

# **Pascack Hills High School**

## **Music Department**

**Margarita Elkin, Vocal Music Teacher**

### **CONCERT CHOIR SYLLABUS**

**Please note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as necessary during the school year. Changes will be communicated to all students via email, a handout, or verbally.**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Students will rehearse and perform regularly. Music is an important aspect of educational, emotional, and social development of the student and it is the purpose of this program to offer choral experiences that will assist students in their development.

Realizing the lifelong value of musical training into adulthood, the general aim of this program is to stimulate the emotional and social growth of the student, while the specific aim is to develop vocal ability and musicianship.

### **PROGRAM OF STUDY**

- ELEMENTS OF VOICE PRODUCTION
- ELEMENTS OF MUSICIANSHIP AND INTERPRETATION
- EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES
- PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

### **MATERIALS**

#### **SHEET MUSIC**

You will be provided with sheet music that must be kept in your binders in the Choral Room. You are responsible for all the music and will return it at the end of each term.

#### **PENCILS**

Bring a pencil with an eraser and keep it in your binder all the time.

#### **LAPTOPS**

You will occasionally need your laptops.

### **STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

In order to successfully complete the requirements for Chamber Choir, each student enrolled is expected to:

1. Meet the goals and objectives as specified in the Program of Studies to the best of their ability.
2. Demonstrate musical growth during each marking period.
3. Participate fully in all classroom activities, as well as the activities outside the classroom.
4. Successfully complete all the tests/auditions.
5. Memorize all the music to be performed.
6. Regularly practice assigned music and materials at home.
7. Make up all the work missed due to absences, field trips or labs.

## **CLASSROOM PROCEDURES**

1. Be on time for class (anyone late must have a signed pass).
2. Be seated in your assigned seats with music folders when the bell rings.
3. Have your laptops closed in carrying case unless the instructor indicates otherwise.
4. Follow the instructions written on the board, if any.
5. Participate fully in the warm-up process in the beginning of each class.
6. Always be attentive to the directions of the Instructor.
7. Demonstrate proper personal behavior at all times.
8. Return all music folders to assigned locations in the room at the end of each class.

## **RULES**

1. Properly maintain your music folders and uniforms throughout the year. Folders or uniforms carelessly damaged or in need of repairs will be paid for by the student.
2. Always be RESPECTFUL towards other students, faculty, and guests (see the student handbook for more information).
3. No gum, candy, food or soda is allowed in the classroom (water is allowed).
4. No iPods and cell phones during class.

## **GRADING CRITERIA**

### **Grading Criteria Weight**

Classroom participation and cooperation	30%
Participation in Public Performances	20%
Parts check / tests	20%
Participation in extra rehearsals	15%
Scales / Musicianship	15%
Total	100%

### **Classroom participation and cooperation**

1. *Attention* - directed toward conductor and classroom activities.
2. *Attitude* - concern and respect for the efforts of other members of the group.
3. *Effort* - striving for good voice production, including good vowel and mouth positions, learning music, memorizing words, maintaining correct posture.
4. *Response* - to conductor and her directions. Students are responsible for their behavior at all times.

### **Participation in public performances**

Music is a performing art. Therefore, it is imperative that students appear at public performances featuring their group. Students will be notified of these public performances at least four (4) weeks in advance.

### **Evaluations**

Students will be tested regularly on their knowledge of current musical material. They will also be evaluated on sight-reading skills. Students will be evaluated during each marking period (the evaluation dates are posted on our website). The evaluation process will include sight-singing, scales, and current repertoire.

**Participation in extra rehearsals**

Students are notified of extra rehearsals at least two (2) weeks in advance. These rehearsals will usually take place after school, and they are mandatory. The calendar with all the dates is posted online - please check the website periodically.

**PARENTS' INVOLVEMENT**

Parents are encouraged to contact the instructor should there be any questions or concerns. It is always a good idea to check our school website periodically for upcoming events or other information regarding the course (the school's website address is [pascack.k12.nj.us](http://pascack.k12.nj.us)). Please feel free to e-mail me any time at [melkin@pascack.k12.nj.us](mailto:melkin@pascack.k12.nj.us), or call me at 201-358-7020 ext. 2057

**Chamber Choir Student/Parent Acknowledgement Form**

Both the student and the parent need to sign this form and return to the Instructor immediately.

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Course enrolled: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

I have carefully read the course syllabus. I understand what is expected from participants in the vocal music program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature Date