**Hartselle High School Choral Music Department**

Performance Ensemble General Course Syllabus

Kate Dupuis, Director

2017-2018 School Year

“Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything.” –Plato

Welcome parents and students to the Hartselle High School Choral Music program! By being part of this department, you have now joined a much larger family of students, parents, alumni, and friends who have a shared appreciation for the value music has in all of our lives. Thank you in advance for being a part of the music we are making this year.

All performance based classes in the HHS Choral Music Department have similar goals, though the depth and intensity of the content, expectations, and standards may vary. These unified goals are:

1. To create musically literate students with appropriate individual and ensemble technique.
2. To nurture and encourage creative expression.
3. To educate the student about the history, role, function, and place of music in cultures past, present, and globally.

Additionally, advanced courses such as Performers, Chamber Chorale and Girls Ensemble add the following goals:

1. To create independent musical learners.
2. To prepare students for college entrance auditions and entry-level theory classes.

**ASSESSMENT, GRADING AND ATTENDANCE**

Students in performance based courses are assessed through:

1. Public performances.
2. Adjudicated performances (festivals and contests).
3. Informal class performances and rehearsals.
4. Sectional and ensemble demonstrations (as needed).
5. Self-evaluations and peer-evaluations (as needed).
6. Written exams (if needed).

**Grades will be calculated based on the following percentages:**

40% of the final grade is based on daily attendance and participation.

40% of the final grade is based on performances and/or (as needed) written exams.

20% of the final grade is based on singing exams (end of the semester, and as needed).

Students will receive a weekly participation grade. Each day is worth 25 points. As needed, deductions will be made for students who are not on task, not prepared to learn, or who are not actively participating in rehearsals.

Students absent from class for over one half of the period will be counted absent. Students with excused absences may make up work without penalty. Students with unexcused absences will receive only partial credit for make-up work.

Any student who accumulates 20 unexcused absences in any one class during the year will receive no credit for the course.

Additionally, any student with an unexcused absence from a performance will receive a lowered grade (at the discretion of the teacher) for the semester. It is understood that *emergency* situations may arise, forcing a student to miss a concert. **If this is the case, the student is responsible for contacting Mrs. Dupuis in a timely manner**. Please use the included calendar and plan ahead (ask off work, schedule college visits/vacations at different times) for our events. As we are a performance based class, students must attend performances.

**REQUIREMENTS/EXPECTATIONS**

1. Students must follow all policies set forth in the Hartselle High School Student Code of Conduct at all times.
2. Students are expected to be in class and on time.
3. Students are expected to participate fully and come prepared with appropriate materials (music, pencil, etc.)
4. Students are expected to be cooperative, polite, respectful, and focused.
5. Students are expected to attend ALL performances. If a singer does not attend a scheduled performance, and has not given Mrs. Dupuis an acceptable reason for missing the performance in advance, he or she will receive a “0” as the grade for that performance. If there are extenuating circumstances, a paper or project may be assigned to make up the grade.

**ATTIRE**

As concert season approaches, we will begin placing orders for concert attire. If a singer does not currently own the required uniform for their choir, they will need to purchase both formal concert attire (information is below), as well as a HHS Choral Department t-shirt (for more informal performances). All checks can be made out to HHS Chorus.

It is the policy of the HHS Choral Department to hold onto clothing items until they have been paid for. We will start accepting payments immediately. As always, if this creates a financial hardship, please do not hesitate to contact me. I strongly believe that all students should be able to participate in chorus- regardless of financial standing.

***If your singer was a member of one of the HHS Choral Department groups last year, please have them try on all of their items***. If you need to order a new size, or replace a damaged item, please do so at this time.

**Please note: Prices have been increased slightly to accommodate for the cost of shipping.**

**Please make sure your singer knows which items they need to purchase. We will measure and place orders at school within the first few weeks of classes.**

**Concert Chorus**

**Ladies:**

-Southeastern Performance Apparel “Sasha Dress” -$64.00

-Pearl Necklace 18” -$6.00

-Pearl Button Earrings, pierced -$3.00

OR

-Pearl Button Earrings, clip -$3.00

-HHS Choral Department t-shirt -$10.00

-Girls are asked to wear plain, black flats for performances. If not already owned, these can be found at a variety of stores in the Hartselle area. Please let me know if there are any questions.

**Total: $83.00**

**Gentlemen:**

-Southeastern Performance Apparel Four Piece Formal Ensemble -$63.00

-Wing Tip Tuxedo Shirt

-Adjustable Flat Front Tuxedo Pants

-Poplin Vest

-Satin Cinch Tie

-Black Dress Shoes -$38.00

-HHS Choral Department t-shirt -$10.00

**Total: $111.00**

**Chamber Chorale**

**Ladies:**

-Southeastern Performance Apparel “Aubrey Dress” -$68

-HHS Choral Department t-shirt -$10.00

-Girls are asked to wear plain, black flats for performances. If not already owned, these can be found at a variety of stores in the Hartselle area. Please let me know if there are any questions.

**Total: $78.00**

**Gentlemen:**

-Same as Concert Chorus

-HHS Choral Department t-shirt -$10.00

**Total: $111.00**

**Girls Ensemble:**

-Stage Accents “Marquis Dress” in black -$112.00

-Balera 1.5 Inch Heel Character Shoe -$25

-HHS Choral Department t-shirt -$10.00

-Black jazz shoes. Can be purchased at most sporting goods stores.

**Total: $147.00**

**Performers:**

**Ladies:**

-Stage Accents “Dazzle Dress” in black -$103.00

-Balera 1.5 Inch Heel Character Shoe -$25

-HHS Choral Department t-shirt -$10.00

-Black jazz shoes. Can be purchased at most sporting goods stores.

**Total: 138.00**

**Gentlemen:**

-Southeastern Adjustable Flat Front Pants -$27.00

-Wing Tip Collar Tuxedo Shirt -$17.00

-Black Dress Shoes -$38.00

-Stage Accents “Amigo” Vest -$58.00

-Black Satin Bowtie -$4.00

-HHS Choral Department t-shirt -$10.00

**Total: $154.00**

**CHORUS DEPARTMENT TRIP**

-We are planning a 3 or 4 day trip to New Orleans in the middle of April 2018 (exact dates TBA). This trip will be opened to the entire choral department. Initially, we will limit the number of travelers to a single bus. All other singers/chaperones that are interested will be placed on a waiting list. If we have enough interest, we will take additional busses. Spots will be reserved for students/chaperones that turn in a deposit on a first come, first serve basis.

-Details about itinerary and exact dates will be sent home early in the school year.

-A deposit of $150 is required to hold a spot for each traveler, and can be placed beginning the first week of school.

-Trip will cost between $400 and $600

-We need parent chaperones!

**Fundraisers**

Students will have the opportunity to raise money to cover the cost of their trip by participating in at least 3 fundraisers.

-Mixed Bags (late fall)

-Mums (early fall)

-Popcorn (or some alternate fundraiser)

**IMPORTANT DATES (PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW)**

Depot Days Concert September 14, 2017

Montevallo Honor Choir September 24-25, 2017

All State Show Choir Auditions (will be held on ONE of these dates) October 5-7, 2017

Performers Showcase at HJHS October 11, 2017

All State Auditions (will be held on ONE of these dates) November 10-17, 2017

Les Mis in Nashville (POTENTIAL) Field Trip November 16 or 17, 2017

HHS Talent Show November 7, 2017

Ensemble Trip December 1-3, 2017

HHS Chorus Christmas Concert December 11, 2017

Annual Christmas Performance at The Terrace (Performers) December 15, 2017

HHS “Celebration of the Arts” February 2018

State Choral Performance Assessment Late February/Early March 2018

All State Show Choir Festival March 6-8, 2018

All State Festival March 8-10, 2018

HHS Choral Department Trip to New Orleans Tentatively looking at April 12-15, 2018

HHS Chorus Spring Concert April 24, 2018

Relay for Life Dinner- Performers May 7, 2018

Stomp in Chattanooga (POTENTIAL) Field Trip May 11, 2018

HHS Graduation May 21, 2018

As specific dates and times become available, or as events are added to the list or changed, I will update on my google calendar. This can be found on the chorus page of the school website. https://www.hartselletigers.org/Domain/1656

**GOOGLE CLASSROOM**

Students, please make sure you are a member of the appropriate google class. I will give you the code during the first week of school. I also ask that you join the Choral Department google classroom where I will post general information for all students to see. If your parent would like to be added as a “guardian” on the google classroom and receive updates, please let me know and I will add them.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via the following methods:

Email: kate.dupuis@hartselletigers.org

Phone: 256-751-5615 ext. 11025

I am looking forward to another outstanding year with the HHS Choral Department! We’re going to make some great music!

Sincerely,

Kate M. Dupuis

Choral Director

Hartselle High School

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Please sign and return the following to Mrs. Dupuis no later than Friday, August 25, 2017

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Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Names: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have read and agree to all of the information, grading procedures, and course expectations outlined in this course syllabus.

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Student Signature and Date Parent Signature and Date