

Calvary Murrieta Christian School

Choir Department Policies

Mission Statement

To instill the values and standards of a great Christian performer, make a positive difference in the lives of our members, and to provide a myriad of musical experiences that will encourage students to obtain confidence, find camaraderie, hone leadership skills, maintain responsibility, and pursue high standards of excellence—all in the service of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

(2 Tim. 1:6)

Choir Member Expectations

- Each student will learn proper choral etiquette for rehearsals and performances
- Each student will complete performance assignments involving rhythms, dynamics, and other performance techniques due as assigned. These may be from the method books, concert music, or handouts.
- Each student will learn to properly care for their music, folder, handouts, and both the rehearsal and performance spaces.
- Each student will learn a healthy practicing habit to be adopted inside as well as outside of the classroom.
- Each student **MUST** bring their rehearsal materials to class each day.
- Each student **MUST** attend all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances. They will be required to stay through the entirety of each unless previously discussed with the director.
- Each student **MUST** be respectful and attentive to the director. This attitude will be expected to extend to fellow classmates as well.
- Each student **MUST** sufficiently prepare assigned music. It is recommended that each student practice at least one hour a day in order to prepare to the best extent for each performance.
- Each student **MUST** wear the appropriate attire assigned for each event. See the **Extra Costs / Concert Attire** section for proper attire guidelines.
- Because this is a **yearlong** course and the group works as a team, students **are not permitted to leave the group after the first two weeks of school.** Students may join at the beginning of the second semester, but current group members **must fulfill their yearlong commitment to the group.** Leaving the group could affect future participation in the performing arts programs at Calvary Murrieta.

Tests:

In order to hold students accountable to practicing their music, there will be tests scheduled at the discretion of the director to assess their knowledge and performance capability of assigned music. Tests will be scheduled at least a week in advance to ensure the students have ample time to prepare. Tests will be based on the assignments from the assigned method book (provided by the director), music notation and composition, student's knowledge of the assigned concert pieces, ability to sing from memory, posture, proper technique, and ability to vocalize the assigned music.

Attendance Policy

The week before a concert, daily participation points will be worth double the normal amount. Students MUST be present at EVERY rehearsal the week before a concert. All students must be present at every concert and must stay through the entirety of the concert. No exceptions will be made. In addition to this, students may be called individually or in groups for sectionals outside of the normal class time schedule. These extra rehearsals are on an "as needed" basis and will be scheduled as far in advance as possible. Students unable to attend these extra rehearsals must discuss their absence with Mr. Lybeck at least one day prior to the allotted rehearsal time. A student's absence from sectionals and extra practices could affect their grade if frequently missed.

Extra Costs / Concert Attire:

Just like any extracurricular activity, a successful choral program has expenses. Along with the fees included in the SEF portion of a student's tuition, there will be additional costs for concert attire. In order to produce quality concerts, professionalism must be obtained through the purchasing of proper concert attire. Each student will be required to obtain the listed items below no later than **the first week of September**.

- **Group polo shirt** (to be ordered by the director; cost anywhere between \$10-\$20)
- **Khaki pants**
- **Black socks** (above the ankle)
- **Black close-toed shoes** (boys), **black close-toed flats** (girls)
- **Hair must be styled out of the face; no hats**
- **No jewelry or accessories** (hair bands, ties, and barrettes okay for girls)

Other Required Purchases:

- #2 Pencil (mechanical is preferred)
- Pitch Pipe for practice at home (not needed if a student owns and knows how to find pitches on a piano)
- Notebook with music staves (JH only; search Amazon for "Standard Wirebound Manuscript Paper" by Hal Leonard)
- Water Bottle to bring to class (going to get a drink of water will not be allowed after the first few rehearsals)