

## Assessment

The Vocal Music Mission Statement is the guideline by which the curriculum and standards are designed. Assessment in Choir is designed to measure each student's individual contribution to the unique group effort that is ensemble music.

Nine week grades serve as Progress Reports. Semester grades are determined as follows:

**40% MUSICIANSHIP GRADES** measure mastery of basic vocal concepts, musical terms and symbols, and basic theory.

Ensemble Grades track PROCESS activities like class participation, teamwork skills, folder upkeep, and being on-time and on-task.

Student Folders are to be labeled, in good condition, with current music and a pencil available.

**60% PERFORMANCE GRADE** rewards achievement demonstrated through PRODUCT, reflected by attendance at **required events** such as Concerts and Festivals. See **Event Attendance**.

### SALEM CHOIR PARENTS

The Choir Parents Organization provides logistical, financial, and advocacy support for the Vocal Music Program 6-12.

The group is task-focused, not meeting-focused, and parents/guardians of Choir students are welcome. Meetings for 2016-17:

Tues August 9	7:00 pm / Choir Rm
Tues November 8	7:00 pm / Choir Rm
Tues February 14	7:00 pm / Choir Rm
Fri May 22	7:00 pm / PAC

## Vocal Music Events 2016-17

*All school events begin at 7:15 pm*

<b>OCT 6</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>SMS Fall Concert 6-7-8</b> Performing Arts Center
<b>OCT 27</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>SHS Open House Concert</b> SHS Presentation Room
NOV 10-11-12	Thurs-Fri-Sat	Bohemian Supper Club / Pres. Rm.
<b>DEC 6</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>Holiday Concert 6-12 / PAC</b>
JAN 2	Sat	ISSMA District Solo Festival Floyd Central HS
FEB 16	Thurs	SHS Honors Recital / Pres. Rm.
FEB 18	Sat	ISSMA State Solo-Ens Perry Meridian HS, Indpls. <i>(Group / Gold Entries only)</i>
<b>MAR 14</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>HS Great American Songbook / PAC</b>
<b>MAY 12</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>HS Spring Concert-Sr. Recog. / PAC</b>
<b>MAY 22</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>SMS Pops Concert / PAC</b>

**BOLDFACE** DENOTES REQUIRED EVENT.  
*EVENTS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.*

**CONCERT WEAR** is issued to students at no charge. Each student should provide a pair of black dress shoes (and black socks for gentlemen). **Ladies: flip-flops are not appropriate for concert dress. If you need dress shoes, let us know, we'll help.**

**FUNDRAISING** is scheduled each Fall. This supports our activities and **we need everyone's help**. **Families who prefer to make donations are welcome to do so.**

# Salem Choirs

## Student Guide 2016-17

**Salem High School**  
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**Salem, IN 47167**  
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## Mission Statement

The primary goal of the Vocal Music Program is musical excellence. This is achieved through development of both individual skills (mechanics of vocal production, music reading, basic theory, etc.) and ensemble skills (balance, blend, diction, etc.). Instruction incorporates State and National Standards as well as SCS Design Qualities.

Secondary goals include the advancement of the cultural awareness of the members of the group, school community, and audience; development of work ethic and teamwork skills; and guidance and direction for students planning a career path in music or the arts.

The curriculum is literature driven. Our basic guideline is that the experience is only as good as the material chosen to prepare (process) and perform (product). There is musically sound and culturally significant literature available from all historical periods and styles. Students gain insight on correct practice of these different styles, which are shared in public performance.

Music is a whole-brain experience that expresses that which words cannot, and is therefore deeply felt. Choral singing requires daily repetition of music and text, repetition that sends these elements deep into the subconscious - therefore, careful consideration is given to selections that are both musically challenging and uplifting or thoughtful in spirit.

## Guidelines for Choir Members

**COURTESY** - School behavior standards apply at all times. Students are expected to respect the rights of others, and to cooperate with staff and each other. This same respect is to be extended to students and groups from other schools.

**TEAMWORK** – Being a large group, we have a wide diversity of students, and we need a positive atmosphere in order to meet our musical goals. Although occasional spats or dust-ups may occur, these are usually the result of misunderstandings.

However, ongoing conflict between choir members is not healthy, and will be addressed privately between student/s and director. Such conflicts require parental, guidance department, and/or administrative involvement, in that order.

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE** – The director will raise attendance/tardy concerns with students and offer encouragement and guidance. Students with 5 or more unexcused absences in a semester may lose credit, and are subject to loss of performance privileges and/or removal from the group in subsequent semesters at director's discretion. Students need to be at school.

**EVENT ATTENDANCE** – Members are expected to be in attendance at required events. These are posted well in advance and coordinate with athletic schedules to minimize conflicts with other school activities. See back for schedule.

Aside from absences due to illness or emergency, **parents (not students) must resolve conflicts in advance.** Student work schedules, non-school activities, and “explanations” from students after the fact do not qualify as excused absences. Students who fail to comply with Event Attendance requirements may be removed from the group.

**ELECTRONICS** – Music requires your full attention. No cell phone or personal device use during rehearsals.

**MATERIALS and CONCERT WEAR** – Students are responsible for returning items in the same condition in which they were issued. Parents will be charged for replacement cost of lost items.

## About Vocal Music at Salem

Over 150 students participate in Vocal Music Activities at Salem Middle School and Salem High School. Students perform a diversity of repertoire selected to honor great musical traditions while engaging 21st century learners.

Students perform in school and community concerts and special events, and participate in festivals sponsored by the Indiana State School Music Association.

Numerous students are involved in extra-curricular activities, including school & community musical theatre productions and vocal jazz ensembles.



**“Music happens to be an art form that transcends language”– Herbie Hancock**

**“Where words fail, music speaks” – Hans Christian Andersen**

**“True music must repeat the thought and inspirations of the people and the time” – George Gershwin**