6 **Choir “Breakfast” – All Choirs**

7:45am

16 **Tech Rehearsal – All Choirs**

3:30pm-5pm or 5:30pm; choir room/auditorium

17 **Winter Festival – All Choirs**

5:30pm CALL – Be Dressed and ready to go in the choir room

7:00pm CONCERT

APRIL

3 **Choir “Breakfast” – All Choirs**

7:45am

9 **PIL District Choir Festival – A’Choir**

Qualifying compeition for State

MAY

1 **Choir “Breakfast” – All Choirs**

7:45am

**OSAA STATE ENSEMBLE COMPETITION – Any qualifying students**

Ensemble members will travel together to Pacific University

2 **OSAA STATE SOLO COMPETITION – Any qualifying students**

Students will travel on their own to Pacific University

9 **OSAA STATE CHOIR COMPETITION – A’Choir**

All Day event, must qualify and be accepted

18-20 **Dress Rehearsals as needed per group – More info closer to event**

3:30pm Choir room/Auditorium

21 **Springtasia & Awards – All Choirs**

5:00pm CALL – Be Dressed and ready to go in the choir room

7:00pm CONCERT

22 **Springtasia & Awards – All Choirs**

5:00pm CALL – Be Dressed and ready to go in the choir room

7:00pm CONCERT

JUNE

9 **Graduation – A’Choir**

Performance at Graduation

TBD Daires End of the Year concert

Various Caroling gigs for Daires