



Symphonic Choir

Instructor:

Mr. Jared Williams
215-944-1335
jwilliams@crsd.org

Class Website:

<https://www.crsd.org/Page/3338>

You may also locate the website by clicking the "Faculty" tab on the Council Rock North Website and subsequently clicking on "Williams, Jared (Music)." The class website will be used frequently to update information regarding schedules, announcements, assignments, etc. Please be sure to visit the website on a regular basis.

*****ALL STUDENTS SHOULD DOWNLOAD A COPY OF THE STUDENT HANDBOOK WHICH IS AVAILBLE ON THE WEBSITE.*****

Attendance, Grading, and all policies are thoroughly explained in the book.

Course Description:

Symphonic Choir is an advanced level ensemble. Students chosen for this group must be able to perform the highest level of high school choral literature, and must demonstrate high skill levels. Boys, regardless of matriculation status, are placed in Symphonic Choir, while girls must complete one year of Women's Chorale before being auditioning for Symphonic Choir. Students will advance their individual vocal and choral skills with an emphasis on tone production, breathing, diction, musicality, music reading proficiency and rehearsal techniques. A variety of advanced choral literature, ranging from Renaissance to contemporary, will be studied and performed in concert. The performance nature of this course requires attendance after school for scheduled rehearsals and concerts. The Symphonic Choir rehearses monthly after school, and additional rehearsals will be scheduled at the discretion of the director to prepare for local, national, and international events. **All rehearsal information is available on the website and will also be communicated through email. Students and parents should ensure that email addresses are correctly registered with the Council Rock School District.**

Remind App:

Students and parents are ***strongly encouraged*** to download the "Remind App." This app allows one-way communication to students and parents about upcoming choir events (Rehearsals, Concerts, Trip Information, Fundraisers, etc.) The application can be downloaded on iOS and Android devices, and SMS service can be used for those without a Smart Phone. Go to www.remind.com to create an account or find out more information about the service. **Personal Information is NOT exchanged through this form of communication. Please ONLY Sign Up for the groups you are involved in.**

Class Codes: North Choirs
Touring Choir

@crnchoirs
@crntour

Rhythm of the Rock @rotr
NorthVoice @northvoice

Repertoire:

Students in Symphonic Choir study a variety of repertoire that is for developing voices and will prepare them for future choral music experiences in high school and college. Repertoire ranges from Renaissance to modern music from the twentieth century and beyond. Students will be exposed to many different genres, languages, and musical styles. Symphonic Choir students are expected to rehearse and perform music that requires mastery of skills taught in class. Students are encouraged to rehearse on their own, and will often find practice files of music on the Instructor's website.

Classroom Activities:

In every class, students participate in vocal warm-ups designed to promote healthy singing and the development of proper vocal technique. In addition, Symphonic Choir students are exposed to sight-singing techniques to develop music reading and solfeggio skills. Emphasis is placed on the choral sound and the refinement of vocal skills. Specifically, this includes breath support, vowel placement, diction, and intonation. Ensemble skills of phrasing, dynamic expression, articulation etc, are also studied. Students are encouraged to develop critical analytical skills through listening exercises of themselves and of professional recordings.

Assessment:

Students are assessed informally every day by observation of their level of participation, their effort and their demonstration of the repertoire and singing skills. This daily grade is the result of students who are on time, continually show progress, and remain attentive. Frequent in-class testing will occur to assess the mastery of notes. Formal vocal auditions scheduled at the end of each marking period and make use of the CRSD Vocal Music Rubric.

Essentially, students are assessed in the following ways. As per our district policy, whenever possible, written feedback will be provided and returned to the students.

Daily Classwork / Participation / Preparation	30%
Rehearsal Attendance	30%
Written Critiques & Evaluations	10%
Quarterly Assessment (Skills Assessed Vary)	30%

Choir Parents Association (CRNCPA):

Website: www.northchoirs.org

CRNCPA is the Choir Parents Association for North. It is a vibrant group of adults whose children are singers in the Choral Department. Their sole purpose is to support the choirs above and beyond what the District provides. **Membership is only \$20 per family and brief meetings are held monthly.** All Chorale students have access to concert recordings as part of the CRNCPA membership fee. CRNCPA also sponsors several choir events throughout the season, some of which may include the Annual Choir Picnic, NY Broadway Bus Trip, and others.

Additional Info If You Will Be Travelling On The International Tour (Trip Years Only):

Students who have signed up to participate on a tour are part of the Touring Choir. Additional Touring Choir rehearsals will be scheduled. Attendance at Touring Choir Rehearsals is MANDATORY if the student wishes to participate in the tour, regardless of any financial commitments made. Please take understand the importance of Touring Choir Rehearsals and make special note of scheduling, as there is an additional workload for students who have committed to the tour.