

Mixed Chorus, Grades 9 - 12

Course Description:

The Choral program offers students of varying levels of interest and talent the opportunity to participate in Mixed Chorus through large and small ensembles and solo activities. Students are encouraged to develop to their own musical ability. Various styles of choral music are studied and performed. Student's vocal techniques and musicianship are developed.

The Mixed Chorus performs at Winter and Spring Concerts and various musical performances throughout the year. Mixed Chorus is a full year, 3 credit course.

Course Rationale:

Performing, creating and responding to music are the fundamental music processes in which humans engage. Through singing, moving to music and creating music, students acquire musical skills and knowledge that can be developed in no other way. Students must understand their own historical and cultural heritage and those of others within their communities and beyond to participate fully in a diverse, global society. Music provides an outlet for creativity and for self-expression. Music exalts the human spirit; it enhances the quality of life.

The students represent the school in public concerts, auditions and other functions and thereby develop personal traits of leadership, poise and dependability as well as develop high morale and maintain school spirit. The Mixed Chorus offers an opportunity for mutual effort and success. The knowledge that the group's successful performance is reliant on the practice and perfection of each individual's contribution is an asset to the family, the school and later in the workplace.

Advanced research in brain development shows that music trains the brain for higher forms of thinking. Music improves spatial intelligence, the ability to visualize the world accurately, which translates into complex math and engineering skills. Music training can enhance a child's ability to reason.

Curriculum Writers

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Mixed Chorus

Timeline

Goal	Approximate # of Days
1	All are infused throughout the year.
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
Total:	180

Materials and Resources

Selected Choral Repertoire
Selected Vocal Exercise Books
Selected Audio and Video Media related to subject matter

Mixed Chorus

Course Goal #1: To utilize healthy vocal techniques while developing musical skills through singing.

Core Curriculum Content Standard: (CCCS 1.2)

Objectives:

- 1.1 Students shall be able to demonstrate singing skills using the following criteria: good posture, proper breathing, relaxed jaw, free tone, good diction and intonation. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.3.3)
- 1.2 Students shall be able to sing selected choral repertoire alone and with others. (CPI 1.2.4)
- 1.3 Students shall be able, when given a key tone, to sing the starting pitch for their assigned parts in selected choral repertoire. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.3.3)
- 1.4 Students shall be able to sing back short melodic units of five through ten tones containing both step and skip movement. (CPI 1.2.2)
- 1.5 Students shall be able, upon completion of group instruction and rehearsal of a selected choral octavo, to demonstrate the ability to hold their part in a trio or quartet. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.3.3)
- 1.6 Students shall be able to sing independently on pitch and in rhythm, with appropriate timbre, diction and posture, and maintain a steady tempo. (CPI 1.1.4, 1.2.4, 1.3.3)
- 1.7 Students shall demonstrate an acceptable level of vocal proficiency through the following musical factors: tone, intonation, diction, interpretation and musical effect. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.3.3)

Suggested Activities:

- 1.11-1.71 Small ensemble rehearsals
- 1.12- 1.72 Individual attention through sectional rehearsals
- 1.13- 1.73 Full ensemble rehearsals
- 1.34, 1.44, 1.64 Board work

Evaluation:

- 1.111- 1.731 Participation in class
- 1.112- 1.732 Listening and observation by instructor
- 1.113 Performances in concerts

Course Goal #2: To be able to differentiate pitches in vocal, aural and written form.

Core Curriculum Content Standard: (CCCS 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

Objectives:

- 2.1 Students shall be able to identify the letter names of the lines and spaces of the grand staff. (CPI 1.2.2, 1.3.2)
- 2.2 Students shall be able to identify intervals in a melody as a step or a skip. (CPI 1.2.2, 1.3.2, 1.4.2)
- 2.3 Students shall be able to demonstrate in performance an understanding of the elements of pitch notation. (CPI 1.1.3, 1.2.2, 1.3.2)
- 2.4 Students shall be able to demonstrate in performance an understanding of major and minor triads. (CPI 1.2.4)
- 2.4.1 Students shall be able to demonstrate in performance an understanding of diatonic scales. (CPI 1.2.4)

Suggested Activities:

- 2.11 Board work
- 2.12 Study guide

- 2.13 Work sheets
- 2.14 Discussion of chorus repertoire

- 2.21 Board work
- 2.22 Discussion of choral repertoire

- 2.31 As above
- 2.32 Small ensemble rehearsals and performances
- 2.33 Large ensemble rehearsals and performances

- 2.41 Performance in rehearsals
- 2.42 Performance in concerts

- 2.5.1 As above

Evaluation:

- 2.111 Oral tests
- 2.112 Written tests

- 2.211 As above

- 2.311 As above
- 2.312 Performance in rehearsals
- 2.313 Performance in concerts

- 2.411 Listening by instructor
- 2.412 Performance in rehearsals
- 2.413 Performance in concerts

- 2.5.11 As above

Course Goal #3: To learn to read and perform rhythmic patterns.

Core Curriculum Content Standard: (CCCS 1.2, 1.3)

Objectives:

- 3.1 Students shall be able to write or orally identify the relative values of rhythmic symbols and their corresponding rest values. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.4.3)
- 3.2 Students shall be able to demonstrate through performance an understanding of the basic elements of rhythm . (CPI 1.2.4, 1.4.3)
- 3.3 Students shall be able to perform at sight a short rhythmic phrase. (CPI 1.2.4)
- 3.4 Students shall be able to demonstrate in performance an understanding of more complex note and rest patterns. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.4.3)
- 3.5 Students shall be able to demonstrate change of meter within a composition through singing. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.4.3)
- 3.6 Students shall be able to understand syncopation in music. (CPI 1.2.4)
- 3.7 Students shall be able to understand the triplet figure, dotted notes and the rhythmic value of the notes. (CPI 1.2.4)

Suggested Activities:

- 3.11 - 3.71 Study guides compiled by instructor
- 3.12 - 3.72 Work sheets compiled by instructor
- 3.13 - 3.73 Discussion of selected choral repertoire in rehearsals
- 3.14 - 3.74 Performance in rehearsals
- 3.15 - 3.75 Performance in concerts
- 3.16 - 3.76 Clapping or taping different rhythmic patterns
- 3.17 - 3.77 Intoning different rhythmic patterns
- 3.18 - 3.78 Board work

Evaluation:

- 3.111- 3.781 Listening by instructor
- 3.112- 3.782 Self-critique following playing of taped performance
- 3.113- 3.783 Critique by fellow chorus students
- 3.114- 3.784 Oral tests
- 3.115- 3.784 Written quizzes/tests

Course Goal #4: To develop an understanding of harmony through performance.

Core Curriculum Content Standard: (CCCS 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6)

Objectives:

- 4.1 Students shall be able to identify major key signatures C, G, F, D and B flat.
(CPI 1.2.4, 1.4.3)
- 4.2 Students shall be able to sing major and minor triads. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.4.3)
- 4.3 Students shall be able to sing their own part in a rehearsed composition in three or more parts when given the starting pitch. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.3.3, 1.4.3)
- 4.4 Students shall be able to demonstrate an understanding of the basic elements of harmony.
(CPI 1.2.4, 1.4.3)

Suggested Activities:

- 4.11 - 4.41 Vocal exercises using scales and arpeggios
- 4.12 - 4.42 Board work
- 4.13 - 4.43 Study guides
- 4.14 - 4.44 Exposure to selected choral repertoire

Evaluation:

- 4.111 - 4.441 Listening by instructor
- 4.112 - 4.442 Oral tests
- 4.113 - 4.443 Written quizzes/tests
- 4.114 - 4.444 Critique by fellow chorus members

Course Goal #5: To acquire an understanding of music notation and terminology.

Core Curriculum Content Standard: (CCCS 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4)

Objectives:

- 5.1 Students shall be able to interpret by sight and perform selected music with commonly used markings and symbols. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.4.3)
- 5.2 Students shall learn the basic terminology appropriate to dynamics. (CPI 1.1.4, 1.2.4)
- 5.3 Students shall learn the basic terminology appropriate to tempo. (CPI 1.2.4)
- 5.4 Students shall learn the basic terminology appropriate to style and interpretation. (CPI 1.1.4, 1.2.4, 1.3.3, 1.4.3, 1.5.8, 1.5.9)

Suggested Activities:

- 5.11 - 5.41 Board work
- 5.12 - 5.42 Exposure to selected choral repertoire
- 5.13 - 5.43 Study guides compiled by instructor
- 5.14 - 5.44 Work sheets

Evaluation:

- 5.111- 5.441 Listening by instructor
- 5.112-5.442 Work sheets
- 5.113-5.443 Quizzes/tests
- 5.114-5.444 Performance in rehearsals
- 5.115-5.445 Performance in concerts

Course Goal #6: To understand and recognize musical form and structure.

Core Curriculum Content Standard: (CCCS 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6)

Objectives:

- 6.1 Students shall be able to demonstrate the basic terminology appropriate to form. (CPI 1.4.3, 1.6.4)
- 6.2 Students shall be able to identify and explain the structure of simple song forms such as: AA, AB, ABA, & ABC. (CPI 1.4.3, 1.6.4)

Suggested Activities:

- 6.11 Exposure to repertoire
- 6.12 Comparison study of selected choral repertoire
- 6.13 Board work

Evaluation:

6.111 - 6.211 Listening by instructor
6.111 - 6.212 Observation by instructor

Course Goal #7: To be able to interpret and respond to conducting patterns.

Core Curriculum Content Standard: (CCCS 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

Objectives:

- 7.1 Students shall be able to follow the conductor on entrances and cut-offs.
(CPI 1.2.4, 1.3.3)
- 7.2 Students shall be able to follow the conductor's tempos.
(CPI 1.2.4, 1.3.3)
- 7.3 Students shall be able to interpret the conductor's dynamics.
(CPI 1.2.4, 1.3.3)
- 7.4 Students shall be able to change tempo when indicated by the conductor.
(CPI 1.2.4, 1.3.3)

Suggested Activities:

- 7.11 - 7.41 Small ensemble rehearsals
- 7.12 - 7.42 Large ensemble rehearsals
- 7.13 - 7.42 Repetition of indicated passages
- 7.14 - 7.44 Field trips (i.e. shows, concerts, festivals, etc.)

Evaluation:

7.111 - 7.411 Observation by instructor
7.112 - 7.412 Participation in class
7.113 - 7.412 Participation in concerts

Course Goal #8: To develop good citizenship through mutual efforts and success.

Core Curriculum Content Standard: (CCCS 1.5)

Objectives:

8.1 Students shall be able to work together to achieve common goals. (CPI 1.2.4, 1.6.4)
8.2 To respect the rights and needs of others in class.

Suggested Activities:

8.11 To work cooperatively in rehearsals and performances
8.12 To demonstrate responsibility in attending required rehearsals and performances

Evaluation:

8.111- 8.121 Observation by instructor
8.122 Mandatory attendance taken by instructor

Course Goal #9: To become aware of opportunities available for a career in music.

Core Curriculum Content Standard: (CCCS 1.4, 1.5, 1.6)

Objectives:

9.1 Students shall become aware of music career opportunities. (CPI 1.5.8, 1.5.9,1.6.4)

Suggested Activities:

- 9.11 Class discussion
- 9.12 Audio visual media
- 9.13 Guest clinicians and speakers
- 9.14 Field trips

Evaluation:

9.111 Teacher observation of student participation

Course Benchmark Summary:

By the end of this course students shall:

1. Utilize healthy vocal techniques while developing musical skills through singing.
2. Be able to identify the letter names of the lines and spaces of the grand staff.
3. Learn to read and perform rhythmic patterns.
4. Develop an understanding of harmony through performance.
5. Acquire an understanding of music notation and terminology.
6. Understand and recognize musical form and structure.
7. Be able to interpret and respond to conducting patterns.
8. Develop good citizenship through mutual efforts and success.
9. Become aware of opportunities available for a career in music.