

Grades 7 and 8 Middle School Vocal Music Syllabus  
2011-2012

Instructor – Steve Dyer  
481-1111, Ext. 417  
[sdyer@hollandhall.org](mailto:sdyer@hollandhall.org)

Course Description:

This course is designed to teach basic vocal skills and performance techniques through warm-up exercises and a varied choral repertoire. Students will also be taught age appropriate sight singing and music theory fundamentals necessary for successful development as young musicians. Seventh grade vocal music will learn treble repertoire in two and three parts and begin the introduction of a part for changing voices. Eighth grade vocal music will see the introduction of some soprano, alto, tenor and bass music.

Learning Objectives:

To assist the students in becoming comfortable with their developing voices through vocally appropriate vocalizes, and to develop their musicianship by singing choral music arranged for adolescent voices.

Teaching Methods:

Age appropriate vocal skills and performance techniques will be demonstrated and modeled by the instructor. Students will have a folder of music that will be performed together by 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels in the winter and spring programs. Although daily instructional time will be spent in vocal warm-ups, sight-singing exercises, and presentation of basic music fundamentals, the majority of class time will be utilized rehearsing and interpreting the music being prepared for performance.

Course Materials

Essential Musicianship, Book I, Grades seven and eight, Choral Skills #1

Assessments:

Letter Grades are not given in Vocal Music. Assessments are based on whether the student is approaching, meeting or exceeding the established benchmarks for their particular grade level and the individual benchmarks established for Vocal Music. Participation in the winter and spring concerts, and other announced performances throughout the year is a class requirement, as well as wearing the appropriate performance attire.