

Choral Music - BHS & SMHS



Course Description -

Chorus 1-2, Concert Choir, and Chamber Singers

Choirs at Burlingame and San Mateo High Schools perform literature chosen from various eras of musical history including: Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Twentieth Century and Contemporary, including non-Western musical traditions as well as contemporary popular styles. While learning the techniques of rehearsal and performance, the students analyze compositional elements in cultural and historical contexts, gaining a deeper aesthetic understanding of music. The rehearsal and performance schedule will require a time commitment outside of the regular school calendar to include local venues, festivals, and a concert tour.

Mr. Shawn Reifschneider
650-558-2374 (office phone)
sreifschneider@smuhsd.org

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of each course students will meet National, State and District Academic Content Standards in the following ways:

1. Demonstrate rehearsal and performance techniques (e.g. proper posture, rehearsal and stage etiquette, vocal technique, etc.) appropriate to the course level.
2. Perform musical literature from various areas of musical history.
3. Analyze and assess music in a cultural and historical context, enriching a sense of this literature.
4. Reflect upon and assess the characteristics and merits of community musical performances.
5. Demonstrate musical literacy at appropriate course level.

Communication

Mr. Reifschneider and Music Boosters will communicate to parents and students via School Loop email and through Charms. All students are to refer to School Loop daily for assignments and class news. Parents need to register to be kept informed of student progress, important announcements, and other class news. The system will forward School Loop email to a personal email account. Parents and students should use the Loop Mail feature to communicate with Mr. Reifschneider.

BHS parents and students register at: www.bhs.schoolloop.com

SMHS parents and students register at: www.smhs.schoolloop.com

Music Boosters primarily use Charms for communication. Students and parents should register for Charms (charmsoffice.com).

Student Expectations

Failure to meet these expectations will result in removal from class setting and loss of daily points.

1. Students will show respect and support for themselves, peers, teachers, equipment, facilities, etc.
2. Students will be on task toward successful rehearsal and assignments at all times.
3. Food, drink, and gum are left out of the classroom. Water bottles with caps are allowed.

Choral Music - BHS & SMHS



Assessment Criteria

Choral classes are based on a point system. Each class period, students earn points for their prompt presence and having all required class materials (notebook, music, pencil, etc.). Concerts are mandatory and will be held outside the school day. Tardiness to any class, rehearsal, or concert call-time will result in a 50% loss of points. Make-up work will be accepted for excused absences only. Only an excuse from a teacher for a school related activity will excuse tardies. Points are recorded and posted at the end of each progress report period for these and other required coursework.

Required Semester Coursework

1. **Classwork, Homework, Special Events, and Tests.** (point value given upon assignment)
2. **Rehearsal Etiquette Assessment: Participation in class rehearsals and extra rehearsals.**
Additional sectional rehearsals will be expected outside of class time. Tardiness results in 50% reduction of points. (900 points each semester - 300 per grading period)
3. **Sectional Rehearsals:** Attend weekly sectionals per grading period: (20 points each)
4. **Concert Run Through Rehearsals - Evening rehearsals.** (200 points)
Tardiness results in 50% reduction of points.
5. **Concerts and performances.** (500 points each)
Tardiness results in 50% reduction of points. Only an absence due to serious illness (not just a cold) will excuse a performance.
Only a parent or guardian may excuse an absence prior to any performance.

Make Up Work - Excused absences only can be made up in the following ways:

1. **Any LIVE Classical, Jazz Concert, or Musical Theater Critique/Concert Review.** Submit a one to two page paper with program attached. **Up to 100 points can be earned for each paper.**
2. **Participate in a school musical or other local community theater production during the previous summer or current school year.** Provide program signed by the director. **100 points**
3. **Participate in a CMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival, or an Honor Choir.** **100 points** (unless otherwise required in class)

Music Folders:

Each student will need a **1/2 inch, black, three-ring binder** to keep their music. Students are not to decorate or write on these binders as they may be used in formal performances.

Music Care:

Each student will be issued a set of sheet music that will be rehearsed in class. Students are required to have all music each and every class period. Students are responsible to keep music in good condition throughout the semester. At the end of each semester, music will be subject to strict inspection. The choir member will pay for any damaged or lost pieces of music. If an entire music folder is lost, the student will be billed replacement cost of all the music. This could be as much as \$50.

Choral Music - BHS & SMHS



Release Forms:

No student is allowed to travel on choir activities without the proper parental permission and medical release forms.

Spring Performance Tour:

This spring, the Concert Choirs and Chamber Singers will be taking a tour to perform in a Heritage Festival competition. Dates, location, and other information will soon be released.

Formal Concert Attire and Uniforms:

Chorus:

Black and White Attire - White dress shirt or white dress blouse (covered shoulders). Black dress slacks with black belt or black skirt (below the knee). Black socks, hosiery, or stockings. Black dress shoes (no spike heels - only 1-1/2 inch heel). Long hair will be pulled back above ears.

Concert Choir and Chamber Singers

Concert Tuxedo (provided by Music Boosters). Includes white tux shirt, studs, cufflinks, bow tie, cummerbund, tux slacks, tux jacket. Students will provide their own black dress socks and black dress shoes. Long hair will be pulled back above ears.

Concert Formal Concert Gown (provided by Music Boosters). Students will wear black hosiery and black closed-toed dress shoes (no spike heels). Long hair will be pulled back above ears.

Expectations - Your concert uniform has been paid for and is owned by the school's Music Boosters organization. It must be regarded as a source of pride. You are expected to keep your uniform in excellent condition at all times. It will be clean when issued.

Uniform Care - At the end of the school year, uniforms will be subject to strict inspection by the uniform managers. The choir member will pay for any damaged or lost uniforms.

Replacement cost is shown below.

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|---------------|------|---------------------|------|
| Formal Gown | \$90 | | |
| Tuxedo Jacket | \$75 | Cummerbund | \$10 |
| Tuxedo Slacks | \$50 | Studs and cufflinks | \$10 |
| Tuxedo Shirt | \$20 | Bow Tie | \$10 |

Casual Concert Attire for All Choirs:

All students will wear a choral music t-shirt to wear with blue jeans (no holes) and sneakers.

Choral Music Calendar:

The Choral Music Calendar for Burlingame High School and San Mateo High School is attached. Add these dates, as appropriate for you on your calendar. If there are foreseen conflicts, parents and students must notify Mr. Reifschneider upon the return of the attached Expectation Agreement form. Note that some calendar dates will be added or be changed due to unforeseen circumstances. **Please be sure to check School Loop assignment calendar for the latest up to date information.**

Choral Music - BHS & SMHS



SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT - BHS/SMHS Choral Music Parental Consent for Student to Take School Sponsored Field Trips - Current Academic Year

General Rules Governing All School Sponsored Trips

1. All trips leave from and return to the school. Students are responsible for their own transportation from the school to their home after the trip.
2. Students will return on the school bus or in the car with the faculty member or approved school volunteer aide with whom they left the school.
3. Under **NO** circumstances are students allowed to drive other students to or from the filed trip location.
4. All students will remain with the group at all times.
5. School regulations concerning student dress will be observed on the trip unless students are instructed otherwise by the teacher in charge.
6. Students will observe all school rules and regulations concerning behavior.
7. The faculty member in charge will establish trip rules, which will be observed by all students.
8. Parents/guardians approval is required for the student to participate in field trips.

PARENTAL CONSENT

Education code Section 1081.5, when you give your written permission that your child may go on a field trip, you have waived all claims against the district or the State of California for injury, accident, illness, or death occurring during or by reason of the field trip.

I, _____ (name of parent/legal guardian), have read and understand all of the stipulations concerning field trips and hereby give my permission for _____ (name of student) to attend and participate in off-campus field trips with Mr. Shawn Reifschneider and the Burlingame High School and/or San Mateo High School Choral Music Ensemble(s) during the current academic year. I waive all claims against the district or the State of California for injury, accident, illness, or death occurring during or by reason of these trips.

Please note that all adults, not regularly employed by the district, and all 18 year olds accompanying the trip are required to sign this waiver.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date Signed

Address

City Zip

Email address

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Work Phone



Choral Music - BHS/SMHS Student Information and Expectations Agreement

This form is to be signed by both the student and parent/guardian and returned to Mr. Reifschneider within one week of enrollment.

Please print legibly:

Student Name: _____ Period _____

Student T-SHIRT SIZE (Circle One):

Small Medium Large X-Large XX-Large

Student CELL PHONE Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Names: _____

We have read the Choral Program syllabus, expectations, rules, and conditions of being a member of the BHS/SMHS Choral Program and agree to abide by them. We accept all responsibility for the music, uniform, or equipment that has been assigned to the student named above. We also agree to maintain the music, uniform, or equipment and to return the same to the Music Department at the end of the semester and will reimburse the Music Boosters for the replacement of any missing or damaged items (beyond normal wear and tear).

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Date