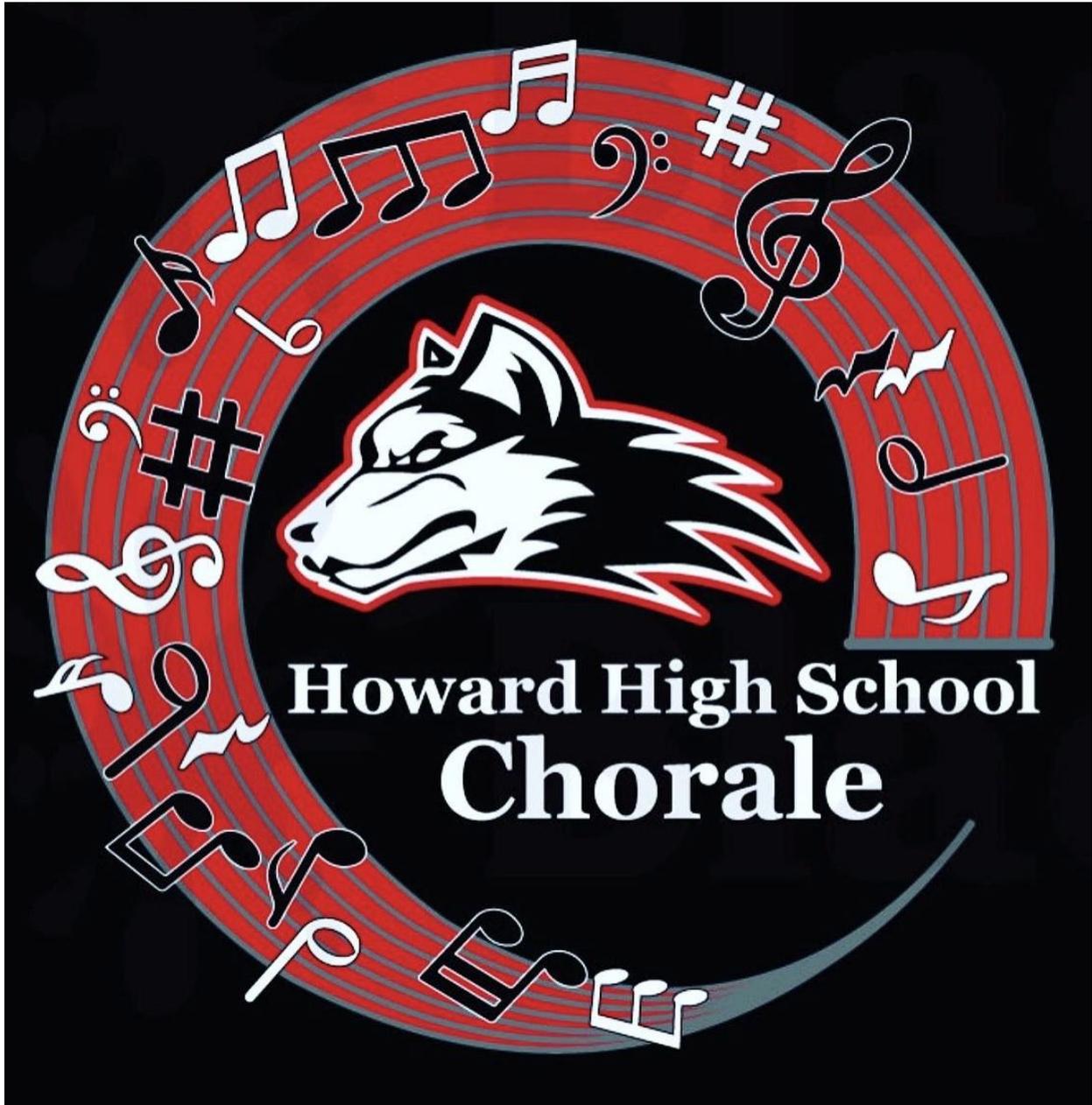


HOWARD HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Presents

HOWARD HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL HANDBOOK

2022-2023



CHORAL DIRECTOR: Wimberly Grace Thomas

Howard High School
Principal: Dr. Latoya D. Smith
Asst Principal: John Hankinson
Asst Principal: Marcus Lawson
Dean of Students: Grant Bray
Fine Arts Coordinator: Ben Bridges

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 calendar year for Choirs at Howard High School. I am so excited that your child has chosen to join/continue in their choral studies and it promises to be an exciting year! Being a member of HHS Choirs carries many privileges and responsibilities. This handbook is designed to inform you of the wonderful opportunities that lie ahead as well as the rules, expectations, and policies of the choral program. All of our required concert dates are listed in the calendar.

The goal of the choral program is to provide students with the opportunity to create and develop their own individual artistry through vocal music. Choral students will learn vocal techniques and apply their knowledge to a wide variety of vocal/choral repertoire. Students will have the opportunity to perform individually, as well as with small ensembles, and together as a chorus. The advanced chorus is **CHORALE** and the beginner chorus is **CRESCENDO**. Students will also learn the principles of teamwork, performance etiquette, and self-discipline which will build self-confidence.

I believe music is not only an art, but also a way to learn and experience many valuable life lessons. I sincerely hope that the chorus will stand out as a highlight of one's experiences during high school.

The chorus program will flourish because of a planned curriculum that includes multiple genres of repertoire and sight-singing, a supportive administration, and the support of parents like you. **Please take the time to read information provided in the Chorus Handbook and sign the provided forms.**

Thank you again for encouraging your child in this venture. I look forward to visiting with you at our concerts and events! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the e-mail listed below. The choral department also has Facebook Pages and Instagram at which I encourage our parents and students to join!

Respectfully,

Ms. Wimberly Grace Thomas
Choral Director
Howard High School
6400 Forsyth Rd
Macon, GA 31210
Choir Suite, Room 505
wimberly.thomas@bcsdk12.net
Facebook.com/howardhighschoolmusic
Instagram: @howardhighschoolmusic

2022-2023 Choral Calendar

Please mark your calendars accordingly.

All dates are tentative and are subject to change.

September 1-2 (Thurs-Friday) after school/choir room til 4pm - Howard's Got Talent Auditions

September 29 (Thursday) - Howard's Got Talent in Theater,, 6pm

October 18* (Tuesday) - Dress rehearsal for Fall Concert in Theater, 2:30-3:30

October 19* (Wednesday) - Fall Concert in Theater, 6pm

December 15* (Thursday) - Dress Rehearsal for Winter Showcase in Theater, 2:30-3:30

December 16* (Friday) - Winter Showcase in Theater, 6pm

January 27-29 @Classic Center in Athens - All State Reading Chorus (Optional)

February 17-19 @Classic Center in Athens - All-State Chorus (Optional)

LGPE in March, TBA

Spring Concert in March TBA

March 6-8 (Monday-Wednesday) after school in choir room, Spring Musical Auditions

April 20* (Thursday) - Dress rehearsal for Spring showcase, in theater, 2:30-3:30

April 21* (Friday) - Spring Showcase, 6pm in theater

May 4-5 (Thursday-Friday), Spring Musical in Theater, 6pm

Choir's Karaoke EOY Party - TBD

*Accompanist required

WEEKLY SCHEDULE - When the combined choirs will rehearse

Monday - Open currently

Tuesday - 2:30-3:30 in the Choir Room - Crescendo

Wednesday - Tentative Drama Club

Thursday - 2:30-3:30 in the Choir Room - Chorale

Friday - Open Currently

These weekly after school rehearsals will start September 8.

CHORUS GRADING POLICY

Classroom Participation - 50% - Following the 5 P's, class participation, warmups, etc.

Students must show maximum effort to earn the best grade.

**Summative Assessments - 20% - Performances, Major rehearsals, Quizzes, Tests,
Self-assessments**

Students are responsible for attending required performances and rehearsals.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS - The Five P's

- 1. Be Prompt: On time and in your seat**
- 2. Be Prepared: music, pencil, and water every day**
- 3. Be Productive: employ good rehearsal skills and habits daily.**
- 4. Be Polite: be kind and considerate to everyone and everything in the room.**
- 5. Be Persistent: don't give in when things get tough.**

CHORUS DUES

For the 2022-2023 school years, chorus fees are \$50.
This includes your Chorale/Crescendo T-shirt, bowtie, music licensing fees, purchase of new sheet music, uniform rental (as needed) and accompanist fees.
CHORUS DUES ARE DUE BY AUGUST 31. Exact change please.
Cash Only and in an envelope marked with student's name.

UNIFORMS **INFORMAL**

CHORALE/CRESCENDO/HIGH TOPS: Chorus T-Shirt, Black Pants or Black Jeans, Black Socks, Black Belts, Black and white Converse All-Stars (high tops) or Converse Chucks (low tops). They can also be off-brand as long as they look uniform.

Informal uniforms are to be worn for dress rehearsals, and the Fall Concert. If helping to chaperone/usher Howard's Got Talent, the T-shirt must be worn then as well.

FORMAL

LADIES: Black solid top with sleeves (length does not matter, but must have sleeves), black floor length skirt OR black slacks, black close-toed shoes (black flats are preferable)

GENTS: White long-sleeved button-down collared shirt, Chorus bowtie, Black Belt, Black dress slacks, Black socks, black dress shoes (please no boots or tennis shoes)

Formal uniforms are to be worn for the December, March, and April concerts.
Please note this is subject to change.

EXTRACURRICULAR EVENTS/FEES

Some optional extra chorus events will require fees that must be paid. In the event that your student chooses to participate and then either does not show up or cancels at the last minute, the fees must still be paid and will not be refunded. Examples of extra chorus events include District Honor Chorus, All State Honor Chorus, UGA Choral Day, socials, etc.

CONFLICTS WITH CHORUS

Conflicts between chorus and other activities are the responsibility of the student. Rehearsal and performance schedules are given out in advance so that arrangements can be made. Students should not become involved with activities that may directly conflict with chorus activities. Students will have this calendar and be well aware of chorus dates ahead of schedule. It is the policy of the chorus to assist students when conflicts arise with their chosen activity and the chorus schedule. All conflicts regarding performances must be worked out in favor of the student's responsibility to chorus. Performances and rehearsals are part of the student's grade. Work is not an excuse for missing any required chorus activity.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLINE

Chorus students have a high profile on campus and in the community. It is imperative that the student's conduct and appearance be exemplary and above reproach. Chorus members have the opportunity to participate in many exciting opportunities, field trips, and activities. As representatives of Howard High School and Bibb County Schools, our students must reflect an image of positive leadership, character, responsibility, and great competitive spirit. Any member who casts discredit to the organization by his/her conduct or actions in chorus, in another class, on a trip, or online, shall be subject to dismissal from the chorus program or may lose a privilege within the program. This decision will be at the director's discretion.

TRAVEL POLICY AND CONDUCT

All students must travel with the choir on all required trips, such as LGPE. Permission to travel with a parent must be given in writing to the choral director and the student must physically be given to the parent/chaperone. Optional trips such as All-State and All-State Reading chorus, students may either drive themselves or go with a parent.

When we travel, we represent the highest standard therefore, the following etiquette must be observed:

1. Be on time for all trips or be left behind.
2. Use proper etiquette (behavior and manners)
3. All students making the trip on the bus will return on the bus. Emergency situations must be cleared and submitted to the director in writing.
4. Students are required to stay with the group and are not to leave assigned areas.
5. Students will obey the chaperone's instructions.
6. Complete Medical Release form and return to Director.
7. Parents are to pick up their child at the scheduled time. The director waiting for an unreasonable amount of time for a student to be picked up may be withdrawn from all future choral activities.

TARDINESS and ABSENCES POLICY

Tardiness is not tolerated and is both disruptive and disrespectful to the students that make it on time. At the tardy bell, the chorus room door will lock. Students must then obtain a pass from the office to enter the choir room.

No more than three excused absences per term.

Emergency situations warrant a conversation with the choir director.

REMIND AND E-MAIL

Choir Notices, reminders, etc will be sent through the school's account with the Remind App. E-mail will also be utilized in the same fashion.

FACEBOOK and INSTAGRAM

@howardhighschoolmusic

RETURN THIS SHEET TO MS. THOMAS

As a current/future member of the Howard High Schools Choirs, I accept and understand that I am responsible for all the policies set forth in the Chorus Handbook. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the best of my ability.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

GRADE

PRINT STUDENT'S NAME

S M L XL XXL XXXL

CIRCLE T-SHIRT SIZE
(Shirts run small).

As the parent of my child, I understand and have read the Choral Handbook in its entirety and understand the policies set forth therein. I grant full permission for my child to be in the Howard High School Choirs. In addition, my child has all permission to attend Chorus Functions. Furthermore, I understand that I must meet all financial obligations.

Parent Signature and Date

Print Parent's Name

Parent's Email Address: _____

RETURN THIS SHEET TO MS THOMAS

Permission Slip/Medical Authorization and Awareness of Risk Form
School Year 2022-2023

Student Name: _____

Whereas, I recognize that Howard High School Choirs are part of an education organization with necessary travel to out of town performances, I, the Parent or Legal Guardian of the named student above, do grant him/her permission to travel with and participate in all school authorized chorus activities under the supervision approved by the directors. I understand that some of these trips may require my child to travel in motorcoaches. I agree not to hold the director, Howard High School, its officers, or the County Board of Education responsible for accidents, injuries, or illness of my child during these trips. In case of an emergency or accident involving my child which in the opinion of the school requires immediate medical or surgical attention, I hereby grant permission to said school authorities to obtain the services of a physician to transport said child to the hospital if it is deemed necessary by school authorities. Also, I hereby grant permission to said physician to treat unless I am present and request otherwise.

Medical History (to be completed by Parent/Guardian)

Student's Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

Father's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please describe any serious health problems the student may have:

Please describe any emotional problems the student may have:

Are there any allergies? Please be specific.

Asthma? Y N

Diabetes? Y N

Health Insurance Company: _____ Policy #: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____