

VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE**COURSE OUTLINE**

Welcome to Vocal Jazz Ensemble 8-12. Although this is not an auditioned course, students must be also signed up for another music course in order to take this class.

Students participating in this class will develop skills and conceptual knowledge in various aspects of choral music including but not limited to, vocal technique, vocal performance, sight-reading, music theory, diction, musicianship, vocal improvisation, jazz history, professionalism, and performance.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS (As indicated by the BC Curriculum)**Big Ideas**

1. Building community and confidence by group singing
2. Exploring our identity through music while nurturing relationships
3. Creating artistic works collaboratively

Individual Growth: gaining an understanding of music notation and style

- developing an understanding of how your voice functions
- seeking support and clarification when necessary
- contributing positively to the ensemble

Collaboration: working together and valuing diversity

- being present, engaged and willing to try
- creating a supportive, encouraging environment for everyone

Communication: understanding the value of communication in the ensemble

- engaging with others, sharing and developing ideas
- reflecting on events and accomplishments to further growth

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is a significant factor in ensuring success in school. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure their children have regular and punctual school attendance. Occasionally, students must miss class for unavoidable reasons such as illness, family emergencies or medical/dental appointments. Parents must phone the school to inform them of a student's absence; students are also required to provide a note from their parent or guardian to all teachers whose classes were missed during an absence. The note should specify the reason and dates of the absence and include the signature of the parent or guardian¹.

CONCERT EXPECTATIONS

Full participation at the concerts is expected. There will be set-up and/or clean-up duties assigned as well as a pre-concert CALL time. Audience participation is also an integral part of the concert for the performers. Please speak with me immediately if there is a scheduling conflict. An UNEXCUSED absence for performance results in a participation deduction from your final grade.

CONCERT ATTIRE/UNIFORMS

Appropriate concert attire, including options for uniforms, will be provided. Dressing for performances counts towards professionalism and participation marks².

ASSESSMENT

- Technical Skill 40%
 - IMPROVEMENT³: Improvement in some or all of the following areas: pitch, tone, diction, phrasing, musicality, and/or interpretation.
 - SINGING ASSESSMENTS: Completion of technical and skill-based assessments
- Participation 40%
 - PREPAREDNESS: Being in place, ready to participate with ALL required materials: pencil, music, folder/binder at the start of class
 - PROFESSIONALISM: Professional conduct in-class and at performances
 - PARTICIPATION: a willing active attempt at all aspects of the course. This can include but not be limited to, accepting challenges, encouraging others, and helping in the setup and tear-down of performances.
- Quizzes 20%
 - THEORY ASSESSMENTS: Completion of music theory-based assessments and assignments

Please note, there is no final exam for this course. The performances count as significant assessments in lieu of a written exam.

COVID-19

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the causative virus for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), is reported to be highly transmissible through

¹ Please be aware the instructor is not able to excuse an absence, even with a note. This must be coordinated with the front office staff.

respiratory droplets and aerosols emitted during coughing, sneezing, speaking and singing. When masking is no longer mandatory, many choir members, for a number of private reasons, may wish to continue masking. Masking will be suggested for all choir students at the beginning of the semester.

SUPPORT

Students are welcome to come to get additional support outside of class time during the tutorial time (flex block), or at lunch. Practice rooms are available during, before and after the day at school. Your instructor is required to be available to you as long as you communicate in advance.

IMPORTANT DATES 2022-2023

The following are dates of performances and trips. These are a mandatory part of being in this class. It is important that you mark these dates down in your calendar, and plan accordingly with your work/personal schedule. Failure to attend these events could significantly impact your participation mark. In case of illness or other circumstances, please reach the instructor directly.

FALL DATES

- Oct 12-13, 2023 : Overnight Trip: Camp Luther Retreat – **Choirs**
- Dec 12, 2023 : (Afternoon/Evening) Winter Concert @ St Andrew's Wesley – **Choirs & Sr Instrumental Ensembles**

Spring Dates TBA....

These dates are subject to change. Most up-to-date calendars are communicated over email and regularly updated on MS TEAMS.

² It is always a part of Argyle Music's mission, to find comfortable, accessible, and (within reason) options for uniforms. Please speak to your instructor if you require assistance in acquiring appropriate concert wear.

³ Due to the significant range in grade levels that are offered within this course, many additional factors including but not limited to, if the student has participated within this course before or if the students already has a background in music, will be considered within this grade.