



Choir 7

Anna Taylor & Alek Gerhartz
September 2025 - May 2026

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Welcome!

Welcome to choir! In this class, we will learn to sing as a team, grow our voices, explore music from around the world, and perform for our school and community. No matter your past experience, you have a place here. Our main goals are to build confidence, create joy through music, and develop strong musical and teamwork skills.

Mrs. Taylor and Mr. Gerhartz are excited to share their passion for music and help students discover their voices in a fun, supportive environment.

Course Description:

Middle School Choir is designed to introduce students to healthy singing technique, sight-reading skills, music literacy, and ensemble performance. Students will sing a variety of music genres while learning teamwork, discipline, and self-expression. Students will receive both large group instruction in the form of choir classes and small group or individual instruction in voice lessons.

Essential Standards:

Rehearse (MP2.P.17.m) // I can rehearse with proper technique and musical accuracy.
(MP2.P.22.m) // I can participate as part of an ensemble.

Perform (MP2.P.18.m) // I can perform using expressive qualities and techniques.
(MP2.P.24.m) // I can demonstrate proper concert etiquette.

Literacy & Technique (MP3.R.9.m) // I can demonstrate understanding of musical elements.

Flexible Schedule of Units:

Students will prepare music for each of the following events throughout the course of the year. Each unit will incorporate music literacy, improvisation, ear training, dictation and musicianship according to the music we are preparing.

Step Up Day- October 8, 2025
Winter Concert- December 16, 2025
Large Group Choir Festival- March 4 & 5, 2026
Spring Concert- April 27, 2026

Optional: Students have the opportunity to participate in Solo & Ensemble, February 21, 2026

<p>Materials for Daily Success:</p> <p>Choir folder (provided) iPad Water bottle</p> <p>Positive attitude & willingness to try</p> <p>Potential Course Costs:</p> <p>\$10 music shirt (used for performances and field trips)</p> <p>Optional Field Trip: Beyond the Notes Choir Festival will have an additional fee, but students will have the opportunity to fundraise if desired.</p>	<p>Habits of Mind Grades:</p> <p>Students will also receive documentation of their engagement, level of respect, and ability to challenge themselves throughout their work in class.</p>	<p>Academic Grades/Grading Guidance:</p> <p>Our district participates in Standards-Based Grading. Students will be graded based on their proficiency each quarter, and will receive a final grade in Skyward.</p>
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<p>Practice/Feedback Expectations:</p> <p>Students will have ample opportunities in class to complete practice assignments and receive teacher feedback. Students are expected to be working and completing ALL PRACTICE MATERIALS before they can work on any retake assessments.</p>	
<p>Discipline Policy:</p> <p>Please refer to the Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities your school's website for the detailed discipline policies.</p>	<p>Redo/Retake Policy:</p> <p>Students always have the opportunity to retake an assessment. However, in order to do so, students must show they have been practicing material via the in-class practice assignments. If students would like to retake an assessment, they should have a conversation with their teacher.</p>
<p>Academic Dishonesty Policy:</p> <p>Please refer to the Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities your school's website for the detailed discipline policies.</p>	<p>Absentee Policy:</p> <p>Absences for school events or activities known in advance are expected to be communicated ahead of time and a plan developed between the student and teacher to address the missed learning and practice.</p>
<p>More information on policies and proficiency scales can be found on our Canvas course and at LaCrosseSchools.org</p>	