

**Shadow Ridge High School
Fine Arts Department
Choral Student/Parent Manual
2025-26
Caryl Queen, Director**



**Award winning: First place, Best Music, Best Show, Highest Score of the day, Superior,
Excellent: NAU Jazz Madrigal, Los Alamitos, Hart Encore, Oceanside Sound Off, AMEA
Solo/Ensemble; AMEA Choral Festival**

Learning Objectives

The progress and success that you will achieve comes through your willingness to express yourself, your desire to be an involved member, and your attention to details in the music and remarks given by the director. To achieve a high degree of success, you must be willing to work individually as well as within our performance groups, continually strive to improve yourself as a member of the SRHS choirs and be proud of your accomplishments. As an award winning program, the SRHS Choirs will maintain a reputation of performance excellence through the outstanding work of our students. Talent is nice, but hard work is better appreciated and rewarded.

National Standards and State Standards

Instruction for all choral ensembles and classes will be based off the nine National Core Music Standards. The standards emphasize music literacy and understanding in areas that reflect the actual processes in which musicians engage. As an active of Arizona Music Educator's Association, American Choral Directors Association, and our District as Content Area Lead 2022-23, 2019-2020, Mentor 2014-2017; 2018-2020, Master Teacher 2023-24, within Dysart Unified School District, the SRHS Choral Program will reflect and adhere to Arizona State Standards for the Arts. [Arizona State Academic Standards for the Arts Website](#)



WHAT CAN I EXPECT IN SRHS CHORAL PROGRAM?

❖ Expectations

- ☐ You can expect to sing.
- ☐ You can expect to grow in your musicianship.
- ☐ You can expect to perform.
- ☐ You can expect to build a community of singers.
- ☐ You can expect to learn music from traditional and diverse sources.
- ☐ You can expect to rehearse, rehearse, and rehearse.

❖ Outcomes

- ☐ Your singing will improve.
- ☐ Your performing will demonstrate your commitment to the SRHS Choral Program.
- ☐ Your audience will respond to prepared, meaningful singing.
- ☐ You will grow as an ensemble.
- ☐ Your musicianship will reflect multiple genres of music.
- ☐ Your skills will grow at a varying rate compared to others.



QUICK NOTES for Success!

- ❖ Keep your technology in your backpack.
- ☐ Be active in rehearsal. This looks like no social media on (airplane mode).
- ❖ Be prepared to sing.
- ☐ Get rest, drink water, and go to the bathroom on your own time.

Your own time is between classes, during lunch, before and after school.

Create success and balance your life to reflect the whole day.

- ☐ Pencils in hand, music open, not talking.
- ☐ This is a rehearsal class. Please do NOT use bathroom or get water during class.

❖ Sing.

- ☐ Give comments and insights at the appropriate time.
- ☐ Share feedback during appropriate times. Be positive and encouraging.
- ☐ Use rehearsal time for rehearsal.

❖ Sing again.





- ☐ The secret of rehearsal is repeating.
- ☐ The secret of practice is repeating.
- ☐ The secret of award winning performances is repeating.

Performing Classes and After School Ensembles

Show Choir This class is for the skilled vocalist and performer. We have 2 Show Choirs. For the advanced show choir, prior vocal experience is required.



Students are invited to audition for the advanced show choir in April for the following August. Throughout the year the director will assess progress made in all choirs to determine placement for the following years. Within the all show choirs the students will continue to learn ear training, sight reading, music theory,

tone production, intonation and vocal techniques through various traditional and popular small ensemble genres. Students will also learn technical dance forms and choreography. All Choirs will sing a cappella, however the advanced show choir will focus on a cappella singing. The

successful completion of the show choir class can fulfill the CTE/Elective or the physical education requirements for students. Performing is a required aspect of this course.

Mixed Chorus 1-2 This class is for students interested in singing. Prior vocal experience is not required. The students will learn basic ear training, tone production, intonation and vocal techniques through various traditional and popular choir genres. Students will also learn basic music theory and music vocabulary concepts. Performing is a required aspect of this course.

Concert Choir 1-2 This class is designed for the continuing student. Students will continue to develop singing technique of ear training, tone production, intonation and other techniques for performance.

AP Music Theory This class is for seniors, or can be juniors, who are seeking to learn the Music Theory learned in first year college music theory. All performance majors at most



major universities require performing arts students to take music theory. This class is a College Board certified class. The student will take the AP Music Theory Exam in May. Upon scoring, the student will discover if they scored high enough to be given music theory credit by their chosen university, or be able to continue to a higher level music theory class.

After School Choir Club

This after school is our CLUB in which all our financial transactions are filtered through. So, we all are in Choir Club. The After School REHEARSAL is mandatory. Every week from 2:30-3:30pm we rehearse, all choirs together, to create special songs and choreography for our concerts. This is a great place for choirs to get to know each other. We are a family in SRHS choirs. We share our lives and grow together to create beautiful music. We also invite any student of SRHS to join choir club to sing.

If a singer must miss After School Choir Club for tutoring, they can use the uploads and rehearse with a section leader before school in a practice room.

Performing Arts Classes beyond choir

SRHS has extensive performing arts opportunities. Our SRHS Band program is the finest within the district. They perform for festival, athletic events, concerts, and community events. We have many students within the choir program which belong to the band. Our choir program supports band performances. If a band performance, festival, or community event interferes with a scheduled choir event, the student must alert Ms. Queen so that arrangements can be made.

How do I determine which is more important?



The hierarchy of decision is:

- 1. Competition/Performance/Festival**
- 2. Final Dress Rehearsals**
- 3. Week of competition or performance or festival.**

Many musicians are involved in multiple events or groups around campus.

The above list is the top three reasons choir takes priority if needing to know how to schedule.

I'm in other groups at SRHS!

Our SRHS Theatre continues to place within our State and grows with numbers of students auditioning and performing. SRHS programming and scheduling puts high emphasis on those students who are balancing their singing with their acting. Students need to become responsible for creating balance so they can be a positive addition to all programs.

Our SRHS Dance classes and groups have concerts throughout the year. The students within these classes must alert Ms. Queen to their participation and needs for ease of balance and excellence of performance.

Vocal Skills and Musicianship Emphasized

- Understanding of the proper care and use of the voice.
- Knowledge and demonstration of breath support.
- Knowledge and demonstration of vowel production and modification

- Understanding and demonstration of the proper use of dynamics.
- Understanding and demonstration of meter/time signatures.
- Understanding and demonstration of key signatures and solfege..
- Understanding and demonstration of general music terminology.
- Knowledge and demonstration of musical phrasing and expression markings.

Vocal Health

Vocal hygiene refers to the practice of caring for your voice. This includes taking measures to ensure overall health and specific ways to care for your body and voice. As a member of the Shadow Ridge Choral Department, it is your duty to maintain good vocal health as you owe it to your fellow ensemble members, your director, and your audiences who come to support you.

Vocal Health & Care Tips

- Maintain good general health: eating right, washing hands regularly, and exercise regularly, get good rest.
- Do not clear your throat with uh-uh. Swallow softly and drink water.
- Do not yell or scream.
- Before singing, always go through a proper warm-up.
- Do not sing beyond comfortability.
- Do not expose your voice to excessive pollutions such as: smoking, alcohol, etc. • Drink lots of WATER! Your voice and body must stay hydrated throughout the day. Make a goal to drink 32 ounces of water a day.

Personal Skills Emphasized

- Pride in yourself and in the SRHS Choral Program
- Working together for a common goal: the enjoyment of singing
- Accepting responsibility in attendance at daily rehearsals, special concert rehearsals, concerts, festivals, and lessons
- Positive self-discipline and classroom behavior
- Your development of leadership within the choral program
- Your willingness to continually develop your singing voice
- To discover choral music as an art
- To learn to become intelligent and sensitive in expressing the emotion of music.
- Striving to improve yourself and the SRHS choirs to be the best you can be! To set standards of excellence for the future
- Respecting your fellow students and director
- To become a better listener
- Working together to develop self-confidence
- Showing a desire to attract new students in to the choir program

Performance Attire and Requirements

Uniforms and costumes

- ❖ Singers will be asked to support the performance costuming with correct shoes and other incidental items. Costumes and Performance Attire will be distributed and assigned.

❖ Singers will receive a Tshirt Order form with the policies and requirements for turn in. Upon payment of Choir Club dues, students will receive a choir shirt. Other seasonal shirts may be needed for performances.

❖ Singers will be responsible for dressing in the required attire for performances. Failure to have concert wear will result in possible inability to perform or loss of performance points.

❖ Singers will use the correct dressing rooms during rehearsals and performances. Singers will wear clothing underneath costuming and while changing. This includes: Athletic bra/shirt, bike shorts, stretchy athletic wear or spanx. At no time should singers be undressing fully during costume changes. Singers should wear tight undergarments to provide coverage.

☐ Show Choir: Girls: Nude Jazz Shoes, Black character shoes, nude tights, athletic bra/shirt; bike shorts or spanx or Black Biketard (leotard with connected shorts) Jeans without rips or tears. Converse, Vans, or other stylish shoes for casual/jean performances.

☐ Show Choir: Guys: Black Jazz Shoes, Nude Jazz Shoes. Jeans without rips or tears, Converse, Vans, or other stylish shoes for casual/jean performances. If boys have a costume change they must wear tight undergarments that provide coverage. Boys should not be undressing fully during costume changes to preserve privacy and modesty.

☐ Mixed Choirs: Black concert shoes/flats; Black socks or tights. Black shirt with sleeves, Black Dress pants. For casual performance: Choir shirt with Jeans without rips or tears. ☐ Solo/Ensemble Festival Performances: Dress Concert Black shirts with sleeves, pants, and black shoes and socks. Girls can wear black skirts with a length to the knee and black blouses. NO Bare Shoulders. Legs should be covered in tights or panty hose. No heels or prom shoes. Flat ballet flats or kitten heels. Boys wear Black DRESS shoes, not athletic shoes. BLACK SOCKS mandatory.

☐ Assemblies or Football Games with National Anthem performances: Choir Shirt, Jeans, Converse, Vans or other. Hair must be recently combed and styled. No stage make up.

❖ ALWAYS SHOWER the Day of the Performance. No strong perfumes or scents. Deodorant yes, but not STRONG scents. (no AXE).

❖ Your hair must be recently styled and combed.

❖ Show Choir has specific hair requirements. You will be notified one month prior to performance.

Thinking about your future

Arts Seal from the State of Arizona

for graduating diplomas

The state of Arizona has created an Arts Seal which will be applied to Arizona qualifying High School Senior diploma. This seal represents the student's commitment to the arts within their High School classes and experiences.

Qualifications in brief overview: 4 yrs of Arts Class within one discipline. (Choir, Piano, Band, Dance, Theatre, Visual Art) There are exceptions see the district document.

GPA within Arts class: 3.0 or higher

Capstone Project: Approved by instructor

Reflection Document

Community Services hours: 2024 Seniors will need to have over 80 hours reflecting concert performances, rehearsals, festival participation, competitions, viewing other performances within choir. These hours will be for 2021-2024.

This seal is a great honor. As colleges and universities become more strident for admission, the seal will be a statement to future schools of your talent, skill and determination for success.

START TODAY and plan your future with the Arts Seal.

[Arts Seal Dysart Website](#)



Honors by Contract

Dysart Unified School District has provided honors credit to those who are entering their third year within an Arts discipline: Choir, Band, Dance, Theatre, Visual Arts. At the beginning of the semester students must apply for this class designation. The student will create a capstone or year project reflecting their knowledge and intensity study within the discipline. The evidence and journey within our program is documented on the student's personal website. This website information can also support the Arts Seal during their Senior year.

Within our choir possible projects include developing your voice/piano with private study or intensive study with festival/competitions, section leader, performance assistant (costuming, programs, set up, tear down, promotions), choreography assistant, or just about anything you can dream!

Taking Honors by Contract within Choir provides your GPA with the honors bump!

For the 2022-23 School year Honors by Contract elements in brief: Community Service hours, Meeting with Instructor for check in or support of progress, Presentation with a recital or festival performance or class presentation. Application

Completion of the Honors program is designed to correlate with the Arts Seal. SRHS students are leading the district in intensive, applied music excellence.

Bus Behavior and Responsibilities

BUS REMINDERS FOR STUDENTS: SAFETY FIRST Students are to be in their seats at all times. Nothing should be in the aisle of the bus. No sitting on the floor or on each other's laps. All **students must sit one or two to a seat** only. No standing up while the bus is moving. No loud music... Use headphones. No rough housing or horseplay.

Help **KEEP THE BUS CLEAN**. There will be trash bags on the bus for cleanup. If the kids pick up the trash, there will be less at the end of the trip. All trash goes in the **garbage bags. NOT UNDER THE SEATS**.

Pillows and other bus stuff While on the bus, students can use a pillow and a jacket to cover up. We are not share blankets. **We also do NOT share jackets. We can share snacks. We can share memories of the** whole group.

Using technology and personal devices on the bus
We are creating memories, together. Try to limit your time on your device/phone/ or other and create the best experiences and memories with us! Do not post pictures or record someone without their consent. Observe each other's privacy.

Bringing and Leaving items on the bus

Do not bring anything on the bus that is of value to you. If you are instructed to leave your items on the bus, the bus driver will then be locking the bus. Do not expect anyone to care for your items. These are performance trips. Prepare for performances.

Garment Bag and other items

You are responsible for checking your garment bag before leaving SRHS. All items needed for the performance are the student's responsibility. Do not leave any SRHS item behind. Bring all necessary elements: socks, shoes, costume, belt, suspenders, props, undershirts, hair items, costume jewelry. Keep these items in a labeled bag (with your name and section) in your garment bag. Keep your performance shoes in a separate pouch.

Sample Trip Sign Ups and Field Trip Forms

Commitment and support statement

My student: _____ is planning on attending the 2022-23 Show Choir Competition Series.

Please select and initial:

_____ I am paying my Student Activities of \$100 to demonstrate my commitment.

_____ I am paying my Tax Credit funds entirely to demonstrate my commitment.

_____ I have sponsors or friends of family who are paying my tax credit.

List their names and amounts: _____

_____ I will be paying all my funds by March 1, 2023
(\$200 for each trip to Student Activities and \$200 each trip for Tax Credit).

_____ I would like to be considered to chaperone.

_____ I will be travelling behind the bus and want to attend the competition event.
Number of tickets _____ for Show Choir Competition.

_____ I want to be a part of the Fundraising February team.

Parent signature _____

Parent email _____

Parent cell phone _____

Student signature _____

Student email _____

Student cell phone _____

Packing lists

This is a SAMPLE packing list for a trip:

Packing List:

Stellar FX t shirt & Trip t shirt

Closed toed shoes, socks

Jeans, no rips or tears

Light Jacket

Underwear and other undergarments

Toiletries (face products, deodorant, personal hygiene products)

Night pajamas or other sleep wear

Snacks and Light blanket for bus

Pillow

CHAPERONE RESPONSIBILITIES and General Information

Each Chaperone will have cellphone numbers for all students in their group. Students will be provided the cell phone number of their chaperone and Director in case of emergency. Chaperones will have a list of all other chaperone cell phone numbers and Directors number.

Chaperones and Volunteers must obtain a volunteer badge from Dysart USD. [Dysart Volunteer Handbook](#)

Chaperones will maintain contact of all group members. Students are to stay with the assigned group. While on the bus outside of venues, Chaperones will do a head count of their group each time we make a stop for food/bathroom break. Please know the name of the bus company and the bus number that your group is on.

Chaperones are responsible for getting their group back to the tram/Parking Lot/Bus when we make food stops and when we are leaving venues in the evening.

Chaperones are not permitted to consume any alcoholic beverages while on the trip, if available per the Dysart Unified School District Chaperone Rules.

Chaperones are expected to understand that they have a job to do. The trip is designed as an educational trip to augment the music education of the students. This is not a vacation. We are a performing choir and should reflect that our trip is a result of our ability to perform, together. We represent Shadow Ridge High School.

No student should go anywhere alone. Have the students go in pairs, keeping an eye on them at all times. While our students are amazing and high school students, we have to help them make wise choices sometimes.

Try to know your group. Watch for signs of trouble whether sadness or insurrection. Sometimes all they need is food, water, and maybe an ear to listen. Remind the group we are on this trip TOGETHER! We want to make memories, TOGETHER.

Make a time to do a restroom pit stop. Students are not to be left alone under any circumstance. If a student does not want to go on a ride and the rest of the group does, combine with another group so that no one is riding or waiting alone. You don't need to go on the ride.

If a student gets sick, call me.

If you are interested in becoming a chaperone, complete the attached application in the Volunteer Handbook to obtain a Volunteer badge. Using the forms with specific trips, indicate your desire to chaperone the trip. For out of town trips, applications will be accepted and available spots filled based upon availability, time received, and completed documentation.

2025-26 Choir Calendar last edits: 052825

School Assemblies on scheduled Fridays are usually Stellar FX

Out of State Travel will be submitted to the Board during September for approval.

FOR HONORS CREDIT: Singers must audition for Regionals or All State and/or prepare and perform a piece for Solo/Ensemble Festival in January. The process of preparing, memorizing, performing and reflecting can also be listed within the Arts Seal website. All State & Regional auditions will be charged \$30/event. Solo/Ensemble will charged if singing a Solo: \$30

Date	Event	Times	Choir
Aug 1-2	Back to School Choir Camp	Fri 2:30p - 5p Sat 8am - 12pm	ALL CHOIRS
Aug 6 & 13; Wed	Choir Leadership Summit	2:30p - 4:30p	Choir Leadership
Aug 15th	Back to School Assembly		STELLAR FX
All Wednesdays Aug 20 - May 13, 2026	Choir Club	Wednesdays 2:30pm - 3:30pm	All Choir students and friends
Aug 30th Sat	Choreography	8am - 1pm	Stellar FX
Sept 12, 26; Oct 24, 31	Football Games National Anthem	Warm up 6pm	Stellar FX; Sept 26th ALL CHOIRS Invite 8th graders
Sept 13th Sat	Choreography	8am - 1pm	Stellar FX
Sept 20th	AllState Show Choir Auditions	TBA VVHS	Singers who select to audition
Sept 26th	Homecoming FOOTBALL GAME	6pm	ALL CHOIRS, invite 8th graders
Oct 1-3	Fall Play	nightly	Auditioned students
Oct 9th	Choir Concert	Rehearse: 5:30pm Concert 7pm	ALL CHOIRS
Oct 13th- 17th	Fall Break		
Oct 17-18	Possible ACE Fall Choral Festival	TBA	Stellar FX
Nov 7-8	All State Show Choir Rehearsal/Performance	Horizon High School	Qualifying Students
Nov 11th	Veteran's Day Parade	8am - 11am	Choirs
Nov 13-14	District Honor Choir	VVHS	Qualifying Singers
Dec 11th	Concert	5:30pm; show 7pm	All Choirs

Dec 13th	POSSIBLE Choreo	8am - 12pm	Stellar FX
Dec 16th Dec 16th	Honors by Contract and Piano Recital	6pm 6pm	Select Student; All Piano students
Jan 17th	AMEA Regional Choir Auditions	TBA	Selected Auditioning students
Jan 24th	AMEA Solo/Ensemble Festival	SRHS 8am - 3pm	All Choirs
Jan 28th	NAU Dress Rehearsal	During School	VVHS, WCHS, SRHS NAU Concert Choirs
Feb 6-7	NAU Jazz Madrigal Festival	TBA	Stellar FX; JV Show Choir
Feb 13-14	AMEA Regional Choir	TBA	Qualifying singers
Feb 21st	Boulder Creek ShowDown in the Desert	TBA	Stellar FX & JV Show Choir
Feb 26th	Concert	Warm Up 4:30 Concert 7pm	All Choirs
Mar 7th	District Festival of the Arts	TBA	ALL CHOIRS
Mar 13th- 14th	Monsoon Madness VVHS		Stellar FX, JV Show Choir
Mar 16-20th	Spring Break		
April	Elementary Tours during school day	TBA	With Theatre students; Stellar FX
April	Leadership Applications	For 26-27	
Apr 8-10	School Musical		ALL AUDITIONED CHOIR MEMBERS
April 17-18	Proposed California Oceanside Choir Comp	Oceanside, CA	Stellar FX and possibly Galaxy
Apr 25	Choir Banquet	Cafeteria	
Apr 29	HBC/Piano Recital	6pm	Piano Students
Apr 30	Choir Concert	Warm up 5:30pm Concert 7pm	ALL CHOIRS
May 13th	Graduation	TBA	Stellar FX



