

Wagner Wolf Choir



Handbook

2019-2020

Choir Director

Ms. Cassandra Knoedl

Phone: (512) 943-8633

Email: knoedlc@georgetownisd.org

Assistant Choir Director

Mr. Travis Nance

Phone: (512) 943-8633

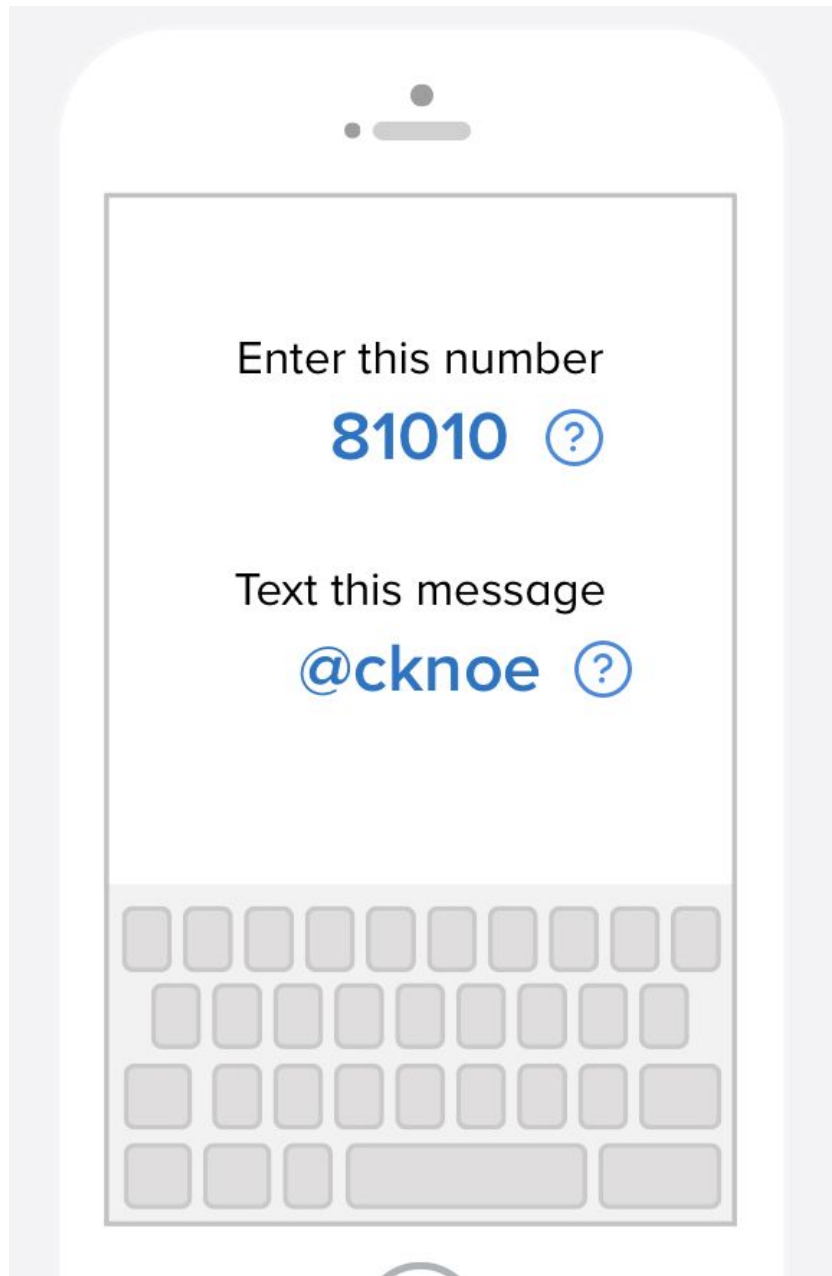
Email: nancet@georgetownisd.org

Facebook: Wagner Wolf Choir

Instagram & Twitter: @WagnerWolfChoir

Join our Remind 101 group for text message reminders!
(instructions on the back of this page)

Join Remind 101!



Dear Wagner Choir Parents and Students,

Congratulations on your decision to be part of the Wagner Wolf Choir! We will spend this school year building on a foundation that will support students throughout their Wagner years, and beyond to high school. Students, you will work hard; cultivating your music-reading, social, and leadership skills. You will use your time and your talents to serve your fellow choir members, your school, and your community. You will also build relationships, develop confidence in yourself as a performer, and create memories that will last a lifetime. Parents, we hope you will take every opportunity to be a part of the Wolf Choir community!

This handbook is designed to give you as much information about this year's choir activities as possible, including a tentative calendar. Please put all required events on your calendar and check for conflicts as soon as possible. These events are formal assessments and they cannot be recreated at a later date to accommodate for student absences. We will keep you informed of any changes via email (Wolf Choir Weekly), Remind, and Instagram updates. Our contact information is on the cover page and also at the bottom of this page. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions, concerns, or would like to volunteer!

We are so excited to count you as members of our program and we're looking forward to this year of musical growth together.

Harmoniously,

Cassandra Knoedl
Wagner Choir Director
knoedlc@georgetownisd.org

Travis Nance
Assistant Choir Director
nancet@georgetownisd.org

Required Choir Paperwork

The following list of forms must be completed and turned in by Friday, August 30th for a grade of 100%:

Choir Handbook Contract

Program Permission to Print Name

Code of Conduct Compliance /Student Information

GISD Medical Release

General Expectations:

- Maintain good behavioral and academic standing through adherence to social contracts, communication with teachers, and the students' ownership of their learning
- Be present and give their best effort in all required lessons, rehearsals, and performances

Grading Policy

Informal Assessment

Students receive a weekly grade based on their rehearsal etiquette, which includes the following:

Completion of "Daily Notes" - *written notation exercises*

Solo & small group sight reading - *informal music literacy assessment*

Rehearsal etiquette - *attendance, attitude, effort*

Attendance & participation in sectional rehearsals - *assigned at least 2 weeks in advance*

Formal Assessment

The following are considered to be formal assessments, graded on a 100 point scale:

Sight Reading Quizzes - in class

Fall Concert*

Winter Fine Arts Festival*

Winter Concert*

Pre-UIL Concert & Sight Reading *

UIL Concert & Sight Reading*

Spring Fine Arts Festival*

Spring Concert*

Performance Reflections - in class

Severe illness and family emergency are the only excused absences for these events. Ms. Knoedl must be notified of any other conflicts **at least one month in advance in order for them to be considered excused.*

UIL Concert & Sight Reading is an event where choirs are evaluated in a stage performance followed by a music sight-reading trial. Each half of this event is evaluated by an esteemed panel of judges. Because this is a demanding performance, students must be in good academic and behavioral standing in all classes in order to attend. If a student misses UIL C & SR as a result of poor standing academically or behaviorally, they will be given an alternative assignment.

Small Group Lessons provide a setting where students can get more individual attention and personalized instruction for their voice. Students may be required to attend small group lessons closer to concert performances. Lesson schedules will be posted at least a week in advance.

Private Voice Lessons are not required nor expected, but they ARE encouraged and available with teachers approved by the district at a rate of \$20-25 per half hour (rate dependent upon the experience of the teacher- policy subject to change). Students who elect to take private voice lessons through the school will still be required to attend small group lessons when they are assigned. For more information on private lessons, please contact Ms. Knoedl.

Choir Council/Service Committees

Choir members are expected to give back to their community. You get to choose how YOU give back. These committees will be formed during the first semester and all Intermediate and Honor Choir students will be required to participate in the activities of at least one committee per school year.

- **Big Brother/Big Sister**- Welcome committee for new choir students- welcome/good luck cards, small gifts (paid from student donations and student activities fund) first concert/last concert, holidays. Set up small social gatherings between new students and veteran choir members (ex: planned lunch meet-ups, after school board games, etc)
- **Concert Usher**- Hand out programs and monitor auditorium doors during concerts
- **Lesson Leaders**- Attend extra lessons and help build skills in beginning students.
- **Public Relations**- Take pictures at Choir events to promote community awareness of student activities and performances, submit to be posted on Choir social media pages. Spirited support for other campus groups/events- making posters, sending good luck/thank you notes (band/dance/orchestra/theatre/athletics, etc.)
- **Choir Council**- Made up of all students leading other committees. Oversees event-planning and fundraising.

If any of these committees' activities sound like something you absolutely LOVE to do, please consider volunteering to be a leader! See Ms. Knoedl for more information.

Fair Share

Each choir student will contribute \$30 to the Choir Activity Fund annually. The breakdown of the Fair Share fee is shown below:

Choir T-Shirt \$10 +

Student Activities \$20 =

Total Fair Share \$30

Choir T-Shirts will be worn as a uniform for casual performances. Students who do not pay the Fair Share fee will be required to pay \$5 to attend Choir Social events. Please contact Ms. Knoedl if you have questions or concerns about paying the Fair Share fee. It can be paid in cash or by check made out to “Wagner Middle School”. **Please send payment in an envelope with the student’s name on it.**

JV & Varsity Choir Concert Attire:

Wagner JV & Varsity Choir students will be issued a formal concert uniform for formal concert performances. Students are expected to keep track of and maintain the condition of their uniform over the course of the school year. Uniforms that are damaged or missing will result in a replacement fee of \$100 at the end of the school year.

Beginning Choirs:

Students are responsible for providing their own concert attire. Concerts are dignified occasions. In order for students to look uniform and professional, concert attire must adhere to the following guidelines:

Concert attire must be black from head to toe

Shirts may be ³/₄ or long sleeve (no tank tops, cap sleeves, or t shirts)

Long pants may be worn or skirts that are longer than knee-length when sitting

Black, closed-toe dress shoes (no sandals, sneakers, or toms)

Wearing black pants and black shoes? Wear black socks too!

Distracting jewelry will not be permitted

Hair must be pulled away from the face. Colorful hair accessories are not permitted.

Parents, please plan to have your student’s concert attire by the beginning of October



Wagner Choir Calendar

MS Region Choir Auditions - Saturday, October 19th - All Day @ Stony Point HS

****Fall Concert - Wednesday, October 23rd - 6pm @ Wagner Commons****

Halloween Karaoke - Friday, October 25th - 6-9pm @ Wagner Commons

MS Region Clinic & Concert - Saturday, November 2nd ALL DAY @ Klett PAC

Bye Bye Birdie Audition Workshops - November 12-14th - 4:20-5:30pm @ Wagner Choir/Black Box

Bye Bye Birdie Auditions - November 18-22nd After School @ Black Box

Winter Wagner Fine Arts Festival (WinWagFAF) - Saturday, December 7th (Time & Location TBA)

****Winter Concert - Thursday, December 12th - 6pm @ Wagner Commons****

****Pre-UIL Concert - Tuesday, March 3rd - 6:30pm @ East View Theater****

****UIL Concert & Sight Reading - Tuesday & Wednesday, March 31st & April 1st- (Time & Location TBA)****

Bye Bye Birdie - April 23-25th 7:30pm @ Wagner MS

Spring Wagner Fine Arts Festival (SWagFAF) - Friday, May 8, 2020 (Time & Location TBA)

****Spring Concert - Thursday, May 21st 6pm @ Wagner Commons****

**** *Denotes a calendar event that is required for all Choir students;
counts as a formal assessment* ****

(Information about non-required events will be distributed separately from this handbook)

(Dates and times are subject to change)

Choir Council Application
DUE AUGUST 23RD

Name _____ Grade _____

Choir Council is a team of student leaders who plan and organize activities for all Choir students.

Why are you interested in being a member of the Choir Council?

What ideas or activities would you like to see happen this year?

What qualities do you think are important in a leader? Explain why.

You will need 3 references (people who support your application to be a member of the Choir Council). On the back of this page, have each of your references write why they believe you will be a good fit.

I understand that if my child is selected to be a member of the Choir Council, they will be expected to attend meetings every Friday afternoon from 4:20-5pm. I further understand that I am responsible for picking them up or providing transportation.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Choir Council Applicant's Name _____

(You must have at least 1 Choir student, and at least 1 Teacher in your references)

Please write your recommendations below. Be sure to include reasons why this applicant will be a good leader/teammate/member of the Choir Council.

Reference #1: (Circle one) Choir student Teacher

Reference #1 Signature _____ Printed Name _____

Reference #2: (Circle one) Choir student Teacher

Reference #2 Signature _____ Printed Name _____

Reference #3: (Circle one) Choir student Teacher

Reference #3 Signature _____ Printed Name _____

Choir Handbook Contract

PARENT/STUDENT AGREEMENT

Please read and sign below as indicated

I have read the Wagner Wolf Choir Handbook and I agree to abide by all of the policies stated therein. I realize that it takes full cooperation, a willingness to make sacrifices and dedication from all of us if we want our program to continue to improve. I further realize that failure to follow the stated policies or directions from the Choir Director will result in appropriate action which could lead to a failing grade, change in performance status, or dismissal from the choir.

Signature of student **Date**

I have read the Wagner Wolf Choir Handbook and I agree to support the policies stated therein.

Signature of parent **Date**

Student Information

(Please print below)

Student Name _____

Parents' /Guardians' Name(s) _____

Email address _____

Cell Phone _____

Check preferred method of contact:

Email _____

Phone call _____

Text _____

Code of Conduct Compliance

In Georgetown ISD, participation in Fine Arts Extracurricular Activities is a privilege, not a right. Students who participate in these activities represent themselves, their families, their group, the school, the district and the community. GISD fine arts students are expected to be positive role models and representatives.

As a result, students involved in extracurricular activities will be held to a higher standard than those not involved. This expectation extends to conduct that occurs at any time, on or off school property. (GISD Policy FNC Local and Policy FO Local)

Based on these statements, the student named below is willing to:

- be held to a higher standard of student conduct
- adhere to the GISD Student Code of Conduct, including appendices that apply to extracurricular activities
- adhere to all guidelines and procedures set forth by the sponsor(s) of this activity

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Campus: Wagner Middle School

JOIN FoFA!!!!

(Friends of Fine Arts)

In order to maintain the quality of our program and provide more opportunities and experiences for our students, we need parent volunteers! Please consider supporting your student's music education by contributing in one of the following ways:

- Volunteer Chaperone at concerts, social events, and/or trips
- Donate Snacks for concert days and other choir events when students will stay after school
- Help us organize events to build a stronger community

If you are interested in getting involved and helping to build the Wolf Choir community, please fill out and return the bottom portion of this form to Ms. Knoedl or send an email to

knoedlc@georgetownisd.org or nancet@georgetownisd.org

For more information, attend *Fine Arts Parent Night* on Tues, August 27th 6-7pm @ Wagner!

Parent Volunteer Form

My name is _____
(please make sure your contact info is complete and accurate on the Parent/Student Agreement page)

My child's name is _____

I'd like to support the Wolf Choir in the following ways:

The best time of day to contact me is _____