

# Music Department Report



November 13, 2025

Prepared by Nate Bankert

From Mr. Bankert:  
**Concert Choir:**

In Memoriam:

The Concert Choir has chosen to dedicate “*Flight Song*” by Kim André Arnesen to the memory of Paige Dowlin. Paige’s passing deeply touched our school community, and our learners in Concert Choir wanted to honor her in a way that felt meaningful to them through the music they share together. “*Flight Song*” is a piece that speaks to love, remembrance, and the power of song to carry forward the voices of those we’ve lost. As our choir prepares this work, it has become a heartfelt expression of grief, hope, and unity. This performance will stand as a tribute to Paige’s life and to the enduring connection that music creates within our Pequea Valley family. This piece will be sung at the Holiday Choral Concert on Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 3pm.

**Lyrics:** *All we are, we have found in song:*

*You have drawn this song from us  
Songs of lives unfolding  
Fly overhead, cry overhead:  
Longing, rising from the song within*

*Moving like the rise and fall of wings  
Hands that shape our calling voice  
On the edge of answers  
You’ve heard our cry, you’ve known our cry:  
Music’s fierce compassion flows from you*

*The night is restless with the sounds we hear  
Is broken, shaken by the cries of pain:  
For this is music’s inner voice*

*Saying, yes, we hear you  
All you who cry aloud  
And we will fly, answering you:  
So our lives sing, sing  
Wild we will fly  
Wild in spirit we will fly*

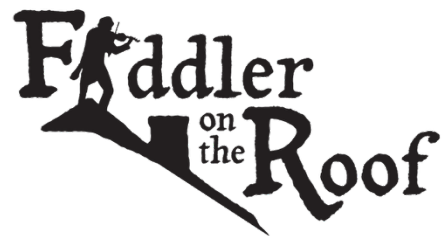
*Like a feather falling from the wing  
Fragile as a human voice  
Afraid, uncertain  
Alive to love, we sing as love  
Afraid, uncertain  
Yet our flight begins as song*



The PVHS Concert Choir is excited to perform a holiday concert for community senior citizens on Friday December 5<sup>th</sup>. The concert will be held in the PVS auditorium after a brunch provided in the commons by the cafeteria staff.

### **Musical:**

Auditions for *Fiddler on the Roof* have concluded. We are excited to start rehearsing this beautiful show! Over 50 learners auditioned. Show dates are February 12, 13, and 14. *Fiddler on the Roof* serves as the perfect inaugural production for our new stage. The musical's central theme *Tradition!* beautifully mirrors our own balance between honoring the legacy of Pequea Valley's past and embracing the innovation and opportunity of our future. Just as Tevye (show's main character) and his community adapt to a changing world while holding fast to their values, our learners step into this new space grounded in the rich traditions of Pequea Valley musical theater, ready to build new memories for generations to come.



### **Chamber Singers:**

The Chamber Singers were honored to be asked to sing at the PVS Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held on October 26<sup>th</sup>. The ensemble sang PV's Alma Mater "All Hail Pequea Valley" and chose to sing "Seize The Day" from Newsies. The lyrics that were appropriately sung for this occasion time and time again were "Open the gates and seize the day! Neighbor to neighbor, father to son, one for all and all for one!"



The Chamber Singers are leaving for the annual fall retreat to Gretna Glen Campground in Mt. Gretna on Thursday 11/13. There, they will rehearse music for their holiday concert season. They will sing for close to 18 hours over a span of just 2 ½ days. The vocal program at PVS has a very busy concert schedule as the ensembles are in high demand this time of year!

Concert schedule:

## 2025 Choral Holiday Concert Schedule

Chamber Singers    
  Caroleers    
  Concert Choir

Date/Time	Event	Location
<b>Thurs-Sat(miss school Friday) Nov 13-15, Retreat</b>		<b>Gretna Glen Campground</b>
<b>Tues Dec 2, 8am-230pm</b>	<b>Brandywine Performance</b>	<b>Brandywine/Longwood</b>
<b>Fri Dec 5 (during school)</b>	<b>Senior Citizens Concert</b>	<b>PVS auditorium</b>
<b>Sat Dec 6, 4-5:30pm</b>	<b>Christmas Market event</b>	<b>Intercourse Library</b>
<b>Sun Dec 7, 3pm</b>	<b>Holiday Choral Concert</b>	<b>PVS auditorium</b>
<b>Sat Dec 13, 11-1pm</b>	<b>Caroling by Jam &amp; Relish Kitchen</b>	<b>KKV, Intercourse</b>
<b>Sat Dec 13, 1:30-3:30pm</b>	<b>Caroling all around Kitchen Kettle</b>	<b>KKV, Intercourse</b>
<b>Sat Dec 13, 6-8pm</b>	<b>Caroling at Poole Forge Christmas</b>	<b>Poole Forge Mansion</b>
<b>Fri Dec 19, 7pm</b>	<b>Christmas Concert</b>	<b>Bellevue Pres, Gap</b>
<b>Tues Dec 23, Time TBA</b>	<b>Caroling at Shady Maple</b>	<b>Shady Maple Smorgasboard</b>

*From Mr. Corrao:*

### **Marching Band:**

The Marching Band ended its season with two special events: they performed the National Anthem at the new PV Secondary School official ribbon cutting ceremony under the direction of senior Drum Major Cameron Frank. On Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, the marching Band was asked to lead the Girls Cross Country Team with an indoor parade. Again, the band was under the direction of Drum Major Cam Frank as we celebrated the team going to State championships.

### **Concert Bands:**

Both 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Concert Band and the 9-12 Symphonic Band are busy preparing for their Winter Concert scheduled for Sunday December 14, 2025 in the new PV Secondary Auditorium.

This Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, both bands will combine to perform at our annual Veterans Day Assembly. The Band will play the National Anthem, Armed Services Medley and the Stars and Stripes. Senior Cameron Frank will sing God Bless America and Taps will be performed by our trumpeters Spencer Groff, McKenna McCarthy, and Kole Umstead.

### **Jazz Ensemble/Jazz Combo:**

The Jazz Ensemble will start rehearsing this week. The Jazz Combo will perform for the residents at Calamus Estates on Tuesday, December 16, 2025. Other performances to be listed as the school year moves forward.

### *From Mr. Ackerman:*

The three PVSD rock bands will be presenting a holiday concert at PVS on December 16th at 7pm. Some holiday songs will be included on each band's setlist and all three will combine for a special finale.

On October 28, Dr. Warren Gramm, modern band professor from Lebanon Valley College, spent three hours visiting the rock band program at PVS. He observed the last period, 7/8 grade rock band and the afterschool rehearsal of Into the Mayhem. Dr. Gramm played along, complimented the groups and offered some suggestions.

More than once, Dr. Gramm commented on the talent of the PV musicians, the strength of the district's support of our program. He was especially impressed by the fact that the ensembles have a dedicated room in the new building.

Dr. Gramm invited the HS group to visit LVC and collaborate with their college rock band.



*From Mrs. Trescavage:*

The middle school is auditioning for their spring musical for Aladdin Jr. on November 13th with performances on March 26th, 27th and 28th.



*From Mr. Apgar:*

Preparations are well underway for our Winter Concert! The 5th & 6th Grade groups are working diligently to have their musical selections ready to share. The Band, Chorus and Orff & Drum groups will be performing at Salisbury on Wednesday December 17 at 7 pm."