

Course Description:

This course provides the advanced middle school choral singer an opportunity to improve skills in choral singing and sight singing/ear training *and* demonstrate choral performance excellence. Singers will acquire vocal production skills that will ensure proper vocal health. Singers are expected to demonstrate appropriate performance and audience etiquette. Students will expand their knowledge of the language and elements of music while fostering a deeper appreciation and love of music.

Course Prerequisites:

Audition and Director Approval

Required Materials/Equipment:

*Two Sharpened Pencils
*Composition Notebook

*School-Issued Laptop

*Headphones or Earbuds

*Choral Folder (provided/remains in classroom)

Student Evaluation:

Grades are based on displaying active rehearsal skills that include a willing and cooperative attitude, a commitment to growth in the choral art, consistently good posture and effort, as well as activities such as board drills, singing, sight singing, and listening exercises. Grades also include rehearsals, homework, composition notebook assignments, performances & assessments, written and aural.

Bel Canto Students are required to be *very self motivated* in completing their music theory assignments since this is a performance-oriented chorus. Strict rehearsal discipline will be maintained.

Uniform Requirements:

Refer to page 10 in the Vocal Music Department Handbook

Booster Organization:

Vocal department meetings occur each month at 6:30 p.m. via FaceBook Live @ LaVillaFoundation as scheduled on page 12 of the Vocal Music Handbook. This year we will be hosting the meeting from the vocal suite to allow for face-to-face conversation after the live stream.

Time Commitments Outside of School:

- Attend after school rehearsals that will (in most cases) be scheduled with ample notice
- Attend all vocal concerts, including in-school and out-of-school performances
- Participate in District IV Choral Music Performance Assessments (MPAs). The dates for this event are on page 12 in the Handbook.
- Complete weekly, computerized theory assignments through lavillavocal.musicfirstclassroom.com
- Students are encouraged to audition for all Honor Choirs (ACDA, Jax Sings, All State, All County)
- Possible Spring Trip (International Performance Tour in France)

Financial Obligation for Outside of School Opportunities:

Vocal Fees of \$220.00 (*\$25 discount for Bel Canto if paid by October 31st*)
Purchase of shoes, as outlined on page 10 in the Handbook.

Academic Grade Point Requirement:

Students must maintain an overall grade point average of 2.0 to be eligible to perform. Those members whose grades fall below the required overall average of 2.0 will become grade ineligible and may be removed and placed in a beginning or intermediate chorus. All vocal music students are still required to attend all LaVilla vocal music concerts and complete other make-up work as assigned.