



American Fork High School Choirs

Welcome to the Choir Program at American Fork High School! AFHS Choirs have a strong tradition of performing excellence. Participation in choir will be challenging and rewarding as you strive to become a competent and confident choral musician through rehearsal and performance of a wide variety of choral literature from around the world and throughout history. To do this we will focus on six disciplines:

1. **Musicianship** (reading, writing, understanding, and performing music)
 2. **Healthy Vocal Production** (science and physiology of healthy singing)
 3. **Text Meaning and Diction** (pronunciation, IPA, figures and parts of speech)
 4. **Repertoire** (exposure to quality literature and performing groups)
 5. **Individual Responsibility** (calendar, planning, meeting expectations and commitments)
 6. **Collaboration** (building group unity while maintaining individual accountability)
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The choir website is the best source of information for students and parents:

www.afchoir.org

Learning outcomes: At the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Produce a beautiful tone
2. Demonstrate productive rehearsal habits
3. Demonstrate notational literacy
4. Demonstrate technical vocal/choral performance skills
5. Evaluate ensemble performances
6. Demonstrate both sight-singing and basic ear training interval/chord recognition skills

Assessments and Grading

STUDENTS WILL HAVE TESTS, QUIZZES, AND ASSIGNMENTS IN CANVAS AND ON OTHER ONLINE PLATFORMS. STUDENTS MUST HAVE ACCESS TO TABLETS, PHONES, OR COMPUTERS WITH A MICROPHONE AND INTERNET CONNECTION TO SUCCEED IN THIS CLASS.

Rehearsal Grade – 30%: Productive and attentive rehearsal skills demonstrated in choir rehearsals

- Do not miss rehearsal unless you are contagious to others. Students who miss class for prolonged periods of time due to illness or quarantine should practice the choir music 30 minutes per absence as they are able. Listening to the part predominant recordings counts as practice when singing is not possible.
- Students with more than 4 absences prior to a concert may not sing in the concert unless he/she passes off the music to a section leader or the teacher.
- Full participation includes having music and marking it in pencil.
- Students using cellphones, iPods, headphones, eating and/or doing homework during rehearsal without direct permission from the teacher will lose rehearsal points.

Concert/Festival Performances – 25%: These performances are MANDATORY. Dates are on listed on the last page.

- Any performance or festival conflicts must be discussed and cleared with the teacher at least TWO WEEKS prior to the event. Conflicts with work, other rehearsals, sport practices, church activities, etc. are not acceptable reasons to miss a concert. “I forgot” is not a valid excuse and no makeup points will be permitted. Students ill or under quarantine will receive an alternative assignment.
- Students ineligible for performances due to attendance issues and/or lack preparation or who must make up a missed a performance for an excused reason may earn up to 80 % of the points for the concert by attending or viewing two choral concerts and completing a concert report form available from the teacher.

Assignments – 5%: Formative assessments for students to practice music theory, vocal, or ear training concepts.

- Students must have access to the Internet to complete assignments using Canvas, Sight Reading Factory, Charms and/or the choir website. A computer for student use is found in the choir room. Students will have a weekly practice log to complete in Canvas due every Friday.

Quizzes – 10%: Formative assessments on music theory, vocal, or ear training concepts.

- Students must have access to the Internet to complete quizzes using Canvas, Sight Reading Factory, Charms and/or the choir website.

Tests – 20%: Multiple online summative assessments will be given each term.

Participation – 10%: Being in classes face to face and on time unless the absence is excused or for medical reasons.



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Choir Uniforms

- Choir uniforms are different this year. Since live concerts are as yet unknown, we will be wearing a choir shirt and jeans for performances. Should festivals be permitted, we request that choir students wear concert black.
- A Singer's Resonance Mask in black is being purchased for each student. These masks allow for the needed movement of the jaw for singing and will permit us to safely sing in rehearsals with a reduced field of aerosol spray to help those who are at risk for serious COVID-19 complications. Students are responsible to launder and bring masks to school for use during choir rehearsals. Until the Resonance Masks arrive, students should wear his/her own mask during rehearsals.
- The fee for these items is \$40 per student. This money should be paid to the Finance Office by September 4, 2020

Religious Music Disclaimer

All students participating in choir at American Fork High School should understand that we will be singing a wide variety of music throughout the year which will include some religious music from different faiths. Especially during the holiday season, much of our music will be comprised of traditional Christian Christmas music. Any student, or parent of a student, who may have objections to singing religious music needs to contact me so that I can provide alternate learning experiences for the student. No student will be required to sing religious music, however, **in fairness to the class and to the preparation of the teacher, any student or parent wishing their student to opt-out of participating in religious music needs to contact Mrs. Warby by the end of the first week of the term so that appropriate accommodations can be made to meet the student's needs.** Religious doctrines, practices, and religious rites will not be instructed under any circumstance. In some cases, the cultural practices of religious groups may be discussed developing the proper historical context and musical style of a given piece, i.e. certain Hebrew, and Latin pieces have styles tightly connected to the culture of religious groups.

Choir Tour

As of now the Alpine district is not permitting out of state trips. Should that change, we will look at a possible tour.

Participation Expenses

| Item | Cost | Responsible Students |
|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Choir Fee | \$25 per semester | All Choir Students |
| Choir Mask and Choir Shirt | \$40 per student | All Choir Students |



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AFHS Choir \$50 Participation Fee Allocation



- Equipment/Maintenance & Classroom/Office Supplies
- Festival Fees/Musc Organization Memberships
- Transportation
- Choir Student Activities
- Student Subscriptions (SRF, Charms, Choral Tracks, etc.)
- Clinicians/Choreographers

Classroom Expectations in the COVID-19 Era

Classroom rules, procedures, and rehearsal etiquette are strictly enforced and failure to follow the rules will result in lost participation or removal from the class for chronic offenders. Mrs. Warby and her family are at HIGH RISK of complications from COVID-19. Please be mindful of those who are at high risk and follow these **bolded** guidelines. If you are uncomfortable singing in choir rehearsals at the high school, please consider taking the Vocal Techniques class offered as an online option. The choral experience cannot be replicated in an all online setting. Choirs by nature require in person interaction. Online students are also welcome to take AP Music Theory.

- **Unless there is a doctor's prescribed medical reason not to do so, wear a mask.**
- **Students are to be in his/her ASSIGNED seat to assist with contact tracing. No two students will use the same seat in the auditorium during the day to better protect students from SARS-CoV-2.**
- **Bring your own water bottle as the drinking fountains are not the safest alternatives at this time.**
- **DO NOT PLAY THE PIANO OR PASS THE RED TAPE LINE AROUND THE PIANO. This is to keep Mrs. Warby healthy. Accompanists will be permitted to use the piano after Mrs. Warby has sanitized it for student use. Playing the piano as you enter or leave class is no longer an option. For classes held in the auditorium, students should not enter or get on the stage. They must stay in the house seats.**
- **Music will be provided, but should put it in your own binder with a pencil to bring to class. Students without access to a binder or pencil should let Mrs. Warby know and she will provide them. In order to keep contamination to minimum will not be using shared choir folders and pencils this year.**
- **Bring as little as possible to class. Just your music, a pencil, water bottle and a pocketed cellphone are needed regularly. Items brought to class MUST fit under your chair.**
- **When (if) FLEX happens, students are to work quietly in their assigned seat unless given direct permission from the teacher to move elsewhere. Social distancing should be maintained in FLEX.**
- **All assignments and forms should be turned in online through Canvas or to the mailbox outside the choir room. Be sure that if you turn things into the mailbox that your name and class period are marked on your assignments or forms.**
- Show respect to Mrs. Warby/student conductors and to each other by not talking when the director is speaking or when any section is singing.
- Be kind and patient with the director and each other.
- Students will be required to sing solos OR in small groups. No exceptions. Students unwilling to do so should take another class.
- Students should have music, paper, and pencil prior to the starting bell or he/she will be marked tardy.



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- You are to remain in the class the entire period unless given permission by the teacher to leave. Bathroom breaks should be no more than 5 minutes. **To aid in social distancing, only one student may use the restroom at a time.**
- No food, drinks (except water), or gum is permitted during class without prior approval from the teacher.
- Use of cellphones, iPods, electronic devices of any kind, headphones, etc. without permission is not permitted.

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Choir Concert/Rehearsal Dates for the 2020-2021 School Year

All choir concerts, rehearsals, and festivals are mandatory and are factored into a student's academic grade.

Of course, if a student is ill or quarantined an alternative assignment will be provided. For more detailed information on this policy and acceptable exemptions, please refer to the choir disclosure document given the first day of class and also found on the choir website.

Other performances may arise as requested by the school and community.

At least two weeks' notice will be given for such events.

Modifications made to the calendar due to the pandemic will be sent out via Skyward email.

If audiences cannot safely attend concerts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, concerts will be streamed for families on a password protected site.

| Date and Time | Event | Location | Responsible Students |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 10/12/20; 7:00 PM | Fall Concert (Streamed if live concerts are unsafe). | AFHS Auditorium | All Choirs |
| 11/11/20; 11:00 AM | Veteran's Day Service (If we are requested) | Alpine Tabernacle | Chamber Choir |
| 12/7/20; 7:00 PM | Holiday Concert (Streamed if live concerts are unsafe). | AFHS Auditorium | All Choirs |
| 2/9 – 2/19/21 by appt. | Choir Auditions for 2021-22 | Mrs. Warby's office or choir room | Those who want to audition. |
| 2/22/21; 1:00-4:00 PM | Chamber Choir Call Backs | AFHS Choir Room | Those who meet audition requirements. |
| 3/2/21; 3:00 PM - TBA | Regional S/E Festival | Lone Peak HS | Those who want to go |



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| 3/8/21; 7:00 PM | Pre-Festival Concert | AFHS Auditorium | All choirs |
| 3/3/21; TBD | Reg. Vocal/Piano Solo and Ensemble Festival | Lone Peak HS | Optional participation |
| 3/22/21; 1:15-5:00 PM | Region Men's and Women's Choir Festival | Skyridge HS Auditorium | Men's & Women's Choirs |
| 4/19/21; 1:15-5:00 PM | Region Choir Festival | Westlake HS Auditorium | A Cappella and Chamber |
| 5/1/21; TBD | State S/E Festival | Provo HS | Region qualifiers |
| 5/14-15/21; TBD | State Choir Festival | U of U Libby Gardner Hall | Qualifying Choirs from Region Festival |
| 5/17/20; 7:00 PM | Spring Concert | AFHS Auditorium | All Choirs |
| 5/27/21; TBD | Graduation | TBD | Chamber and Seniors |