



CHORAL PROGRAM HANDBOOK
2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

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PLEASE REVIEW THE HANDBOOK FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

PERFORMANCE DATES:

Unity Concert: Wednesday, October 22nd @ 7:30 pm @ GHS Auditorium (ALL GROUPS)

CCSU Choral Invitational: Wednesday, November 19 @ TBA @ CCSU (Voices)

Tree Lighting Concerts: Friday, December 5 @ 7:30 & 9:00 pm @ First Congregational Church of Guilford (Concert Choir and Voices)

Tree Lighting Concerts: Saturday, December 6 @ 7:00 & 8:30 pm @ First Congregational Church of Guilford (Concert Choir and Voices)

VOICES CAROLING: DECEMBER 7 – 23, 2014

Winter Concert: Thursday, January 16 @ 7:30 pm @ GHS Auditorium (Mixed Chorus)

Meals on Wheels Concert: Wednesday, February 11 @ 7:30 pm @ GHS Auditorium (Voices)

Woolsey Hall Concert: Friday, March 13 @ 8:00 pm @ Woolsey Hall (Concert Choir)

Voices Showcase: Thursday, March 26 @ 7:00 pm @ GHS Auditorium (Voices)

Beethoven 9 Concert: Thursday, April 2 @ 7:30 pm @ Woolsey Hall (Voices)

Spring Concert: Wednesday, May 27 @ 7:00 pm @ GHS Auditorium (ALL GROUPS)

Mixed Chorus Showcase: FINAL EXAM DAY @ GHS Auditorium

CHORAL ENSEMBLES ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend all performances for their ensemble(s). In addition, students are also expected to remain at a concert if other performing groups are playing on the same concert. To request to be excused from a performance, students must bring in a note explaining the conflict written and signed by a parent or guardian at least one week prior to the performance (sooner is preferred). Excuses will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Students missing a performance will be asked to complete an alternate assignment. Failure to abide by this attendance policy will result in a lowered grade.

REHEARSAL PARTICIPATION

Participation in all rehearsals is integral to a student's overall musical progress. Therefore, if a student requests to "sit out" from the rehearsal process, they must provide a written note from a parent/guardian in order to be excused from that particular rehearsal. In addition, if a student is given permission to sit out of rehearsal, they will be responsible for writing rehearsal notes during the period. Mr. Buno will provide a detailed assignment sheet and rubric for the observation. **Please be reminded that rehearsal participation is part of a student's overall grade in any choral ensemble.**

CONCERT ATTIRE

If a student needs assistance in attaining concert attire, please contact Mr. Buno as soon as possible.

CONCERT CHOIR	VOICES	MIXED CHORUS
<p><i>Ladies</i></p> <p>Black dress or skirt and blouse *If skirts are chosen for attire, they must be knee length or lower. NO HEELS <i>Gown/formal dress for Woolsey Hall and Tree Lighting</i></p>	<p><i>Ladies</i></p> <p>Black gown of your choice Dress shoes (no heels)</p>	<p><i>Ladies</i></p> <p>Black dress or skirt and blouse *If skirts are chosen for attire, they must be knee length or lower</p>
<p><i>Gentlemen</i></p> <p>Black dress pants, collared, long-sleeve, white shirt, and green neck tie w/dress shoes <i>Add black jacket or black suit for Woolsey Hall and Tree Lighting</i></p>	<p><i>Gentlemen</i></p> <p>Black tux (no tails), black socks, black shoes White wing-tipped shirt Green bow tie and vest</p>	<p><i>Gentlemen</i></p> <p>Black dress pants, collared, long-sleeve, black shirt or black polo</p>

LEVELING

Students may opt to take Band and Wind Ensemble for level zero or level one credit. Level zero (grade does not impact cumulative GPA) will be automatically assigned to students who do not specifically request a level. To receive level one credit, the student must complete three of the following requirements per semester. Students wishing to receive Level One credit in more than one ensemble must complete four. A student can have only a maximum of two Level One music courses per semester.

- *Serving as an officer in the music ensemble
- *Audition for CMEA Region Music Festival (Fall) or All-State Festival (Spring) on voice or applied instrument.
- *Performance in Sports Band (good for one semester only)
- * Perform in Percussion Ensemble
- *Perform in an approved music ensemble outside of school (i.e. Greater New Haven Youth Symphony, Concert Band, or Wind Ensemble, Shoreline Jazz Collective, Neighborhood Music School Chamber Ensembles, church choir, Elm City Girls Choir, etc.)
- * Weekly private lessons on applied instrument (minimum 12 lessons per semester)
- * Participation in school musical (cast, pit or major crew assignment)
- *Assisting/mentoring with other GPS music teachers.
- *Enrollment in Smart Music Enrichment course. (*instrumental groups only*)
- * Member of GHS Music Department Stage Crew

GRADING

Every student in a choral ensemble will receive a calculated grade based upon the following:

50% Rehearsal Participation/Preparation

Students are expected to participate in every aspect of rehearsal. This includes coming prepared to class with a pencil, making notes in scores, rehearsing music independently when the director is rehearsing another section and having practiced the music rehearsed in the previous class. Students will also be asked to participate in music literacy and theory activities. Self-assessments will be completed once a week to monitor progress in this category.

20% Sectional Participation/Work

Every section will be given weekly assignments on their concert repertoire. The sectional rehearsal will offer students the opportunity to work collaboratively, in small groups, on completing these tasks.

10% Concert/Project

Attendance at all concerts is mandatory for students participating in their respective ensemble. If a student is unable to attend a concert and has a written excuse from a parent, they will be required to complete a project or paper assigned by Mr. Buno. Any unexcused absence from a concert will be graded accordingly.

20% Program Notes

Each quarter, students will be required to complete program notes on one piece performed in an upcoming concert. The notes are to explore the overall background of the piece, include an interpretation of the poetry/text being used and, if necessary, translation of the song. The assignment should be preferably typed, one page in length, double-spaced.

VOICES/CONCERT CHOIR OFFICERS

Students were elected to serve as an officer in the choral ensembles last school year. These students are responsible for taking attendance, facilitating sectional rehearsals, organizing music, setting up and breaking down equipment for ALL concerts and helping with choir formations. Your officers are a valuable resource in the classroom and are always happy to help or provide assistance when needed.

MUSIC BINDERS

-Every student will be assigned a binder and number for their respective music.

-Students in Voices will receive their own binder.

-Students in Concert Choir and Mixed Chorus will share music and binders.

-Students in Concert Choir and Mixed Chorus must purchase their music binders. They will be due the class the week of 9/2/14. Because there are two students assigned to one binder, I ask that both split the cost of the binder prior to making the purchase. Binders MUST BE BLACK AND THREE RING.

-It is the student's responsibility to take care of the music assigned to them. Failure to do so will result in a fee designated by the director to replace the damaged music.

-All music MUST be returned at the end of the concert. Failure to do so will result in a fee.