

Jupiter High School

*Choral Department
Handbook
2017-2018*

*Mr. Christopher Moore
Director*

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*Dr. Colleen Jannitti
Principal*

Dear Choral Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Jupiter High School Choral Department! The accomplishments and honors attained by the Jupiter High School Choral Department are well known throughout the local community, district, and state. This booklet presents our plans, goals, and regulations for the choral department. Your support is essential for an outstanding year. Please send in the forms attached to this booklet with your son/daughter by Friday, September 8 (new due date). Turning in the forms on time will have a grade attached to it.

Please sign up for our Remind classes! Remind is an online messaging service and is used regularly to send out pertinent information and reminders. When signing up for Remind, you can either download the mobile Remind app, or go to Remind.com to sign up for an account (not required). You can also send a text message to the number 81010. The Remind class you wish to sign up for will be the body of the text message (make sure to include the @ sign):

Men's Choir: @jupiterbc

Serenity: @jupiterser

Women's: @jupwomens

Spectrum: @spectrumjh

Entire Choral Program: @jupchoirs

Also, Follow us on Facebook and Twitter (@jupiterchoirs)!! Facebook will be a great way to see and post photos and videos :) We hope you have an incredible year of performance, discovery, passion and friends!

Goals and Objectives:

- ❖ To provide, promote, and encourage interest and participation in choral music.
- ❖ To develop the individual voice and understanding of its relationship to a choral ensemble.
- ❖ To foster confidence through creative self-expression.
- ❖ To increase musical skills and knowledge including theory and history.
- ❖ To develop an appreciation for aesthetic beauty and musical artistry.
- ❖ To prepare the student for higher education, musical leadership
- ❖ To enhance the democratic process by involving the students in group unifying endeavors.
- ❖ To instill the value of effort, sacrifice, cooperation, unity, fellowship, discipline, and dedication

Classroom Procedures and Expectations:

1. Be in class on time. Students who are tardy will be marked tardy in the attendance. Multiple tardies will result in loss of privileges or even referrals or suspensions.
2. Get your folder from rack and take assigned seat before the tardy bell. Bags must be placed under your seat or against the wall out of the way.

3. No eating, drinking (water is allowed), or gum chewing during class. Any snacks must be eaten before entering the room.
4. Talking without permission, poor singing posture, and failure to follow instructions will result in a warning. If behavior continues the student will get a phone call home, and a referral could be sent to student services. *****You must behave appropriately in class in order to represent JHS at a public performance!*****
5. There are no mistakes, only opportunities to learn. Take responsibility and grow.
6. Be respectful and facilitate the learning of yourself and others.
7. Refrain from wearing perfume/cologne or any other body spray, so we do not trigger any allergies students or faculty may have.
8. Cell phones must be put away upon entering the room. They will be confiscated and given to student services. If the student does not comply, the office will be called and the student will be removed from class.

Hall passes:

You must have a hall pass when leaving the choir room. The yellow agenda sheets will be used until 9/25; after this, only the official school agenda will be accepted as a pass. This must be signed by Mr. Moore, and you must sign out / in on the sheet by the door. If coming from another teacher or the office, you must obtain an official pass that has been signed by your teacher or school official. The school admin have made it clear that hallway traffic must be diminished; it is possible that you may not be given permission to use the restroom, so make every effort to use it before arriving to class. The door will remain locked at all times. A student will be assigned to open the door for you when you return to class.

Strict adherence to the above rules and expectations by all will result in an efficient, and motivating musical experience. Inappropriate behavior may lead to the lowering of grade, removal from activities and/or removal from chorus. This is not to say that we won't have fun or let loose at times! Learn how to "flip the switch" from serious to goofy, and back again :)

Grading Procedure:

50% - performances (including after school rehearsals)

30% - class participation (includes on-task behavior, and being on time)

20% - formative singing tests and other written assignments (concert or MPA rep, sight singing, theory, history, listening and responding, etc.)

Points total for each nine-week grading period will vary according to activities.

To earn the grade of:

"A" The student must earn at least 100-90% of possible points.

"B" The student must earn at least 89-80% of possible points.

"C" The student must earn at least 79-70% of possible points.

"D" The student must earn at least 69-60% of possible points.

"F" The student must earn at or below 59% of possible points.

Attendance:

Absences, whether excused or not, detract from the effectiveness of the performances and require all members to repeat work for the benefit of the absentee. The following regulations apply:

*****New this year: there is a new absence excuse form which must be submitted at least four weeks prior to the expected absence. It is included at the end of this packet*****

Rehearsal or Performance Absence/Tardy:

- ❖ Parents must contact the director regarding an emergency as soon as possible.
- ❖ Previous arrangements must be made with Mr. Moore. All after school rehearsals and performances are mandatory! Quite honestly, it is easy to FAIL choir if you do not show up for these events!
- ❖ If you have multiple performance date conflicts which are unavoidable (particularly for the weekend of MPA), please consider not joining choir this year. We need everyone present in order to be successful, and it is simply not fair to the others who work hard all year and attend the events.
- ❖ Students are expected to schedule work and other activities around choral activities (including caroling dates for Spectrum members)
- ❖ Students and/or parents are responsible for transportation to *most* events. Please see the Travel section for more info.
- ❖ Chorus members who participate in sports events or other non-school activities will be excused at the Director's discretion with prior notification. It is imperative that a 50/50 time split with rehearsals and practices is worked out in advance with the director and coaches. Performances and games will always take priority over the other activity's practices.
- ❖ Students may not remain on campus before or after rehearsal or performance unless engaged in another club/activity, or are specifically told that Mr. Moore will be available.

Missing classroom work and rehearsals:

If you are absent from class, you will not receive daily points for that day. Students will be given an excused grade ONLY if the absence is supported by a note from a parent, or the student is marked excused in SIS. Otherwise, you will be required to do any missing work the following day.

New this year If there were no specific written assignments the day they missed, the student must turn in a three-paragraph paper that explains WHY they missed class, WHAT they missed in that class, and HOW they are going to make up the time they missed (extra practice session with director at school, organizing or cleaning the choir room, volunteering at the food cart at lunch, etc.)

Missing a performance:

Students who miss a performance (regardless of reason), will be required to perform all or selected repertoire from the performance **in front of the class for a grade**. Grading will be based on the quality of the performance! There will be no makeup papers for missing a performance this year!!

Absence Excuse Form All absences must be reported before (or after in case of emergency) the expected absence. The Google form can be found on our website under "Contact."

Travel:

In most cases, students will be required to transport themselves to events that are off campus. Students cannot transport themselves for any travel outside of Palm Beach County, although parents can receive permission to do so. District approved transportation is required for out-of-county trips. Students CANNOT transport other students to any event for any reason.

Parents who wish to drive other students to events must become a volunteer by registering in the main office at JHS. Volunteer drivers must fill out required paperwork, and bring a their photo ID, car

insurance, and must know their license plate number. More information can be found at <http://www.jupiterchoirs.com/volunteering.html>.

Exams:

Students will be tested regularly on their ability to perform and memorize concert and MPA repertoire, sight reading exercises, or variety show choreography. Students may be asked to perform individually, or in small groups. Fear of public performance will not be considered an excuse to be tested. Choir is a performance based class, and students must demonstrate mastery on a regular basis. Written exams may be given periodically to test music theory or history material that is covered throughout the year. Sight singing will be taught regularly and tested individually.

Attire:

You are required to purchase a uniform. If you take care of your uniform it will last. We will be taking orders in the first two weeks of school. We plan on taking photos in October, so all uniform parts must be paid for by September.

❖ Women: \$110

- Shoes: \$40 - Women can purchase black character shoes through the choir this year.
- **Nude colored jazz dance shoes can be purchased** for around \$35 from local dance stores, and are required for the Variety Show (and Spectrum women throughout the year)
- **Spectrum Dresses \$140 - Red show choir dress**

❖ Men: \$118 **Men purchase their own black socks, and will have to hem their own pants.***

- Pants: \$25
- Shirt \$15 (the shirt is a different style this year, so a new one must be purchased)
- Vest \$28
- Black Tie \$10
- Black Shoes \$40

Chorus members are responsible to maintain their uniforms in good condition at all times. Lost or forgotten uniform(s) may result in lowering of grade or not being allowed to perform. If obtaining a uniform causes financial hardship, the parents/guardians of the student involved should contact the director to discuss options. This could include writing a note, sending an email, or calling the choir office at (561) 744-7926.**

Financial Expectations:

Each student is responsible for earning his/her "**Fair Share**" to aid in yearly chorus expenses, including the cost of consultants and choreography, sheet music, printer paper, choir photos, educational resources and the spring choir banquet. The "**Fair Share**" is the shared cost of running the choral program (approximately \$17,000) and must be raised by students and parents. "**Fair Share**" obligation may be met by:

1. participating in choral fundraisers (including ticket sales and program ad sales)
2. out of pocket payments
3. the collection of donations.

"Fair Share" TOTAL quota (\$200) due Wednesday, November 1st 2017

Smaller payments may be brought in before the deadline.

Note: Students will NOT be punished with grades or financial obligations if the student does not meet their fairshare. However, students will not be eligible to go on extra trips to Disney Candlelight, Universal Studios, or any other potential spring trips

Fundraisers:

Fundraisers that apply towards fair share or the spring trip include: Coupon books, Cheesecakes, Tumblers, Discount Cards, Variety Show & Concert PRE-Sale tickets, Variety Show & Spring Concert ads, and donations from family, friends, or businesses. We are always exploring different ideas for fundraising. More info will be distributed to students and will be emailed before each fundraiser takes place. Fundraiser dates are also included on the choir calendar.

Donation forms: Donors will have their names in the Variety Show & all concert programs.

Ad Sales for Program Books:

Advertisements in Variety Show and concert programs and ticket sales (\$10/5). Students use contracts for ad sales. All Variety Show and concert ad and ticket sales money turned in before the show will be credited to students "Fair Share" account.

- \$15.....1/8 page ad
 - \$25.....1/4 page ad
 - \$50.....1/2 page ad
 - \$75.....Full page ad
- Ads due November 15th.

Collecting Money:

Place money (checks preferred!) in a sealed envelope with student's name, class, and list the fundraiser. Money can be turned in directly to the lockbox on the wall outside of the choir office. The box will be checked daily and turned into the office regularly. *No refunds* will be given if a student leaves or is removed from choir for any reason. Again, if collecting money for a fundraiser, it is preferable that you keep the money and turn in a check for the full amount. Checks can be made out to Jupiter High School.

Disney's Candlelight:

If accepted to perform at Disney's Candlelight Processional, students will have to have met 100% of fair share by the November 1st deadline, turned in permission slips, and met all choral obligations.

Candlelight date will be announced. Participation is NOT mandatory. * If Disney assigns an earlier date full fair share is due one week prior. Students who are selected to participate will be required to attend after school rehearsals, and are expected to practice and memorize ALL music on their own time! More information can be found at <http://www.jupiterchoirs.com/candlelight.html>.

Variety Show:

This year's Variety Show will take place for one night only on Friday, May 4th. After MPA, we will be preparing for the Variety Show which includes dance and staging rehearsals. The in-class dance rehearsals will begin in March or April. The after school rehearsals are on the list of dates attached to this handbook.

Please dress appropriately: athletic/dance shoes and pants/shirts you can move in (NOT JEANS) Rehearsals are mandatory. Variety Show parent meetings will take place in April and May in the choir room. Please attend so that we can make this year's show a great success!

Please sign and return with this form by Friday, August 25th for a grade. Bring or attach a check or cash for the uniform (women \$70/men \$77).

*******Sign up for Edline and CHARMS to receive email updates*******

Jupiter High School Choir - Handbook Acknowledgement Form:
Return no later than Friday, September 8 (new date)

By signing this form you acknowledge that: I have read the choral handbook and viewed the calendar at www.jupiterchoirs.com/calendar. I agree to adhere to the rules and regulations of the Jupiter High School choral program. I also agree to do my part to pay fair share and participate in fundraisers. I agree to attend all the dates on the calendar and will check the choir website for any changes. I will communicate regularly and early about rehearsal and performance date conflicts. I will maintain an edline and Charms account so that I may receive updates from the choral department.

Student signature

Parent/guardian signature

Print name _____

Print name _____