JOHNSBURG HIGH SCHOOL   
CHORAL HANDBOOK 2017-2018



***“Refining individuals, peers and the world through music.”***

Mr. Michael Claver. Director of Choirs.

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2002 W. Ringwood Road Johnsburg, IL 60051

**Vision**

**Johnsburg Choirs: “Refining individuals, peers and the world through music.”**

**Program Objectives**

* Improve the functional understanding of one’s own vocal instrument. Additionally, the function of the voice within an ensemble
* Improve one’s literacy in music, including intervallic understandings, music reading, understanding of vocabulary and symbols.
* Improve one’s artistic understanding.
  + Discussing music with correct vocabulary. Interpreting sounds and text in a thoughtful manner.
  + Training one’s ear to discern correct and incorrect acquisition of performance
  + To create both compositions and musical experience that challenge the student’s artistic understanding and encourage certain growth and refinement.
* Understanding one’s role in a community, and how to further contribute to the betterment of the whole.
* Engaging in a variety of performance opportunities that expand each individual’s horizon.

**Extra-Curricular Opportunities**

**Auditions for ILMEA District 7 Festival**

Students in 10th-12th grade will be invited to audition for the ILMEA District 7 Honor Festival. Students must prepare two specific pieces of literature, numerous skills (scales and triads), and will be asked to perform two specific sight reading examples. Multiple rehearsals will be held before school, prior to the audition. Mr. Claver is also available upon appointment to assist with preparatory efforts. Please note, theses auditions also serve entry into the All-State Chorus and All-State Honor Chorus. All-State opportunities are only available to Juniors and Seniors.

**IHSA Solo and Ensemble**

All students are invited to participate in the IHSA Solo and Ensemble Competition. Those performing solo pieces MUST have their pieces approved by Mr. Claver by Mid-January. If a student wishes to perform a solo work but is not in private voice lessons, they must meet with Mr. Claver for a minimum of two, 20-minute voice lessons. These can be served before or after school, or one of Mr. Claver’s free periods.

**Grading**

Daily Participation - 20%

Quizzes & Tests - 15%

Recordings - 25%

Concert Participation - 30%

Work Habits - 10%

Semester Final

**Concert Procedures**

In order to participate in concerts, students must be present at least one half of the school day, in accordance with JHS policy. If a student cannot attend a concert, their absence is characterized as excused or unexcused.

The following reasons may qualify an excused absence

* Illness
* Observance of a religious holiday or ceremony
* Death in the family
* Family Emergency
* Other Situations beyond the control of the student

If a student knows they will be absent from a concert, the student should follow the procedures described in Student Activity Conflict.

If a student encounters emergency, the student or parent/guardian, must contact Mr. Claver via email or telephone before the start of a concert. Once the student returns class, they must meet with Mr. Claver to create a plan to supplement the missed concert points.

The following reasons may qualify an unexcused absence

* Work
* Other JHS activities(unless pre-approved by Mr. Claver)
* Lack of Transportation
* You “forgot.”
* Etc, etc, etc.

\*If the student is unexcused from the concert and does not perform, the lost points may NOT be supplemented.

**Students should plan on arriving 1 hour before the initiation of a concert, unless otherwise directed by Mr. Claver. Students are expected to arrive promptly at the give call time. Therefore, for every minute the student is late, they will lose the equal amount of points.**

**Concert Attire**

JHS has the honor to perform in high quality choral robes. However, students need to adhere to the following clothing guidelines:

Black Slacks or Skirt(if a student chooses to wear a skirt, it must be paired with black tights)

Black Dress Socks or Knee Highs

Black Dress Shoes, Flats, or Heels(may not exceed 2 inches).

A Solid-Colored Dress Shirt/Blouse

**JHS Student Activity Conflict**

JHS encourages students to explore their varied interests. Because of this, students may encounter conflicts with extracurricular activities. In these situations, students must communicate any potential calendar conflicts with Mr. Claver as soon as possible. Students must send Mr. Claver an email explaining the potential conflict a minimum of 2 weeks before the scheduled event. If a student does not properly communicate the issue with all involved parties, they will receive an unexcused absence for the event In these situations, Mr. Claver, the student, and the addition coach, sponsor, teacher, etc, will create a “fair and flexible” plan that allows the most effective experience for the student.

**Classroom Procedures**

1. Students will enter the classroom, and place belongings at the front of the classroom.
2. Students will retrieve their choir folder from the cabinet, and take care of any pre-class business(i.e. Using the Washroom, Filling a Water Bottle, Turning in Assignments.
3. When the bell rings, Students should be in their seats, prepared to begin rehearsal.
4. Students shall come to class with all materials listed below, every day.
5. Throughout the rehearsal, whenever a student is singing, they must be standing.

**Classroom Materials**

1. Choir Folder, with given repertoire. All students are responsible for music distributed, and should only mark in pencil.
2. Pencil(s) :D
3. Sightreading Packet
4. A water bottle, if desired.
5. A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

**Choral Council**

This year, students have an opportunity to run for the “Choral Council.” This group will be comprised of two students from each ensemble, as voted on by their peers. Students will serve as class leaders, as well as Choral Ambassadors for the Johnsburg Community. Further information will be given early 1st quarter.

2017-2018 Choral Calendar

**(All Bold events are Mandatory)**

August 14-16 Madrigal Camp 8-12

August 18 Gator Bowl Performance

August 21 Madrigal Rehearsal 1-4

Sept 17-18 Millikin University Vocal Fest

Sept TBA Music Boosters, 7PM

Oct. 2 ILMEA District 7 Honor Choir Auditions, Crystal Lake SHS

Oct TBA Music Boosters Meeting, 7PM

**Oct 11 Combined Choir Rehearsal, 6-7:30PM**

**Oct 12 All-District Choral at JHS 7 PM**

**Oct 21**  **Barbershop Festival of Stars, Grant Community HS**

Nov TBA Music Boosters Meeting, 7PM

Nov 9-12 JHS Fall Play

Nov 11 ILMEA District 7 Festival

Dec 2-3 Madrigal Dinner at JHS

Dec. TBA Music Boosters Meeting, 7pm

**Dec 6 Combined Choir Rehearsal, 6-7:30PM**

**Dec 7 JHS Kaleidoscope Concert 7 PM**

Dec TBA Music Boosters Meeting, 7pm

Jan TBA Music Boosters Meeting, 7pm

Feb TBA Music Boosters Meeting, 7PM

**March TBA Bowl O’ Arts**

March 3 IHSA Solo & Ensemble Contest

**March 14 Combined Choir Rehearsal, 6-7:30PM**

**March 15 March Concert Concert at JHS**

March TBAMusic Boosters Meeting, 7PM

April TBA Music Boosters Meeting, 7PM

April 14th IHSA Choral Organizational Contest(Varsity Choir Only)

April 13-22 JHS SPRING MUSICAL

**May - Fri/Sat Trills and Thrills**

May TBA Music Boosters Meeting, 7PM

**May 9 Combined Choir Rehearsal, 6-7:30PM**

**May 10 Senior Choral Concert at JHS 7 PM**

May 12-13 1st Annual JHS Sketch Festival

JHS Choral Handbook and Information Page

Student Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Grade\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s)

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Parent/Guardian Email

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Acknowledgment of Participation

By signing this, you acknowledge and will adhere to the procedures, rules, and guidelines outlined in this handbook.

This page is to be filled out in completion and returned to Mr. Claver by the end of the school day on Friday, August 25th. This is a graded assignment and will count towards the student’s Daily Participation grade.

Student Signature/Date Signed

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Parent/Guardian Signature/Date Signed

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