

MUSIC

Concert Choir

Grade level: 9-12 Elective

Concert Choir is open to students who enjoy singing and have an appreciation for learning choral music literature of various styles, cultures, and languages.

Expectations include concert attendance, daily participation, continued progress in vocal technique and development through voice lessons, and attendance at outside arts events. Students participate by singing in a large group ensemble. Singers develop correct vocal techniques by incorporating vocal warm-ups, physical stretches, solfege, sight singing, and music theory into daily rehearsals. The repertoire includes choral literature that teaches the mechanics of vocal production, builds musicianship, and develops an ability to blend and sing in harmony, which demonstrates the aesthetics of music. The choir participates in three major concerts throughout the year, school chapel services, community events, and the MSHSL Large Group Music Contest.

Honors Concert Choir

Grade level: 10-12 Elective

Prerequisite: Director's recommendation

Honors Choir students are members of the Concert Choir. These advanced singers have reached an outstanding level of musicianship and serve in leadership roles.

These students study individually using advanced solo literature to be performed at the MSHSL music contest.

Chamber Singers

Grade level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Concert choir member; audition

Chamber Singers are a small balanced group of vocal singers selected by audition, usually selected from the Concert Choir. Rehearsal times occur during the school day but special practices may be called outside of the school day if needed, so a high degree of commitment is expected. The Chamber Singers perform for school events, chapels, concerts, community events, sporting events, and the MSHSL Music Contest.

Concert Orchestra

Grade level: 9-12 Elective

This course has students perform daily in large group and small ensembles. Students work on improving their musical skills for string instruments by playing a variety of musical styles, improvising, composing, music listening, and incorporating music theory and music history. The orchestra participates in three major concerts throughout the year, school events, community events and the MSHSL Large Group music contest. Advanced students in orchestra have the opportunity to also participate in Chamber Strings.

Honors Concert Orchestra

Grade level: 10-12 Elective

Prerequisite: Recommendation of director

Honors Orchestra students are members of the Concert Orchestra. They are selected by audition. These advanced strings students have reached an outstanding level of musicianship and serve in leadership roles in their respective sections. These students fulfill all the requirements of Concert Orchestra and also participate in Chamber Strings as part of the requirement of this honors course. These students study privately and are also required to perform a solo at the MSHSL music contest.

Concert Band

Grade level: 9-12 Elective

Concert Band's focus is the continued development of each student's musicianship and musical knowledge. All Concert Band students are exposed to the study of serious concert music and lighter popular arrangements as well as elements of pep band, marching band, and solo/ensemble contest. They are also offered the opportunity to participate in the Minnesota Music Listening Contest and Jazz Band. The band performs regularly at concerts, athletic events, assemblies, parades, ceremonies, and chapel services.

Honors Concert Band

Grade level: 10-12 Elective

Prerequisite: Recommendation of director

In addition to the requirements of Concert Band, students enrolled in Honors Concert Band must maintain a very high level of musicianship, engage in additional practice hours, and perform a solo at the solo/ensemble contest. They must also take a leadership role in the band and design at least one major project under the supervision of the director.

Jazz Band

Grade level: 9-12 Elective

Prerequisite: Audition or approval of director (open to saxes, trombones, trumpets, piano, guitar, bass, and percussion)

Jazz Band meets on an arranged schedule both inside and outside of the school day. Music is selected and performed with variety of style and improvisation in mind. The Jazz Band performs at each of the three concerts during the year as well as for solo/ensemble contest and various other events.