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## **Choir**

In this course students will learn to sing in one, two, and three part vocalizations and be able to perform music of various styles such as folk songs, classical works, popular favorites, seasonal music, and a variety of jazz styles including latin, swing, be bop, ballads, and standard jazz classics. Students will learn to use warm-up techniques to enhance their musical approach and learn how to take care of their own vocal apparatus through physical conditioning of the voice and stressing preventative measures to protect the voice from undue stress & strain.

### **Expected School-wide Learning Results**

Woodside High School fosters the “8 Conditions” of student success: Belonging, Heroes, Sense of Accomplishment, Fun and Excitement, Curiosity and Creativity, Spirit of Adventure, Leadership and Responsibility, Confidence to Take Action. In this course:

#1 Students will create close relationships with other music students leading to a feeling of membership and BELONGING.

#2 Students will experience the FUN AND EXCITEMENT of performing at a variety of school and community events.

#3 Students will use their CURIOSITY AND CREATIVITY needed to explore a wide variety of musical genres, styles, and concepts.

#4 Students will feel a SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT after their participation and completion of each and every rehearsal and performance.

#5 Students will gain the attributes of LEADERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY through the meeting of the many expectations of being part of a musical organization.

#6 Students will develop CONFIDENCE TO TAKE ACTION through the rigorous practice regiment and extra effort involved in being performance ready.

#7 Students will develop a SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE to achieve new heights and to go new places through the opening of new and different performance pathways.

#8 Students will have the opportunity to develop their own student HEROS in vocal music, learn about musical HEROS in history, and become a HERO themselves to a new cadre of aspiring choir members each year.

## California Content Standards

Woodside High School offers a comprehensive, standards-based program of study. Particular emphasis will be placed on the following standards:

### 1.0 Artistic Perception

1.3 Sight read music accurately and expressively.

### 2.0 Creative Expression

2.4 Perform on an instrument a repertoire of instrumental literature representing various genres, styles, and cultures with expression, technical accuracy, tone quality, and articulation by oneself and in ensembles.

2.5 Perform on an instrument and small ensembles with one performer for on each part.

### 3.0 Historical and Cultural Context

3.4 Perform music from various cultures and time periods.

### 4.0 Aesthetic Valuing

4.2 Evaluate a performance, composition, arrangement, or improvisation by comparing each with an exemplary model.

## Course Overview

Choral I, Choral II, Advanced Choir:

In this course students will be exposed to variety of vocal ensemble techniques, warm-ups, and choral music for use in class and the performance stage. Exercises for building each students vocal range, tone quality, and musicality will be presented in the form of drills for vocal ensemble. Opportunities to expand the group into to other ensemble formats such as Jazz vocal ensemble and show choir will be a motivating aspect for top talented students with a desire to be challenged.

Daily warm-up routines, scale studies, and etudes will be mastered and used as material for seating placement for each member of this ensemble.

Grading will be based on the students daily progress in the ensemble, in section work, and in performance evaluation of school performances and festivals. Group performance points can range from 25 to 200 points depending on the time, difficulty, and musical value of each performance. EXTRA EFFORT POINTS will be awarded for participation in non-scheduled performances and BONUS POINTS will be awarded for outstanding individual, section, or group performance.

Students will listen to and evaluate their own recorded performances from festivals and concerts and be able to use critical analysis regarding areas of musical strength and

weakness in their performance.

#### Required Performance:

Students in Choir are **REQUIRED** to participate in all scheduled performances for this class. Performances that are listed on the school calendar or the Music Department schedule of performances are required and will be factored into the grading scale for each progress report period. **SOME** performances not on the school calendar or the Music Department schedule at the beginning of the school year may be added to the schedule as a **REQUIRED** performance. These extra required performances will be announced by the director at least 4 weeks before the event.

#### Extra Effort Performance:

Students in Choir or small Choir ensembles can earn extra effort points towards their grade by participating in **NON-REQUIRED** performance opportunities do not appear on the school calendar or the Music Department schedule but are important to our school and community. Students should take advantage of participating in as many of these types of performances as possible. This will give students the best opportunity to earn much need grade points in the event they miss participating in any **REQUIRED** performances.

#### Music Tour & Theme Park Festivals:

These performance opportunities, because they may require fundraising on the part of the students and their parents, are **NOT** considered **REQUIRED** performances. It is the group's responsibility to meet deadlines for **COMMITMENT FORMS, FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS, & BALANCE DUE** dates for these type of group performance projects to be accomplished. Students will earn valuable extra effort grade points for their participation. The purpose of these projects is for the students to have an educationally rewarding and fun experience.

### **Curricular Requirements**

**Textbooks** Music as provided.

#### **Required Materials**

Pencil with eraser for music stand along with notebook.

Dress attire for performance will vary depending on the nature of each performance. Input from students and student leaders will be expected in forming a creative approach to ensemble appearance.

#### **Homework**

Students are expected to practice their music in order to be able to grasp rehearsal concepts that go beyond the technical aspects of the music.

## **Assessment/ Grading Policy/ Academic Integrity Policy**

Grading Policy: Criteria for student evaluation and grading will be based upon three main categories:

#1 Daily classroom

#2 Performance participation & evaluation

Grading will be based on daily individual progress in the ensemble and in sections.

Daily attendance is extremely important in order to grasp music concepts which will effect the daily progress grade.

Ensemble performance will be evaluated during class time and at traditional school performances as well as festivals and community events.

Points will be earned for the students participation in each performance plus evaluation points will be awarded as determined by qualified judges or your Music Director.

Performance Points will vary depending the performance and it's outcomes. Performances range is from 25 to 100 points for participation in each performance. Bonus points will be awarded to individuals or ensembles for notable accomplishments, extra effort, or awards earned.

Due to the uniqueness of a live performance there is no way to "make up" missed performances or the points the student can earn from their participation in them. Therefore it is crucial that students take advantage of each and every performance opportunity knowing that the participation and evaluation points they will earn from that performance are a significant part of their grade.

**IMPORTANT:** Students will be expected to adhere to the district wide academic integrity policy as approved by the school board. Students found in violation of this policy (for example copying from another student on an assignment or test) will receive no points for that performance or assignment.

## **Behavior Policy**

Students' behavior affects others' learning as well as their own. To maximize the use of each class period the following music room rules must be followed:

1. Students must be in the music room before the tardy bell rings.
2. Students must not interrupt announcements of any kind.
3. Students are not allowed to open any type of food or drink during class.
4. Students are forbidden to bring gum into the music room or PAC.
5. Students must remove hats during class time.
6. Students must request permission to use the restroom and obtain pass.
7. Actions or conduct distracting to the class are grounds for disciplinary action.

8. Damage, theft, or misuse of music department instrument and/or equipment will be grounds for serious administrative action.
9. Straying into restricted areas of the PAC will result in disciplinary action. Restricted areas include any area of the PAC outside the music room, instrument storage room, practice room, or restrooms.
10. See PAC conduct policy for additional rules & regulations.

Classroom rules along with a strict code of conduct for students entering Performing Arts Center (PAC) will be enforced with a no tolerance response from Mr. Tolles and Mr. Woodruff as well as WHS staff and administration.

My prep time is 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> period. Please call or email me if you would like to meet to discuss your student's progress.