

# VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE

## WELCOME!!

Congratulations on being accepted into the Vocal Jazz Ensemble! We are a competitive performance ensemble and function as a team! Your unique voice and participation is essential to the success of this group. The Vocal Jazz Ensemble is a tight-knit family and we welcome all of our new members for the 2021/2022 season!

As a competitive choir, we travel yearly to participate in festivals. Traveling and competing helps us shape our voices, challenges us to excel, and strengthens our bond as a musical family. We hope you can join us on our trip this year!

Music is a gift to us and a gift to the world - we are so blessed to be able to experience that gift in every rehearsal and share it at every performance. We can't wait to make lifelong musical memories together!

With Music,  
Ms. G

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Students will strengthen their sight-reading skills and musical literacy
2. Students will be exposed to a variety of music from different cultures, genres, and styles
3. Students will strengthen their leadership abilities within the choir
4. Students will be able to sing several genres of music from memory
5. Students will be able to successfully perform on stage in front of an audience
6. Students will be able to successfully set up and break down sound system equipment
7. Students will be able to properly sing into an sm58 microphone
8. Students will have a greater knowledge of music history as it pertains to the vocal jazz genre

## REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

*To ensure that the choir makes the most of our rehearsal time, it is critical that each singer adhere to the following:*

1. Arrive to rehearsal on-time (in your seat with materials before the start of rehearsal)
2. All singers **MUST** wear their approved singer's mask at all times during rehearsal
3. Have all materials at every rehearsal
  - a. Assigned concert folder with music and pencil (music will also be posted through the choir google drive this year)
  - b. Water bottle
  - c. Your device (**charged** and ready to use for the entirety of the rehearsal)
4. Personal belongings should be put away before rehearsal begins
5. Absolutely no use of cellphones (These can be put where your folder is held)
6. Always sing and work to the best of your ability
7. RESPECT your fellow choral members, your director, and your accompanist. Any sign of disrespect will be cause for dismissal.

### PLEASE REFRAIN FROM

- Eating or chewing gum during rehearsal
- Using cellphones
- Talking during rehearsals (or sectionals)

## GRADING POLICY

*This is a **semester-long graded**, co-curricular course at Chaminade. It satisfies the VPA requirement for admission to the University of California system. It is an academic class and should be treated as any other class within the school schedule. **\*Attendance is mandatory: you may not join our rehearsals virtually, unless you are ill and it has been approved by Ms. G\****

- Rehearsals - (Participation)
  - Weekly Rehearsals - 10 points each
  - Extended Rehearsals - 15 points
  - Tech Rehearsals - 80 points
- Performance - 100 points
- HW (4-5 assignments / month)

- 30 points each
  - 10 for on-time submission
  - 20 for requirements set

**Late Work Policy:** Students are encouraged to submit all assignments on time so that their learning and progress in the course are not impeded.

Due to the creative nature of most assignments in the study of the arts, most assignments completed *during* the unit of study will be accepted for full credit (even though they are late).

Any work completed *after* a unit of study has concluded will be graded on its merit and receive a maximum of 75% of the earned grade they would have otherwise earned if the assignment had been submitted on time.

Students will receive instructor feedback on late assignments because that feedback is important to the learning process.

#### REHEARSAL PARTICIPATION

*In order to provide each singer with the best overall experience in the vocal jazz course, the success of the class will be based upon:*

- Having all of your materials at all rehearsals.
  - Section leaders are responsible for taking note of missing materials.
- Making music as directed with rehearsal notes.
- Preparing music as requested by the director.
- Showing interest and working with effort - doing the best that you can!

#### **Attendance Policy**

- Tardies and Absences will be noted and will reflect your overall participation in the ensemble.
- You may not exceed more than 3 tardies and 1 unexcused absence per semester, or this will lead to a dismissal from the ensemble.
- Illness
  - If you are ill, you may join our rehearsal virtually, as long as it has been approved by Ms. G
  - If you are ill and you stay home, please send me an e-mail so I may document it. (I do check with Candis)

Unanticipated Absences: In the event of an *unexpected absence*, all homework assignments that were due the day of the absence must be turned in the day you return. It is the student's responsibility to turn in any work; do not wait to be reminded. It is your responsibility to know what you missed. If it is not possible to complete an assignment (ex: work was done in class that is confusing), then the student should speak with me during office hours.

Anticipated Absences: Discuss planned absences with me as far in advance as possible so that deadlines can be established.

Extended Absences: In the event that a student will be out for an extended period, the student is encouraged to be in communication with me during the absence. I am available to meet virtually on Zoom Microsoft Teams.

## PERFORMANCES

*Students should adhere to the following performance protocol:*

- Arrive on time for warm-up (being present by "call time")
- Wear proper concert attire (concerts only)
- Participate in a professional manner
- Sing to the best of your ability

## ONLINE, WRITTEN, AND CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

- In class notes (will have music checks on occasion)
- Part testing
- Online weekly assignments (music theory, music analysis, part tape uploads)

## CONCERT ATTIRE

- *The Uniform Manager will measure each new member for their concert attire and will be ordered for you through Southeastern Apparel.*
- *This is a one time purchase upon entry into the choral program. Once you order your concert attire, you will own it for the remainder of your time at Chaminade - about \$70.*

*For Concert Performances the concert attire is your assigned Formal Gown or Tuxedo unless specified otherwise by the director.*

*Please note that performances can be exciting/stressful/high energy, so wear deodorant.*

- *Ladies and gentlemen should be mindful of all perfume/cologne worn as we are performing in such close proximity to one another.*

### LADIES

- Formal Concert Gown (to be ordered from Southeastern Apparel: “Louisa Dress”)
  - Hemmed/Tailored
- Black dress shoes
  - Heels should be no taller than 3 inches
- Hair
  - Should be neatly worn and out of your face
- Makeup
  - Black eyeliner, with black mascara, foundation, pink or brown blush, and red lipstick

### GENTLEMEN

- Tux ensemble (can be purchased on your own)
  - Black tux pants
  - Black dress shoes
  - Black vest
  - White tux shirt
  - Royal blue tie (different than pictured) to be ordered from Southeastern Apparel (about \$15)
- Hair/Facial Hair
  - Should look well-groomed
  - School rules for facial hair apply



## CALENDAR & IMPORTANT EVENTS (subject to change)

Please follow this link to view our master calendar: [MASTER CALENDAR](#)

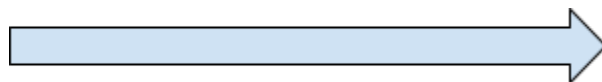
Our MAJOR dates for the year are as follows:

- OPEN HOUSE
- HOLLY BERRY LUNCHEON
- WINTER CONCERT
  - Dress Rehearsal
  - Concert Day Call Time
- SPRING CHORAL SHOWCASE
  - Dress Rehearsal
  - Showcase Call Time
- APRIL CONCERT
  - Dress Rehearsal
  - Concert Day Call Time
- SPRING CHOIR TOUR
- FULLERTON VOCAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

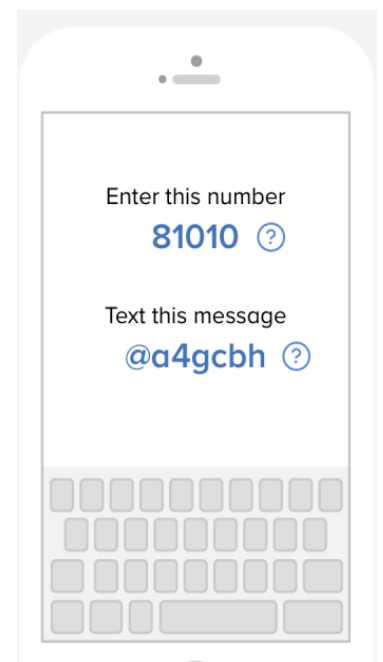
## ONLINE PLATFORMS

- BLACKBOARD
- GOOGLE DRIVE - available through our choir gmail account for recordings, digital music, etc.
  - [MASTER CALENDAR](#)
- REMIND is a group texting platform for student reminders. All students should join this group to receive updates on rehearsal times and any other announcements. Each remind group will have a different verification code to join each group. If you will be singing in multiple ensembles, you will receive a different verification code to join each choral ensemble remind group.

FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS



[CHAMINADE CHOIRS WEBSITE](#)



# Vocal Jazz Ensemble

## Contract 2021/2022

I, \_\_\_\_\_(print name) have received and reviewed the Vocal Jazz Ensemble expectations guide and calendar, and I understand and agree to abide by all responsibilities and expectations therein.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date