

# Byron High School Choir Handbook

2023-2024

## GOALS:

- To provide quality music experiences to as many students as our resources allow.
- To help students develop a degree of musical independence which will enable them to read and perform music.
- To provide representative examples of music from the various style periods of music history, including music composed by the recognized master composers.

## GRADING POLICIES

Summative Assessments – 80% of student's grade

- A. Public Performances
- B. Individual performance tests
- C. Semester Exams

Formative Assessments – 20% of student's grade

- A. Weekly Skill Grade (Ensemble skills, Rehearsal skills, Audience skills)
- B. Weekly Sight Reading Lessons
- C. Quizzes

Semester Test exemption

Fall semester

\*attend all concerts (no make up)

\*audition and attend ILMEA District Choir

Spring semester

\*attend all concerts (no make up)

\*prepare and perform a solo and IHSA solo and ensemble contest

Extra-credit

- A. No extra credit opportunities can be given; they will be recorded as additional performance opportunities. Examples of these are: ILMEA auditions, ILMEA festival, Conference Festival, Honor Choirs, etc.

## Attendance at Performance

Attendance at all performances is required. Participation in choir is very much a team effort, and it is mandatory that all musicians perform in all concerts. In addition, students will not be allowed to leave the performance early. If there is a viable reason for absence (personal illness, death in the family, etc.), parents should call, send a note, or email prior to the performance in order for the absence to be excused. If this is not possible, a phone call, or note, the next day will be necessary.

Students with an unexcused absence will receive an “F” as their concert grade. Students with an excused absence will be required to complete an alternate assignment. Since there are many students in the performing ensembles, transportation difficulties will not qualify as an excused absence. Please avoid scheduling activities that conflict with the music calendar.

### CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Students will arrive before the bell rings and be in their seats. Students will throw gum away when they arrive to class. Each student should collect their music from the folder slots. Each folder should also have a pencil in it. If a student wishes to take their folder home, they must return it at the next class period, so they have the necessary materials for class. If a student is not using their folder during class, their rehearsal skills grade will be lowered. Cell phones will be placed in the caddy in the back of the classroom for the duration of class.

### MUSIC BOOSTERS

As the parent of a music student, you are automatically a member of this organization. The Boosters meet on the second Monday of the month at 6:00 PM. There is a **great need** for the attendance of choir parents to come to the meetings to represent the choir. The booster’s main activities are the football concession stands, if you work concession stands you will receive credits toward the trip taken every other year.

### FIELD TRIPS & TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

June 1-9, 2024 the choir will be taking a tour to Ireland. Fundraising for this event has begun. Reach out if you want registration materials.

### CHORAL UNIFORMS

#### **Chamber Choir & Treble Choir:**

Each ensemble has a specific uniform for their performance opportunities. The Chamber Choir and Treble Choir will be dressed in formal attire. They will be fitted for their uniforms in September and will be responsible for their upkeep during the school year. Any damages, or parts lost, are the responsibility of the student the uniform is assigned to. There should not be any eating or drinking (except water) while in uniform. Each member of these ensembles will also be given a suit bag that their formal attire should be transported in all times that they are being carried outside. The girl’s also will be issued a necklace that they will need to wear at each concert, if this is lost it will need to be replaced.

#### **Concert Choir:**

The Concert Choir will be issued a robe and will be responsible for its condition. Damages will result in a fine based on current repair/replacement costs. There should not be any eating or drinking (except water) while in uniform. Robes must be hung up properly after each use. Chorus members wearing robes are required to wear appropriate clothing under them. If there is a financial need for uniform clothing contact the director.

Gentlemen: black dress pants, black socks, and black dress shoes (no tennis shoes, no jeans)

Ladies: black dress slacks, black nylons or socks, and black dress shoes (no tennis shoes or open toed shoes, no skirts or jeans)

## THE CHORAL DEPARTMENT STUDENT CONTRACT

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
confirm that I have read and understand all of the information contained within this Choral Department Handbook. I understand that all of the rules and regulations will apply while I am present at any function in relation to the choral department. I agree to make any necessary arrangements so that I can attend each function. If I have an excused assignment, I will complete it in a timely manner. I understand that it is my responsibility to share the information in the handbook with my parents and/or guardians.

Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Email of student: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Email of parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number for parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional:

Email of 2<sup>nd</sup> parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number for 2<sup>nd</sup> parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Return by August 23

