



Sixth Grade Choir
Fall 2010-Spring 2011
Troy Middle School
Bonfils Auditorium, Rm. 201
Mrs. Olivia Howard, Choral Director
Email: howardo@troy.k12.mo.us
Website: <http://www.troymusic.com>

Course Description

The Troy Middle School Sixth Grade Choir is open to students entering 6th grade. The course is for students wishing to learn performance/concert skills for a wide variety of music. Students explore the different styles, history, and music theory through vocal music literature.

Course Objectives:

- The student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the principles and techniques used in performance with others.
- The student will be able to demonstrate proper knowledge of music theory and history.
- The student will be able to analyze and describe music in unique and creative ways from listening.
- The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of music from other cultures, different time periods, and different styles.
- The student will be able to demonstrate good stage presence, poise, and proper concert etiquette.
- The student will be able to evaluate various musical performances.
- The student will be able to demonstrate how the arts work with other subject matters and in their daily lives.

Re-Choir-ed Course Materials:

1. Water Bottle (must be clear & filled with 100% H₂O only)
2. Sharpened pencil with eraser
3. Folder with music (provided by Mrs. Howard)
4. Positive Attitude

Classroom/Rehearsal Expectations:

1. Be respectful.
2. Be ready to learn.
3. Be accountable.
4. Be positive.

See attached grid for full list of expectations.

CONSEQUENCES Failure to abide by the Classroom/Rehearsal Expectations will result in lowering of participation points, seating in “Chill Zone” and completing a Think Sheet, time in the Focus Room, and sent to the principal, if the problem persists, for discipline referral.

CONCERT ATTIRE The concert uniform for sixth grade students will consist of khaki pants/skirt, closed toed dress shoes, and TMS choir polo. Each student must purchase a TMS choir polo for \$12.00. We will be ordering these for the students. The form for ordering these polos is attached to the syllabus. It explains all the details for sizes, money, etc. With the TMS choir polo, we will be wearing nice khaki pants. Girls may choose to wear a khaki skirt as it follows the school's dress code. The students must also wear nice dress shoes that are closed toed- NO TENNIS SHOES!!! If the student's choose to wear a shirt underneath their polo, please make it black. Please have the boys tuck their polo shirts in as well. Failure to show up to a performance in appropriate attire will result in not being able to perform and loss of concert performance points. If there are issues with paying for polo shirts or getting any other pieces of the uniform, please see me directly so I can help you.

MUSIC FEES In choir, we do not require a textbook but we do provide students with music and folders in the classroom. Each student will be assigned a number, which will coordinate with his or her music and folder. Loss or damage to the folder or music will require payment from the student to replace what has been lost. I will determine the price needed to replace according to the item that has been lost. Please be responsible!

IMPORTANT DATES There are four scheduled concerts this year. They are October 12, December 14, March 17, and May 17. All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m., but students will be required to be there at 6:15 p.m in their designated rooms. Doors for the concert will not open prior to 6:00 p.m. Other performances may be added and I will contact you about those in a timely manner before they happen. Any other additional performances added past our 4 concerts will be optional and not for a grade. Please check the absence section for policies on absence of a concert.

OTHER MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES Field trips will not be happening this year district wide so other opportunities for our choir will be added as they have been approved. We have a Northeast All District Honor Choir for 6th graders in the spring that several outstanding students will be selected to attend. There will be an opportunity to audition for MCDA Honors Choir in the spring as well for selected students. I will be sending more information about these other opportunities as they arrive and are approved.

Course Management

ATTENDANCE This is very important! In order to receive participation points, you must be in class. You are letting fellow students down by not being there to participate. In choir, there is no warming the bench; everybody plays. ☺

ABSENCES Unexcused absences for class will result in loss of daily participation points. Concert attendance is mandatory as well. Unexcused absences for concerts will result in loss of concert points. Excused absences must be documented to me and I will give you a project to complete to make up for your missed attendance of a concert. I will determine if an absence is excused or unexcused. It is your student's responsibility to bring me a note the

next day they attend class stating the reason they missed the concert. I will only give make-up concert assignments to those students who have a note brought in with an excused absence.

BEGIN ON TIME/RESTROOM It is essential in a performing group to make the most of a rehearsal. Tardy students will be documented and loss of participation points will happen. Students will begin each quarter with a balance of extra credit points for using the restroom during class time. Every trip will deduct points from their “extra credit” pool until none remain. I will encourage students to use their points wisely.

DUE DATES I will be giving due dates when assignments are given. I expect them to be turned in on the due date. Any late work will be counted off by 10% each day it is late. Students will be required to complete all assignments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS We are trying to “go green” in the TMS choral department by minimizing paper use. Please check the Troy Music Website (www.troymusic.com) for information and update. I will also be sending out emails containing important information. If you would like to be on that list, please provide your email on the last syllabus page. I will also put information in the monthly TMS newsletter. Always be informed!

SCHOOL TRAVEL If we do get any opportunities to travel this year, we are representing Troy Middle School. I hold my students to the highest standard and depend on them to represent our school well. When traveling, we should exemplify the best behavior possible and represent our school well. This means in speech, actions, attitude, and communication with other students. It is a privilege to be in this group; show why you are a part of this choir!

ZERO TOLERANCE I adhere to a zero tolerance policy when dealing with violence, alcohol, drugs, and any other non-appropriate school behavior/items in the classroom or off-campus while traveling. If a student is found to not adhere to policies set by the school, after proper actions have been taken, they will be dismissed from the choir.

GRADING

Participation & Attendance- 5 points daily

Performances- 200 points per concert

Performance Reflections- 100 points per reflection

Projects/Assignments/Quizzes- 25-50 points per assignment

Syllabus Contract Returned - 50 points

Please let me know if you have any problems or are in need of assistance. I cannot wait to see what this school year holds!!

Respectively,

Mrs. Olivia Howard

6th Grade Choir Syllabus Contract

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS
PAPER BY **MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2010** TO
MRS. HOWARD.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received information contained in the Troy Middle School Choir Syllabus for the 2010-2011 school year. I also understand that successful participation is not only a part of my child's grade in choir, but also a prerequisite for his/her participation in other optional activities with the Troy Middle School Choirs.

Please sign below to indicate that you have been made aware of these policies for choir for the 2010-2011 school year.

Student's Name (Print)

Parent's/Guardians Name (Print)

Student's Signature/Date

Parent's/Guardian's Signature/Date

Class Period

I would like to be included on the email list for TMS choir related announcements.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Email: _____