

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:

20% MUSICIANSHIP GRADES measure mastery of basic vocal concepts, musical terms and symbols, and basic theory. Students participate in online activities as assigned.

40% PARTICIPATION / ENSEMBLE Grades track PROCESS activities like class participation, teamwork skills, folder and uniform upkeep, and being on-time and on-task. Devices charged.

40% PERFORMANCE GRADE rewards achievement demonstrated through PRODUCT, reflected by attendance at **required events** such as Concerts & 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 8 | 7:00 pm / HS Choir Rm |
| Tues October 17 | 7:00 pm / HS Choir Rm |
| Tues January 7 | 7:00 pm / HS Choir Rm |
| Thurs May 17 | 7:00 pm / PAC |

Vocal Music Events 2017-18

*All school events begin at 7:15 pm
Boldface denotes required event*

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---|
| OCT 5 | Thurs | SMS Fall Concert 6-7-8 Performing Arts Center |
| OCT 19 | Thurs | SHS Fall Concert SHS Presentation Room |
| NOV 9-10-11 | Thurs-Fri-Sat | Bohemian Supper Club SHS Presentation Room |
| DEC 2 | Sat | SHS Choir @ W. Baden/French Lick |
| DEC 14 | Thurs | Holiday Concert 6-12 / PAC |
| FEB 3 | Sat | ISSMA District Solo Festival Floyd Central HS |
| FEB 17 | Sat | ISSMA State Solo-Ens Perry Meridian HS, Indpls. <i>Group / Gold Recipients only</i> |
| MAR 6 | Tues | SMS Spring Concert 6-7-8 Performing Arts Center |
| MAR 13 | Tues | HS Great American Songbook / PAC |
| MAY 17 | Thurs | HS Concert / Sr. Recog. / PAC 8 PM* |
| MAY 18 | Fri | SMS Pops Concert / PAC 7:15 PM |

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 kicks off Labor Day weekend. 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 2017-18



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SalemChoirs.org

@SalemChoirs

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 performing 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 mind. 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, to cooperate with staff and each other, and to apply high standards in all situations, including after-school activity and social media.

ELECTRONICS – Music requires your full attention. No phone or personal device use allowed during rehearsals other than Chromebooks.

TEAMWORK – Being a large group, we serve a wide diversity of students, and 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 may require parental, guidance department, and/or administrative involvement, in that order.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE – Participation is factored into student grades. The director will raise attendance/tardy concerns with students and offer encouragement and guidance. Students grades 9-12 with five 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 and school schedules to minimize conflicts with other school activities. See back for schedule.

PERFORMANCE vs. PRACTICE – *performances* (concerts, school athletic games, plays, etc.) always take precedence over *practices* (music or play rehearsal, athletic practice, scrimmage, etc).

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.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Information on Choir events and activities is posted on SalemChoirs.org, and on Twitter @SalemChoirs. Musical Theatre class information may also be found at @SHSONStage.

About Vocal Music at Salem

Around 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, Inc. Numerous students are involved in extra-curricular activities, including musical theatre and vocal jazz productions.



“I got in the school band and the school choir. It all hit me like a ton of bricks, everything just came out. I played percussion for a while, and stayed after school forever just tinkering around with different things, the clarinets and the violins.”
QUINCY JONES

“There are two ways of being creative. One can sing and dance. Or one can create an environment in which singers and dancers flourish.”
WARREN BENNIS