



VOCAL MUSIC

2021-22 HANDBOOK

WELCOME TO THE WAUKEE/NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL PROGRAM

It is with enthusiasm and excitement that we welcome you. We are glad you have chosen to sing with us and look forward to an outstanding year together! The goal of our choral programs is to help each individual develop - musically, socially, and personally. We believe that being in music classes helps build self-discipline, confidence, dedication, and learning how to work with others toward a common goal. As performance oriented groups, we strive to be the best we can be in all respects.

The vocal department website is a good way to find information that is available regarding the choral program. Information is updated as frequently as possible and includes calendars, documents, news items and other general department information. Be sure to sign up for our text communications for the ensembles that you are involved in.

Literature for each of our choirs is chosen very carefully. It is the belief of the Waukee Vocal Music Department that students are to be exposed to a variety of choral literature. The selection of choral music is determined by the instructor based upon availability, quality, educational value and suitability for healthy vocal development. It is not the intent of this department to persuade student views with opposing beliefs or ideals that a musical selection's text may present. Rather, we desire to familiarize students with quality choral literature that will give them a better historical and global perspective as well as to make them conversant with musical aesthetics. It is our goal to give the students a broad perspective of the numerous choral composers, styles and types.

Procedures & Rules in the Classroom

- Be in your place with all required materials when the bell rings.
- Respect all surroundings including other singers and directors.

- Food and beverage are not allowed in the auditorium or vocal rooms. Bottled water is allowed and encouraged.
- Talking during rehearsals should be kept minimum.
- Cell phones are not permitted in rehearsals.
- Gum has no place in the choral rehearsal.
- Attitude accounts for 99% of all success OR challenges.
- Class time is dedicated to music rehearsal and learning. Assignments for other classes must be completed at another time. Choir is not a study hall.

Each student needs to provide a black half inch or one inch three ring binder and pencil

Attire during performance for all ensembles is formalwear (tuxedos and dresses) provided by the school. Sopranos and altos are to wear black shoes without decorative buttons or clasps. No heels above 1 inch and no sandals. Tenors and basses are to wear a white dress shirt with their tux, black socks and shoes.

***Please Note: Students not properly dressed, will not be allowed to perform.**

ENSEMBLES

DAILY SCHEDULE

1st Block

1A 8:10 – 8:56 – Cantate/Cantata and Bass Clef/Northwest Glee Club

1B 9:00 – 9:43 – Concert Choir and A Cappella

2nd Block

2A 9:48 - 10:30 - Bella Voce

2B 10:34 – 11:22 – Bella Voce and Warrior Chor

Jazz choir and Show choir programs are extensions of the choral program at Waukee High School and Northwest High School. These ensembles rehearse weekly outside of the school day and participate and compete at various festivals throughout Iowa and in neighboring states. Participation is open to all students enrolled in the High School Vocal Music Programs by audition.

A Cappella/Northwest Singers

A Cappella/Northwest Singers is the highest auditioned ensemble, and is open to all singers in grades 10-12 who elicit a mature vocal tone and/or advanced musical ability. Also, students should have enrolled for at least one year in Bella Voce, Warrior Chor or Concert Choir. (The director, based upon student performance in an audition, may overlook this requirement.) Students in this ensemble participate in an intensive and highly rewarding musical experience. In depth study of music from each time period of musical history will be explored, including multicultural selections from around the world. Vocal production, sight singing, independence, and musical precision will be explored in detail with deliberate emphasis on unaccompanied singing. A Cappella/Northwest Singers students are eligible and encouraged to participate in other musical opportunities outside of the school day.

Bass Clef/Northwest Glee Club

Bass Clef/Northwest Glee Club is open to any first block bass or tenor voice participating in the Vocal Music Program not enrolled in band or publications that are in 11th or 12th grade.

Bella Voce/Vox

Bella Voce/Vox is an ensemble open to all 10th grade treble voices. Study of singing techniques and skills, focusing on sound unification, intonation and vocal independence will be explored and discussed, through a wide variety of literature. Solfege and music literacy will be explored in detail.

Cantate/Cantala

Cantate/Cantala is open to any first block treble voice participating in the Vocal Music Program not

enrolled in band or publications that is in 11th or 12th grade.

Concert Choir

Concert Choir is open to all students in grades 11-12. Further study of singing techniques and skills, focusing on sound unification, intonation, vocal independence and stage presence will be explored and discussed, through a wide variety of literature. Study in solfege and music literacy will continue. Concert Choir students are eligible and encouraged to participate in other musical opportunities outside of the school day.

Warrior Chor/Wulfchor

Warrior Chor/Wulfchor is an ensemble open to all 10th grade bass clef voices. Study of singing techniques and skills, focusing on sound unification, intonation and vocal independence will be explored and discussed, through a wide variety of literature. Solfege and music literacy will be explored in detail.

Lessons are required for singers enrolled in the above ensembles

Please keep the rest of the handbook for reference, especially the calendar of events. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your director at Waukee High School (515.987.5163) or Northwest High School (xxx.xxx.xxxx). Thank you for your cooperation.

We look forward to a fabulous year of working together and sharing in success!

APPENDIX A - WAUKEE HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GRADES 10-12 VOCAL MUSIC CALENDAR 2021-2022

Unless specified, all events will take place at Waukee High School

All Events in bold are required for all vocal music students

- Mon-Thu July 12-15 Millennium Choreo Camp
- Fri-Mon July 16-20: Spirit Choreo Camp
- Sat August 28: WHS All State Clinic
- **Mon. October 11: Debut Concert**
- Sat. October 23: All-State Auditions
- Mon. November 22: Show Choir Preview Performance @ 7:00 pm
- Thur-Sat. November 18-20: All-State Music Festival
- **Thur. December 2: Festival of Peace Dress Rehearsal @ 6:00 pm**
- **Fri. December 3: Festival of Peace Evening Concert @ 7:00 pm**
- Thurs. January 13: Parade of Show Choirs Performance @ Waukee HS Field House
- Fri.-Sat. January 14-15: Starstruck Invitational
- Fri. January 28: WDM Valley Vocal Jazz Festival
- Sat. January 29: CR Prairie Show Choir Invitational
- Fri. February 4: Liberty High School Jazz Festival
- Sat. February 12: Urbandale Show Choir Invitational
- Thu-Sat. February 17-19: ACDA Regional Conference in Chicago, IL
- **Mon. February 21: Masterworks Concert @ 7:00 pm**
- Sat. February 26: Norris, NE Show Choir Competition #3
- Mon. February 28: Jazz and Show Choir Palooza Show
- March 28-29: Iowa Vocal Jazz Championships
- March 28-29: All State Jazz Choir Auditions
- TBA: Solo and Ensemble Contest @ WHS
- **Sat. May 7: State Large Group Music Festival**
- **Mon. May 9: Spring Concert and Awards**

Remember: This calendar may not include all dates or events that will be scheduled!

APPENDIX B - NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GRADES 10-12 VOCAL MUSIC CALENDAR 2021-2022

Unless specified, all events will take place at Northwest High School

All Events in bold are required for all vocal music students

- Tues-Fri July 6-9 Eos Choreo Camp
- Tues - Fri July 20-23 Aurora Choreo Camp
- Fri-Sat. August 20-21: Northwest Singers Retreat
- Sat August 28: WHS All State Clinic
- **Mon. October 11: Debut Concert**
- Sat. October 23: All-State Auditions
- Mon. November 22: Show Choir Preview Performance @ 5:30 and 7:00pm
- Thur-Sat. November 18-20: All-State Music Festival
- **Wed. December 1: Winter with Northwest Dress Rehearsal @ 6:00 pm**
- **Sat. December 4: Winter with Northwest Concert @ 2:00 pm**
- Sat. January 8: Des Moines Christian Illumination
- Thurs. January 13: Parade of Show Choirs Performance @ Waukee HS Field House
- Fri.-Sat. January 14-15 Starstruck Invitational
- Sat. January 22: Johnston Showzam
- Fri. January 28: WDM Valley Vocal Jazz Festival
- Sat. February 12: North Polk Comet Sensation Show and Jazz Festival
- Mon. February 26: Kirkwood Vocal Jazz Festival
- Thur-Sat. February 17-19: ACDA RegionalNational Conference in Chicago, IL
- Sat. February 26: Vermillion Rhythm In Red
- **Mon. February 28: Masterworks Concert @ 7:00 pm**
- Thur. March 3: Jazz and Show Choir Jamboree Show
- TBD March 28: Iowa Vocal Jazz Championships
- TBD March 28: All State Jazz Choir Auditions
- TBA: Solo and Ensemble Contest @ WHS
- **Sat. May 7: State Large Group Music Festival**
- **Mon. May 9: Spring Concert and Awards**

Remember: This calendar may not include all dates or events that will be scheduled!