

Vocal/Performing Arts Department

Todd Phillips
Vocal/Performing Arts Director
(614) 833-2157
tphillips@cwls.us

<http://CWPerformingArts.info>

Canal Winchester High School
300 Washington St.
Canal Winchester, OH 43110

Dear Choir and Performing Arts Parents,

I'm so glad that your student has chosen to be a member of the Canal Winchester High School Performing Arts Department. Our performing ensembles have a reputation for the highest quality work. I can assure you and your student that the experience will be unique and worthwhile.

You will find included with this letter a copy of the Performing Arts schedule for the entire year. While all these dates have been approved by the Director of Activities, it may not be a complete list. Please check with me for updates. Please see that the appropriate dates are added to your family's calendar.

It is the policy of the Department and the School that your student's attendance is expected at all performances involving his/her ensemble. Each ensemble performs at least once every nine weeks. Missing a performance, excused or unexcused, arriving late to a performance or wearing inappropriate performance attire will affect the student's overall class grade. In the classroom, the student is expected to attend and participate in every scheduled rehearsal and not to be a distraction to other students. Cell phones, tablet computers and similar electronic devices are rarely needed in our music classroom. Therefore all such items should be put away unless express permission is granted. Students will be given one warning to store their device. Any further use will result in a deduction of 5 points from the student's Behavior Grade. Please refer to the grading rubric below.

Grading Rubric

Each 9 weeks, every student begins with 100 points for their daily Class Work – 50 pts for Behavior and 50 pts for Participation.

Deductions are made for the following issues:

Repeated use of unpermitted electronic devices – 5pts each offence.

Repeated talking and other disruptive behavior – 3-25 pts.

Repeated non-participation – 5-25 pts.

Each 9 weeks choir folders will be checked and graded for proper markings of Solfege and other musical items. 60-100 pts.

Each scheduled performance is worth 100 points.

No points will be given if the student misses the performance.

Points will be deducted for the students arriving tardy to a performance. 5-15 pts

Members of the various choral ensembles are assigned uniform looks that are to be worn at all performances unless otherwise indicated.

Symphonic Choir members are to wear light (preferably white) tops/shirts and dark (preferably black) dress pants/skirts with black socks and black shoes along with their choir robe.

Points are deducted from Symphonic members for failure to properly care for the assigned robe. 10-25 pts

Chorale members are to wear black tops, black pants and black shoes.

Points will be deducted for students wearing inappropriate performance attire. 10-25 pts



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Extra Credit

A student can earn extra points each 9 weeks in many different ways. It is completely the responsibility of the student to apply for extra credit. Extra Credit point events are only available during the current 9 weeks. They can not be carried over from Quarter to Quarter.

- 50 pts - Submitting on paper and signed by a parent, a verified, acceptable excuse for missing a performance. See the definition of excused and unexcused absences below.
- 50 pts - Submitting a recording of the student performing the music from a missed performance. A digital recorder will be supplied to the student. (*The recording WILL NOT be played for the class.*) **OR** submitting a multi-page, typed paper based on the texts used in the music. The length will be determined by the amount of music performed, generally, 200 words per song.
- 10 pts – Attending a professional Performing Arts (Musical or Theatre) performance. *15 pts max per 9 weeks. (Rock concerts are NOT included.)*
- 5-10 pts – Performing a solo at a public performance. *15 pts max per 9 weeks.*
- 5 pts – Auditioning for, but not being given, a solo.
- 5 pts – Serving as a Choir Officer.
- 3 pts – Participating in another CWSHS Performing Arts Class or Group. *9 pts max per 9 weeks.*

Absences

As this is a graded class taken for school credit to graduate, I am required by the school to hold the students accountable for their attendance at all performances. You will find examples listed below of excused and unexcused absences. This is not a complete list. Other absences will be defined as excused or unexcused at the discretion of the director.

Excused: 1) Excused absence from school the day of a concert, 2) In the director's opinion, an unavoidable commitment outside of the Canal Winchester area, 3) Illness of the performer explained on paper by a parent.

Partially Excused: Conflicts with games/competitions with area club groups, ie. soccer, cheerleading, basketball, etc. can only be partially excused. After the student has submitted the excuse and completed the make up work, the student will receive an 80% for a missed concert performance.

Unexcused: 1) Any absence not explained by a parent or the school, 2) Lack of transportation, 3) Conflicts with work schedules of the student or parents, 4) Conflicts with schedules of other organizations outside of the Canal Winchester Schools.

By returning the completed Canal Winchester Performing Arts Department Information card, the student and parent understand the responsibilities of being a member of the Vocal Department.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached through email: tphillips@cwls.us or my school phone number: 614-833-2157, Ext. 6156. Parents can find classroom and Department information as well by subscribing to *Canal Winchester Performing Arts Boosters* announcements through our web site at: <http://www.cwpab.org>

I think we can all look forward to a great year in the Performing Arts ensembles. With everyone's commitment to the group and to the highest personal goals, we will not only continue the tradition of the finest Performing Arts, we will also set the new standard for the future.

Todd Phillips

