

## **Berean Christian High School Choirs - 2018-2019**

Welcome to parents and students! I am now looking back at 20 finished years at Berean and I am so thankful to God for my students, their parents, my fellow teachers, and our amazing administration. Our music department is an exciting place to be and it has taken all of these people to build it to what it has become.

### **BCHS CHOIRS SYLLABUS**

- 1st period - Concert Choir - level one
- 2nd period - Singers - level three
- 3rd period - Advanced Chorale - level two

**Program Overview** - The BCHS Choral Program has a place for everyone, regardless of grade level or previous music experience. The only requirement is that you show a sincere commitment to singing, a readiness to learn, and an attitude of respect and cooperation. We want to build both the love and knowledge of music. The three choirs will learn a variety of music styles and genres: sacred and secular. Each choir will sing pieces chosen especially for their level of experience and a number of pieces will be sung with all three groups together. These stretch the newer members and add 'umph' for the audience. You will enjoy these pieces in the concerts.

**Learning Outcomes** - In the BCHS Choral Program, the teaching and learning process is directed toward producing three primary outcomes.

Choir students will learn to use their voice as an instrument. The language of music will be learned and refined, and also the skills will be taught that are needed to participate successfully in an ensemble. We have a number of concerts and singing opportunities throughout the school year.

**Attendance** - It is vital that each choir always sings at their highest level, and that each choir gains valuable experience in learning to work as a group. Musicianship, good citizenship, enthusiasm, and positive group interaction are expected of every member. Consequences of poor participation will result in a loss of weekly participation points.

**Concert Attire** - For the school chapel performances at Easter, Christmas, and the Pop's Concert, the students will need to have nice black slacks, or a long black skirt, and a nice shirt or top. Our more formal concerts, which are the Christmas and Spring Concert, and the tours for the Chorale and Singers, will be the time for our formal wear: Choir robes for Concert Choir, Dresses and suits for the Advanced Chorale, and Tuxes and Dresses for Singers. Ordering will begin soon after school begins for the Chorale and Singers. The choir robes are free, and the dresses will be approximately 85.00-90.00, which includes all of the measuring and fittings. The music department will pay the tax for the dresses.

The young men in Advanced Chorale will need a black suit, which you can borrow, purchase, find at Goodwill, etc., and black dress shirt. The music department will purchase the ties for the boys and provide those free of charge for them.

The young men in Singers need to have a black suit or black tuxedo and tux shirt, bow tie, and cummerbund. The dress company can measure and provide the tux and shirt and bow tie and cummerbund, but you are free to buy your own also. It's good to get going on this soon because you can take advantage of sales and not be in a rush when they are needed.

**Grading Policy** - Each choir student has the opportunity to earn an "A" grade in choir. This grade will be based on your daily class participation and performance attendance, not your

talent or personality. The concerts are much of the student's grade because these are Performing Art's classes. Other grading criteria include conduct, behavior, and readiness to learn.

### **School Chapels and Concerts for all Choirs**

Pops Concerts - Fri. and Sat., October 19 and 20 at 7 pm in the gym.

Christmas Concert - Fri., December 7 - 7:00, gym, Rehearsal for Choirs - 4:30 pm.

Christmas Chapel - Wed., December 12, 9:55 am.

April 26 and 27, Fri. and Sat., Spring musical, 7:00, gym

May 10 and 11, Fri. and Sat., Spring Concert, 7:00, gym, Rehearsal for Choirs, 4:30 pm

May 19, Sun., Baccalaureate, 3:00, NorthCreek Church in Walnut Creek

May 24, Fri., Graduation, 7:30, at Golden Hills Church in Brentwood

### **Choir Tours**

For Advanced Chorale and Berean Singers - You will receive more detailed letters a couple of weeks before each tour.

**Singers Tour** - January 16-20, - Wed. through Sun. - cost 400.00 (ish - I need to check about hotel and Disneyland fees - they are going up so fast - but we will try to keep the cost as low as we can), includes all food (except Wednesday's lunch), and includes a Disneyland one park entrance. You may choose to add the fee for both parks. Info will be given before tour.

**Chorale Tour** - Feb. 13-17 - Wed. through Sunday - cost 400.00 (ish - I need to check about hotel and Disneyland fees - they are going up so fast - but we will try to keep the cost as low as possible), includes all food (except Wednesday's lunch), and includes a one park Disneyland entrance. You may choose to add the fee for both parks.