

Disclosure Document for Vocal Techniques at AFHS

Instructor: Tracy Warby

Website: www.afchoir.org

E-mail: twarby@alpinedistrict.org

Course Description and Expectations

This class is for the beginning to advanced singer. The emphasis of this semester long course will be vocal production. Students will learn to sing healthily in both musical theater and classical styles. **Students must sing solos in master classes and tests, each term.** Students taking the class online or who are away in the case of quarantine will record themselves online and submit recordings through Canvas to be graded. Vocal physiology will be the primary focus in this course. One hour or more of practice per week is expected and factored into the student's grade.

The teacher's job is not to teach notes and rhythms, that is the student's responsibility. The teacher will be focusing on teaching vocal and performance technique. To aid students in learning the notes and rhythms of assigned literature, the accompaniments to assigned songs are available on line through the choir website: www.afchoir.org. Most songs are also readily available on YouTube; therefore, students will need internet access to be successful in this course.

Students must be prepared to sing in class for master class or performances on the day assigned. A "bad throat," cramps, fatigue, or not knowing the notes, or not practicing with the accompaniment are not acceptable excuses. If a student is too sick to sing, they should be at home rather than infecting the rest of the class. **Only students with extreme laryngitis will be excused from performing on the assigned day in class.**

Students are required to video and complete a self-evaluation of each of his/her performances. These evaluations must be completed in Canvas and are due the Friday following the performance in class.

Classroom Expectations in the COVID-19 Era

Classroom rules and procedures, are strictly enforced and failure to follow the rules will result in 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.

- **Unless there is a doctor prescribed medical reason not to do so, wear a mask.**
- **Students are to be in his/her ASSIGNED seat to assist with contact tracing and social distancing.**
- **Disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer are available to wipe down chairs to help protect students from SARS-CoV-2. There are also HEPA air purifiers in the choir room to aid with air circulation.**
- **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. Playing the piano as you enter or leave class is not an option.**
- **Bring as little as possible to class. Just your Music binder, a pencil, water bottle and a pocketed cellphone are needed regularly. Items brought to class MUST fit under your chair.**
- **Because so much of singing requires us to see facial expressions, a face shield and scarf have been ordered for each student. Students will be taught how to put these together for maximum protection that will still allow the instructor to see student faces.**
- 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. for anything other than recording performances is not permitted.
- Students will be required to complete assignments online through Canvas. Students will need access to computers and the internet. If such access is not available at home there are computers available in the AFHS media center and one in the choir room.

Materials and Supplies

- Music is provided. However, students may perform a song of his/her choosing for the unit if it is teacher approved and if the student has **both the sheet music and an accompaniment track** in the correct key. Students will need a three-ring binder in which to store the music for class.
- Students must have their music, notebooks, and a pencil in class each day.

Grading and Homework

Homework/Memorization assignments will be given most class periods. All assignments will be posted and turned in through Canvas. If a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to download and/or complete the assignment given. Late assignments and performances are not accepted in this class unless the student has accommodations formally recorded with the school or are due to an excused absence.

Grading Break Down:

- Participation 5%

Participation includes coming to class on time with the proper materials and working throughout the class period. This also includes not talking or doing homework from other classes during the performance or master class sessions of other students in the class. Students not in class due to the pandemic will not be penalized.

- Master classes (Lab) 30%

Students must be prepared for the master class by knowing all notes and rhythms to the song and being able to sing it with the accompaniment. The music does NOT need to be memorized for the master class, but must be well learned. **Students unprepared for master class will receive zero points.**

- Performances (Project) 40%

Students are required to perform their music memorized. **Students who do not have a song memorized will lose 10% of the points for that performance.** Students will be graded on using a vocal solo rubric

- Assignments 25%

Performance evaluations are required after each performance in the class. Students will video record his/her performance and then complete a performance evaluation through Canvas due Friday of that week.

Disclosure Document Review for the Disclosure Document Quiz in Canvas due August 21, 2020:

1. Singing solos in this class. Online students in case of quarantine students must record performances and submit them through Canvas.
2. Students are responsible to learn the notes and rhythms to songs on their own. YouTube has ample ways to help students listen to and learn songs and accompaniments to the songs are on the choir website.
3. Students who choose to perform a song not in the assigned unit, must have teacher approval as well as both the music and the accompaniment in the correct key for their voice for the masterclass and performance.
4. Master class performances do not need to be memorized, but the song must be well learned with correct note and rhythms. Students not prepared to masterclass on the due date, will receive a zero. Should a student be online or under quarantine, they must masterclass via Google Meet or Zoom.
5. Performances will be docked 10% if the song is not memorized.
6. Students must video record, and complete an evaluation of each performance that is due the Friday following the performance. If they sing on a Friday in class, they must complete the evaluation that day. This evaluation will be completed in Canvas.
7. Students will record his/her performances in class via cell phone to complete self-evaluations. Mrs. Warby or another student will record performances for those without smart phone access.
8. Students should practice one hour or more each week outside of class and report it through Canvas by Monday each week.
9. It is the student's responsibility to download accompaniments from the website and practice with them in preparation for the performance tests.
10. Students must perform the assigned song wearing appropriate PPE on the date assigned by the instructor unless the student has extreme laryngitis or an excused absence for that day. "I am not ready." is not a valid excuse to postpone a performance. Students may submit a video of his/her performance if quarantining at home.