



♪♪ 6th-8th Grade Choir with Ms. Casey ♪♪

Instructor: Casey Lipka

Email: clipka@excelacademy.education

Zoom Link: [Join Here](#)

Club Schedule: Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10-11am

Choir begins on September 2nd.

Music Club Description: Welcome to Excel's inaugural Choir for 6th–8th graders! This is an opportunity for singers of all levels to come together and explore the joy of singing. We'll work on vocal techniques, learn to read music, explore different styles, and most importantly—sing, create, and have fun together. Come with an open mind, your voice, and your curiosity!

I ask students to....*be in a safe space where you are able to focus, and not be distracted by technology or people during our class session.*

Performances / Sharing: Throughout the year, we will have mini talent shows where students will have the opportunity to showcase what they're learning in a supportive and fun environment. These are optional. In addition, there will be performance opportunities for us to come together and share our music. More details to come soon...

A little bit about me: I am a singer, bass player (the big version of a violin 🎻), and compose music. I have traveled across the globe playing music, and I love creating with others. I was born and raised in Los Angeles and enjoy reading, hiking, swimming, weaving scarves, making tasty food, and sitting at the park with friends.

Communication: If you have any questions, please reach out to me via email at:
clipka@excelacademy.education

Lastly...I intentionally create and curate a classroom centered around kindness. Music is sometimes a vulnerable experience, and it takes courage to sing, learn new things, and share one's own music, so please keep an encouraging and positive demeanor in class. I hope to inspire you and provide you with the skills to start your musical journey!

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT NOTES:

- [Raelene >](#)
- [Delilah >](#)
- [Jonathan >](#)
- [Lucas >](#)
- [Melody >](#)
- [Yeshua >](#)

SPRING 2026

Week	Date	Concept of the Week/Songs Covered	Fancy Musical Term	Links/Resources
1	January 6th		<i>Rhythm Review, half note & quarter note</i>	
	January 7th			
2	January 13th		<i>Quarter Note Rest</i>	
	January 14th	<i>Sightreading</i>		Stay Awake >
3	January 20th		<i>Eighth Notes</i>	Sing Out > (original >)
	January 21st			
4	January 27th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Warm Up</i> - <i>Fancy Musical Term</i> - <i>Pen & Paper rhythm creation</i> - <i>Technology Song creation</i> 	<i>Put it all together, longer rhythm reading!</i>	Technology Song> Paper Pen Composition>
	January 28th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rhythms - Technology Song compositions 		Technology Song>
5	February 3rd			
	February 4th			
6	February 10th			
	February			

	11th			
7	February 17th			
	February 18th			
8	February 24th			
	February 25th			
9	March 3rd			
	March 4th			
10	March 10th			
11	March 11th			
12	March 17th			
	March 18th			
13	March 24th			
	March 25th			
14				
15				

FALL 2025

Week	Date	Concept of the Week/Songs Covered	Fancy Musical Term	Links/Resources
1	September 2nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Singing posture</i> • <i>Peter Piper</i> 	<i>Lyrics - the words to a song!</i>	
	September 3rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Singing stance</i> • <i>Peter Piper</i> • <i>Ah Poor Bird</i> 	<i>Rhythm - is the long and short!</i>	Ah Poor Bird > Peter Piper >
2	September 9th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing stance (<i>posture 1, 2, 3</i>) • Solfege - do, re, mi (hot) 	<i>Diaphragm - large, dome-shape</i>	Make your own solfege composition > (make sure to click "custom" so you can make your own song)

		cross buns and musical compositions)	<i>d muscle located at the base of your rib cage that acts as the primary muscle for breathing.</i>	
	September 10th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing stance review (<i>posture 1, 2, 3</i>) • <i>Solfege songs and name that tune</i> • <i>Solfege review and composition</i> 	<i>Melody - high and low</i>	
3	September 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing stance review (<i>posture 1, 2, 3</i>) • <i>Solfege, learning fa and sol</i> • <i>Ah Poor Bird Review (in a round)</i> • <i>Peter Piper review</i> 	<i>Chest Voice vs. Head Voice</i>	<p>Oh When the Saints > - Singing solfege and lyrics!</p>
	September 17th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Singing stance review (posture 1, 2, 3)</i> • <i>Solfege review</i> • <i>Review "Oh When The Saints Solfege"</i> • <i>Solo singing of "saints" - everyone shared, so brave</i> • <i>Goodbye song</i> 	<i>Mixed Voice</i>	<i>Decide on a solo song you want to sing and start practicing it!</i>
4	September 23rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Check in</i> • <i>Fancy musical terms</i> • <i>Solo singing!</i> • <i>How to pick a song</i> • <i>Reviewing songs for solo songs</i> 	<i>Soprano Alto Tenor Bass</i>	Delilah - Driver's License Lucas - Les Poissons
	September 24th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Check in</i> • <i>Fancy musical terms</i> • <i>Solo singing!</i> • <i>How to pick a song</i> • <i>Reviewing songs for solo songs</i> 	<i>Acapella</i>	Yeshua - If We Are the Body (up M2) > Ralene - What It Sounds Like (up m3) >
5	September 30th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Check in</i> • <i>Fancy musical terms</i> • <i>Solo singing - Melody and Jonathan</i> • <i>Student time outcome: sharing favorite songs, singing a part of the song</i> 	<i>Staff Treble Clef</i>	<p><i>Melody - Into the Unknown sing along</i> <i>Jonathan - The Bare Necessities</i></p> <p>- here is the mp3></p> <p>Sharing favorite songs:</p>

		we picked, finish solfege		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hey there Delilah - Shadow of the Day by Lincoln Park - Night Changes One Direction <p>Raelene shared "What it Sounds Like" acapella</p>
	October 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Check in</i> • <i>Fancy musical terms</i> • <i>Vocal warm up (tongue exercises)</i> • <i>Review of how to take care of our vocal health</i> • <i>Review of singing postures</i> • <i>Learn la and ti solfege</i> • <i>Starting singing in harmony (do + mi)</i> • Review songs, ah poor bird and peter piper 	Bass Clef (for tenor and bass voices)	Start spending time with your solo song and we will do mini workshops for each person starting on Wednesday 10/8
6	October 7th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check in - <i>Vocal warm up + stretch</i> - Peter Piper, changing "teachers" and focusing on the 2nd part of the line <p>Masterclass with Raelene</p>	Ear training	Raelene
	October 8th	Masterclass with Delilah		Delilah
7	October 14th	Masterclass with Yeshua	Review of Fancy musical terms thus far	Yeshua
	October 15th	Masterclass with Melody	n/a	<p>Notes:</p> <p>Possible class songs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cold Water by Major Laser - "Before You Go", Luis Capaldi <p>Other:</p> <p>Delilah Change Song "I Don't Know My Name" Grace Vanderwall</p>
8	October 21st	Masterclass with Lucas	Vibrato	Suggestions for possible group songs: "Moving right along"
	October 22nd	Masterclass with Jonathan	Harmony	
9	October 28th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check in - Warm Up 	How to read sheet music	"Royals by lorde"

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking at sheet music and going over all the elements of how to read music (measure numbers, title, composer, treble and bass clef, lyrics, part 1 & part 2) - Started leaning m.13-16 part 2 of peter piper - Listening to "moving right along" + drawing activity - Goodbye Song 		Peter Piper Music >
	October 28th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check in - Warm Up - Review sheet music layout - Learning part 2 of peter piper - "moving right along" lyrics - Goodbye Song 	Review how to read music	Peter Piper Music > Moving right along lyrics >
10	November 4th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check in - Warm Up - Review sheet music layout - Learning part 2 of peter piper - "moving right along" lyrics - Goodbye Song 	Review how to read music	Peter Piper Music > Moving right along lyrics >
11	November 12th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check In - Warm Up - Peter Piper go through the whole thing with Two parts & discussed DAW - Moving right along and discussed how we'd like to arrange it - Goodbye Song 	n/a	Peter Piper Parts >
12	November 18th			
	November 19th			
	November 25th/26th	----- No Class, Thanksgiving Break -----		
13	December 2nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check in - Fancy musical term - Warm up, new tongue stretches and warm up - Run through of everything we've covered so far 	Accerlando	Moving Right Along (new key!) >

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New key for moving right along - Checked everyone's range on that song - Goodbye! 		
	December 3rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check in - Fancy musical term - Warm up - Go through individual songs (Raelene, Jonathan, Lucas) - Goodbye 	Belting	On deck for next week: Melody, Delilah and Yeshua
	December 9th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melody masterclass - Delilah Masterclass 	Verse	
14	December 10th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check in - Fancy musical term + exploration of musical form with "Landslide" example and looking at songs from students repertoire - Yeshua Masterclass - Raelene shared new song - Goodbye 	Chorus	
15	December 16th/17th			