2018-2019 Rebel Voices Syllabus

Mrs. Jenna Mkhwanazi (mmm-kwa-nah-zee)

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Choir Office: (507) 836-6184 ext. 4144

1. Description

Rebel Voices is an auditioned small choral ensemble with voices of various ranges. The ensemble performs several concerts throughout the year as well as at certain community functions. The repertoire is mainly jazz influenced. Students are encouraged to participate in Rebel Voices year long as the goals and objectives are ongoing throughout both semesters.

1. Objectives

* To provide students with a high quality small vocal ensemble experience.
* To provide opportunities of vocal development as both an individual and member of an ensemble.
* To create awareness of different styles of music and musical expression.
* To provide a sense of belonging within a small community and a sense *individuality* as there are many solo opportunities.

1. What Choir Stands for in this Room.

**C**ollaboration: Work as a Team

**H**umanity: Care for Others.

**O**penness: Be open to new ideas and cultures.

**I**deas: Communicate your ideas and accept other ideas.

**R**esponsibility: Take responsibility for your part in choir.

Basic Student Responsibilities:

1. Every choir member is expected to participate to their fullest ability and be an actively engaged singer during rehearsal. If you are sick, or cannot sing for some reason, please let Mrs. Mkhwanazi know before class begins. Hard work is expected, it is not an option.
2. Every choir member is expected to keep their folder current with the music being rehearsed. Folders and pencils will be checked periodically to see if all the music is there. Missing music in your folder or lost folder may result in a lower grade and/or fee penalties.
   1. **Missing Folder**: $20
   2. **Missing Music**: Varies but generally between $2-$5 per score.
3. If you are absent for any reason from class, it is your responsibility to find out if assignments were distributed.
4. Except for a water bottle, absolutely NO FOOD OR DRINK is permitted in the choir room.
5. NO GUM allowed in the choir room at any time! Students will receive a lowered participation grade for the day if caught with gum in class.
6. You are responsible for learning your part in the music. There may be periodic singing tests to see if you know your part.
7. Keep your area neat and clean.
8. Daily attendance is expected.

Phone Policy: No Phones Allowed EXCEPT when teacher asks for you to bring them to class. (Which may happen!)

1. Performances

**Absences**

* Absences are excused **ONLY** for illness or a family emergency.
* All members are expected to attend all concerts during the school year.
* All members are expected to be in the auditorium at least 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the concert unless otherwise announced.
* Unexcused absences will be a zero and significantly drop your grade.
* All other excused absences need to be verified by me **at least 2 weeks** before the concert, and will need to be made up.

**Performance Dress**

* Men: To be discussed.
* Women: To be discussed.

1. Choral Lettering: Students are able to earn points toward a choir letter and pin. These points accumulate during the entire high school choir experience (9-12). Opportunities include, but are not limited to:

* Rebel Voices
* Contest solos and ensembles
* Performing the national anthem at community and school events
* Individual or group performances for church, nursing home, service clubs, etc.
* Dorian Music Festivals, Honor Choirs, Choir Camps
* Attending approved vocal, choir or dramatic musical performances
* Music officers and section leaders
* Fall musical
* Choral library work

Lettering Sheets: Each student is given a sheet and is responsible to keep track of his/her points for vocal awards. Points are cumulative from year to year, and student should return sheet at the end of each year to the director to be filed.

1. Grading

* 40% Classroom Participation/Attendance: Every student will receive a daily grade worth 5 points based on **attendance**. Additionally, each student will receive a daily participation grade that is worth 2 points and a listening grade worth 2 points. These points are based on their involvement during rehearsal and how prepared they are for class.
* 25% Performances: All performances are **REQUIRED** (look under required events on your calendar). Unexcused absences will result in a “0”. Excused absences will result in a make-up assignment to earn the points back.
* 15% Assessments: Singing and written tests will be given periodically to evaluate students' progress.Singing tests will be done in small groups or individually on music or concepts studied in class. Written tests will be based on concepts discussed and taught in class (rhythm, music theory, music history, songfacts).
* 10% Solos: Students will be required to sing 1 solo or duet either in concert or at solo/ensemble.
* 10% Lessons/Sectionals: One sectional and one private lesson will be provided by Mrs. Mkhwanazi to work on concert music, solo and ensemble scores, All State solos, and/or honor choir repertoire.

\*\*If someone is found **cheating**, the assignment is marked as a zero and teacher will contact parent immediately.

Grading Scale:

A = 93-100% B- = 80-82% D+ = 67-69%

A- = 90-92% C+ = 77-79% D = 63-66%

B+ = 87-89% C = 73-76% D- = 60-62%

B = 83-86% C- = 70-72% F = 0-59%

IMPORTANT: Behavioral Policy

Disrespectful or inappropriate behavior during rehearsals will NOT be tolerated. Everyone should enjoy Choir and have a positive experience. In order for this to happen, everyone must follow the rules. When this happens, we can use the time we have to make music, relax, and have fun. Here is my behavioral policy:

1st Offence - Guidance from teacher.

2nd Offence - Lost Participation and Listening Points.

3rd Offence - Parent Contact

4th Offence - Administration Contact and/or Parent Conference

Depending on Severity of Behavior, the order of this list may change.

2018-2019 Schedule and Opportunities

MCC Rebel Voices

**Required Events:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tuesday | October 16 | Fall 7-12 Choir Concert | 6:00 PM |
| Monday | November 12 | Veterans Day Program (CC only) | TBD |
| Wednesday | November 14 | American Ed Banquet | TBD |
| TBD | TBD | Caroling in Community | TBD |
| Monday | December 17 | Winter 7-12 Choir Concert | 8:00 PM |
| TBD | TBD | Singing Valentines | TBD |
| Monday | March 11 | Spring 7-12 Choir Concert | 8:00 PM |
| TBD | TBD | Dairy Banquet | TBD - Evening |
| Tuesday | March 19 | Large Group Contest - Pipestone (CC only) | All Day |
| Thursday | March 28 | Night of Jazz - Plaid Moose | 6:30 PM |
| Monday | April 1 | Solo and Ensemble - Fulda | 3:00 PM |
| Wednesday | May 15 | Fine Arts Awards Ceremony | TBD |
| Friday | May 17 | May 7-12 Choir Concert | 8:00 PM |
| Sunday | May 26 | Graduation - Gym | 2:00 PM |
| Monday | May 27 | Memorial Day Performance | TBD - Morning |

**Strongly Encouraged Singing Opportunities:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Thursday-Saturday | November 8-10 | Fall Musical | 7:00 PM |
| TBD | TBD | ACDA High School Honor Choirs | All Day |
| Saturday-Monday | January 12-14 | Dorian Vocal Festival | All Day/Weekend |
| TBD | \*Deadline: March 15 | MMEA All State Choir (10th and 11th Grade Only) | TBD |

MCC Choir Contract

**Student:** By signing this, I certify that I have read the syllabus and understand all obligations and information for participation in the MCC vocal music program. I will do my best at all times and will meet all performance requirements.

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

Print Name Student Signature

**Parent:** As a parent of MCC Choir member, I understand that the director is asking for my help in seeing that my son/daughter attends all rehearsals and performances and that he/she is prepared for their beneficial participation in choir.

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

Print Name Parent Signature

**Parent Email:** Please provide an email address to be added to the MCC Music Boosters mailing list. All parents of 7-12 choir members are automatically members of the Music Boosters. This will help keep you informed of any Music Boosters news, announcements, and fundraising. I will also send out emails about our classroom and upcoming events.

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

Email

**DUE BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**