Chamber Choir Contract 2015-2016

Welcome to Northglenn Chamber Choir! The following guidelines comprise the details of your membership in Chamber Choir.

Course Description

Chamber Choir is an advanced level vocal ensemble that sings choral literature in a wide variety of musical styles. Students will continue to develop individual and ensemble singing skills and will participate in at least 4 evening concerts, usually more.

Behavior

The behavior of any member of Chamber Choir must be held to a high standard to ensure the integrity of the choir and to allow students to excel and progress. The following is expected of all Chamber choir members:

* Since rehearsal time is short, be prepared and ready to rehearse when the bell rings. Music, pencil, and positive attitude!
* No food or drink (except water) will be allowed in the choir room at any time.
* Follow all basic standards of proper singing technique that you currently know. e.g. Posture, breathing, etc.

**The following infractions may result in removal from Chamber Choir:**

* Infractions of attendance expectations (See Attendance)
* Missed performance without prior notification
* Disrespectful behavior towards other students or myself
* Losing more than 40 Daily Rehearsal Skills Assessment points in a year, or more than 20 in a semester

**\*NOTE\***

**THERE WILL BE NO SMOKING, DRINKING OF ALCHOHOL BEVERAGES OR USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS BY ANY CHORAL MEMBER IN OR OUT OF UNIFORM WHILE REPRESENTING OUR SCHOOL. SUCH BEHAVIOR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND IS CONSIDERED GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL FROM THE CHORAL PROGRAM.**

Eligibility

The following are the standard of eligibility for membership in Chamber Choir:

* Must have a C or higher to continue in Chamber Choir the following year.
* Must have at least 1 year of experience within choir program or recommendation from a previous choral teacher.

Attendance

**Attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals and school related performances.** Attendance is required for all dress rehearsals and performances. These dates are given out months in advance so conflicts such as: work conflicts, birthdays, etc. are unexcused. **Attendance in class is mandatory. Excessive tardiness (including not being ready at the bell) or unexcused absence is grounds for your removal from Chamber Choir.** Be responsible!

Absences

Absences on scheduled performances (including outside of school performances) can only be excused for the following reasons: birth or death of a family member, court appearance (daytime only), religious obligations, and illness. If you must miss a performance due to court or religious reasons, you must notify me in writing at least 1 week in advance. Illness/birth/death in the family requires a parent/doctor note in order to be considered excused. **ABSENCES FOR ALL OTHER REASONS WILL BE UNEXCUSED AND WILL RESULT IN YOUR GRADE BEING LOWERED ONE FULL LETTER GRADE AND YOUR CONSIDERATION OF REMOVAL FROM CHAMBER CHOIR. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Tardies

Students are expected to arrive to class on time. This allows us to accomplish as much as possible in the time we are given. If a student is late they must fill out the tardy form before joining in regular class assignments. They will still be required to accomplish any task given for the day. If a student is three times, they will receive and call home to parents. On the fourth time they will receive a referral to Student Relations and will possibly be put on an attendance contract.

Daily Rehearsal Skills Assessment

Students are daily evaluated by means of an online program called Class Dojo. Students will receive a max of 5 points a day for their grade. Students may lose points based on negative points given in Class Dojo. At the end of each day, students will be able to see if they are in the positive or negative. If a student ends class with 2 or more negative points, they must stay after class and discuss how they can improve. If they feel there is a mistake, the issue will be addressed immediately.

Practice Journal

Students are expected to maintain a Practice Journal that will be examined on a weekly basis. This journal will carry the same weight as in class participation (20 points/week). It is expected that students will practice outside of class and record the details of their practice. e.g. Finding sections of music they need to focus on in class, working on rhythm, memorizing lyrics, etc. This is a good opportunity to focus on sections of music that were recently presented in class.

Grading

All assignments will be graded as 80% summative and 20% formative. Different assignments include, but are not limited to:

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| 80% Summative   * Daily Rehearsal Skills Assessments (20 pts/week) * Theory Quizzes/Tests (30-50 pts/week) * Singing Tests ( 30-50 pts) * Dress Rehearsals (25 pts) * Concert Performances (75 pts) | 20% Formative   * Weekly Practice Journal Evaluations (20 pts/week) * Theory Workbooks (30-50 pts) * Weekly Sectionals (20 pts/ week) | District Grading Scale  90-100% = A  80-89% = B  70-79% = C  60-69% = D  Below 60% = F |

Late work will be accepted up to 4 days after due date. The following is the percentage they will receive based on what they have earned:

* 1 day late: 100% (still)
* 2 days late: 75%
* 3 days late: 50%
* 4 days late: 25%
* 5 days late: Need to do make up assignments

Superintendent Policies 6280 Homework and 6281 Make-Up Work, will be followed for this course. They state that it is the student’s responsibility to request and obtain missing work.  When a student has an excused absence, the student has the same number of days they were absent plus one day to make up assignments.  Students who are unexcused may not be able to receive feedback from Practice prior to required assessments.

Care of Music

Original copies are most always handed out and great singers take great care of each piece and return them at the end of each concert.  When marking in your music, please use light pencil markings.  You are free to keep your folder in the classroom or take it home to practice.  If you happen to take your music home, please be sure to keep it in a safe place.  ***Always have a pencil and your folder with you in class*.**

Equipment

Please take care of and ask permission when you need to use pianos, stereo equipment, risers, etc. It is expected that students do not handle teacher or classmate materials and belongings – including folders unless given permission.

Concert Attire

Students will learn about proper performance etiquette, and visual presentation.  Professional group presentation is an important piece in an ensemble performance. Plan ahead now for your concert outfit. Students will be assigned a robe for the group they are a part of, but it is still important to dress presentably under their robe.

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| --- | --- |
| Gentlemen   * Plain Black slacks * Plain White button-down shirt * Black tie * Black socks * Black shoes | Women   * Plain Black slacks/pants/skirts * Dress pants, capris, or gauchos are fine * Plain White shirt * If wearing an undershirt with your plain white shirt, please wear black or white * Black shoes (please keep heels modest) |

***\*Clothing must meet the school-wide attire policy. Example: no spaghetti straps, no strapless shirts, etc.***

***\*Variations of color and accessories may be made for specific concerts.***

General Information

* Wear comfortable clothing and shoes to rehearse in. **Maintain appropriate skirt/dress/shorts lengths so that warm-ups do not present a problem.**
* Each member is responsible for the sheet music issued to him or her. If music is lost or stolen it is the student’s responsibility to replace it as soon as possible. Do not ask for additional copies.
* All school rules are in effect during performances. As a member of the Northglenn Chamber Choir you are in the spotlight of the community. Each member is a delegate of the school and should therefore demonstrate appropriate behavior in or out of uniform and class.

Conclusion

Choir is a place where we can have fun, learn, work cooperatively with others, and grow in our musical ability. In order to succeed we have to maintain a high level of discipline, and do our best. I do my best to make this program as successful as possible, and expect everyone to do the same. If we all do our part, this year will be successful and we will make this program better every year.

**Contract Student/Parent Signature Form**

Please return this page to choir by **FRIDAY August 21, 2015**

(this will be worth 10 pts)

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the

(student) (parent)

rules, grading procedures, and my responsibilities as a member of the Northglenn Chamber Choir. I agree to attend all choral functions of the 2015/2016 school year and uphold the regulations stated in this contract.

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Student Printed Name Student Signature Date

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Parent Printed Name Parent Signature Date

**Please provide the following information so that we can remain in contact and have your up to date information.**

Preferred Contact Name(s) & Numbers

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**Please circle whether or not you are willing to chaperone for various choir events**

YES or NO