



Honors Band and Choir Program

Green Local Schools
Green High School

2026-2027 School Year

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General Information

The goal of the Green High School Honors Band and Choir Program is to improve individual musicianship and to encourage students to go beyond what they are exposed to daily during their large ensemble rehearsals. While these honors courses are separate from the regular Band/Choir classes, students will continue to participate in their respective performance ensembles with their peers who are not enrolled in the honors sections. Students enrolled in the Honors Band and Choir Program will receive a weighted grade for their work.

Procedures

Each quarter, students must earn 10 Honors Points. These points may be earned through a variety of activities outlined in this document. Points awarded are weighted based on the time commitment and the musical impact of each activity.

During the first week of each grading period, students must complete the *Honors Credit Point Sheet* where the student will outline how they intend to earn their points. This sheet is intended to work as a guide to help students plan their quarter. This sheet will be signed by the student and parent and then approved by the student's director. Once this document is approved, any adjustments must be approved by the director.

As students complete their activities, they must document their work on the *Honors Credit Point Sheet* and collect appropriate documentation. All assignments must be submitted by the final week of the grading period. Failure to complete activities and earn the 10 points will result in the grade for the quarter being lowered by one letter grade.

Timeline

- Week 1 of each grading period
 - *Honors Credit Point Sheet* completed and signed by student and parent due
 - Sheet will be approved by director and returned to student
- Weeks 2 -8 of each grading period
 - Students work independently to complete activities they have outlined on the *Honors Credit Point Sheet*
 - Students may submit activities as they complete them for approval
 - Director and student will track points
- Week 9 of each grading period
 - Final activities and completed *Honors Credit Point Sheet* must be submitted; Recital Performance takes place

Please refer to the *Quarterly Deadlines* chart on page 9 of this handbook for deadlines listed for each quarter.

Point Values/Distribution

- 5 Points
 - Participation in 2 or more Green High School Bands/Choirs.
 - Weekly private lessons on your primary instrument/voice - MUST PERFORM OMEA-LEVEL PIECE OR EQUIVALENT ETUDE AT RECITAL
 - Participation in an auditioned ensemble outside of Green.
 - Acceptance and participation in OMEA All State Band or Choir. (3rd quarter only)
 - **PLEASE NOTE: Application process for this takes place in the previous school year.
 - Official letters are sent from OMEA during the first quarter of classes.
- 4 Points
 - Bi-weekly private lessons on your primary instrument/voice - MUST PERFORM OMEA-LEVEL PIECE OR EQUIVALENT ETUDE AT RECITAL
 - Perform a solo at Solo & Ensemble Contest. (3rd quarter only) - **REQUIRED FOR PRIVATE LESSON STUDENTS** UNLESS APPROVED BY DIRECTOR
 - Participation in a masterclass or workshop.
 - Prepare an audition recording.
 - Record all 15 minor scales – all forms - and 2 octave chromatic scales (BAND ONLY).
- 3 Points
 - Perform in an ensemble at Solo & Ensemble Contest.
 - Participation in honor Performing Arts at a college or university.
 - Critique of a professional concert.
 - Perform a solo on quarterly Honors Recital - NOTE: This is for students NOT taking private lessons
 - Public performance as a soloist.
 - Record all 15 minor scales – natural form - and 2 octave chromatic scale (BAND ONLY).
 - Weekly practice recording (7 weeks minimum).
- 2 Points
 - Perform in an ensemble on quarterly Honors Recital.
 - Public performance as a part of an ensemble.
 - Attend a workshop/clinic for your instrument at a college or university.
 - Critique of a college/university concert.
 - Record all 15 major scales and 2 octave chromatic scales (BAND ONLY).
 - Composer or literature project.
 - Instrument or technique project.
 - Participation in extracurricular performing arts activities.
 - Choir – Performing on stage in GHS musical production.
 - Band – Performing in the pit for GHS musical production.
- 1 Point
 - Critique of a school, church or community concert.

How Points May Be Earned

The next several pages explain in detail how students may earn points each grading period. The activities are divided into four categories – Performance Points, Applied Instrument Points, Research Points and Special Projects.

- *Performance Points*

- o Participation in 2 or more Green High School Band/Choir Ensembles: (5 points)

- Students must participate in 2 or more performing ensembles at Green High School. This could be any combination of the following:

- Wind Ensemble
 - Select Choir (Mixed Voices)
 - Symphonic Band
 - Treble Choir
 - Tenor-Bass Choir
 - Concert Band
 - Marching Band (Quarter 1 only)
 - On A Side Note
 - Fermata Nowhere
 - Low Key

- Participation in 2 ensembles of **different program types** (1 band **AND** 1 choir)
 - 50% of points earned can be used for both ensembles. The remaining 50% needs to be earned through alternate opportunities.
 - Private lessons, reports, critiques, etc. must be reflective of program those points are to be applied to.

Band (Shared 50%)	Choir (Shared 50%)
Multiple Ensembles – 5pts.	Multiple Ensembles – 5pts.
(Additional 50%)	(Additional 50%)
Private Instr. Lessons – 4pts.	Perform S&E Vocal Solo – 4pts.
Composer/Literature Report — 2pts.	Honors Choir – 3pts.

- o Participation in auditioned ensemble outside of Green: (5 points)

- Students must earn membership into an area ensemble with a regular rehearsal and performance schedule. Examples include Cleveland Youth Orchestra or Chorus, Akron Youth Orchestra, Summit Choral Society, or Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony. The student must complete the *Ensemble Verification* form. It

includes verification of membership and attendance for the ensemble. You must have a satisfactory report in order to earn points.

- o OMEA All-State Band, Choir or Orchestra: (5 points)
 - Students must submit audition materials and be accepted into one of the All-State performing ensembles that perform at the Ohio Music Education Association annual conference. (3rd quarter only)
- o Solo & Ensemble Contest: (3 or 4 points) (3rd quarter only) - ****REQUIRED FOR PRIVATE LESSON STUDENTS****
 - Prepare and perform a solo at the annual Ohio Music Education Association Solo & Ensemble contest (4 points).
 - In conjunction with your director, prepare and perform in an ensemble at the annual Ohio Music Education Association Solo & Ensemble Contest (3 points).
- o Honor Performing Arts: (3 points)
 - Many area colleges and universities have performance opportunities throughout the school year. Your director will have recommendation and audition information. Students must participate in the event and complete the *Honor Band and Choir Verification Form* to earn points.
- o Honors Recital: (2 – 3 points) - NOTE: This option is for students **NOT** taking private lessons
 - Each quarter, the music department will host an Honors Recital.
 - Students may perform a solo (3 points)
 - Students may be part of an ensemble (2 points)
 - Music selection and preparation should be done in consultation with a director. Performances should be *at least* two minutes in length.
- o Public Performance: (2 or 3 points)
 - Students may perform a solo at a non-school event. (3 points)
 - Students may perform in an ensemble at a non-school event. (2 points)
 - Students may perform a solo at a school sporting event. (3 points)
 - This includes performing in a place of worship or for a religious function, or for a school or community event when not participating with a director-lead ensemble. To earn credit for this option, students must turn in the program from the event (if possible) where you played and complete the *Public Performance Verification Form*.
- o Green High School Musical Production & Jazz Band: (2 points)
 - Participation in extracurricular performing arts activities.
 - Choir – Performing on stage in GHS musical production. (2nd Quarter Only)
 - Band – Performing in the pit for GHS musical production. (2nd Quarter Only)
 - Jazz Band (Third & Fourth Quarter Only)

- Percussion Ensemble (Fourth Quarter Only)

- *Applied Private Lesson Points*
 - Private Lessons: (4 or 5 points per grading period)
 - Students must take private lessons with an **approved instructor** on their primary instrument or piano for the entire grading period. All instructors must be professional musicians with performance and teaching experience and appropriate degree certifications. Instruction should focus on performance technique, and revolve around literature either on the OMEA Solo & Ensemble list, or equivalent. Students taking private lessons for Five Points must participate in OMEA Solo & Ensemble unless approved by the director.
 - Lessons meet weekly (5 points)
 - Lessons meet bi-weekly (4 points)
 - Student must perform a piece from the OMEA S&E List on the quarterly recital. An approved Etude is also allowed.
 - **You may not perform a piece more than once** - EXCEPTION: If you are working on your Solo & Ensemble piece, you may perform it during both the 1st & 2nd Quarter Recitals
 - Student must attend 85% of their scheduled lessons.
 - The student and the instructor must complete the *Private Lessons Verification Form*. It includes areas of progress, attendance and effort. You must have a satisfactory report in order to earn points.
 - Audition Recording: (4 points)
 - There are many opportunities for performing in area ensembles that require an audition, as well as honor bands/choirs at area colleges and universities. In conjunction with your director, review the required audition materials and process and prepare an appropriate recording for an audition.
 - Participation in a Masterclass or Workshop: (4 points)
 - Participate in a masterclass or workshop on their instrument and **perform independently** at these events. (4 points)
 - Students will need to complete the *Masterclass/Workshop Verification Form*.
 - Weekly Practice Recordings: (3 points)
 - Record all of your current music. Recordings should be approximately 15 minutes in length and must be submitted to your director by Friday each week. It is each student's responsibility to make sure that recordings are submitted on time. **Late recordings will not be accepted**. At the beginning of the recording, students must state their name and date of recording. As they work through each piece, students must state the title of the piece and guide the listener through their performance.

- o Record Scales: (2 – 4 points) (BAND ONLY)
 - Students may only submit scales once each year. Prior to playing, name the scale in concert pitch and then perform it. If you make a mistake, you must redo that scale. Once your recording is completed without any mistakes, it may be submitted to your director. Students may record their major scales and a 2 octave chromatic scale (2 points) or record all 15 natural minor scales and a 2 octave chromatic scale (3 points) or record all 15 minor scales in all three forms and a 2 octave chromatic scale (4 points).
- o Workshop or Clinic: (2 points)
 - Many of the area colleges or universities offer instrumental or vocal clinics. To receive credit, students must attend an event for their primary instrument or performance area, submit a program and complete the *Workshop/Clinic Verification Form*.
- *Research & Project Points*
 - o Concert Critique: (1 – 3 points)
 - Critiques should be 2 – 3 pages in length. Requirements are:
 - Coverage, listing title of project, name and course
 - 2 – 3 paragraph summary of the event, performers, setting and musical selections
 - 2 – 3 paragraph description of performance, including comments on tone, intonation, articulations, musicality, expression, etc.
 - Typed, 12pt font
 - All critiques must have the program and/or ticket stub attached.
 - Credit will be awarded based on the type of performance students **attend** and critique.
 - *Professional Level Concert (3 points)*
 - o Review a concert where you hear professional musicians perform (Cleveland Orchestra, Akron Symphony, Musical, Opera, Ballet, etc.). Ask your director if the concert you are considering will be given credit.
 - *College or University Level Concert (2 points)*
 - o Review and attend a concert at an area college or university. The area schools offer a wide range of programming (frequently at no cost), including band concerts, choir concerts, recitals on every instrument and recitals of chamber music. Ask your director if the concert you are considering will be given credit.
 - *School Concert (1 point)*

- o Attend and review any school band, choir or musical concert in which you do not perform. This includes any middle school or elementary events as well.

- *Community or Place of Worship Event (1 point)*

- o Attend and review a concert in the community or at a church.

NOTE: Written projects (Composer Literature, Research, etc.) must be original, without use of AI, and must be Honors Level work.

- o Composer and Literature Project: 2 points *Topic must be submitted and approved when turning in your point sheet the second week of the quarter*
 - This research project should be 2 – 3 pages in length. Requirements are:
 - Cover page, listing title of project, name and course
 - 2 – 3 paragraphs about the composer's life
 - 2 – 3 paragraphs about the composer's major works and contributions to music
 - 2 – 3 paragraphs about how this composer and/or their music has influenced your musicianship in your selected program of study. (band or choir).
 - Typed, 12pt font
 - Works cited page
- o Instrument or Musical Technique Report: 2 points *Topic must be submitted and approved when turning in your point sheet the second week of the quarter*
 - This research project should be 2 - 3 pages in length. Requirements are:
 - Cover page, listing title of project, name and course
 - 2 – 3 paragraphs about the history and development of your major instrument
 - 2 – 3 paragraphs about the major works for your instrument
 - Typed, 12pt font
 - Works cited page.

Quarterly Deadlines

Quarter	Start-End Dates	<i>Honors Credit Point Sheet Due</i>	Deadline for Projects	Recital Dates
Quarter 1	August 21 – October 16	Friday, September 4	Wednesday, October 14	Wednesday, October 14
Quarter 2	October 19 – January 8	Friday, October 23	Wednesday, January 6	Wednesday, January 6
Quarter 3	January 11 – March 12	Friday, January 15	Wednesday, March 10	Wednesday, March 10
Quarter 4	March 15 – May 27	Monday, March 29	Wednesday, May 21	Wednesday, May 21

Forms

Honors Band and Choir Program

2026-2027 School Year

Honors Credit Point Sheet

Name _____ Quarter _____

Course _____

To receive Honors credit, you must complete this form during the first week of each quarter and submit it to your director for approval. List all options you intend to use to earn the 10 points required per quarter. You may list as many activities as you like, however, you will not be permitted to add any after the approval by your director. This document must be used to collect evidence of completing the selected activities and should be submitted by the deadline at the end of each grading period. *Failure to meet the requirement of 10 Honors points will result in your quarter grade being lowered by one letter grade.*

Activity	Potential Point Value	Verification Materials Completed	Points Awarded by Director
TOTAL POINTS EARNED			

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Director Approval _____ Date _____

Ensemble Verification Form

To be completed by student:

Name _____ Quarter _____

Course _____

- Name of ensemble: _____
- Position in organization: _____
- Rehearsal schedule: _____
- List date, time and location of next performance:

To be completed by organization:

Person completing verification form: _____

Role in organization: _____

- The student is prompt for rehearsals and performances. Yes No
- The student is prepared for rehearsals and performances. Yes
No
- The student behaves in a professional manner for rehearsals and performances. Yes
No

Comments:

To be completed by director:

Approved _____ Date _____

Points awarded: _____

Honors Band and Choir Verification Form

(A program from the event must accompany this form.)

To be completed by student:

Name _____ Quarter _____

Course _____

- Name of ensemble: _____
- Location of ensemble: _____
- Rehearsal schedule: _____
- List date, time and location of performance:

Please describe the rehearsals that went into this performance.

What did you learn at this event?

What was your favorite piece of music from this event?

How did this performance compare to other performances you have experienced?

To be completed by director:

Approved _____ Date _____

Points awarded: _____

Participation in Masterclass/Workshop Verification Form

(A program from the event must accompany this form.)

To be completed by student:

Name _____ Quarter _____

Course _____

- Name of event: _____
- Name of clinician or musician at masterclass/workshop:

- List date, time and location of event:

Please describe the activities that were part of this event.

What did you learn at this event?

What was your favorite piece of music from this event?

How did this event compare to other performances you have experienced?

To be completed by director:

Approved _____ Date _____

Points awarded: _____

Public Performance Verification Form

To be completed by student:

Name _____ Quarter _____

Course _____

- Performance Location: _____
 - Person in Charge of Performance: _____
 - Date and Time of Performance: _____
 - Solo or Ensemble: _____
 - Title of Piece Performed: _____
 - Reason for performance: _____

 - Audience: _____

-
-

To be completed by organization:

Person completing verification form: _____

- The student was prompt for rehearsals and performances. Yes
No
- The student was prepared for rehearsals and performances. Yes
No
- The student behaved and dressed in a professional manner for rehearsals and performances. Yes
No
- Would you be willing to have the student perform again? Yes
No

Comments:

To be completed by director:

Approved _____ Date _____

Points awarded: _____

Private Lessons Verification Form:

To be completed by student:

Name _____ Quarter _____

Course _____

- Lesson on what instrument: _____
- Instructor's Name: _____
- Instructor's Phone Number: _____
- Instructor's Email: _____

To be completed by private lessons instructor:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| • The student is <u>prompt</u> for lessons. | Yes No |
| • The student is <u>prepared</u> for lessons. | Yes No |
| • The student <u>behaves in a professional manner</u> for lessons. | Yes No |

Please score the student in each area and provide any comments you would like to share. (1 = Developing; 2 = Basic; 3 = Proficient; 4 = Advanced; 5 = Sophisticated)

Tone and pitch development _____

Technical development _____

Musical development _____

Attitude and effort _____

Lesson preparation _____

Total number of lessons this grading period _____

Number of lessons missed by student during this grading period _____

To be completed by director:

Approved _____ Date _____

Points awarded: _____

Attendance for Workshop/Masterclass Verification Form

(A program from the event must accompany this form.)

To be completed by student:

Name _____ Quarter _____

Course _____

- Name of event: _____
- Location of event: _____

What information did the workshop/clinic cover?

What was the background of the clinician?

What did you learn at this event?

What was your favorite piece of music from this event?

To be completed by director:

Approved _____ Date _____

Points awarded: _____

Scale Recording Project - Rubric

	4 POINTS	3 POINTS	2 POINTS	1 POINT
ACCURACY	- All scales are performed with 100% accuracy - There are no mistakes noted	- Scales are performed with 90% accuracy - There are minor mistakes noted, but they do not impact the overall quality of the performance	- Scales are performed with 80% accuracy - Key signatures are not followed and/or there are repeated mistakes	- Scales are performed with 70% accuracy - Key signatures are not followed and it is difficult to follow the student in their performance
	4 POINTS	3 POINTS	2 POINTS	1 POINT
TONE QUALITY	- Scales are performed with well developed, sophisticated tone quality throughout the range of the instrument - Range does not impact tone quality	- Scales are performed with characteristic tone quality throughout the range of the instrument - Range may have minimal impact on tone quality	- Scales are performed with somewhat characteristic tone quality throughout the range of the instrument - Range has impact on tone quality	- Scales are performed with limited characteristic tone quality throughout the range of the instrument - Range has significant impact on tone quality
	2 POINTS	1.5 POINTS	1 POINT	.5 POINTS
INTONATION	Sophisticated and precise intonation throughout range of scales	Acceptable intonation throughout range of scales	Range of scales impacts intonation	Range of scales significantly impacts intonation
	2 POINTS		1 POINT	0 POINTS
TEMPO	Scales are performed at consistent tempo with steady beat		Performance may rush/drag at times and/or be have an erratic pulse	Scales are not performed at a consistent tempo
	2 POINTS		1 POINT	0 POINTS
ARTICULATION	Scales are performed with clear, precise articulation		Articulation may be inconsistent at times but is acceptable	Articulation is inconsistent and unacceptable for the performance

Total from Rubric: _____ ***(To receive credit, students must earn a score of 10 points.)***

To be completed by director:

Approved _____ Date _____

Points awarded: _____

Research Project - Rubric

	4 POINTS	3 POINTS	2 POINTS	1 POINT
CONTENT	- Appropriate topic - Strong support of topic; discussed topic in detail and covers all important points - Clear and appropriate organization, with effective transitions, introduction and conclusion	- Appropriate topic - Good support for topic; discussion may be lacking depth but covers most important points - Organization, transitions, introduction and conclusion lack some clarity and/or sophistication	- Questionable topic - Limited support for topic; details are vague and do not cover important points - Organization, transitions, introduction and conclusion lacking clarity and/or appropriateness	- Topic does not meet requirement - Insufficient support of topic; greatly lacking in details relevant to topic - Organization, transitions, introduction and conclusion are unclear and/or irrelevant
	4 POINTS	3 POINTS	2 POINTS	1 POINT
QUALITY OF RESEARCH	- Cited 3 or more reliable sources - Research is in-depth and detailed - Abundant information provided to support all aspects of the topic	- Cited at least 2 reliable sources - Research is sufficient and detailed - Sufficient information provided to support all aspects of the topic	- Cited 1 reliable source - Research is limited and may not be from reliable sources - Limited information provided to support all aspects of the topic	- Failed to cite sources - There is limited evidence of quality research in the project - Little to no information provided to support all aspects of the topic
	2 POINTS	1.5 POINTS	1 POINT	0 POINTS
VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR	- Sophisticated and precise word choice - No spelling or grammatical errors	- Effective word choice - Few spelling and/or grammatical errors	- Limited effectiveness in word choice - Consistent errors in spelling and/or grammar	- Ineffective word choice - Frequent errors in spelling and/or grammar
	2 POINTS		.5 POINTS	0 POINTS
WORKS CITED	All works properly cited in <i>Works Cited</i> page		Not all sources properly cited in <i>Works Cited</i> page.	No <i>Works Cited</i> page
	2 POINTS		.5 POINTS	0 POINTS
STRUCTURE & FORMAT	Project includes all required elements – cover page, appropriate length, correct font size and appropriate distribution of content		Project is missing one element as outlined in project description	Project is missing multiple elements as outlined in the project description

Total from Rubric: _____ (To receive credit, students must earn a score of 10 points.)

To be completed by director:

Approved _____ Date _____

Points awarded: _____

Concert Critique - Rubric

	4 POINTS	3 POINTS	2 POINTS	1 POINT
CONTENT	- Appropriate topics covered in critique - Strong support of topic; discussed topic in detail and covers all important points - Clear and appropriate organization, with effective transitions, introduction and conclusion	- Appropriate topics covered in critique - Good support for topic; discussion may be lacking depth but covers most important points - Organization, transitions, introduction and conclusion lack some clarity and/or sophistication	- Questionable topics covered in critique - Limited support for topic; details are vague and do not cover important points - Organization, transitions, introduction and conclusion lacking clarity and/or appropriateness	- Topic does not meet requirement - Insufficient support of topic; greatly lacking in details relevant to topic - Organization, transitions, introduction and conclusion are unclear and/or irrelevant
	2 POINTS	1.5 POINTS	1 POINT	0 POINTS
VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR	- Sophisticated and precise word choice - No spelling or grammatical errors	- Effective word choice - Few spelling and/or grammatical errors	- Limited effectiveness in word choice - Consistent errors in spelling and/or grammar	- Ineffective word choice - Frequent errors in spelling and/or grammar
	2 POINTS		.5 POINTS	0 POINTS
STRUCTURE & FORMAT	Project includes all required elements – cover page, appropriate length, correct font size and appropriate distribution of content		Project is missing one element as outlined in project description	Project is missing multiple elements as outlined in the project description

Total from Rubric: _____ *(To receive credit, students must earn a score of 6 points.)*

To be completed by director:

Approved _____ Date _____

Points awarded: _____

Contact Information

Honors Program Information –

Mrs. Julie Pickering, GHS Honors Band and Choir Coordinator
330-896-7551
pickeringjulie@greenlocalschools.org

Honors Band –

Mrs. Amy Rach, GHS Director of Bands: Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert Band
Jazz Band
330-896-7530
rachamy@greenlocalschools.org

Mr. Steve Lockstedt; Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Concert Band
330-896-7530
lockstedtsteven@greenlocalschools.org

Honors Choir –

Mrs. Julie Pickering; Select Choir, Treble Choir, Tenor-Bass Choir, On A Side Note, Fermata
Nowhere, Low Key
330-896-7551
pickeringjulie@greenlocalschools.org

By signing up below, you are committing to the Green High School Honors Band and Choir Program as outlined in this handbook. This form, **along with your first quarter “Honors Credit Point Sheet”** is due back to your program director by
September 5th 2026

After **September 15**, you will not be able to change your schedule. Please strongly consider the various expectations with this program before you commit to being a part of it.

“We have read through the Green High School Band and Choir Honors Program Handbook and agree to its guidelines and expectations.”

(Student Printed Name)

(Student Signature)

(Parent Signature)

**This form needs to
be turned into your
program director by:
September 5, 2025**