

Carteret Public Schools

Children * Community * Commitment

Carteret High School Choirs Handbook



Dedication SExcellence SPerseverance

Mr. Kason Jackson, Director of Vocal Music

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. Note from the Director
- B. Overview
- C. Ensembles
- D. Choir Council
- E. Classroom/ Performance Expectations
 - 1. Attendance
 - 2. Rules
 - 3. Extra Rehearsals
 - 4. Voice Lessons
 - 5. Performances
 - 6. Conflict Policy
- F. Concert Attire
 - 1. Concert Choir/ Chorale/ Bella Voce
 - 2. Chamber Choir
 - 3. Varsity Vocals

II. COMMUNICATION

- A. Website
- B. Google Classroom
- C. Social Media

III. ETIQUETTE

- A. Rehearsal Etiquette
- B. Concert Etiquette
- C. Trip Etiquette

IV. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- A. Fundraising
- B. Choir Parent Council
 - 1. Purpose/ Membership
 - 2. Parent Volunteer Opportunities
- C. Field Trips
 - 1. Festivals/ Competition
 - 2. Chamber Choir Trip
- D. Monies Owed
 - 1. CutTime

V. APPENDIX

- A. Why Study Music?
- B. Arts Advocacy
- C. Sponsorship Opportunities
- D. Choir Handbook Contract
- E. Choir Payment Agreement
- F. Calendar of Events

*For up-to-date information, visit the CHS Choirs website:

sites.google.com/carteretschools.org/carterethschoirs



SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1.A. LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Parents and Students,

Welcome, or welcome back, to the Choral Program at Carteret High School. I am extremely thrilled to be the Director of Vocal Music and to be a part of a school that continues to show excellence in performance and tradition! We are very proud of our reputation for high performance standards and our fantastic students who make the CHS Choirs what they are.

My goal is to continue to build the choral program to one deserving community, state, and regional recognition. I plan to share my knowledge and love of the music making process with all students in order to achieve my goal. As stated in my teaching philosophy, I place the utmost importance on providing students with a solid foundation that will create a lifetime of music literacy, appreciation and performance.

Our students are able to enjoy the privileges of this program in large part because of the fundraising done by individuals, families, and other organizations. We have to fundraise most of the costs involved with running an award-winning program each year. This year will be no different in presenting its challenges, however, I am extremely confident that with the energy and effort of students and parents, we will exceed all expectations.

Please read this handbook carefully; in it you will find general information about the choir program, guidelines, expectations, grading policies, attendance, and more. All students must return the appropriate form located at the end of this handbook. Additionally, please check our website at sites.google.com/carteretschools.org/carterethschoirs for more up-to-date information.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me at kjackson@carteretschools.org if you have any questions.

I look forward to a great year of music making and educational opportunity in choir.

In Song,

Mr. Kason Jackson Director of Vocal Music Carteret High School

1.B. OVERVIEW

Our ever-growing award-winning choir program reaches over 100 students and includes five ensembles that perform a variety of music throughout the year. The mission of the Choral Program at Carteret High School seeks to develop, challenge, and enhance the vocal abilities and musicianship skills while creating a positive learning environment. We collaborate with other school organizations, district officials and the Carteret community. Our continued success wouldn't be possible without the hard work and dedication from our talent pool of students. In addition to developing their musical strengths, students foster self-discipline, cooperation, and commitment as they are developing creativity and demonstrating excellence through music. As a member of the choral program, we all strive to set a positive example of a team by upholding spirit, dedication, excellence, and perseverance.

1.C. ENSEMBLES

CONCERT CHOIR- The Carteret High School Concert Choir is a mixed ensemble that does not require an audition. This choir meets as a curricular course during the school day. Students in this choir range from beginner singers to advanced musicians. All singers will learn to sing with basic vocal technique. Students will also learn the basics of Music Theory. Students who are unable to schedule this class for full credit may enroll in Concert Choir part-time during the after school choir rehearsal on Mondays from 2:45-4:30pm.

CHAMBER CHOIR- Chamber Choir is the most advanced choir ensemble offered at CHS. Members of this chamber ensemble study a large volume of sophisticated and technically difficult literature spanning a wide variety of styles and genres. Chamber Choir frequently appears in Choral Competition around the region and nation. Membership is governed by an intense audition process at the end of the school year. In order to be eligible for this group, you must be in grades 10-12 and have completed one full year of Concert Choir. Chamber Choir is offered for full honors credit for a full-year.

VARSITY VOCALS- Varsity Vocals is the premier a Capella group at Carteret High School. Founded two years ago, Varsity Vocals has performed locally, regionally and statewide such as; Carteret Borough Town Hall, Charity Events, Robert Wood Johnson, New York City- Bryant Park, as well as performing on the field for the Trenton Thunder, and more.

CHORALE- Carteret High School's Chorale is the newest formed ensemble at CHS. Members of this ensemble study a large volume of sophisticated literature that is relevant and inspiring. Chorale acts as a training ensemble for Chamber Choir and participates in choir festivals, competitions and workshops. In order to be eligible for this group, you must be in grades 9-12 and successfully complete an audition.

BELLA VOCE- Carteret High School's Bella Voce is a treble auditioned choir of about 22 students. Members of this ensemble study a large volume of sophisticated and technically difficult literature that is relevant and inspiring to treble voices. Bella Voce participates in choir festivals, competitions and workshops. In order to be eligible for this group, you must be in grades 10-12 and successfully complete an audition. This is an extracurricular ensemble that meets outside of regular school hours on Wednesday's from 3-5pm.

I.D. CHOIR COUNCIL

Choir Leadership Council is a group of students representing the choir department at CHS. They serve their peers and the community through their respective roles and work to make choir a better place. **Appointed Positions:** *President, Secretary/Treasurer, Varsity Vocals Manager, Section Leaders, Director Assistant* **Elected Positions:** *Vice President, Marketing* & Communication Chair, Choir Librarian/Uniform Manager, Choir Logistics Manager,

I.E. CLASSROOM/ PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE

Because choir is a class where instruction and class work ONLY happen during school time, excellent attendance is the most accurate indicator of individual and group success. For those students *only* participating in extracurricular choir ensembles, you must be present at all rehearsals unless the Director has been notified. *(NOTE: Excessive absences/tardies may result in the student's dismissal from the ensemble OR credit loss.)*

RULES

There are only a few rules in the classroom. They are posted above the door:

- 1. Your best begins right here (give your best each day).
- 2. Cooperate and participate as a team (whatever we do, we do together).
- 3. Work quietly during independent work, even when finished.
- 4. Raise your hand if you have something to say.
- 5. Practice proper rehearsal etiquette (talking, gum, food, drink, etc. are inappropriate).



EXTRA REHEARSALS

After-school rehearsals for any students enrolled in a *curricular class*, will receive **extra credit** for attending any additional after-school rehearsals. Any extra rehearsals for Chamber Choir as we get closer to our competition are mandatory and students receive points for attending.

VOICE LESSONS

All CHS Choir students have the opportunity to sign up and enjoy the privilege of participating in a weekly pullout voice class during their 12th period, as long as students are in good academic standing.

PERFORMANCES

Performances are part of the choral curriculum and are evaluations (TESTS) of what we've learned. In the event of illness or family emergency, please email, send a parent's written note, or telephone Mr. Jackson immediately following the absence to excuse it or obtain an alternate assignment.

CONFLICT POLICY

Concert Choir (after school **only**) students are permitted to only miss three absences. They must let Mr. Jackson know prior to the rehearsal. Varsity Vocals members are permitted three unexcused absences and must use the conflict form policy outlined by Mr. Jackson. Your conflict form must be submitted through the Google Form at least 24 hours in advance and **approved** by Mr. Jackson (ONLY) in order for it to be an unexcused absence.

I.F. CONCERT ATTIRE

CONCERT CHOIR/ CHORALE/ BELLA VOCE

Concert attire will be determined by the director depending on the occasion by usually:

Men: Black button down dress shirt, navy blue tie.

Black dress pants

Black dress belt

Black dress socks

Black dress shoes (NO sneakers)

Women: Black dress (knee length or longer) OR

Black blouse with black dress pants or skirt (knee length or longer)

Black cardigan/sweater (if necessary, shoulders **must** be covered)

Flesh colored hose/stockings should be worn with dresses or skirts

Closed toed flats or **small** heels (make sure they are comfortable)

CHAMBER CHOIR

Concert attire will be provided by the CHS Choral Department:

Men: Hugh Polyester Tuxedo

Jacket

Adjustable Pants

Shirt

Cummerbund and Bowtie (Royal Blue)

(Not provided:)

Black dress socks

Black dress shoes (NO sneakers!!)

Women: Empire Style Gown

Performance Knit Dress (Royal Blue)

(Not provided:)

Closed toed flats or **small** heels (make sure they are comfortable)

All <u>CHAMBER CHOIR</u> students are required to **pay \$30.00**, which covers dry cleaning costs and shipping. Please make all checks Payable to "CHS Choir". If you are experiencing financial difficulties at this time, please contact me.

VARSITY VOCALS

Concert attire will be determined by the director depending on the occasion by usually: **All members:** Varsity Vocals Shirt (Price TBD) Black jeans or pants

SECTION II: COMMUNICATION

II.A. WEBSITE

Please check our website at sites.google.com/carteretschools.org/carterethschoirs for more up-to-date information, professional records, subscribe to our newsletter, student and parent resources or to just learn more about our choir program.

II.B. GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Google Classroom will be used with ALL ensembles. It will be used to forward assignments and learning tracks among other things to quickly relay information to students.

II.C. SOCIAL MEDIA

Please make sure to follow us on social media to get real-time updates at events or upcoming events:







@CarteretChoir @MrJacksonChoir

@CarteretHSChoirs

SECTION III: ETIQUETTE

III.A. REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

- 1. Be prepared for the rehearsal. Learn your part to the best of your ability. Use sectional time wisely.
- 2. Obtain your music folder from the slot.
- 3. Save chewing gum for after the rehearsal.
- 4. Show respect for the podium and conductor. Give you undivided attention to the rehearsal.
- 5. Mark your music. When an instruction is given make sure you write it in your music using your pencil.
- 6. Show respect for one another. Choir is an environment where mistakes will be made and are welcome. But as musicians, we will learn from those mistakes.

III. B. CONCERT ETIQUETTE

- 1. **Be on time for call-time**. You will be required to sign in for attendance records. Points will be taken off for tardiness.
- 2. Arrive in appropriate attire.
- 3. During warm-up time, please **do not** talk or cause any distraction. This crucial time is needed for the ensemble in order to focus on the music.
- 4. Try to be as professional as possible. From walking with a purpose, to making beautiful music-professionalism should be shown.

III. C. TRAVEL ETIQUETTE

Throughout the year, the choir may have the opportunity to travel or invite a guest speaker to do a choral workshop. You must keep yourself in good academic standing in order to travel. Remember to be respectful of all people involved. You are not only representing yourself but you are representing the entire community of Carteret High School.

SECTION IV: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

IV.A. FUNDRAISING

Our students are able to enjoy the privileges of this program in large part because of the fundraising done by individuals, families, and other organizations. We have to fundraise most of the costs involved with running an award-winning program each year. Fundraisers will be announced as the opportunities open. We HIGHLY ENCOURAGE all students to participate in fundraisers to help with the financials. Please note: Fundraised money is non-refundable.

(Please note that no one is ever kept from participating due to lack of funds. Students or parents in need of financial assistance should bring it to the attention of Mr. Jackson as soon as possible.)

IV. B. PARENT CHOIR COUNCIL

PURPOSE/MEMBERSHIP

The purpose of the CPC is to provide assistance to the CHS Choral Department. The CPC will cooperate with the Choral Director, and CHS Administrators and will lend all possible financial, physical, and moral support to the choirs of Carteret High School:

- To generate and maintain interest and enthusiasm in all aspects of the choral program at Carteret High School
- To lend as much support as necessary, financial and otherwise, to the choral music program at Carteret High School.
- To cooperate with those in charge of the choral music department and the school board to the end that this department be brought to and kept at the highest possible degree of efficiency
- To create and maintain an organization that will help promote, and enhance the general activities of the choral program, now and for years to come.

PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for parents to help! Please respond on the form at the back of this handbook if you are interested in helping with any of our MANY activities.

IV. C. FIELD TRIPS

FESTIVALS/COMPETITIONS

Festivals/ Competition season is usually in the Spring and the Carteret HS Choirs will go to 4-6 festivals/competitions Not all ensembles will attend every competition/festival. While competitions enhance the performing opportunity and further craft, they also provide a friendly-competitive edge.

CHAMBER CHOIR TRIP

My goal is to be transparent with all of our fees, and to communicate all of the opportunities students have to offset/cover those fees. Please note: Fundraised money is non-refundable..

Example Student A: Destination: Orlando, Fl.

Total Cost of Trip: \$1,220 Total Student Fundraised: \$571.25 Total paid out-of-pocket: \$648.74

IV. D. MONIES OWED

CUT-TIME

Chamber Choir students will be using <u>Cuttime.net</u> to track their financial obligations. Students and parents can log in at any point to see how much a student owes for their next payment. Monies owed from fundraisers/uniforms/etc. are due on the dates given. If monies owed are not received promptly, students will have the debt placed on their student account, preventing them from receiving schedules, report cards, and graduating.

SECTION III: APPENDIX

III.A. Why Study Music?

- I. **Music is a Science**. It is exact, specific, and demands exact acoustics. A score is a chart or graph, which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.
- II. **Music is Mathematical.** Rhythmically, it is based on divisions of time into precise fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.
- III. **Music is a Foreign Language**. Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French. The notation is certainly not English but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. Music itself is the most complete and universal language.
- IV. **Music is History.** Music reflects the environment and time of its creation, including its national and racial sources.
- V. **Music is Physical Education**. It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lip cheek, and facial muscles, and extraordinary control of the back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.
- VI. **Music Develops Insight and Demands Research.** Organized, independent thought is required.
- VII. **Music is all of these things, but most of all, Music Is Art.** It allows a human being to take all these technical terms, facts, and techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion, call it what you will.

YOU SHOULD STUDY MUSIC...

Not so you can major in music, Not so you can play or sing all your life, Not so you can relax, Not so you can have fun, BUT...

So you will be human,

So you will recognize beauty,

So you will be sensitive,

So you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world,

So you will have something to cling to,

So you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, more good - in short, more life. (For what value will it be to make a prosperous living unless you know how to live!)

THAT IS WHY YOU SHOULD STUDY MUSIC!

III.B. ARTS ADVOCACY

"A grounding in the arts will help our children to see; to bring a uniquely human perspective to science and technology. In short, it will help them as they grow smarter to also grow wiser."

- Robert E. Allen - Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, AT&T Corporation

III.C. SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

	CHS Choir Sponsorship Levels			
SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS	Friend	Patron	Songwriter	Maestro
Business Name & Logo on Website		(lobby of concerts only)	✓	✓
VIP Seating at Ticketed Performances			✓	✓
Business recognition on all YouTube Videos.				1
Advertisement via CHS Choir Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter)				1
CHS Choir Apparel			✓	✓
Recognition Certificate	1	1	√	✓
DONATION AMOUNT	\$100	\$250	\$500	\$1,000

Sponsor/ Business Na	ime:			
Sponsorship Type:	☐ Maestro - \$1,000	☐ Songwriter - \$500	☐ Patron - \$250	☐ Friend - \$100
		(Check ONE	E)	
Contact Person:		E-Mail Address: _		
Business Address:		Business City:	State:	_ Zip Code:
Phone:	Business Website:		Business Instagra	am: @
Please	make checks payable to	il: kjackson@carteretscho CHS CHOIR and mail the	nem with this form t	to:
	·	arteret High School		
	199 Washin	gton Ave. Carteret, NJ 070	008	
□ CI	HECK ENCLOSED	□ CASH E	NCLOSED	
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PLEASE KINDLY SUBMIT DONATIONS BY: October 15th, 2021





Name of Student	Pe	riod Gr	ad. Year	Birthday
SELECT ENSEMBLE: □ Chamber Choir	□ Varsity Vocals □ Choral	e 🛮 Concert	Choir □ Be	ella Voce
VE HAVE READ AND AGREE TO COMPLY WITH TH				
1. Classroom/Performance Expectations	2. Etiquette	3. Finan	cial Expect	ations
X: Student SignatureStudent Email (please print carefully):	Date		C₄ll D	d <u>п</u>
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Parent Signature		Dat	e	
Parent(s) Name (please print):				
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CHS CHOIRS PAYMENT AGREEMENT 2020-21

Name of Student	Period Grad. Year	Birthday
SELECT ENSEMBLE: □ Chamber Choir □ Varsity Vocals	□ Chorale □ Concert Choir	□ Bella Voce
THIS AGREEMENT NEEDS TO BE SUBMITTED BEFORE THE INIT	IAL PAYMENT FOR THE S	PRING TRIP:
This document will serve as our commitment to pay the necessary funds to pass all classes so that he/she will be eligible for the trip and will fulfill hember of the CHS Choirs.	•	
By signing below, I am affirming my intention to participate and	l attend the Spring Choir Tri	p to
Student Signature	Date	
Parent Signature	Date	
PAYMENT/REFUNDS:		
Please Initial (Parent Only)		
 We acknowledge that initial payment includes a representation of these funds is need to be fore the trip, we will abide by the payment scheeds. We understand that if there is any reason that a payments We understand that returned because of insufficient payments I understand that a payments must be made on time. 	the trip is cancelled by the comest back if the student becomes from or leaves the CHS Choir ble to make the trip for any recessary in order to meet any carry withdrawal from the trip. The venues and hotels need depost dule set forth. The rebruary 15th, 2021, unless the funds, must be paid in cash	pany, district, or director. s ineligible, does not r program for any reason, eason. ancellation penalties and its and payments months ne, please speak to Mr. s the trip is cancelled by
Parent(s) Name (please print):	Parent Phone #(ce	11):
Parent Email (please print carefully):		
Address:City:	Zip:	
By signing below, we agree that we have read an	d acknowledge the material a	bove.
Parent Signature	Date	

Questions? Email: <u>kjackson@carteretschools.org</u>. Please make checks payable to **CHS CHOIR**

CHOIR CALENDAR 2022-23

DATE	EVENT(S)	Group	CALL/PERFORMA NCE TIME	LOCATION
August 3rd	Rehearsal Retreat	Varsity Vocals	10A-5PM	Check w/ manager
August 30th, 2022	Freshmen Orientation	VV/ Council	11:00 AM	TBD
September 8th, 2022	Choir Interest Meeting	New Members	2:30 PM	CHS Choir Room 219
Sept. 19th, 2022	Choir Social	ALL	2:30 PM	CHS Choir Room 219
September 23rd, 2022	Disney Sing a Long Fundraiser	TBD		Minue School
September 26th, 2022	FUNDRAISER: Ashley Farms Fundraiser	Chamber/Ch orale	Period 8	CHS CAFETERIA (kickoff)
September 26th, 2022	First After School Concert Choir Rehearsal		2:45 PM	Choir Room (219)
October 7th, 2022	Homecoming Pep Rally	vv	Period 8	CHS Football Field
October 7th, 2022	Homecoming Football Game	vv	6:00PM Call	CHS Football Field
October 14th, 2022	Sponsorship Donations Due	-	-	
October 17th, 2022	Choir Trip Parent Meeting	Chamber/ BV	6:00 PM	CHS Choir Room 219
October 19th, 2022	Tenor Bass Festival @ Rowan	Chamber/Ch orale	7:15 AM	CHS Choir Room 219
October 22nd, 2022	FUNDRAISER: Bagging ShopRite	Chamber/BV	TBD	ShopRite
October 27th, 2022	CHS Drama Fall Talent Show			
November 4th, 2022	Voices United Choir Festival	Chamber	8:00AM Call	Carteret HS OR CPAC
November 4th, 2022	CHS CHOIR & DRAMA FUNDRAISER: Paint n' Sip	N/A	7:00 PM	Carteret Elks
Nov 7-11th, 2022	FALL BREAK			
November 14th, 2022	PAYMENT DEADLINE #1	Chamber/ BV		
Nov. 17th & 18th, 2022	Fall Play	N/A	TBD	CHS Auditorium
Nov. 21st &	Spring Musical Auditions	N/A	2:30 PM	Choir Room (219)

22nd, 2022				
November 29, 2022	Spring Muscial Callbacks	N/A	After School	CHS Auditorium
November 24th, 2021	Thanksgiving Luncheon	TBD	All Day	CHS Cafeteria
Nov. 24-27	THANKSGIVING BREAK!			
December 1st, 2022	Faculty Follies			CHS Auditorium
December 2nd, 2022	Winter Extravaganza	Varsity Vocals	5:00 PM (CALL)	Carteret Park
	CEA Breakfast with Santa	Varsity Vocals	9:00 AM	Carteret Elks
December 10th, 2022	CJMEA Regions II Chorus Auditions	Anyone	TBD	JP Stevens HS
December 15th, 2022	WINTER CONCERT	ALL	5:00 PM (CALL)	CHS AUDITORIUM
December 19th. 2022	Winter Tour Experience	Varsity Vocals	ALL DAY (8 AM Call)	Meet in Choir Room
January 12th, 2023	Spaghetti Dinner Set Up			
January 12th, 2023	FUNRAISER: Spaghetti Dinner & Cabaret Night	Chamber/ VV/ Chorale	6:00 PM	Carteret Performing Arts Center
January 16th, 2023	Varsity Vocals ICHSA Rehearsal	Varsity Vocals	9:30AM- 2:30PM	CHS Auditorium
January 19th, 2023	PAYMENT DEADLINE #2			
January 29th, 2023	CJMEA Regions II Chorus Concert	N/A		
	ICHSA Competition	Varsity Vocals	10:00 AM	
February 14th, 2023	FUNDRAISER: Valentine's Day Singing Gram	Varsity Vocals	During School	
March 16th, 17th, &18th	Spring Musical	Drama Club		CHS Auditorium
March 17, 2023	PAYMENT DEADLINE FINAL	Chamber/ BV		
	FUNDRAISER: Chipotle Dine-to-Donate night			
March 27th, 2023	Williamsburg, VA. Trip Parent Meeting	Chamber/ BV	6:00 PM	CHS Auditorium
April 29th- May 1st	Williamsburg, VA. Trip	Chamber/ BV	TBD	Williamsburg, VA
	Highlands A Cappella Festival	Varsity Vocals	TBD	Н
ТВА	Carteret Conquers Cancer Performance	Varsity Vocals	N/A	N/A
May 11th, 2023	CHS Drama Spring Talent Show			
May 16th, 2023	CHS Visual & Performing Arts Evening with the Arts	TBD		CHS Gymnasium

May 24 OR May 25th, 2023	NJ ACDA HS Choir Festival	Chamber/Cho	N/A	N/A
June 1st, 2023	Spring Choir Concert	ALL	5:00 PM (Call)	N/A
June 2nd, 2023	Choir Trip- Six Flags	ALL	N/A	N/A
ТВА	Music Department Picnic	ALL	2:00 PM	Carteret Waterfront
TBD	Recording Session 1	Varsity Vocals		
TBD	Recording Session 2	Varsity Vocals		
June 22nd, 2023	CHS Graduation	Varsity Vocals	5:30 PM (Call)	

WE DO OUR BEST TO PROVIDE ACCURATE INFORMATION FOR ALL EVENTS. DATES, LOCATIONS, & TIMES ARE TENTATIVE. ANY CHANGES WILL BE COMMUNICATED VIA EMAIL, IN CLASS, REMIND 101, AND WRITTEN NOTICES HOME. * OTHER DATES MAY BE ADDED AS THE YEAR PROGRESSES*