



Muscatine High School Vocal Music Department

2017 - 2018

Choir Handbook

Curricular Choirs

Freshman Choir

Concert Choir

Treble Choir

A Cappella Choir

Extra-Curricular Choirs

"River City Rhythm" Show Choir

"Encore!" Show Choir

Jazz, Etc.

"Solid Harmony" Men's Ensemble

(other EC groups may be made available during the year)

Note: There are forms to be signed at the end of this handbook. All students and parents/guardians are expected to read this document thoroughly and sign the forms if they agree to all expectations and requirements.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Muscatine High School Vocal Music Department are to ensure students are able to do the following, based on the National Association for Music Education National Standards:

- Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
- Reading and notating music.
- Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.
- Evaluating music and music performances.
- Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

MHS CHORAL ENSEMBLES

CURRICULAR CHOIRS

FRESHMAN CHOIR – Directed by Mrs. Burford. Students in the ninth grade wishing to participate in choir are automatically placed in this ensemble. Required performances include but are not limited to the four school concerts. Additional performances or outside school rehearsals may be scheduled with sufficient advance notice. Students are encouraged to participate in the ISHMA Solo/Ensemble Festival and the Ninth Grade OPUS Honor Choir auditions. Freshman Choir meets one period daily (3rd period: 10:10 – 10:59am) opposite Concert Choir.

CONCERT CHOIR – Directed by Mr. Ryan. This is a mixed ensemble made up of students in grades 10-12. No audition is required to be a member of Concert Choir. Required performances include but are not limited to the four school concerts. Additional performances or outside school rehearsals may be scheduled with sufficient advance notice. Students are encouraged to participate in the ISHMA Solo/Ensemble Festival. Concert Choir meets one period daily (3rd period: 10:10 – 10:59am) opposite Freshman Choir.

TREBLE CHOIR – Directed by Mrs. Burford. This select ensemble is made up of students in grades 10-12. Membership in Treble Choir is based on auditions held the previous spring. Required performances include but are not limited to the four school concerts. Additional performances or outside school rehearsals may be scheduled with sufficient advance notice. Students are encouraged to participate in the ISHMA Solo/Ensemble Festival and IHSMA All-State Choir auditions. Treble Choir meets one period daily (2nd period: 9:16-10:05am) opposite A Cappella Choir.

A CAPPELLA CHOIR – Directed by Mr. Ryan. This is a mixed select ensemble made up of students in grades 10-12. Membership in A Cappella Choir is based on auditions held the previous spring. Required performances include but are not limited to the four school concerts, IHSMA Solo/Small Ensemble Contest and the MHS Commencement Exercises. Additional performances or outside school rehearsals may be scheduled with sufficient advance notice. Students are encouraged to participate in the Iowa All-State Choir auditions. A Cappella Choir meets one period daily (2nd period: 9:16-10:05am) opposite Treble Choir.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

Each curricular choir student is assessed a dollar amount determined by the Muscatine School District based on the costs of cleaning and repair of the issued apparel (robes, dress, or tuxedo) that students wear for concerts. Waived and/or reduced fees are available for students on the Free/Reduced Lunch program. Checks need to be made out to the MHS Registrar rather than the Vocal Music program. Do not make checks out to the Vocal Music Program for robe fees. You will be assessed this fee at registration or notified by the school district when payment is due. Students are encouraged to secure a pair of black dress shoes for choir performances, but these may be borrowed from the program if needed.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CHOIRS

Note: Students wishing to be members of any extra-curricular choir must also be a member of a curricular choir to participate. Letter points are awarded to those who participate in extracurricular choir activities.

"RIVER CITY RHYTHM" SHOW CHOIR, COMBO, & CREW – The Varsity Show Choir is open to women in grades 10-12 and men in grades 9-12. Membership is based on auditions held the previous spring. Rehearsals will be held Monday evenings and Thursday mornings. Additional rehearsals will take place on weekends to work with choreographers. Required performances will include school concerts, the Dessert Concert, Show Choir Invitationals, and other performance opportunities as they become available. All show choir members will be responsible for purchasing all costume items, including hosiery, shoes and jewelry. Fundraising opportunities will be offered in order to collectively reduce the price of these items. Combo and crew are not required to purchase costumes, but must be dressed in all black for performances.

"ENCORE!" SHOW CHOIR, COMBO & CREW - The Prep Show Choir is open to all students. Membership is based on auditions held in the previous spring. Rehearsals will be held Monday evenings and Friday mornings. Additional rehearsals will take place on weekends to work with choreographers. Required performances will include Preview Show(s), Dessert Concert, Show Choir Invitationals, and other performance opportunities as they become available. All show choir members will be responsible for purchasing all costume items, including hosiery, shoes and jewelry. Fundraising opportunities will be offered in order to collectively reduce the price of these items. Combo and crew are not required to purchase costumes, but must be dressed in all black for performances.

JAZZ, ETC. - This an elite ensemble that is open to all choir students and will run during only the second and third quarters of the school year. Membership is based on auditions held in the Fall. A rehearsal schedule will be determined by the availability of the group members. Additional rehearsals may be scheduled with sufficient notice. Required performances will include school concerts, Holiday Stroll, Dessert Concert, ISHMA Jazz Choir Festival, and other performance opportunities as they become available. Performance attire will be selected by the director and group members. Attendance at rehearsals is crucial and an expectation of all members.

"SOLID HARMONY" BARBERSHOP ENSEMBLE – This elite ensemble is open to all male choir students and will run during the last three quarters of the year. Membership is based on director discretion and/or auditions. A rehearsal schedule will be determined based upon the availability of the group members. Additional rehearsals will be scheduled with sufficient notice. Required performances will include school concerts, Holiday Stroll, Dessert Concert, Singing Valentines, IHSMA Solo/Small Ensemble Contest in April, a nursing home tour in May, and other performance opportunities as they become available, such as sporting events. Performance attire will be selected by the director and group members.

IOWA CHORAL DIRECTOR'S ASSOCIATION POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING SACRED LITERATURE IN THE CHORAL CLASSROOM

It is the position of the Iowa Choral Directors Association that the inclusion of significant sacred and secular music is imperative to facilitate a total music experience for Iowa's youth. From a global perspective, choral music offers a wealth of literature that reflects and supports diverse cultures, traditions and people, as well as compositional styles of all eras. To achieve any educational objective, the quality of repertoire is of paramount importance.

While public school teaching objectives and criteria for repertoire selection should not support religious indoctrination, the selection of quality music will invariably include music with a sacred text within its broad scope. Music without sacred text, architecture minus cathedral, or painting without scriptural themes is incomplete, even from a secular point of view. Therefore, to exclude sacred music from the public school curriculum would hamper student as well as teacher opportunities in gleaning artistic understanding and aesthetic expression.

"Sacred" refers to all manner of religious belief and not only to the Judeo-Christian teachings. The term "study" includes not only classroom instruction but public performances as well. Prior to the 17th century, almost all significant choral music was associated with a sacred text. "Secular" refers to non-religious considerations. Since choral music with a sacred text comprises such a substantial portion of the artistic repertoire from the choral medium and the history of music, it should retain an important place in the music education of Iowa's youth.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

RULES/EXPECTATIONS

WHEN YOU ENTER THE CHOIR ROOM, YOU WILL, WITHOUT EXCEPTION,
ALWAYS ACT APPROPRIATELY AND WITH RESPECT.

This means:

- Be on time and prepared for each rehearsal.
- Before rehearsal, retrieve necessary music and materials and take your seat.
- Put forth your best effort.

Those students who show disrespect or refuse to participate may be asked to leave. If this occurs, the student must report to the Assistant Principal's Office immediately.

Also:

- A pencil is required for all rehearsals. It is recommended that a pencil be kept in your folder.
- Only water is allowed into the choir rehearsal. Anything other than water must be put away and saved for after class. This includes food and gum.
- If phones or other electronic devices are used during class without specific permission from the instructor, the device will be confiscated. In Mrs. Burford's classroom, cell phones will be put in hanging pockets before rehearsal begins for safekeeping during rehearsal and may be picked up after students are dismissed.

GRADING

Your final grade will be determined by the following:

- 40 % Assessments
- 25 % Employability Skills
- 20 % Practice
- 15 % Final

ASSESSMENTS

Students will be assessed in a variety of ways, both individually and in groups. Assessments and/or assignments may include any or all of the following: lessons, worksheets, essays, quizzes, tests and projects, online and in the classroom. All choirs will have a final exam at the conclusion of each semester, which will constitute 15% of your final grade. The directors will determine any and all material on this final exam.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Employability skills grades are defined as:

1. Timeliness/Punctuality - rehearsals and concerts
2. Preparedness - have all materials needed for class (pencil, music, etc.)
3. Attitude/Respect/Behavior - treating others with respect, having a positive influence on others and on the rehearsal, being productive and participating.

VOICE LESSONS

Voice lessons are a required part of the Choral Music curriculum at Muscatine High School and allow the instructor to individually assess each student as to their abilities and individual needs. There will be five to six lessons per quarter. Most students have rotating voice lessons. This means the student will be taken out of a class on the same day of the week once a week to have a voice lesson for fifteen minutes. Each week, the student will be taken out of a different class so no one class is being missed weekly. For example: if Jon has a lesson on Tuesday during fourth period this week, then he will have a lesson next Tuesday during fifth period, the next Tuesday during sixth period, and so on. Those students with study hall(s) (excluding second and third period study halls) or no class during periods 4 - 7 will have their lessons during this time every week. Mrs. Burford and Mr. Ryan prefer to plan during first period and rehearse during second and third periods, making periods 1-3 unavailable (If a student is needing a first period lesson, an exception may be made). As a result, a student may still be on the rotating voice lesson schedule

VOICE LESSONS, cont'd

even if they have a study hall during first, second, or third periods. Students who are unable to complete a lesson during the school day may request a before- or after-school lesson. These needs will be met as much as is possible.

Students are given a lesson pass at the beginning of each quarter that lists all dates and times of their voice lessons for the quarter. They are to show this pass to their teachers well ahead of time to allow for any modifications or make up time needed as a result of their brief absence in class. Instructors are asked by Mr. Ryan and Mrs. Burford to check for a pass if a student has a lesson. If the student does not have a pass, they should not be allowed to leave class. If they lose their pass, they must print another one off by visiting www.muscatinevocalmusic.org and finding their pass on the "Resources and Links" page under "Voice Lesson Resources".

MISSED LESSON POLICIES

If a voice lesson is missed, the student will have one week from the day of the originally scheduled lesson to make it up for full credit. The make-up lesson will take place during Enrichment time. A sign up sheet will be posted weekly for students to sign up for their makeup lesson.

Note: *Students must sign up for a make up lesson at least one day ahead of time to be guaranteed a lesson.

*Students in the same ensemble may sign up for a make up lesson together.

*Students in different ensembles may not make up lessons together.

*Students of Mrs. Burford's may not make up lessons with Mr. Ryan or visa versa without permission from both instructors.

If a student fails to make up the lesson in one week's time from the originally scheduled lesson, they will have an additional week to make up the lesson for 60% credit. If the lesson is still not made up within two weeks' time from the originally scheduled lesson, the student will receive a zero in the grade book for the missed lesson.

If a student is unavailable during Enrichment time, a make up lesson may be given another time during the school day, before, or after school. These times will be reserved for those who are truly unavailable during Enrichment time, not for convenience or preference sake.

If a student does not feel comfortable missing a particular class or is unable to leave class for their lesson due to a test/quiz or other situation, Mrs. Burford and/or Mr. Ryan may choose to confirm any conflicts with the teacher and the student will be allowed to make up the lesson for full credit within one week of the originally scheduled lesson time. For example: Jon has a lesson during fourth period but is taking a test or quiz or feeling behind in that class and, as a result, is unable to attend his voice lesson. He must now email his director informing them of the conflict and complete a make up lesson by the following Tuesday to receive full credit for the lesson.

If a student is more than five minutes late to their lesson, the lesson will be canceled and they will need to sign up for a make up lesson. Extensions will not be given if a lesson is canceled due to tardiness and the deadline for the make up lesson is missed.

Students will not be penalized for forgetting their lesson. Whatever the reason for missing the lesson, the student will have one week to make it up for full credit and an additional week to make it up for 60% credit.

If a student is ill the day of their lesson, they will have one week from the day of their originally scheduled lesson to make it up for full credit. Chronic illness/absence situations will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

IMPORTANT: Make-up lessons during Enrichment time will fill up very quickly. Only four people per Enrichment period are allowed to make up a lesson for Mrs. Burford at any one time. You are NOT guaranteed a make-up lesson time during Enrichment, nor is it guaranteed that Mr. Ryan or Mrs. Burford will always be available when you want or need to make up a lesson. Deadlines for make-up lessons **WILL NOT BE EXTENDED** due to Mrs. Burford or Mr. Ryan being unavailable to give a make-up lesson outside of your regular lesson time. It is best for you to attend your regularly scheduled lesson, if at all possible. When it is not, you must communicate with us immediately for us to best help you!

MHS VOCAL MUSIC BOOSTERS

The Vocal Music Booster Organization exists to support the Vocal Music Department through fundraising and service opportunities. Parents of students enrolled in vocal music are encouraged to actively participate by attending monthly meetings, typically held on the first Thursday of each month. See calendar or email Mr. Ryan or Mrs. Burford for specific dates. The Boosters make significant contributions to the vocal program. *We welcome and need parents to get involved and support our students!*

ATTENDANCE/PERFORMANCE POLICY

CURRICULAR CHOIRS

Students participating in curricular choirs must adhere to MHS Attendance Policies. If your child is absent from school, their absence must be cleared within 48 hours of the day they were not present. Students must complete any assignments they missed while absent. When a student is absent from choir, it is their responsibility to see a director and find out what assignment(s) may have been missed. If assignments and/or lessons are not made up, students will receive a zero for those missing assignments/lessons.

Students in curricular choirs must be in attendance at all required concerts. Letter points are awarded for each curricular concert in which students perform. When conflicts occur, the director should be notified by phone or email as soon as the conflict is known. If no advance warning is given, parents/guardians have 48 hours from the day the student was not present to clear the absence with an email, phone call/message, or written note. This explanation must be signed by parents/guardians.

The directors will work to accommodate conflicts that arise from other school activities. School policy indicates that a performance of any kind takes precedence over a practice of any kind, state events have priority over conference, district, or local events, and, in the event of a competition conflicting with a performance, the student may choose which event they will attend, without punishment. If the student chooses not to attend a performance due to a school competition conflict, they may be assigned make up work in place of the performance. Work is NOT an excuse for missing a concert. Students who have an excused absence from a concert may be required to complete make-up work as well in order to receive credit or the grade will be omitted and credit will not be earned. Students who are unexcused from concerts will not be allowed to complete a make-up assignment and will receive a zero for the concert grade without exception. Students absent from a performance for any reason forfeit any and all letter points associated with that performance.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CHOIRS

Students chosen for extra-curricular groups must adhere to the schedule set up for that group. We ask that all students inform directors well in advance of known absences. Absences will be defined as excused or unexcused according to the MHS Attendance Policy. School policy indicates that competitions have priority over performances, a performance of any kind takes precedence over a practice of any kind, and that state events have priority over conference, district, or local events. Work is NOT an excuse for missing a performance or rehearsal. School activities will be worked around as much as possible. One aspect of extracurricular groups is performance. A student's commitment to these groups is made evident by attendance at rehearsals and those performances. These groups will operate under a three-strike attendance policy. This policy allows three strikes per semester. At three strikes, the director(s) may dismiss the student from the ensemble. Expenses, such as for costuming or music, will not be refunded. A strike may be defined as any of the following:

- Poor attitude/misbehavior/lack of participation
- Unexcused absence
- Tardiness (two tardies = one unexcused absence)
- Unexcused absence from a PERFORMANCE = two strikes

CONCERT ATTIRE

All curricular choirs will wear school-provided robes, tuxedos, or dresses at concerts. If you have a question whether or not an item of clothing is appropriate, ask at least one day before the performance. All items worn must adhere to the MCSD Dress Code Policy. Failure to comply with the following concert attire requirements will result in the loss of 50 out of 200 total points offered.

The following attire is required to be worn underneath the choir robes:

- | <u>MEN</u> | <u>WOMEN</u> |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black <u>T-shirt</u>• Black dress slacks• Black socks• Black <u>dress shoes</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black <u>T-shirt</u>• Shorts/Skirt that does not go past the hem of the robe OR black dress slacks• If wearing hose, neutral/flesh colored only• <u>Black</u> closed-toed dress shoes (flats recommended) |

The following items are not to be worn for performances:

- Collared shirts under robes (collars do not fit under the robe and stole)
- Casual black shoes (TOMS, tennis shoes, flip flops, etc.)
- Brightly-colored bows/hair accessories
- Wide cloth headbands

If you do not own black dress shoes, you may borrow a pair of shoes from the choral program. This needs to be arranged at least one day in advance of the performance.

Please make sure that hair is restrained in such a way that it does not cover your face during performances.

Members of A Capella and Treble Choir will wear either a tux or a dress for performances. This attire is provided by the choral program. If a student is not comfortable wearing the issued attire, this must be addressed as soon as possible with the director and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

CHOIR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

The director will potentially select a choir leadership team for each choir with input from the students. This choir leadership team will be responsible for assisting the director(s) with clerical duties in rehearsal (distributing/collecting music, taking attendance, etc.), serving as a liaison to the director on behalf of the choir members, organizing robes following concerts, and helping with the end of the year Choir Banquet, along with any other duties that may arise during the course of the year. Letter points will be awarded to those who assist with the choral program.

MHS VOCAL AWARDS GUIDELINES

OUTSTANDING CHORAL MUSICIAN - This is presented to up to two senior choir member who have demonstrated outstanding ability and leadership within the choirs, as exhibited through membership and cooperation as a member of the choral ensembles. The directors select this award with input from students.

OUTSTANDING VOCALIST - This is presented to up to two senior choir members who have shown outstanding talent as a solo performer over the course of his/her MHS vocal career. Criteria may include, but are not limited to, solo performances at concerts, in the community, participating in the Iowa All-State Choir audition process, and participating in IHSMA Solo/Small Ensemble festival. The directors select this award with input from students.

CHORAL SERVICE AWARD - This is presented to up to two senior choir members who have shown dedication to the choral program at MHS in areas other than or in addition to performances. Areas of service may include, but are not limited to, backstage and production work, choral library assistance, membership on the leadership team, or extra work behind the scenes. The directors select this award with input from students.

AWARDS POINTS SYSTEM

Points	Activity or Activity Type
250	Each <u>required</u> MHS Choir performance (Concerts)
25	Attendance at summer choir camp
50	Attends regular piano and/or voice lessons (50 pts. each, at least ten lessons, as verified by instructor)
400	Member of RCR, Encore!, or Show Band (add 50 if in both show choir and show band)
15	Dessert Concert act, Talent Show act, and other community performances (15 pts. for each performance, verified by director; does not include school ensemble performance)
150	All-State Choir audition
50	OPUS Honor Choir audition
25	Solo or Ensemble performance (vocal and/or piano) at IHSMA Solo/Small Ensemble Festival (excludes required entries)
5	Each national anthem performance (50 points maximum)
50	Participation in the Iowa All-State Choir Festival
50	Participation in the OPUS Honor Choir Festival
25	Participation in collegiate Honor Choirs (50 points maximum)
25	Ensemble (choir) role in school musical
50	Supporting role in school musical
75	Principal role (lead) in school musical
5	Vocal solo/small ensemble or instrumentalist in a school choir concert
5	Performance for community or church choir (5 points per performance, max. 50 pts.)
10	Working backstage or operating sound system during concerts (specify concert(s), date(s))
50 - 100	Membership in Jazz Ensemble, SH, or other school vocal ensemble (per ensemble)
--	(Other categories or credits may be awarded as deemed appropriate by the director)

CHOIR LETTER - This is presented to all choir students who meet or exceed the amount of points required to letter during the academic year.

SERVICE BARS - This is presented to all choir students who meet or exceed the amount of points required to earn a letter for the academic year and have previously received a choir letter.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE STAR - This is presented to all choir students who have earned 500 points beyond that which is required to earn a choir letter.

SOLO/ENSEMBLE MEDALS - *These award medals must be purchased by the student.* Any soloist or ensemble earning a Division I, II, or III rating at the IHSMA Solo/Ensemble Festival may purchase a medal. Students may purchase one medal per event.

The number of award points needed for a year's award recognition will be calculated via the number of events during the year at which attendance is graded. This number is determined by multiplying the number of concerts by the 250 points each concert is worth, plus 100 points accumulated in other categories throughout the year. This number may vary yearly depending upon the activity of the ensembles. Award points are not cumulative. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of letter points throughout the year on a letter point sheet they will receive at the beginning of the school year. The deadline for this point sheet will be announced in April.

For 2017-2018, in order to letter, the student must earn one hundred points in addition to the points earned for required curricular performances. To earn a service star, choir members must accumulate at least 500 points in addition to the letter. To double letter, choir members must earn 1,100 points in addition to a choir letter.

For students to earn awards, they must be choir members for the entire year, with the exception of transfer students. If you performed at the Awards Concert in Spring 2017, you will be awarded 250 points for the 2017-2018 year. No allowance is made for excused or unexcused absences from performances. Additional points may be accumulated in service to the choral program. Members of extra-curricular ensembles removed or resigning from the group during the course of the year will forfeit any and all points earned by their previous membership in that group. Any

exceptional medical circumstances will be handled on an individual basis and in accordance with MHS administration.

EXTRA OPPORTUNITIES

The MHS Vocal Music Department has annual opportunities for extra performances, honors, and projects. Here is a short list of past, present, and future opportunities. Students will be notified in class when these opportunities are available:

- National Anthem Singers
- IHSMA Solo/Ensemble Festival
- Social Events (Holiday Stroll, etc.)
- Service Projects
- Official Choral Librarian
- Honor Choirs
- Concert Features (Solos, Duets, Ensembles)
- Spring Musical

STUDENT FIELD TRIP CONDUCT CODE

During any choir trip, my conduct will be such to promote an excellent perception of students and schools in the Muscatine Community School District. I agree to follow these nine conduct rules:

1. My behavior at all times will reflect a positive image.
2. I will keep the field trip advisor(s) informed of my whereabouts and activities at all times.
3. If I experience any accident, injury, or illness during the field trip, I will report to the advisor(s) immediately. I will do the same if I see someone else injured or ill.
4. I am expected to observe the curfew if the trip is overnight.
5. If I steal or vandalize while on the field trip, my parent(s)/guardian(s) and I are expected to pay for the damage/product stolen.
6. I will not purchase, have in my possession, consume, or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs at any time.
7. I will not purchase, have in my possession, or use any tobacco product.
8. I will follow all directions given by the advisor(s) and will do so with courtesy and respect.
9. I will follow all school rules, as well as state and federal laws.

I know I will be subject to disciplinary action and my parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified if I violate any part of the Conduct Code. If I violate any part of the conduct code and the District determines I must return to Muscatine, all expenses incurred (including a chaperone if deemed necessary by the District) will be paid for by my parent(s)/guardian(s) and me.

2017-2018 ACT TEST DATES

September 9, 2017 (Pre-All State Choir Rehearsal)***

October 28, 2017 (Fall Play Dress/Tech Rehearsal)**

December 9, 2017**

February 10, 2018 (SE Polk Jazz Band Festival)**

April 14, 2018 (Solo/Small Ensemble Contest)***

June 9, 2018***

*Muscatine High School

**Muscatine High School and Muscatine Community College

***Muscatine Community College

These dates are for the Muscatine area only. Other dates may be available at alternative sites. Please plan ahead to take the ACT on a date without any conflicts.

MCS D/MHS CONDUCT CODE

Any students found in violation of the MCS D/MHS conduct code will be handled in accordance with school policy and administration.

EQUITY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Muscatine Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, age, veteran status or disability in its educational programs, activities or employment practices. If you believe you have (or your child has) been discriminated against or treated unjustly, please visit <http://www.muscatine.k12.ia.us/equity/> to receive contact information for our Activities/Athletics Director and Human Resources.

FORMS TO BE SIGNED & RETURNED

We ask that all parents/guardians please read through this entire handbook with their student. The MHS Vocal Music Handbook Acknowledgement Form must be agreed to, signed, and returned to the director. The form is at the end of this handbook, and it includes the Student Field Trip Waiver, Parent/Guardian Field Trip Waiver, Website Release, & MHS Vocal Music Email Updates information. This form is to be returned to us by Friday, September 1st, 2017.

2017-2018 VOCAL MUSIC CALENDAR

NOTE: Booster meetings typically occur on the first Thursday evening of each month in the choir room. Please consult the Vocal Music website (www.muscatinevocalmusic.org) for exact dates and times.

	Day	Date	Time	Event/Activity
	Sat	26-Aug	9:00am - 1:00pm	OPUS Learning Session (grades 5 – 9)
	Sat	9-Sep	9:00am - Noon	Pre-All-State Workshop @ MHS
	Fri	22-Sep	Midnight	OPUS Audition Recordings Due
	Sat	7-Oct	All Day	Real Men Sing @ Wartburg College, Waverly, IA
	Sat	21-Oct	All Day	All-State Auditions @ Washington HS
*	Mon	16-Oct	7:00pm	Fall Concert at MHS
	Thurs	16-Nov	All Day	Opus Honor Choir Festival @ ISU
	Fri./Sat	11/17, 18	All Day	IHSMA All-State Music Festival @ ISU
	Fri	1-Dec	TBA	Holiday Stroll
***	Fri	8-Dec	TBA	Winter Glow: An Evening of Strings and Song
(*)	Mon	11-Dec	7:30pm	Holiday Concert (Freshman, Concert, Jazz, SH)
	Thurs	8-Feb	7:00pm	16th Annual Dessert Concert
	Mon	5-Feb	TBA	IHSMA State Vocal Jazz Contest
*	Mon	26-Feb	7:00pm	Spring Concert in Auditorium
***	Sat	14-Apr	All Day	IHSMA Solo/Small Ensemble Contest @ Davenport West
	Thurs/Fri/Sat	4/26, 27, 28 (tentative)	7:00pm	Annual Musical Performances
*	Mon	14-May	5:45pm/7:00pm	Choir Awards Banquet/Awards Concert
**	Sun	27-May	TBA	Graduation

* Required performance for Freshman Choir, Concert Choir, Treble Choir & A Cappella Choir

** Required performance for A Cappella Choir Only

*** Required performance for A Cappella and Treble Choirs Only

MUSCATINE HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

2705 Cedar Street
Muscatine, IA 52761-2499
(563) 263-6141, phone
(563) 264-1794, fax
www.muscatinevocalmusic.org

Mr. Jonathan Ryan
Director of Choral Activities
263-6141, ext. 1148
jonathan.ryan@mcsdonline.org

Ms. Teale Burford
Associate Director of Choral Activities
263-6141, ext. 1143
teale.burford@mcsdonline.org

MHS VOCAL MUSIC
HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

The purpose of this form is to ensure every student involved in vocal music activities at MHS has shared the handbook with his/her parents/guardians. By signing this form and sending it back to school with your child, you are communicating with the Vocal Music Directors by letting us know that you and your son/daughter has received, read, and understand the information in the choir handbook.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

Print Parent/Guardian Name

Print Student Name

STUDENT FIELD TRIP WAIVER

In conjunction with participation in Muscatine High School's Vocal Music Department trips and my right to participate in said trips, I hereby assume all risks associated with the trips, and release and hold harmless the Muscatine Community School District, its employees, agents, representatives, and any other volunteer chaperone from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, debts, claims, or demands of any kind and nature whatsoever which might arise by or in connection with my participation in these trips due to negligence or any other fault of any person or entity. The terms hereof shall serve as a voluntary release and assumption of risk for my heirs, estate, executor, administrator, assignees, and for all members of my family.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND BY MY SIGNATURE AGREE TO THE STUDENT FIELD TRIP CONDUCT CODE AND FOREGOING WAIVER, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND AGREEMENT TO HOLD HARMLESS.

Student Signature

Date

FORM CONTINUES ON THE BACK OF THIS PAGE

PARENT/GUARDIAN FIELD TRIP WAIVER

I, _____, (parent/guardian) of _____
(please print) (please print)

give permission for my student to go on Muscatine High School Vocal Music trips and direct the appropriate personnel of the Muscatine Community School District to secure and authorize such emergency medical care and treatment as may be required for my student while under their supervision. I also agree to assume and pay the fees for this emergency medical treatment as authorized under this statement.

INSURANCE INFORMATION (Please print)

Insurance Company _____ Group Number _____
Contract Number _____ Other Numbers _____

MEDICAL INFORMATION (Please print)

My student has the following medical allergies: (if none, please write "N/A")

He/she is taking the following medication(s) on a regular basis (please include each medication name and dosage):

Student's Personal Physician: _____ Telephone: _____

OTHER INFORMATION (Please print)

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Home Phone _____
Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Parent/Guardian Name _____ Home Phone _____
Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Address _____ City _____

In the event that you could not be reached, please list a relative/friend in which we could call in case of emergency.

Name _____ Telephone _____

As a parent/legal guardian of the aforementioned student, I have read, understand, and by my signature agree to the student field trip conduct code; the student field trip waiver; the parent/guardian field trip waiver; assumption of risk and agreement to hold harmless; and have completed the requested information sections above.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

WEBSITE RELEASE

_____ I DO NOT allow my student's name to be used on the Muscatine Vocal Music website.

_____ I DO NOT allow my student's picture/image to be used on the Muscatine Vocal Music website.

MHS VOCAL MUSIC EMAIL UPDATES

For email updates, we ask that all parents visit the vocal music website (www.muscatinevocalmusic.org) and register their email address with our MailChimp server by Friday, September 1st, 2017. Failure to do so may result in not receiving important information, dates, and event details. Those subscribed can expect two to six emails monthly, depending on activities. Signing up for these email updates is your responsibility. Students are also welcome and encouraged to register for these email updates.

_____ I do not have email access. You can best contact me at the following number: _____ or by sending home information with my student(s).