

# CONCERT CALENDAR

All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at SMS. Singers will report at 7 p.m. for warm-ups/lineup. If concert information changes for any reason, notification will be sent home or available online.

## WINTER CONCERTS

### Thursday, December 5

Seventh Grade Cooper/Popham/Choice Chorus

### Monday, December 9

Eighth Grade Butler/Fountain Chorus  
Seventh Grade Butler/Fountain Chorus

### Wednesday, December 11

Sixth Grade Butler/Fountain Chorus

### Thursday, December 12

Eighth Grade Cooper/Popham/Choice Chorus

### Monday, December 16

Sixth Grade Cooper/Popham Chorus

## Spring Concerts

### Wednesday, May 21

Eighth Grade Butler/Fountain Chorus  
Seventh Grade Butler/Fountain Chorus

### Tuesday, May 27

Eighth Grade Cooper/Popham/Choice Chorus  
Seventh Grade Cooper/Popham/Choice Chorus

### Wednesday, May 28

Sixth Grade Choruses

# CONCERT ATTENDANCE

Since chorus is a team effort, concert attendance is mandatory. An absence without the approval of the director will be considered as an unexcused absence and will be reflected adversely in the student's quarterly grade. Absences will be excused for personal illness or family emergency only. Before an absence is considered excused, a written note signed by the parent must be delivered *to the director* prior to the absence when possible, but not later than within three school days after the student returns. Verbal or student-written excuses are not acceptable.

A make-up for an excused absence is at the sole discretion of the director; make-ups will not be given for unexcused absences.

Faculty may be emailed or reached at 914-721-2600. Please don't hesitate to contact vocal music faculty with questions.

## CONCERT ATTIRE

### Girls:

Black or very dark solid skirt or dress slacks; white shirt or blouse (nothing sleeveless, please); dark shoes. If stockings are worn, they should be natural flesh tone.

### Boys:

Black or dark solid dress slacks; white shirt with long dark tie, dark shoes and socks.

*Avoid sneakers, sparkly jewelry, and heavy scents.*

2013-2014

VOCAL MUSIC FACULTY

Mrs. Celia Cuk

[ccuk@scarsdaleschools.org](mailto:ccuk@scarsdaleschools.org)

Eighth Grade Choruses

Seventh Grade Butler/Fountain Choruses

Dr. Constance Shelengian

[cshelengian@scarsdaleschools.org](mailto:cshelengian@scarsdaleschools.org)

Sixth Grade Choruses

Seventh Grade Cooper/Popham/Choice Choruses



SCARSDALE MIDDLE  
SCHOOL

CHORUS  
HANDBOOK



## WELCOME TO CHORUS!

We are looking forward to sharing a rewarding year! Chorus is a team effort; *Together Everyone Achieves More.*

We all share responsibility in the group. This handbook was developed for both student and parent/guardian so that guidelines for a successful and productive year can lead to opportunities for enrichment and creative expression through the arts!

### ***Be on Time and Be Prepared***

- Please sit in your assigned seat for accurate attendance.
- Lateness reflects your effort.
- Report to class in person first; a pass to the nurse, house counselor, youth outreach, or psychologist is granted only after checking in with the music teacher.
- Be ready to sing - no gum, food, or drinks, except water.
- Bring a folder, pencil, and manuscript paper.

### ***Effort***

- Always participate with 100% effort starting with the warm-ups.
- Listen actively; focus on the music.
- During sectionals, stay focused on your specific task. Allow the class to work effectively.

- A change from one activity to another is a good chance to rest the voice. Stay attentive.

### ***Take Care of Property & Equipment***

- Chorus binders and music are your responsibility to keep in good condition. Music will be collected and checked for rehearsal markings and diction cues. Put away all materials used in class. Leave nothing at your seat.

### ***Respect Your Classmates and Teachers***

- Do all that you can to contribute to the success of our chorus.
- Support the effort of other singers. Be kind. Be positive and be appreciative of the value of each person's contribution.
- Respond to teacher questions or indicate a wish to speak by raising your hand and waiting to be called on. Speak in a polite manner.
- Respect all adults, including substitute teachers and accompanists. Choose to be cooperative, attentive, and productive.
- Be mindful of your "space" as well as the space of others.

### ***Respect Yourself***

- Be the best you can be - your best will get better!
- Don't let others "carry you" - keep singing!
- Decide that you want to develop your voice. Set goals for yourself.
- Avoid being a distraction to others.

- During rehearsals, think as a musician and use your critical thinking skills.
- Keep yourself tuned into the rehearsal.
- Be a leader. Apply what you learn. Share ideas.
- Ask the teacher for help when you don't understand.

### ***Grading Policy***

As explained in the Choral Rubric (available on each director's Teacher Page), your grade will be dependent on the following criteria:

- Participation, responsibility/effort, ensemble skills, and musicianship skills
- Two early morning mandatory rehearsals and concert attendance
- Written work, assessments, chorus rubric, small group work, & homework

### ***Special Opportunities***

- All-County Chorus (WCSMA); Elementary (Grade 6) participates in the All-District Chorus *By audition*. Intermediate (Grades 7 & 8) *By audition*.
- New York State School Music Association Solo Festival
- American Choral Directors Association events
- SMS Vocal Club
- Eighth Grade Musical