Blythe Academy
Chorus Handbook

PURPOSE

The purpose of Chorus is to enrich the student's minds by furthering the study of music fundamentals through dictation, pitch, dynamics and timbre. Chorus students strive to be role models for other students in our school. We will represent our school as we perform in our school and our community.

ATTENDANCE and BEHAVIOR POLICY

Participation in chorus is a privilege. Chorus members are ambassadors and representatives of the school. Therefore, we have high expectations of student participation, attendance, and behavior.

Chorus members are expected to take Chorus as a responsibility. They must come to all rehearsals on time and participate fully. Chorus members are allowed no more than 2 unexcused absences from chorus rehearsals per semester.

Chorus members are also expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner inside and outside of Chorus rehearsal. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the chorus.

SACRED MUSIC POLICY

With the understanding and appreciation of cultural and religious diversity in our school, it is necessary that we address the issue of performing sacred music in our chorus.

It is our goal to "enhance knowledge and understanding through a growing awareness and perspective of history and art as reflected in great music. To achieve any selected educational objective the quality of repertoire is of paramount importance…To study and perform music in which the musical setting of a text is artistically accomplished is a highly commendable objective…"

"Since choral music with a sacred text comprises such a substantial portion of the artistic repertoire representative of the choral medium and the history of music, it should have an important place in music education."

It is likely that sacred music may occasionally be performed by Chorus simply due to its availability and quality. This music is used strictly for educational purposes.

Quotes adapted from "The Choral Podium," published by the American Choral Directors Association (Winter 1992).

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

For both evening and school day performances students will be required to wear either of the following:

Jeans + Blythe T shirt (or a certain color T shirt)

A nice dress (girls) or a nice pair of pants and a collared shirt (boys)

I will specify to students and parents which is necessary a couple weeks prior to the performance.

SPRING SING

Spring Sing is a district-wide chorus for 5th graders only and only a certain number will be allowed to attend. Once I find out the number allowed, I will hold auditions for 5th graders only. Spring Sing will have several rehearsals on Saturday mornings at Crestview Elementary or Augusta Circle Elementary and then all day rehearsal at The Peace Center on Monday, April 8th and the performance Tuesday, April 9th.

Spring Sing is a commitment that students selected must uphold.

CALENDAR

The Chorus will have several performance events throughout the school year. Weekly rehearsals will be held in the music room on Mondays from 3:00-4:00 pm

Dates of performances will be communicated through email and posted on my website.

I will communicate with parents via email. Announcements will also be posted on the chorus page of my website. Please be sure to check your email regularly for updates.

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