

Voces Vitae Acappella Syllabus 2017-2018

Resources (provided):

- 1 Minute Theory
- Accent on Composers
- Ready to Read Music
- 60 Music Quizzes
- Theory Notebook
- MasterWorks Press Sight-Reading

Semester music for singing will be provided by the school and may not be taken home unless with permission. This music is to be returned to Mrs. Witty at the end of the year, and like any school book, students will be fined if music is lost or destroyed.

Classroom Requirements:

- 1 one-inch stiff back (not flimsy plastic) Black 3-ring binder with name labeled on interior left side
- 1 Expo dry erase marker
- 1 box Kleenex
- Required: \$50 for Voces jacket (to be paid in September)
- Optional: \$15 for choir t-shirt (to be paid in September)

Please also note required concert attire:

December Concert – Boys: Black pants, black dress shoes, tux shirt (provided by CHS) and bow tie (provided by CHS); Girls – Black dress (provided by CHS) and black dress shoes
Spring concert - All students: Voces jacket and blue jeans with clean, closed-toed shoes

All CHS clothing items (dresses, shirts, vests, bowties, etc.) are to be cleaned as necessary throughout the year by the student borrowing them. At the end of the school year, students will dry-clean the CHS items and return them to Mrs. Witty before the last day of school. The students will receive a grade for returning the items in on time and as instructed. Students will also be responsible for replacement fees if items are not returned or damaged.

Dates:

Please see the last page, "Choir Dates 2017-2018"

Grading:

20% - performances

20% - tests/quizzes

20% - homework (worksheets, permission slips signed, in class projects, etc.)

40% - participation (participation grades are based on 25 pts. per week; points are lost in increments of 5)

The end of the semester finals are worth 20%. Each final will encompass an evaluation of the semester and the semester-end concert.

Expectations: *These expectations are founded on Christian principles in the Word of God.*

C - Cooperative: Have a “team player” attitude; working together is essential in choir

H - Humble: Have an “others focused” approach; desiring others to come before self

O - Optimistic: Have a “positive thinking” perspective; believing the best of situations and people

I - Inspiring: Have an “uplifting impression” mindset; encouraging others to do good

R - Respectful: Have a “reverent conviction” demeanor; honoring all as image bearers of God

*Failure to adhere to these expectations will result in a deduction of participation points for that week and a demerit and/or detention.

Expectations during a Performance:

**It is expected that every student attend every concert.*

**Total points a student can receive for a concert performance is 100.*

1. **BEING ON TIME:** Students will be told ahead of time when they are to arrive at a choir event. Students will lose 1 point each minute they are late.
2. **ATTIRE:** Students will be expected to arrive in clean, wrinkle-free and CHS appropriate Concert Attire for all concerts. (*see above for more info on Concert Attire.)
3. **BEHAVIOR TOWARD AUTHORITY:** Students are to respect and obey those who have been placed in authority over them. These may be older students and/or parents and teachers whom the choir director has put in charge in the choir room during a performance. Any disrespect, disobedience, or disruptive behavior will warrant a deduction of points based on the choir director’s discretion.
4. **BEHAVIOR ON RISERS:** Students are instructed to look only at the director, sing, and keep hands to themselves. A student will be asked to step down if there is any talking on the risers, inappropriate laughter, physical unsafe conduct with another student, etc., and 30 points will be deducted from their concert total.

Intending to perform:

Students may be handed an “Intend to Perform” form when presented with an opportunity to sing outside of school. These performances/field trips may or may not be mandatory, but will be listed and both parents and students will be made known of these changes. Students will honor the decisions and commitments they have made.

Final Words:

Students, I am looking forward to this year/semester with you! I love music, and I cannot wait to show you how rewarding and exciting music can be for you too! But most of all, I look forward to helping you become closer to Christ because He is our ultimate goal in life. If we give our best in everything we do, we glorify Him and have joy in our lives! Please let me know if you need help learning vocal parts or in understanding a concept we are studying in class or anything of the like! I am here for you, and my door is always open to you!

Parents, I will let you know as soon as possible of any other dates/opportunities that may come up throughout the year that I do not have the knowledge, dates, or invitations for at this time. **Please know that if the student has *non-optional* prior obligations scheduled on these aforesaid dates, that it will be an excused absence only if I am notified within 2 weeks of sending out the info on the new additional choir event, and I may require additional assignments as well.** Please be checking email as that is the means through which updated choir information will come. **Also, check our choir website and bookmark it for easy access! All information included in this syllabus and lots more is obtainable through the website!**

chschoirlife.weebly.com

Thank you for your support and encouragement throughout this year. I look forward to teaching your student more about music and about our Saviour. I'm so thankful to be teaching at CHS!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. The quickest way is through email which I check daily - lwitty@lwcs.us - but also, the phone number here at school to leave me a message is 636-978-1680 x1139. Additionally, please let me know if I can be of any further assistance to you as we are a team in your child's educational experience and success!

In God's grace,
Mrs. Witty

Voces Vitae Cappella Dates 2017-2018

*Acappellooza: **September 19 and 20 @ UMSL Touhill** (during school)

Nursing Home Performance: **TBD - TBD** (during school)

Christmas Concert: **Monday, December 4th @ 7:00pm - FZ South**

Large Ensemble State Competition: **Tuesday, March 6th at FZ South** (during school)

Voces Vitae Community Tour - **Friday-Saturday, March 23rd-24th**
(overnight trip)

Spring Concert: **Monday, April 30th @ 7:00pm at FZ East**

ALL STUDENTS ARE TO ARRIVE BY 6:00PM ON CONCERT NIGHTS

Outside performances:

Voces Vitae Cappella will have the option to participate in Solo and Ensemble in the Spring 2018. This is an opportunity to sing in small groups or solos in a competition setting. We work during Advisory once a week January thru February to prepare.

Ensembles - \$15 (to cover accompanist fees)

Solos - \$30 (to cover accompanist fees)

MSHSAA District Solo & Ensemble Competition: March 3rd, 2018 at Fort Zumwalt East High School

MSHSAA State Solo & Ensemble: April 28th, 2018 in Columbia, MO. (Mandatory for those students who earn a 1 rating at District Solo and Ensemble on March 3rd.)

Other potential opportunities to grow in musical ability include the following:

Acafest: October 28th, 3pm - Westminster Christian Academy

St. Louis Metro 8 District Choir: (Auditions on October 7th, Practices on November 1st & 9th - performance on November 11th)

ICCA Quarterfinals - February 3rd and 10th, 2018

ICHSA Quarterfinals - February 16, 2018

CHS graduation: Mid May, 2018

<http://chschoirlife.weebly.com>

Please understand and note that at times we are invited to perform for other events in the community. As soon as I know and have them approved by school administration, I will immediately pass them on to you. The information will come to you by email and will be listed on the website.

Signature Page for Syllabus and Permission Slip Info

Return only this page back to me by August 18th.

Please fill out and **return this page only** to me showing you have read the syllabus and understand the requirements and procedures of the choir class. This signed form is due back Friday, August 18th for a homework grade.

Student's name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Please Print Parent Name: _____

The information below is needed for the school whenever/if we are to perform outside of school. You will only have to fill this information out once per year.

Student's Name: _____ *Age:* _____ *Grade:* _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ *Parent Work Phone:* _____

SS# (for hospitalization): _____

Medical Policies in effect: Yes _____ *No* _____ *Policy #* _____

Insurance group: _____

Medication Taken: _____

Dosage and How Often: _____

Any Allergies: _____

Parent Signature: _____