

URBANA MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORUS

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

MR. TOM MITCHELL, CHORUS DIRECTOR



WELCOME to the Urbana Middle School Choir! What's our goal this year? To help you grow into a hard-working, conscientious, and successful student. You will do that by developing both as a person and musician through lessons that improve your singing and musical skill, your ability to read the language of music, your appreciation of the history of music, and your ability to work with others to create a polished musical performance. With dedication, creativity, and enthusiasm you will perform the best music you've ever played.

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BRIEF CALENDAR OF CONCERTS AND EVENTS

- October 5**
UMS music fundraiser
- October 30**
All County Auditions, CMS
- December 13**
Winter Concert, 7:00, UMS
- January 14**
Urbana Choirs Feeder Pattern
Concert, 7:00, UHS
- April 9**
MS Choir Adjudication, MHS
- May 21**
Spring Concert, 7:00, UMS
- June 1**
Hershey Park Trip
(8th grade music students)

MATERIALS NEEDED

The following items are **REQUIRED** for participation in the Chorus:

- CHROMEBOOK
- DESIRE TO SING WELL
- Class Handouts & Music (provided)
- Access to Schoology. The codes for Schoology are:
 - CHOIR 6 – 7RWWG-4GRT2
 - CHOIR 7 – K5XK4-ZK4Z6
 - CHOIR 8 – PZSX3-F5X2Z

CONCERT DRESS

All Chorus students will be required to have the appropriate clothing for concerts. If there is any change to this dress code Mr. Mitchell will let you know. Have these items ready **BEFORE** the first concert – make sure they fit! We want everyone to look sharp and professional.

GIRLS: White shirt, **ankle length** black pants or skirt, black shoes.

BOYS: White shirt, black pants, black socks, black shoes, long tie.

DO NOT WEAR: Blue jeans, sneakers, t-shirts, white or light colored socks!

UNITS OF STUDY

SEMESTER I

- Voice Technique, Mechanics, & Posture,
- Ensemble Singing & Sight Singing
- Sightreading Benchmarks
- Music Theory & Music History
- Music for the Holiday Concert

SEMESTER II

- Music Theory & Music History
- Music for the Spring Concert
- Music for Adjudication
- Mash-up Project
- Creative Music Project Benchmark

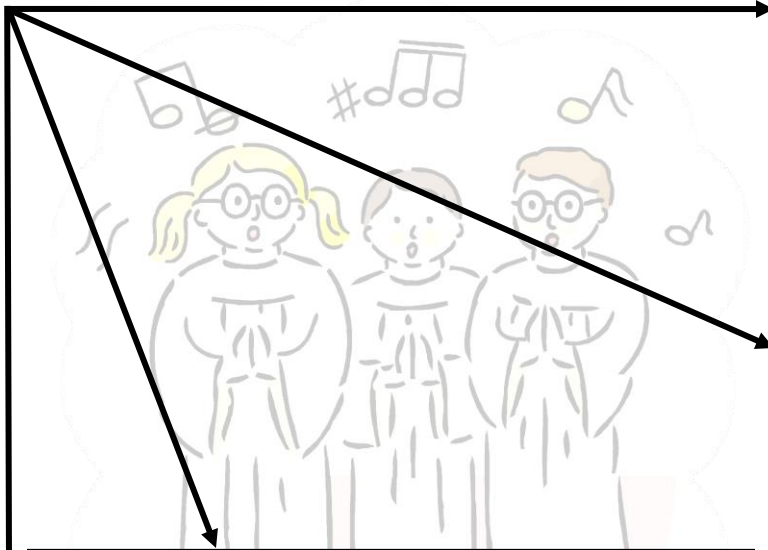


CLASS PROCEDURE

Students are expected to be in the classroom ready to go with their materials at the class bell. Class activities will generally follow this outline:

1. Short Written Warm-up
2. Thorough Vocal Warm-up and Sightreading
followed by
3. Rehearsal of Music, OR
4. Session on Music Theory or Music History

LOOK
NO
BACK



CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MR. MITCHELL

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GRADING

Summative Assessments – 50%

UMS Concerts & projects. FCPS county-wide assessments for sight-reading, adjudication, and creativity.

Formative Assessments/Activities - 25%

Warm-ups, worksheets, handouts, playing quizzes, tests, inspections.

Participation/Work Ethic - 15%

Daily attitude, teamwork, hard work.

Practice - 10% (Homework)

Practice time recorded on the weekly practice chart. Any time outside school on your instrument counts.

Late Work & Absences - Assignments are expected on the due date for 100% credit.

However, late penalties are as follows:

Grade penalized 10% for 1 day late, 20% for 2 days late, 30% for 3 days late, 40% for 4 days late, 50% for 5+ days late

Students absent from class are expected to turn in work within 2 days after returning.

Students who lose credit due to late work will be noted in the gradebook with a 0.1%

Tutoring – Tutoring will take place during ELT once or twice in every 2-week rotation. You will be called in for tutoring if your grade drops below 70%, or you can ask to be placed on the tutoring list for extra help.

HOME ACCESS CENTER – Assignments will be posted on HAC, the UMS CHOIR webpage, and Schoology.

U.M.S. encourages parents to regularly check their students' grades on HAC which will be updated weekly. The following list of codes helps you better understand the HAC grading.

- An "E" is issued to excuse work.
- A "Z" is used by teachers to indicate that an assignment has never been turned in.
- A "0" in a grade book signifies that a student earned a zero on the work.

RULES OF THE CLASSROOM

- Bring your voice, materials, and positive attitude to every class.
- **Attendance at all concerts is REQUIRED.** See the calendar for concert dates. Please make arrangements early to avoid conflicts.
- No gum, food, or drinks in class. Water bottles only are permitted during rehearsal.
- Treat everyone with respect. (Please don't interrupt rehearsal time.)
- Electronic devices permitted ONLY when instructed.

DISCIPLINE

Urbana Middle School follows the PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports) program, which is a school-wide approach to discipline. Our goal is to change behaviors that are disruptive to the learning environment. In accordance with the PBIS program, students will be rewarded with "talons" for positive behavior and there will be consequences for failure to follow behavior guidelines and expectations.

For the 2018-2019 school year consequences are accumulated PER STUDENT and not within each classroom.

You may hear from different teachers regarding your child's progression through the steps. The progression is as follows:

1. Verbal Warning
2. First classroom reflection *
3. Second classroom reflection *
4. Lunch detention *
5. After school detention *
6. Administrative Conference *
7. Office Referral * * **Includes Parent Contact**

