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| **McKinley Classical Leadership Academy**Choir Syllabus 2021-2022Grades 6-12 |

**Instructor: Mrs. Kathleen Nuebling**

**Classroom: Choir Room #229**

**Email: Kathleen.Nuebling@slps.org**

**Website: https://www.slps.org/Domain/14720**

**Office Hours: A Days 9:50-11:05; B Days 7:10-8:25, and by appointment**

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| **General Music Information** |

**Music is for everyone – this includes you! If you’ve never sung before or you’ve been singing for years, we will find a place where you are going to grow, learn, and succeed.**

**There are currently three levels of choir:**

* **Beginning – open to all**
* **Intermediate/Select – open to all, after completion of Beginning Choir**
* **Concert Choir – open to all grades, by audition only**

**During class, we will be building our skills as well-rounded musicians: studying rhythms, pitch, Solfege, sight singing, musical notation, music history, vocal anatomy and technique, diction for singing, performance anxiety, and a wide variety of musical genres. At the end of this class, you should have a solid foundation of musical skills to help you in your lifelong pursuit of being a good musician.**

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| **Classroom Rules and Expectations** |

**A music classroom should be a safe and welcoming environment for ALL students. Music is a cooperative activity – we all need each other to make beautiful music as an ensemble. At all times, I will expect each student to:**

* **Enter the room with a positive attitude, ready to add your gifts for the benefit of the ensemble.**
* **Follow instructions the first time they are given.**
* **THINK before you speak.**
	+ **Is it TRUE?**
	+ **Is it HELPFUL?**
	+ **Is it INSPIRING?**
	+ **Is it NECESSARY?**
	+ **Is it KIND?**
* **Come prepared to class with all of your materials.**
* **Keep hands, feet, and all other objects to yourself.**
* **Raise your hand and wait for acknowledgment.**
* **Stay in your assigned seat area.**
* **No gum or candy during singing rehearsals.**
* **Use pencils only for writing.**

**Consequences**

**I expect each student to be a positive member of our choir community, building a strong ensemble. Occasionally, there will be times when I need to remind you of your responsibilities to yourself and your community.**

**Level 1: Verbal reminder (2 reminders/class – possible Seat change for refocusing)**

**Level 2: End of class meeting with Mrs. Nuebling and follow up actions**

**Level 3: Parent-teacher-student conference**

**Level 4: Administrator-teacher-student conference or possible referral**

**\*\*Derogatory language toward others or violence of any kind will not be permitted. These will be Level 4 actions.**

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| **COVID Procedures** |

* **Sanitize your hands on the way to your seat.**
* **Mask over your NOSE and MOUTH at all times.**
* **Blow your nose in the hallway or bathroom only.**
* **Stay in your assigned seat area.**
* **Wipe down your area thoroughly at the end of class.**
* **Wait to enter the classroom until the previous class is gone.**
* **Bathroom breaks occur when our designated hallway leader comes to our class.**
* **The hallway leader will dismiss you from the classroom. Please stay spaced at least 3 feet apart when leaving the classroom and in the hallway.**

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| **Required Materials** |

**For class each day, expected materials are:**

* **School issued iPad or Laptop (no personal devices – including cell phones)**
* **Paper**
* **Pencil**
* **Sheet Music (this may be accessed digitally or printed)**
* **Folder to house any printed materials (A black choir folder may be provided to keep your sheet music.)**

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| **Attendance Policy** |

**I will follow the district policies on Attendance as laid out in the handbook.**

**Absences:**

**If you know you will be absent, please let me know ahead of time so I have time to prepare your assignments. After you return from your absence, I will generally give you two days to finish any missing assignments for every one day you were absent. If there are extenuating circumstances, please talk to me so we can make other arrangements.**

**You should also be able to access the Assignments tab under the General channel on the Teams page. Please periodically check SIS to see any missing assignments or to look**

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| **Assignments** |

**We will approach music from a variety of ways – creating, performing, responding, and connecting. While we still have obstacles to music making this year, we will be singing and making music every day.**

**Students should be self-advocates and ask questions about assignments as soon as possible. Please do not wait until the last minute and then communicate misunderstandings. The sooner you have clarification, the better off you will be.**

**Assignments will include areas such as:**

* **Listening journals**
* **Solfege practice**
* **Music notation: Rhythm, pitch, key signatures, expressive devices**
* **Sight singing**
* **Performance Reflections**
* **Composer study**
* **Vocal health and anatomy**
* **SINGING – solo, small group, in class rehearsals, and performances**

**Late Work: If you need extra time for an assignment, please speak with me before the due date. Telling me when it is due you need extra time is not acceptable. My expectation is you will have all assignments completed and turned in on time. If you consistently fail to meet this expectation, your guardians will be notified.**

**Assignment Headings:**

**All written work turned in should be properly labeled. Please use this:**

**Name**

**Date**

**Class Name**

**Assignment Name**

**Alexander Hamilton**

**September 18, 2020**

**Beginning Choir 2nd Period**

**Concert Reflection**

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| **Class Overview** |

**Quarter 1**

**Basics of Music Notation: Rhythm, Pitch, Key Signatures**

**Solfege and Sight Singing**

**Vocal Health and Technique**

**Learning to Listen**

***Assessments:***

**Create your own rhythm track on GarageBand/BandLab**

**Written Pitch and Key Signature Assessment**

**Sight Singing using Solfege**

**Class Recording with Self-Evaluation and Reflection**

**Quarter 2**

**Elements of Music**

**Further Exploration of Quarter 1 Topics**

**How do you know you are ready to perform?**

***Assessments:***

**Possible Concert Performance or Class Recording with Written Self-Evaluation and Reflection**

**Story of My Dream Life Multimedia Project**

**Possible: Children’s Book Loop Project with GarageBand/BandLab**

**Quarter 3 and Quarter 4**

**Musicality and Expressive Devices**

**Further Exploration of Previous Topics**

**New repertoire**

**Small group singing**

**Exploring different genres of music**

***Assessments:***

**Possible Concert Performance or Class Recording with Self-Evaluation and Reflection**

**Small Group Performance in Class**

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| **Communication** |

**I am here to help you grow and succeed – not just musically, but in all areas of your life. My door is always open! My planning period is the best time for parents to contact me. However, if you need help with assignments, a listening ear, or a sounding board, I am glad to set up a time to meet with you before or after school. Please email me at** Kathleen.nuebling@slps.org **or talk to me before or after class to set up any extra meeting times needed.**

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| **Netiquette** |

**Because some of our work will still occur digitally this year, we all need reminders of how best to interact online.**

**Rule #1: Remember you are speaking to a real person.**

* The person on the other end of your communication is a person not just a faceless computer. The best way to do this is to remember the golden rule - do unto others as you'd have others do unto you. If you read your message out loud or have another person read it before sending, it sometimes help to see how it might be heard by the recipient.

**Rule #2: Use correct salutation, subject line, and professional format.**

* Address the person properly with whom you are speaking. Do not begin email messages with "hey," "so," "dude," or other information salutations you might use with friends. Include a complimentary close and your name at the end of your emails, just as if you have typed a letter instead. Keep your communication with the instructor and classmates professional.

**Rule #3: Use appropriate language and tone.**

* Do not use harsh, inappropriate, or rude language. Keep communication from being inflammatory. Do not be harshly critical when responding to a classmate when using the discussion board.

**Rule #4: Use professional grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure.**

* Proofread your communications and discussion board posts carefully to make sure you have complete sentences, correct punctuation and grammar, correct capitalization (do not assume everything will be autocorrected or autocorrected properly), and organize your thoughts or questions so that it is easy to understand and respond.

**Rule #5: Convey meaning and emphasis appropriately.**

* Do not use ALL CAPS and exclamation points in your communication. This is received as being screamed at and can convey emotion that isn't intended, appropriate, or professional.

**Rule #6: Use extreme caution when using sarcasm and humor.**

* Written communication lacks the ability to add body language and non-verbals cues to your message which can cause it to be received as offensive or inappropriate. You also do not have the advantage of a synchronous conversation where you can clarify or answer questions right away.

**Rule #7: Do not use text abbreviations or language.**

* Email and discussion board posts should be professionally constructed with complete sentences. You cannot assume that everyone uses the same abbreviations or uses them the same way. It is more productive and professional to spell out your message fully.

**Rule #8: Be concise and to the point.**

* Organize and write your message in a way that it is easy to ready, understand what you are stating or asking, and makes it easy to respond to. For instance, when asking for help with an assignment, don't just write "I'm stuck on step 6." That doesn't tell which assignment, what step 6 is asking you to do, or what it is specifically that you do not understand. Again, read your message aloud or have someone else read it to help make sure your message is received as you intended.

**Rule #9: Do not violate the McKinley Academic Honesty policy or Code of Conduct.**

* Just as in writing an essay or research paper, make sure that you do not plagiarize or copy anyone else's work or words. Properly cite information as required.

**Rule #10: Reread Rule #1 (every day) and follow the golden rule (every day, all your life).**

* Always, always, remember that you are speaking to a real human being at the other end of your communication.