

GLENBARD NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

CHOIR HANDBOOK 2015-2016



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Welcome to the choir program at Glenbard North High School! Please read this handbook carefully as it provides you with information about policies, regulations, and activities that are designed to promote a quality experience for all choral students.

Students are expected to perform their best at all times and contribute to the choir program in positive ways.

Parents are expected to support their child in the choral program, especially by attending concerts!

Mrs. Johnson is expected to oversee the Glenbard North High School Choral Program, which will provide a positive musical experience for each student.

It is this partnership of students, parents, and teachers, which will ensure a successful program for everyone.

REHEARSAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Expect to rehearse from bell to bell.

Have your choir folder, music and a pencil every day. No pen is allowed on music or homework.

Respect the music, folders, uniforms, and all equipment.

No gum, food, or beverages except water are allowed in the Choir Room

At this time, no electronics may be used in the classroom at any time. The only exception may be an electronic calendar.



GLENBARD NORTH CURRICULAR CHOIRS

Treble Choir is for all incoming freshmen women and women new to Glenbard North choirs. Ages range from freshmen to seniors.

Baritone Choir is for all incoming freshmen men and men new to Glenbard North choirs. Ages range from freshmen to seniors.

Advanced Treble Choir consists of women who have either been in Treble Choir or upperclassmen women who are new to our program, but have significant music experience. Ages range from sophomores to seniors.

Concert Choir is our most advanced choir and consists of men and women who have already been in one of the other three choirs. Placement in Concert Choir is by audition only.

AUDITIONS

Placement in Advanced Treble Choir and Concert Choir is based on auditions held in March before the following school year. Prior to the audition, students should register for their current choir. After auditions are finished, Mrs. Johnson will submit a list of students for each choir to the counselors and appropriate changes will be made.

CHOIR OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

The offices of president, secretary, treasurer, librarian, uniforms, and council members will be important leaders in the choir program. President, secretary, treasurer, uniforms, and librarian will be junior or senior curricular choir members. Council members will consist of 2 curricular choir members from each class (freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors). The Council and Officers will be the voices of the choirs and will help in decision-making and organization of the choirs. All perspective officers and council members will be self-nominated and elected by all students enrolled in curricular choirs at Glenbard North.

SCHEDULE OF CHOIR EVENTS

CONCERTS (Required participation)

October 22, 2015	Fall Choral Concert/Women of Note	7:30 p.m.
December 10, 2015	Holiday Collage Concert	7:30 p.m.
March 10, 2016	Winter Choral Concert/Men of Note	7:30 p.m.
May 17, 2016	Spring Choral Concert	7:30 p.m.

Call time for all choral students is 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise stated. Students should have their robes on and be ready at 7:00 p.m. sharp. All concerts are held in the Auditorium at Glenbard North.

Other field trip opportunities may arise. Dates will be announced in advance.

OPTIONAL EVENTS

ILMEA

The Illinois Music Educators Association presents festival opportunities for Illinois music students in November and January. Sophomore through senior students may audition for the District IX festival choir in October. Students may be chosen for the District Honors Choir, and, if they score high enough, they may be selected for one of the All-State Choirs that happen in January.

DISTRICT 87 HONORS CHOIR and CHAMBER CHOIR

In March, Concert Choir students are chosen for the District 87 Honors Choir and Band Festival. Students from all four Glenbards rehearse with a guest conductor during the day and present a concert in the evening. This festival chorus consists of the top choral students in District 87 and allows the students to work in a positive environment with Glenbard students just like them. The District 87 Chamber Choir is even more select, including the top eight students from each Glenbard school.

DISTRICT 87 MEN'S CHORUS FESTIVAL

This relaxed festival in September is open to all men in the Glenbard choirs. The morning in September involves learning four songs for men, directed by the choral directors at the four Glenbard schools.

DISTRICT 87 VOCAL AND PIANO SOLO/ENSEMBLE

Students who are studying privately are encouraged to participate in this event. Students will prepare a solo or ensemble and perform it for a judge who will give them positive feedback and provide a rating. This event is a great chance for Glenbard North students to hear performances given by students from all four Glenbards. This event happens in April.

CONCERT ATTIRE

All students will wear school issued choir robes. Under the robes, girls must wear a skirt or dress that is knee length or longer (avoid overly long dresses that extend beyond the robe length), black dress shoes (not flip-flops, gladiator-type sandals, boots, or tennis shoes), and nude hosiery. High heels are not safe on choral risers. Boys must have dress pants or very nice khaki pants with dress shoes (no tennis shoes or boots).

GRADING FOR CHOIR

First and foremost: **Performance attendance is mandatory.** The choir only works well one way and that's with everyone performing together. The students have worked hard for these performances and deserve their moment in the spotlight.

Performance	40%
Homework	20%
Tests	20%
Attitude and Attendance	20%

10 extra credit points (percentage points) can be earned by attending concerts (not rock-type). The concerts should be of high school level or higher. Students need to bring Mrs. Johnson the program from that concert to receive credit. Appropriate concerts might include (but are not limited to) choir concerts, band concerts, orchestra concerts, instrumental or vocal recitals, or musicals.

EVALUATIONS

Homework based on music theory will be issued twice a week. Material is presented in units with a written test at the end of each unit. Cumulative semester exams, both written and aural will be given.

Students may have occasional aural sight-singing tests, as well as music "checks" in which Mrs. Johnson will select a short excerpt from one of the current choir pieces to be sung by the student. These "checks" may be performed individually either in front of the class, in groups in front of the class, individually in a practice room, or in small groups outside of the classroom. Sight-singing tests will always be performed individually outside of class as they require a much higher level of concentration.

Students will have the opportunity each day to not only rehearse the current concert music, but they will also practice both sight-singing and rhythm examples.

PRACTICE POLICY

Students are responsible to continually improve the level of their performance skill. The only way to do this is to practice. Students may get a pass from study hall or lunch to use a practice room, or they may practice at home. Students are encouraged to take their music home (but bring it back!)

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic Letter – Students will earn their Choir letters by being in curricular choirs for two years.

William R. Schraft Memorial Award – This \$1000 scholarship is awarded to one senior music student. Selection is based on a written essay and participation in music activities and extra-curricular activities.

Carrie Jenkins Scholarship – This \$250 award is given to a senior who has been involved in both music and theatre. Selection is based on a written essay.

Fine Arts Scholarship – This \$250 award is given to a senior who has been active in all areas of the arts – music, theatre, and art

Outstanding Choir Member – This \$500 award is given to a senior who is chosen by his/her peers.

MEN AND WOMEN OF NOTE

4th through 8th graders are nominated by their music teachers to join the Concert Choir men and women to spend time together and sing several songs suited for them. These ensembles not only allow elementary and middle school students the chance to work with high school students, but they also give them another positive musical experience in hopes that they will continue singing for the rest of their lives.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR CHORAL ENSEMBLES

GOLDTONES

The Glenbard North Goldtones is an audition-only ensemble that meets twice a week. Auditions occur immediately when school starts. Goldtones is limited to 24 members or less. Every rehearsal and performance must be attended. Goldtones sings for concerts, community and school events. There is a minimal financial commitment.

BASICALLY TREBLE – A Cappella Men’s Ensemble

Basically Treble meets twice a week and performs at concerts and community events. This ensemble sings a wide variety of music written specifically for men. Mr. Quaranta is the director.

LACE – Ladies A Cappella Ensemble

Like Basically Treble, LACE meets twice a week and performs primarily at concerts. The ladies sing a variety of women’s literature and explore physical movement, as well.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Glenbard North is fortunate to be able to offer private voice lessons. All students are highly encouraged to study privately with an instructor. Private lessons are vital for a student’s success. They provide their students with professional instruction and modeling of what is possible to achieve. Students will take a ½ hour lesson once a week. Depending on the student’s and teacher’s schedule, students can take lessons during study halls, choir rehearsals, or lunch, if necessary. An additional fee is required. Two teachers are available at Glenbard North:

Sandra Jozef, Soprano

630-668-8176

Anthony Quaranta, Baritone

apquaranta@gmail.com

Students may fill out an application in the Choir Room and return it to Mrs. Johnson.



GLENBARD NORTH MUSIC BOOSTERS

The music directors at Glenbard North are grateful to all of our Music Booster parents for all of their support. The music program would not be able to run without the support of so many parent volunteers.

The Music Boosters provide many of the “extras” from helping at concerts to fitting uniforms to organizing fundraisers. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Mrs. Johnson or go to www.gbnmusic.org for more information. Generally, Music Booster meetings occur on the first Tuesday of every month during the school year at 6:30 p.m. See calendar for specific dates.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising activities will be available to students every year. Individual accounts have been established for each student, which can be used for trips. A fundraising schedule will be provided at the beginning of each year. Please go to www.gbnmusic.org for information on how to use fundraised monies.

OVERNIGHT TRIPS

The choirs and bands travel together every other year. These trips are completely optional. The purpose of trips is to provide unique outside performance opportunities and to help nurture a high level of trust and community within the Music Department. Overnight trips have a significant outside cost involved, which can be reduced through fundraising.



Music Calendar 2015-2016

September

- 1 - Music Boosters - 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Band Room
- 3 - Goldtones Auditions - 2:45-5:00 p.m. in Choir Room
- 10 - Cheese & Sausage/Candy fundraiser starts
- 17 - Bro Fest - 8:30-12:00 p.m. at South

October

- 6 - IIMEA Auditions - 4:00-9:00 p.m. at Addison Trail H.S.
- 7 - Women of Note - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Choir Room
- 14 - Women of Note - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Choir Room
- 15 - Middle School Festival - 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. -- rehearsal in Auditorium
Middle School Festival Concert - 7:00-9:00 p.m. in Auditorium
- 21 - Women of Note - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Choir Room
- 22 - Fall Choral Concert - 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Auditorium
- 27 - Fall Band Concert - 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Auditorium

November

- 3 - Music Boosters - 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Band Room
- 7 - IIMEA District 9 Festival - 8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. at East

December

- 10 - Band and Choir Holiday Concert - 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Auditorium

January

- 5 -- Music Boosters - 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Band Room
- 27-30 - IIMEA All-State Festival in Peoria

February

- 11 - Musical Informational Meeting - 2:40 p.m. in Theatre
- 18, 19, 22 - Musical Auditions - 2:40-5:00 in Choir Room
- 23 - Men of Note - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Choir Room

March

- 1 - Men of Note - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Choir Room
- 1 - Winter Band Concert - 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Auditorium
- 8 - Music Boosters - 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Band Room
- 8 - Cookie Dough fundraiser starts
- 8 - Men of Note - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Auditorium
- 10 - Winter Choral Concert - 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Auditorium
- 21 - District 87 Band & Choir Festival Rehearsal - 7:00-9:00 p.m. at East
- 22 - District 87 Band & Choir Festival Rehearsal - 8:30 a.m.-1:45 p.m. at East-- Concert at 7:30 p.m. at East

April

- 7 - Vocal/Piano Solo/Ensemble - 6:00-9:00 p.m. at North
- 12 - Instrumental Solo/Ensemble - 6:00-9:00 p.m. at North

May

- 3 - Music Boosters - 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Band Room
- 5-7 - Spring Musical - 7:30 pm. In Auditorium
- 17 - Spring Choral Concert - 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Auditorium
- 19 - Spring Band Concert - 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Auditorium

June

- 4 - Commencement

CHOIR HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

I have read and understand the contents of the 2015-2016 Choir Handbook. My parents and I will be held accountable for maintaining these standards.

Student Name (please print clearly)

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Date

Insert Music Booster Membership form