

Choir

Walla Walla Valley Academy

Director: Cliff Dolph

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Goals

1. Enjoyment. We will have fun making music together and being with each other.
2. Service. We will use singing together as a way to minister to others.
3. Education. We will learn more about how to sing, how to read music, and about music history and styles.

Procedures

We will meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 7 in the orchestra room. We will spend the biggest share of our time together rehearsing music for performances. Most of this music will be sacred songs, some of those contemporary and some written long ago.

We will also use some of our time together warming up our voices and practicing good vocal techniques, learning about how to read music (notes, rhythms, musical markings, etc.), and learning how to find harmonies by ear and improvise.

We will perform in public two or three times each quarter.

Expectations and Grading

Participation in rehearsals: You get credit for being present and on time for our rehearsals. Of course, I expect you to sing in those rehearsals and to be on task.

40% of total grade

Participation in performances: I will communicate about performance dates in writing at least a month before performances. If you have an unavoidable conflict with a performance date, you need to let me know about that conflict as soon as possible. If you miss a performance without a compelling reason or without giving me as much notice as possible, you will lose credit for that performance.

40% of total grade.

Contributions: I recognize that we are all learning and that some of us bring stronger vocal skills or more musical experience to this choir than others. I am not expecting perfection. What I do expect is genuine effort. Do the best you can with every song we sing. With that in mind, I will evaluate your contribution each quarter using this scale:

19-20 You are a leader in the choir.

17-18 You can be heard and you are generally in sync with the choir and on key.

15-16 You consistently sing, but you are hard to hear or sometimes out of sync or out of tune.

13-14 You don't always sing, or you are very hard to hear or often out of sync or out of tune.

You won't get less than 13 unless you frequently don't sing.

20% of total grade

Please let me know if you have questions about choir. I look forward to our time together!