

# CHAMBER CHOIR SYLLABUS

High School  
Ms. Cava Menzies: Dept. Chair

Fall 2013 – Spring 2014  
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## Description:

- Chamber Choir is an “audition only” intermediate high school ensemble at OSA. This choir is open to all 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders, provided that they pass the entrance audition. Students in the Chamber Choir are exposed to wide variety of ensemble repertoire from a variety of genres and geographical locations. Most of the music sung in Chamber Choir consists of 4 – 8 part harmony, and students are expected to read music proficiently and hold their part with ease. Ear training and sight-reading heavily emphasized in order to prepare students for the advanced high school ensemble, Vocal Rush. Chamber Choir students also develop tone quality, genre versatility, vocal control, and stage presence as a soloist while participating in the group. Chamber Choir will have fairly regular performing opportunities and students are expected to handle the demands of a moderately busy performance schedule. As well, students in Chamber Choir are expected to be exceptional leaders and role models in our department both in artistic merit and personal character.

## Grading:

- Daily Participation: 15 points per day
  - 5 points off if tardy
  - 5 points off per behavior infraction
  - 5 points off if found eating in the classroom
- Absences:
  - Students who are absent are given a 0/15 for the day
  - Students with excused absences that meet the notification requirements stated in the OSA handbook, will receive a EX/15, provided that they provide teacher with either email or hand-written note from parent to verify that the absence was excused.
  - \*Please see student handbook for a list of acceptable excused absences
- Non-participating students (students sitting out) will receive a 5/15 for the day at the discretion of the instructor.
- Rep Checks: 50 points per rep check
- Pencil Checks: Included in daily participation points
- Concerts: 25 points per concert
  - **Concerts are mandatory for all Chamber Choir members**
    - If a student has an excused absence (email from parent minimum 48 hours PRIOR to Concert date) they are permitted to do a make-up assignment in lieu of the concert. Make-up work is due the school day following the concert. No exceptions.

## Required Materials:

- Black 3 ring binder (provided)
- Water Bottle
- Pencils

## Policies:

*This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with or without advanced notice*

- All policies and expectations outlined in Vocal Music Parent Handbook apply to VM courses. All parents must read and sign the necessary documents in the handbook and turn it back into Ms. Menzies.
- No gum chewing or eating in the classroom.
- All Vocal students are required to attend **every** Vocal Music concert, even if ineligible. All concerts are graded.
- No texting or cell phone use during class time. Cell phones should be stored in student lockers or backpacks.
- All students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to every class

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Parent / Guardian Signature

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PRINT Parent / Guardian name

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Student Signature

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PRINT Student name

Parent email address: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print clearly)

Parent phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

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