



HERNDON HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR DEPARTMENT 2009 – 2010 HANDBOOK

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**(These forms need to be turned in to Mrs. Van Slyke by Friday 9/11/2009)*

Dana Van Slyke, Director

703-810-2333

E-mail: dana.vanslyke@fcps.edu

Web: www.herndonchoir.com



WELCOME TO HERNDON CHOIR!

Welcome, all new and returning chorus students! I hope you enjoyed your summer and are ready for the 2009–2010 school year. I have planned an exciting program of concerts, musical theatre, trips, festivals, and other events for you.

This year you will continue to work on musicianship, vocal technique, sight singing, and ensemble and solo performance. You also will have opportunities to audition and perform in district and state honors choruses, as well as school-wide musical events such as our Broadway Cabaret and our Fall Musical, *Oklahoma*. We'll add movement and a little musical theatre to our repertoire for the end-of-the-year Pops Concert. In the spring, students who wish to participate will travel to New York for our spring trip!

I am excited to see you and start our music making! Get ready to work hard!

Let's get started!

1. Please read the "2009–2010 Choir Handbook."
2. Please read and fill out the following three forms:
 - ***Herndon High School Honor Code (pg. 4)***
 - ***Costume Rental Agreement – along with costume rental fee (made payable to "Herndon Choral Boosters") (pg. 7)***
 - ***Parent/Guardian Contact Information Form (pg. 10)***

Return all three forms by **Friday, September 11**. You can also print these forms on the Choir website. **www.HerndonChoir.com**

3. Get acquainted with the Choir Calendar (pg. 5). A significant part of your grade depends on your participation at our concerts.

I look forward to great music making this year!

Ms. Van Slyke



Herndon Choir Syllabus

(REVISED 8/28/09)

Instructor: Dana Van Slyke
Room: 142
Phone: 703-810-2333
E-mail: dana.vanslyke@fcps.edu

COURSE TITLES

Vocal Jazz, Concert Choir, Madrigals, Herndon Chorale, Heatwave Show Choir

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

(928015) Vocal Jazz: This class is designed to meet specific needs and/or interests. Class meets outside of the regular school day. Content includes study of jazz literature, rehearsal, and performance techniques. Performances and rehearsals, both in and out of school, may be required.

(926015) Concert Choir: Beginning level students will participate in a chorus of mixed voices. Emphasis is placed upon correct vocal performance techniques through the singing of appropriate choral literature. Rehearsals and performances, both in and out of school, may be required.

(928915) Madrigals: Students are offered advanced choral experiences for mixed voices. Emphasis is placed on the development of musicianship and proficiency in ensemble performance. Course content includes a study of choral literature, vocal techniques, and sight-singing. Based on successful completion of sequential concepts for each level, students will continue as specified in course level. Rehearsals and performances both in and out of school are required.

(928916) Herndon Chorale: Students are offered advanced choral experiences for women's voices. Emphasis is placed on the development of musicianship and proficiency in ensemble performance. Course content includes a study of choral literature, vocal techniques, and sight-singing. Rehearsals and performances both in and out of school are required.

(929615) Heatwave Show Choir: Students are offered choral experiences in a variety of musical genres. Emphasis is placed on the development of musicianship and proficiency in ensemble performance. Course content includes a study of appropriate literature, vocal techniques, and choreography. Rehearsals and performances both in and out of school are required.

GRADING

The student's grade will be determined as shown below:

Quarter Grades		Symbols	Scale	Quality Points
Rehearsal Techniques	30%	A	93-100	4.0
Required Concerts & Auditions	30%	A-	90-93	3.7
		B+	87-89	3.3
Content Preparation	40%	B	83-86	3.0
Final Grade		B-	80-82	2.7
Proven Progress in:		C+	77-79	2.3
Performance technique	33%	C	73-76	2.0
Sightsinging	33%	C-	70-72	1.7
Rehearsal technique	33%	D+	67-69	1.3
		D	64-66	1.0
		F	Below 64	0.0

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:

It is important that each student arrives on time, maintains good attendance, and remains on task in order to master the course material and techniques.

- o Tardies and unexcused absences will be handled in accordance with FCPS attendance policies.
- o If you are absent from any part of the school day you may not participate in the after school concerts or rehearsals that day. If it is excused you may be given a chance to do a make up assignment.
- o If students are participating fully and to the best of their ability, if their attendance at rehearsal is consistent and they demonstrate a full knowledge of what the group is performing musically and what their section is responsible for during the performance than that would earn an A.
- o If they demonstrate basic knowledge but only as a follower that would warrant a B.
- o If they are unprepared and do not know their part well enough to perform it even in a group that would earn a C.
- o If their attendance is inconsistent and/or they do not participate fully in rehearsals therefore they do not know the performance material that would warrant a D or failure.
- o If they are not present at the concert they receive a 0 test grade, If it is an excused absence they are given the chance to type a critical review paper of the concert after reviewing the video. The credit given for this assignment will only make up for 75% of their grade and cannot fully make up the lost performance experience. If they simply fail to show up they receive a 0 with no chance of make up.

HONOR CODE:

Please make sure you are familiar with the honor code as all students will be expected to abide by it.

Herndon High School Honor Code: As a student at Herndon High School, I am committed to behave honorably. I will not lie, cheat, steal or plagiarize, and I will not enable others to do so.



HERNDON HIGH SCHOOL HONOR CODE

Student Response Form: Sign and return to Mrs. Van Slyke by 9/11/09

Please sign below if you fully understand the content and expectations of this course and agree to abide by the Herndon High School Honor Code in my class. Please bring to me when you pick up your costume or as your first assignment next class period.

Student Name

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian e-mail address

2009-2010

Herndon Choir Calendar

Some dates are tentative. Please check the website for regular choir calendar updates.

www.herndonchoir.com

September

- 3 Costume pick-up, 6-8 pm, choir room
- 4 Costume pick-up, 10 am – 12:30 pm, choir room
HHS Choirs Back to School *Ice Cream Social*, 1-2 pm at HHS
- 9-11 Workshop and Auditions for HHS musical, Oklahoma!
- 14 Choral Booster Meeting, 7 pm, choir room (2nd Monday)
- 23 Back to School Night – Madrigals sing

October

- TBA District XII forms and fees due, *For anyone auditioning*
- 3 Senior Honors Choir audition trip to Longwood Univ. *Registered seniors only*
HOMECOMING
- 5 Choral Booster Meeting, 7 pm, choir room (1st Monday)
- 19 All County Men's Choir, all day at GMU
- 22 Fall Sampler Concert, 7:30 pm, All choirs**

November

- 2 Cabaret Auditions held on teacher work day, (student holiday) open to all HHS students
- 7 District choir auditions at Flint Hill, (This is an SAT day) Required for Chorale and Madrigals, optional for all other students
- 9 Choral Booster Meeting, 7 pm, choir room (2nd Monday)
- 12 University of MD Choir Invitational – Madrigals all day with evening concert
- 19-21 State Honors Choir for selected Seniors

December

- 3-6 Oklahoma! Performances
- 14 Choral Booster Meeting, 7 pm, choir room (2nd Monday)
- 21 Winter Choral concert, 7:30 pm, All choirs**

January

- 9, 16 Broadway Cabaret – Saturday rehearsals and set construction
- 11 Choral Booster Meeting, 7 pm, choir room (2nd Monday)
- 19-20 Cabaret evening dress rehearsals, 6-10 pm
- 21, 23 Broadway Cabaret, 7 pm**

February

- 8 Choral Booster Meeting, 7 pm, choir room (2nd Monday)
- 11-13 District XII Chorus for selected students, Oakton HS
- 11 All-State Choir Auditions – Juniors and Seniors at District Chorus
- 23 Pyramid Concert, 7 pm, Select Choirs**

March

- No Choral Booster Meeting in March
- 4-6 SPRING TRIP to NYC (Choir and Drama Departments)
- 9 Pre-Festival Choir Concert, 7 pm**
- 16 Ithaca College Choir Concert, 7 pm, Herndon United Methodist Church
- 20 District XII Choir Festival at South Lakes – required for Chorale and Madrigals

April

- 5 Choral Booster Meeting, 7 pm, choir room (1st Monday)
- 29-5/1 All State Choir, Selected Junior and Senior choir students

May

- 10 Choral Booster Meeting, 7 pm, choir room (2nd Monday)
- 18 Pops Concert, 7 pm, All Choirs**

June

- 7 Choral Awards Banquet, 6:30 pm, HHS Cafeteria, All students and families welcome
- 14 Choral Booster Meeting, 7 pm, choir room (2nd Tuesday)

2009-10 Choir Costume Pick-up and Fee Schedule

An annual costume rental fee is due for each choir student. Students in more than one ensemble will have a fee for each ensemble. Please make **checks payable to Herndon Choral Boosters**. Please call Ms. Van Slyke at (703) 810-2333 if other payment arrangements need to be made.

Pick up early to save money!

**Madrigals, Herndon Chorale, Vocal Jazz
and Heatwave Show Choir**

Pick up Costumes in Choir Room Before School Starts

Thursday	Sept 3	Costume Pick-up	6 - 8 p.m.
Friday	Sept 4	Costume Pick-up	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Remember to Pick up Early and Save Money!

- \$35.00 rental fee per ensemble if payment and pick up on September 3 or 4
- \$40.00 rental fee per ensemble if payment and pick up the week of September 7 – 11
- \$45.00 rental fee per ensemble if payment and pick up the week of September 14 – 19
- \$50.00 rental fee per ensemble if payment and pick up after September 19

Concert Choir... Only

Pick up your costume in class during the first two weeks of school for a fee of \$35.00. After September 19, an additional \$15.00 late fee will be assessed. Be sure to contact Ms. Van Slyke at (703) 810-2333 if you need to make other arrangements.

EVERYONE NEEDS TO...

Fill out the Costume Rental Agreement on the next page and bring it with your payment to pick up your choir costume(s).

Checks should be made out to HHS Choral Boosters.

2009-10 Choir Costume Rental Agreement Form

(Payment required to pick up costume.)

Student Name _____ Choir(s) _____

Students agree to return all costumes, or properties, in the condition in which they were received. Damage is considered to have occurred by: tearing, burning, cutting, excessive make-up, removal of buttons, medallions, badges or other kinds of trim or material or lack of cleaning. It is understood that costume pieces should be handled with care and they should be returned clean and in good condition. Additional wardrobe items may be loaned to the student during the course of the year and the same standard of care applies. Additional fees may be assessed to cover repair costs, cleaning or to replace damaged or missing items.

I agree to maintain my choir costume(s) as stated above, and I will assume responsibility to pay for, repair or replace any items that I damage or lose.

Student Signature

Date

(*Costume items provided by the choir department)

Men

___ **Concert Choir** – *Full tuxedo: coat, pants, shirt, cummerbund, bow tie, (Students provide their own black dress shoes and black socks.)

___ **Vocal Jazz** – *Dress shirt, (Students provide black dress pants, black t-shirt, black belt, black dress shoes and black socks)

___ **Madrigals** - *Concert Choir attire (see above); Students provide: Medieval costume in jewel tones, hat, shoes, black tights, jazz shoe or other approved shoe.

___ **Show Choir** - *Black tuxedo pants, *Gold shirt or shirt *TBD, (student provides black socks, black jazz shoes)

Women

___ **Concert Choir** - *Black/white gowns, (students provide black dress shoes and flesh colored stockings.)

___ **Vocal Jazz** - *Black skirt, *VJ top(s), (students provide BLACK CHARACTER SHOES and black stockings.)

___ **Madrigals** - *Concert choir attire (see above), Students provide: Medieval dress in jewel tones, head dress, shoes, flesh tone stockings, Time period necklace (optional).

___ **Show Choir** - *Blue dress, (Student provides TAN CHARACTER SHOES, black spankies for under dresses, flesh colored stockings.)

___ **Herndon Chorale** – *Black gowns, *pearl necklace (replacement cost of \$5.00 if lost or stolen), Students provide: Black dress shoes and flesh colored stockings.

Men

CC Fee _____

VJ Fee _____

MADS Fee _____

SC Fee _____

Women

CC Fee _____

VJ Fee _____

MADS Fee _____

SC Fee _____

HC Fee _____

Total paid _____

Date _____

Check # or cash _____

**Checks should be made out to
HHS CHORAL BOOSTERS,**

Please note costume fee on your check. THANK YOU!

WELCOME HHS CHORAL BOOSTERS

The Herndon Choral Boosters is the support engine of the HHS choirs. Choral Boosters will coordinate all of the choir program behind-the-scenes efforts that support each of Herndon's six vocal groups throughout the year. As a choir parent, you are already a member of the Boosters. Your involvement is an important and exciting way for you to participate in your student's high school experience. With your support students will continue to enjoy a wide variety of performance opportunities which challenge them to use their talents and achieve their very best.

Planning, publicity, transportation, stage management, costumes, refreshments, fundraising, the choir trip, web page – whatever your talents, your help will be welcome. The Choral Boosters meet one evening each month in the choir room at 7:00 p.m. Please check the choir calendar or the Choral Booster page on the choir website www.herndonchoir.com for up to date information.

Volunteer Opportunities: Parent involvement is encouraged and greatly appreciated. Our volunteer coordinator will inform you of opportunities to help out. Please consider where you might be available to volunteer.

Hospitality at Concerts

- Sell concessions at a concert
- Sell flowers and gift candy before a concert
- Sell spirit stickers during intermission at a concert

Directory Volunteer (September)

- Enter data into computer
- Print choral directory
- Folding, collating and stapling

Concert Volunteer

- Ushering for a concert
- Set construction for Cabaret
- Set break down at a concert

Choir Trip Chaperone (March)

- Spring Trip to New York

Cheesecake Delivery (February)

- Assist sorting cheesecake orders during school hours

Booster Social (date TBD)

- Committee member

Wardrobe Maintenance

- Assist fitting and distributing concert attire (Aug/Sept)
- Assist collecting wardrobe attire (June)
- Sew or repair wardrobe or costumes

Choral Banquet (June)

- Committee member

Refreshments or Meals for Guest Ensembles

- Provide goodies, water, food for visiting ensembles
- Provide housing for guest ensembles

Photo / Video Volunteer:

- contributing pictures for website
- video tape a concert for Mrs. Van Slyke to use as a teaching tool in the classroom

Choir parent representative, plan in school class party or bring in a fun treat!

- Madrigals
- Concert Choir
- Herndon Chorale
- Vocal Jazz
- For Men Only
- Show Choir

Miscellaneous:

- I may be available to help in areas as needs arises

Committee Chairman on the Executive Board

- Over sees and manages one element of service provided by the boosters.

2009-10 CHORAL BOOSTER ORGANIZATION

Supporting the HHS Choir Department and Director Dana Van Slyke

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Kathy Morgan
1 st Vice President	Julie Frederickson
2 nd Vice President	Melanie Miller Cvilikas
Secretary	Mary Glenn Mancini
Treasurer	Kara Rider

EXECUTIVE BOARD Chairman

Awards Banquet	Michelle Tierney
Carwash Fundraiser	Kathy Morgan
Cheesecake Fundraiser	Beth Czerwinski, Patti Shaffer
Choir Directory	Nina Falci
Choral Booster Social	Sally Lyver
Communications	Sarah Farmer
Concert Programs	Lori Peterson
Flowers/Gift Candy	Beth Czerwinski
Hospitality	Kristy Freeman
House Manager	Janice Jewell
Ice Cream Social	Julie Frederickson, Kristy Freeman
Ornament Fundraiser	Maureen Truncale
Photographer	Melanie Miller Cvilikas / Adrian Morgan
PTSA Liaison	Kara Rider
Scholarships	Barbara Ramey
Spirit Gear	Susan Chervenec
Spring Trip	Barbara Ramey
Stage Manager	Jerry Vandenberg
Videographer	Adrian Morgan / John Mancini
Volunteer Coordinator	Nina Falci
Wardrobe Coordinators	Terry and Melissa Miller
Webmaster	Lori Peterson

Parent/Guardian Contact Information Form 2009-10

(Return to Mrs. Van Slyke by Friday 9/11/09)

Parent or Guardian Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Parent or Guardian e-mail address(es) _____

Phone (parent) _____ student(s) _____

Student Name(s) _____ Grade(s) _____

Student e-mail address(es) _____

Chorus (If you have more than 1 student in chorus, please indicate which student is in which choir.)

Madrigals Concert Choir Herndon Chorale Show Choir Vocal Jazz Bennett Street Boys

★ We will publish the above information in the 2009-10 Choral Directory, unless you indicate here. We do not publish email addresses or student phone numbers.

_____ **Do Not Publish**



Providing Enrichment Opportunities

In addition to providing volunteer opportunities to assist the choirs, we invite Choral Booster members to financially support the HHS choirs. Your financial support will help to pay for needed equipment, props and supplies. ***This year Ms. Van Slyke would like to invest in 3 new quality microphones for HHS singers.*** Contributions also allow Ms. Van Slyke to invite guest music clinicians to work with the choir students, and guest choirs to hold workshops for our students. These funds pay for the concert programs and provide talented instrumentalists who accompany our choirs at various venues. They also enhance our scholarship fund. If you choose to make a donation, please make your check payable to Herndon Choral Boosters (a 501c3 non profit organization). Have your student give your donation to Ms. Van Slyke, or you may mail it to:

HHS Choral Boosters
Treasurer: Kara Rider
1635 Hiddenbrook Dr.
Herndon, VA 20170

To thank you, the Choral Boosters provide benefits to its members for the following levels of support:

LEVEL	SUPPORT	BENEFIT
Contributor	\$35	Name published in fall choir program
Patron	\$50	Name published in all choir programs
Silver	\$75	Name published and one free Cabaret ticket
Gold	\$100	Name published, two free Cabaret tickets
Platinum	\$125	Name published, two free Cabaret tickets, and an exclusive Herndon Choral Boosters annual gift

We hope you will join us in supporting our excellent choir program. If you have any questions, Please contact HHS Choral Booster President **Kathy Morgan** at 703-406-8816 or president@herndonchoir.com

