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Why Choir?

In today's society there is so much conversation about school curriculum and the use of academic time. With an emphasis on "back to basics" it becomes increasingly more important to focus on music as it relates to this ongoing educational discussion.

Why should a young person join choir? What will it mean to her/his life?

University studies show that music education instills students with responsibility, discipline, maturing social skills, communication and analytical skills. Music students tend to possess the qualities that employers consider essential. Simply put, learning to sing is a positive preparation for life. Music appeals to part of the mind that opens new horizons. The study of music supports wonderment, imagination, appreciation and sensitivity. This creativity leads to an inventive thinking style allowing the individual greater personal choices.

Music is one of the few disciplines that require the individual to access both the cognitive and affective sides of the mind. Critical assessment, the ability to conceptualize and respond to any given situation, is the foundation of intelligence as it applies to living a full rich life, and music is a pathway to this intellectual pattern.

The key to success is completion of the tasks at hand. Positive, productive living is based on the establishment of habits of tenacity, personal persistence, and commitment. In music, commitment is fundamental. It becomes a part of the musician's personality and transfers to every avenue of life. Participation at the level of excellence is not a personal preference in music—it is a requisite. **The musician quickly discovers that it is not the destination, but the journey that counts. It is not the product, but the process.** The joy of music generates further growth and understanding of our very existence.

The Eastview High School vocal music program is a unique organization whose purpose these life-expanding educational opportunities to students so they can further their skills and nurture personal growth and self-appreciation through an array of musical activities and events, while embracing all aspects of vocal music education (six curricular choirs plus Chamber Singers, Camerata, Girl's Night Out, VoiceMale, Freshmen Mixed Ensemble, voice lessons, musical, Bravo!, and numerous solo and ensemble opportunities).

"We must encourage our youngsters in such pursuits as music education. In addition to learning the valuable lesson that it takes hard work to achieve success, no matter what the arena, music education can provide students with a strong sense of determination, improved communication skills, and a host of other qualities essential for successful living."

Edward H. Rensi, President & Chief Operation Officer – USA
McDonald's Corporation

"We cannot forget that music is an integral part of a student's educational element. We must insure that the present 'back to basic' mentality includes access to arts and music education. As we push to increase high school graduation and college entrance requirements, we must not ignore the cultural and artistic development of our students."

Paul Simon, Illinois
Former U.S. Senator

Dear EVHS Choir Members, Parents and Friends:

Welcome to the pride, excitement and fun of the Eastview High School Choir Program! The Eastview High School Choirs have established a tradition of excellence, and we are proud to have earned a reputation as an innovative and exciting organization that provides its membership with quality musical and educational experiences. The *Choral Handbook* reminds all students of the commitment and responsibilities that are necessary to keep our tradition alive. The choral ensemble is a dynamic instrument which consists of an effective amalgamation of diverse spirits. The EVHS choirs are a “melting pot” whose members reflect a cross-section of the student body. A central ingredient to the success of any group effort is the cultivation and maintenance of this collective group. Through our striving for excellence in choral singing, we will develop not only as musicians, but also as people.

Both the choir member and his or her parents should read the following pages. This *Choral Handbook* provides information regarding policies, rules, co-curricular activities, grading policies, organizational structure, calendar, voice lessons and other information necessary to give choir members and their families a clear and concise picture of expectations and opportunities for each EVHS choir student.

Becoming a member of the Eastview High School Choir Program requires a great deal of commitment, hard work and a positive attitude on the part of every individual. These are all essential ingredients that are necessary for success, and are educational outcomes developed in each individual choir member.

Again we welcome you to the pride, excitement and fun of the Eastview High School Choir Program! May all of your experiences be musically satisfying, personally meaningful, and a source of great pleasure and pride!

Sincerely,

The Eastview High School Choir Directors . . .

Judy Sagen

Greg Douma

Kelley Sundin

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EVHS Choir 2009-2010 Curricular Course Offerings

- Choraliers** (9th grade women)
- Lightning Men's Choir** (9-12th grade men)
- Women's Chorale** (10-12th grade women)
- Men's Chorale** (10-12th grade men)
- Cantabile** (10-12th grade women)
- Concert Choir** (11-12th grade women and men)

All students are auditioned and placed into a performing group that best fits their individual needs. All choirs meet daily for one class period the entire year (four quarters). The directors reserve the right to move a student to a different choir at any time due to the student's daily work.

Course Overview:

The Eastview High School Choral Music Program is designed to fulfill the needs of those students who enjoy choral singing. The choirs will perform all styles of choral literature from Renaissance to the Contemporary periods. Emphasis will be placed on solo and ensemble singing. The choirs will perform at festivals, contests, concerts, and other school events.

Learning Outcomes:

To the student: Most of the progress and success that you will achieve comes through your willingness to express yourself, your desire to be an involved member, and your attention to musical details in the music and/or remarks given by the director. To achieve a **high degree of success**, you must be willing to work individually as well as within our performance groups and continually strive to **improve yourself** as a member of the EVHS choirs, and **be proud** of your accomplishments. The EVHS Choirs will maintain a reputation of **performance excellence** through the outstanding work of our students. Talent is nice, but hard work is better appreciated and rewarded.

Vocal Skills Emphasized

Understanding of the proper care and use of the **voice**.

Knowledge and demonstration of **breath support**.

Knowledge and demonstration of **vowel production** and modification (when needed).

Understanding and demonstration of the proper use of **dynamics**.

Understanding and demonstration of **meter signatures**.

Understanding and demonstration of **key signatures**.

Understanding and demonstration of general **music terminology**.

Knowledge and demonstration of **musical phrasing**.

Knowledge and demonstration of **expression markings**.

Personal Skills Emphasized

Pride in yourself and in the EVHS Choral Program.

Working together for a common goal: **the enjoyment of singing.**

Accepting responsibility in attendance at daily rehearsals, special concert rehearsals, concerts, festivals, and lessons.

Positive self-discipline and classroom behavior.

Your development of **leadership** within the choral program.

Your willingness to **continually develop** your singing voice.

To discover choral music as an **art**.

To learn to become **intelligent and sensitive** musicians in expressing the emotion of music.

Striving to improve yourself and the EVHS choirs to be **the best that you can be!**

To set **standards of excellence** for the future.

Respecting your fellow students and directors.

To become a better **listener**.

Working together to develop **self-confidence**.

Showing a desire to **attract new students** into the choir program.

Required Materials

Each student will be assigned a specifically numbered music folder for the entire school year. You will be held responsible for this assigned music folder *and a pencil* in that folder to mark your music during every rehearsal. All music will be furnished. The folder as well as your music must remain in excellent condition or you will be required to pay for any damaged materials.

Attendance Policy

Since every rehearsal is a combined group effort of the entire choir, your attendance at rehearsals is essential. New concepts, sight singing, working on phrasing and notes, rhythms, intonation, and ensemble singing will be stressed on a daily basis. Musicianship and group interaction will be emphasized during each rehearsal.

Concerning daily attendance and tardiness, we will abide by the same rules as the **EVHS Student Attendance Policy**. Any student who accumulates 8 or more absences in one quarter will not receive credit for the course. It is expected that when the tardy bell rings, you are ready to begin class. If you are not ready when the director(s) begins, you will be required to sign the Tardy Book. Upon reaching three tardies in a quarter, a detention will be assigned, as is the EVHS policy.

There is to be **NO TALKING!** Daily participation and promptness counts toward your final quarter grade (see grading system). It is important that we have as much rehearsal time as possible. Group choral exercises (voice-builders) and announcements are scheduled at the beginning of each rehearsal. Students arriving late will not have the opportunity to hear these announcements or to properly train their voice.

Rules of Conduct

Whenever and wherever the choir appears in public we are representatives of the entire music program at Eastview High School, the school itself, and all citizens and alumni who are in any way associated with this great school. Whether in performance attire or out, at a performance or a practice, on the road or at home, in an official capacity or in a social setting, **members of the Eastview High School Choral Program must conduct themselves in a mature, responsible, courteous, respectful and professional manner.** Anything done by a single member of the choir reflects on the entire choral organization, its leaders, and the school and community. Just as we strive for excellence in our music, we also do so in our behavior and the manner in which we conduct ourselves.

1. RESPECT YOUR FELLOW CHOIR MEMBERS AND CHOIR ROOM:

- Use appropriate and courteous language
- Be sincere, fair, and nice
- Treat the building with care
- No writing on white boards, bulletin boards or posters
- Pick up trash – even if it's not yours to begin with!
- Take good care of equipment
- Look out for the private property of others

2. Be on time! Come prepared and not bearing excuses on the contrary.

3. Think positive. Look for creative solutions if you see problems. If necessary contact the Choir Directors.

4. Cooperate fully with directors or anyone else who is in a position of leadership (this includes substitute teachers, guest directors and officers).

- No talking when anyone is “on the podium” working with the group.
- You are held accountable for any information presented in a rehearsal or posted on the board.
- When in a sectional, your section leader is in charge and is to be treated in the same manner as your Directors.

5. All Minnesota State High School League Rules and Eastview High School Rules will be followed and enforced, at home and “on the road”:

- Smoking, use and/or possession of any alcohol, tobacco, weapons, or any mood altering chemical substances, is strictly forbidden and will not be tolerated!

6. You are responsible for the safekeeping of your music, pencil, performance attire, and any other school owned equipment you may use. Loss or damage of school owned property will become your financial responsibility (repair and/or new replacement).

7. ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD, GUM, OR BEVERAGES IN THE CHOIR ROOM DURING THE SCHOOL DAY. The only exception is water in a clear bottle. Pick up after yourself!

8. The Choir Office is used as a professional space for your Directors. Students are asked to knock and wait for an invitation to enter.

- We love to have visits from our students, but please be sensitive to our needs to have professional time.
- The Choir Office or music hallway is not your locker. Please respect our organizational space.

9. No personal items such as calculators, cell phones, make-up, hand lotion, perfume, hairspray, combs, hair brushes, curling irons, mirrors, etc. will be used (or seen) during the rehearsal.
- **CELL PHONES, IPODS & SIMILAR DEVICES WILL BE CONFISCATED FOR THE PERIOD IF THEY ARE SEEN AND THE STUDENT'S GRADE WILL BE LOWERED!** Future infractions will result in the student being sent to the Main Office.

10. Correct posture in rehearsals is six on the floor. (Your two feet and the four legs of the chair!)

11. **NO HATS WILL BE WORN IN THE CHOIR ROOM!**

12. Develop your personal skills when in the Choir Department. Be tactful, respectful, courteous, supportive, diligent, conscientious . . . and smile!

Final Note: As you know, your grade depends on your daily attendance and participation. Your inability to abstain from **TALKING** will be a negative influence on your grade. Choir students are traditionally from the upper 25% of their class. You are **BRIGHT, TALENTED, and VERY ACTIVE** in all school activities. However, **NO STUDENT**, has the **RIGHT TO DISTRACT** this class or any member of this class during the choir rehearsal. It is an **INFRINGEMENT** on other students, on the director, on the process of learning and on the enjoyment of music. **NO ONE** will be permitted to interrupt the education of others!

Attendance at Concerts/Performances

Attendance at concerts/performances is required and is part of the grading criteria in choir classes. This is a fundamental and integral part of your membership in choir. Concerts and performances are a public demonstration of what has been learned in choir (“authentic performance assessment of learning”). Music is meant to be heard. Each performer in the ensemble is dependent on each choir member being present to perform his or her part. Because the choir is more than just a collection of individual performers, it is necessary that we rehearse and perform as a unified group. A problem with an individual performer’s attendance seriously inhibits our consistency and excellence. Every attempt has been made to structure a performance calendar that includes a reasonable number of performances.

The only **excused absences** from a performance are:

- You are ill the day of the performance and are absent from the majority of the school day. To perform you must attend at least a half day of classes. If you must miss more than half a day, **please call** the Choir Office, (952) 431-8953, in advance to report your illness/absence.
- A family emergency occurs. Please call the Choir Office, (952) 431-8953.

Unexcused absences from performances will negatively affect the letter-grade in choir, and may lead to the loss of choir membership.

Student jobs or work conflicts are absolutely no excuses for missing a concert/performance. A year long Choir Calendar appears in this handbook. Read and share this calendar information with your parents, employer, coaches, etc., and check for possible conflicts. *In the event of a conflict, **COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY!*** Talk to your Choir Director, we support YOU! Every attempt will be made to be fair and understanding in the event of unusual circumstances.

Choir Grading Policy

Each vocal music student participating in choir has the opportunity to earn an “A” grade that will not be based on talent or personality. Your grade will be based on the level at which you perform in each rehearsal and performance.

Rehearsal Skills (50%)
Written Work (10%)
Concert Attendance (30%)
Choir Lesson (10%)

Rehearsal Skills (50%): Each vocal student is expected to be in class **ON TIME** and be ready to work! When warm-ups or announcements begin, you should be in your seat with your music. You will be evaluated on your punctuality and active, positive participation. Behavior problems will result in the lowering of the student’s grade.

Written Work (10%): Being a well-rounded choral student means not only learning how to sing effectively, but also developing a solid understanding of musical concepts. EVHS choir students will complete worksheets and quizzes that help to reinforce these educational values. Occasionally, journal and writing assignments will be assigned.

Concert/Festival/Performance Attendance (30%): This will be the easiest 30 points earned for this quarter. When we perform, everyone is expected to be there at the stated time. A make-up assignment will be assigned for those students that have an “excused” absence for a concert or performance. Unexcused absences will lose grade points without the opportunity to make these points up. It is not only expected that you be at the concert, but that you have made a suitable effort to come *prepared* to the concert. The directors reserve the right to keep any student from performing if he or she has not shown adequate attendance or acceptable behavior. A concert is not only part of your grade (such as a test) it is also a *privilege!*

Choir Lessons with Director (10%): Each student will be required to attend 1 voice lesson and required sectionals each quarter. Each student will be required to sign up, get the appropriate pass, and report to the voice lesson on time! Please note that there will be no voice lessons given the last week of the quarter. Since there always seems to be a last minute rush towards the end of the quarter, it is in your best interest to complete this requirement early. **The director may call sectionals** from time to time. Attendance at these rehearsals will also count toward your voice lesson grade.

Choir Grading Curve: You will notice the curve appears different than in other classes. It has been carefully calculated so that it MOST ACCURATELY reflects the grades earned in class, based on tasks assigned.

Choir Grading Curve

%	Grade
95+	A
92	A-
89	B+
86	B
83	B-
80	C+
76	C
73	C-
70	D+
66	D
63	D-
62-	F

Qualities of the “A” student:

1. Shows that he or she is **ready** for class to begin immediately after the last bell rings.
2. **Participates** at all times (during stretches, warm-ups, rehearsal)
3. Pays **attention** to the director.
4. Shows an understanding that a successful choir demands individual **responsibility** and mental **focus**.
5. Attends class on a regular basis with minimal **absences**.
6. Attends all concerts.
7. Attends voice **lesson** each quarter.
8. Does not wear hats.
9. Does not have food, candy or beverage in the room – and doesn’t need to be reminded!
10. Does not chew gum in the room – and doesn’t need to be reminded!
11. Does not have playing cards, calculators or other “not-essential-for-music” items.
12. Does not work on homework for other classes during rehearsal.
13. Completes all assigned worksheets and evaluations thoroughly and with attention to detail.
14. Displays **teamwork** and an understanding that a choir is only as strong as its least attentive member.
15. **Respects** the music!
16. Sits and stands with appropriate **posture**.
17. Uses a pencil to write in the music any notes provided from the director.
18. Exhibits **leadership** in his or her section and works hard to contribute to the success of the choir.
19. Treats his or her robe or blazer with care and responsibility.
20. Always returns his or her folder to its correct slot.
21. Volunteers to help out without hesitation
22. Brings to class a positive attitude and shares it honestly and sincerely.

Concert Attire for EVHS Curricular Choirs

Appearance is important! An audience first “bears” you with their eyes!

Concert Choir, Cantabile, Women’s Chorale: Members of these three choirs will wear robes or assigned dresses for all performances. For both men and women, the color of preference is **BLACK**. This means Black Pants, Black Shoes, and Black Socks for the men. For the women, this will include black sheer hose, black character shoes, plus a nice dress or skirt under the robe. Please note: You are responsible for the robe and stole assigned to you. You will **NOT** change robes during the year without permission from the Director. If your robe is lost, stolen or damaged, you are expected to replace it at your own expense. *Exactly one week* after every concert, you are expected to have hung up your own robe in the robe room or the rack provided.

Lightning Men’s Choir: Black Men’s Choir Polo Shirt (can be purchased for \$20.00 new, \$10.00 used), tan/khaki pants, dark shoes (black or brown leather is preferred).

Choraliers: Dresses or a skirt and top.

Men’s Chorale: Members of this choir will wear a white dress shirt and tie, tan/khaki dress pants, dark dress shoes, and a navy blazer. Eastview High School will provide the navy blazers.

Choir Lessons

Lessons with the EVHS Choir Directors

Each EVHS choir student is required to attend 1 voice lesson or required sectional each quarter. A weekly schedule of voice lesson times will be posted outside the Choir Office. It is the student’s responsibility to choose a time is not disruptive to his or her other classes, such as a study hall or before or after school. **Please understand that**

any teacher has the right to deny your voice lesson pass. This is a privilege and must NOT be disrespected. You should try to schedule your lessons during a study hall. If you must sign up to have a lesson during a class, be sure to communicate with your teacher in advance of the lesson. You are responsible to make up any work missed. **Students who abuse this privilege will lose their credit in this area.**

Private Lesson Instruction

Besides having lessons with your Choir Director, students also have the opportunity to study with one of Eastview's private voice faculty. This is an option that is definitely encouraged but is not a requirement. Both private and class (group) lessons are offered. Each participating student will receive one 30-minute lesson per week. The lessons are given during the choir period, study halls, or classes they have prearranged with their teacher to miss. Lesson tuition is based on 8 contact times and is paid directly to the individual instructor. Tuition rates are as follows:

Half-hour Private Voice Instruction: \$160.00 per quarter

Half-hour Class/Group Voice Instruction: \$53.00 per quarter

We hope to make this experience a positive one, which will help students grow musically through individual contact with an instructor. This personal contact will enable them opportunities to perform in recitals and studio classes, prepare for all school auditioned activities (Bravo!/Musical) as well as school music competitions or their own musical activities in the community.

An EVHS Choir Private Lesson form is found in the back of this Handbook. This form must be completed and signed by both the student and parents and returned to the Choir Director before a student will be scheduled for lessons. Students will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. It is important to get your forms in early! Our voice faculty is extremely busy and the voice lesson slots fill up very quickly.

The back page of this handbook is a form you can turn in if you wish to take lessons!

Choral Department Officers

Choir Officers will be selected or appointed the last week of the previous school year from the Concert Choir. These officers will have the opportunity to assist and advise the choral directors in various matters pertaining to the entire organization.

2009-2010 Choir Officers

President – Taylor Misiak
Vice-President – Mike Myslinski
Secretary – Molly Placeway
Treasurer – Liz Hawkins
Historian – Kaelyn Pederson
Librarian – Ben Stofferahn

President: The President is perhaps the most visible of all of the Officers. Therefore, this person must be a positive role model for all students in the Program. Specific duties include, but are not limited to:

- Daily announcements in Concert Choir.
- Welcome/Introduction at each concert (at both the early and the late concerts).
- Coordinate ushers on concert nights.
- Run the point on Department bulletin boards.
- Monitor any volunteer activities throughout the year and take attendance
- Represent the concerns and needs of your fellow choir members by being an open and responsive leader.
- Be a visible assistance to any substitute teacher throughout the year.

Vice-President: The Vice-President is first in line to assist the President. Similarly, this person must be a hard worker with a positive attitude. Specific duties include, but are not limited to:

- Monthly Robe Room maintenance.
- Every Friday, go through the Tardy Book and notify directors of tardy status
- Be involved in any departmental volunteer activities.
- Be a visible assistance to any substitute teacher throughout the year.

Secretary/Communications Specialist: The Secretary/CS must be very organized and detail-oriented and possess good writing skills.

Specific duties include, but are not limited to:

- Take daily Attendance in Concert Choir.
- Distribute lesson passes to members of Concert Choir.
- Run the point on Awards and Lettering at the end of the year.
- Be involved in any departmental volunteer activities.
- Gather names, addresses, email addresses and phone numbers of area newspapers (from Ms. Kinney).
- Send emails to parents about upcoming concerts (check with directors for specifics).
- Send emails to the choir when necessary (connect with President for announcements).
- Submit announcements to the Main Office (Barb Highum and Nancy Snoeyenbos) when necessary.
- Contact parents for volunteer needs when they arise (see directors).
- Write thank-you notes, when appropriate, in a timely manner.

Treasurer: The Treasurer must be good with numbers and record-keeping. He or she must be organized and detail-oriented. This person will work closely with Mr. Douma to ensure all financial tallies are up-to-date. Specific duties include, but are not limited to:

- Keep *accurate records* for any money turned in throughout the year and turn money into Mr. Douma (fundraisers, T-shirts, meal reimbursements, etc.). Work with the President to make any necessary announcements regarding payment deadlines, etc.
- Establish a consistent system (with Mr. Douma) for the turning in of money (already counted).
- Be involved in any departmental volunteer activities.

Historian: This person will continually take pictures and notes for a choral archive that can be used for the end of the year video, as well as the Newsletter or press releases. Specific duties include, but are not limited to:

- Have a camera at *all* choir-related events!
- Communicate with Yearbook staff (Ms. Alexander) regarding photos and rosters.
- Create and maintain a Social Board which features various events, activities and accomplishments of choir students.
- Gather senior pictures from Concert Choir by March 1 (communicate with directors regarding pictures from Cantabile and the Chorales).
- Gather baby pictures from Concert Choir by March 20 (communicate with directors regarding pictures from Cantabile and the Chorales). Communicate with parents via email early in the year (remind them later).
- Create the slide show for the Spring Concert.
- Frame the senior picture poster for the wall at the end of the year.
- When newsworthy events occur in the Department (All-State, honors, etc.) contact area press. Collect photos of such events from Historian.
- Potential to develop the Choir Website (see directors for ideas).
- Potential to develop a Choir Newsletter (see directors for ideas).

Technology Assistant This person will provide assistance to the Department in any music production or technological capacities (such as CD creation, recording, scanning and MIDI recording).

Librarian Assistants: This person(s) will assist the Treasurer in cataloguing and organizing music that is used throughout the year. This includes music which is either borrowed from another school or loaned to another school. Duties also include entering new music into the choral library spreadsheet and filing it appropriately. It is important that this person(s) is very organized, conscientious and has good communication skills. A time commitment is most needed the days immediately following a concert.

Student Aides: Students may register to be a student aide for a choir director. This must be approved by Student Services, as well as the choir director. This person will assist in various departmental/organizational activities, including the chance of helping in the choral rehearsal.

Section Leaders: The section leader is a student selected by the directors who will take the **leadership** role as a **positive role model**. This is a **dependable** student who has demonstrated significant **pride** in our organization and can be counted on to plan and lead sectional rehearsals at the director's instruction. Section leaders will have an "ear out" for those students who they hear are having problems with the music, and will seek to assist these students improve their daily work. The student section leaders will assist their section in making the appropriate markings on their scores. Above all else, the section leader must hold him/herself to the highest standard, exemplifying the department's ideals and standards.

Co-Curricular Vocal Music Activities Offered at EVHS

These are Choir ACTIVITIES (not classes) that meet outside of the school day and are open to students in grades 9-12. See the instructors for more specific information and a schedule of specific choir activities.

Your participation in these EVHS Choir Co-Curricular activities will earn you points that accumulate towards a Vocal Music Letter (*see the Vocal Music Letter Policy on page 16 for more information*).

Chamber Singers

(September – May, rehearses every Monday, 5:00 – 6:30pm)

The Chamber Singers is a select ensemble of 16-24 voices, from the Concert Choir. Auditions are held during the first three weeks of school. The ensemble performs throughout the school year in concerts, festivals, solo and ensemble contest, and holiday caroling. All auditions are held in private. The singer must make Chamber Singers a priority in his or her personal schedule. Concert Attire will be Black tuxes for the men, Black dresses for the women.

Camerata

(September – April 10, rehearse Mondays, 5:00-6:00pm)

Camerata is a select chamber choir of approximately 24 voices that performs a variety of musical styles. Open by audition to any choir student, grades 10-12, the ensemble performs in the December and March concerts, as well as at the Solo & Ensemble Contest. Various community performances, such as caroling, may also be scheduled. Concert attire will be decided at a later date.

Girls' Night Out

(September – May, rehearse Mondays, 5:00-6:00)

Girl's Night Out is a select ensemble of female voices. This group will perform at various EVHS events as well as community events and other special performances. Auditions are held in the fall. GNO will focus on challenging and diverse musical styles. It is essential that each singer be at all rehearsals and performances. Individual practice time is expected. Concert attire will be decided in the fall.

Freshmen Select Ensemble

(September – May, rehearse weekly at 6:45am, day TBD)

This select ensemble is just for students in grade 9. This ensemble will perform throughout the school year at various concerts and events (including Solo & Ensemble Festival) as determined by the director.

VoiceMale

(September – December & April – May, rehearsal time TBA)

VoiceMale is a select ensemble of male voices. This group will perform at various EVHS events as well as community events and other special performances. Auditions are held in the fall. Members of VoiceMale take on added responsibility in the choral program. They are a very visible musical ensemble in the community and at EVHS. It is essential that each singer be at all rehearsals and performances. Individual practice time is expected. Concert attire will be decided in the fall.

Musical: *Annie*

Performance Dates: Dec. 11-13, 18-19

Audition Dates: Sept. 16, 18

EVHS Activity Fee: \$70

A full-staged musical is performed each year at EVHS and is selected by the drama and music departments. The musical incorporates singing, acting, dancing, scenic design, and instrumental performance. It's a great collaborative effort between the performing arts departments. This year's production is the classic, *Annie*.

All-State Choir Auditions

Audition Date: March 12, 2010

Each year, MMEA (Minnesota Music Educators Association) sponsors three All-State Choirs. They are a Men's Choir, a Women's Choir, and a Mixed Choir. There is a week long choir camp held in the summer on a college campus in order to prepare the choirs for a live performance and also for a recording session. The ensembles perform again in February for the annual MMEA Mid-Winter Clinic and sing at Orchestra Hall.

There is a \$12 All-State audition fee. Deadline date is January 15, 2010.

Students who wish to audition must currently be in 10th or 11th grade, must have a solo prepared, and must have the recommendation of their choir director. Strong sight-reading skills are necessary.

Solo and Ensemble Contest

Date: April 10, 2010

Solo and Small Ensemble Contest is an opportunity provided by the Minnesota State High School League for students to grow musically by entering a competition as a soloist or as part of a small group. Contests are held by Region 1AA. All high schools that are part of the region are invited to participate.

There is a small fee for each event: \$12 for each solo entry and \$17 for each duet or small ensemble entry. Fees are waived for co-curricular groups (such as Chamber, Camerata, Girls' Night Out or Freshmen Select) who have already paid a school activity fee.

If you choose to participate, you need to commit to the following process:

1. Choose your musical selection with director or voice teacher
2. Have at least four lessons on your contest music
3. Plan for individual preparation and practice time
4. Schedule practice time with your accompanist
5. Perform your selection for your choir

BRAVO! 2010: *As Time Goes By: a Tribute to the Decades!*

EVHS Activity Fee: \$70

Performance Dates: April 23-25, 29-30, May 1

Audition Dates: February 8-9 (Dance Feb. 17)

BRAVO! is Eastview High School's all school musical revue. Each year a theme idea is selected and developed into a full musical production including singing, dancing, and drama. This year's Bravo! production is titled, *As Time Goes By: a Tribute to the Decades!*

Vocal Music Lettering Policy

All choir members have the opportunity to earn a letter in the EVHS choir program. This award is for recognizing additional service and musical achievement, both in furthering the choir organization and their own personal growth, throughout their participation in choir co-curricular activities, (co-curricular: choir activities that take place outside of the curricular school day, but relate to the daily choir class/curricular experiences). Points can be earned in a variety of co-curricular choir activities, as listed below. These points accumulate until the student earns a letter. After a student earns their letter, they start over at zero and begin working towards another letter in the fall. **Students are responsible** for keeping any programs or other proof of concert attendance (counting towards a Letter) to be turned in at the end of the year.

Name _____ Grade _____

TOTAL (from below) _____

EVHS Choir Lettering Form

To earn a letter, a total of 35 points must be earned from any of the following:

POINTS

Solo/Ensemble Contest Entry (5 pts per entry)	15 pts max	_____
Participation in Bravo! or EVHS Musical (Points toward musical can be applied to <i>either</i> choir or drama but not both)	7 pts each	_____
Co-curricular Ensemble Chamber - 20 pts; Camerata, GNO, Freshmen Select – 15 pts; VoiceMale – 10 pts	see below	_____
Private/Group Voice Lessons (private teacher) (1 pt per quarter; 5 pts for a whole year; 1 pt for previous summer) (RETURN THE APPROPRIATE SIGNED FORM if taking voice lessons from a teacher outside of EVHS)	1-6 pts	_____
Piano Lessons (studying currently) (RETURN THE APPROPRIATE SIGNED FORM)	3 pts	_____
Piano Accompanist (Solo/Ensemble or Concert) (1 pt per concert)	1-5 pts	_____
Instrumental Accompanist for a concert (percussion, bass, guitar etc.) (1 pt. per concert)	5 pts max	_____
Member of MN All-State Choir	6 pts	_____
Participation in Anacrusis, St. John's Festival, Dorian, or ACDA Honor Choir	2 pts	_____
Performed in EVHS Masterclass Day	2 pts	_____
Attended Choir Concerts or Musicals in which you do not perform this yr only (1 pt per concert – TURN IN PROGRAM and LIST ON BACK)	10 pts max	_____
All-State Choir Auditions	2 pts	_____
Anacrusis Audition CD	1 pt	_____
Active church or community choir member (RETURN THE APPROPRIATE FORM SIGNED BY YOUR DIRECTOR)	5 pts	_____
Church soloist 1 pt per solo (RETURN THE APPROPRIATE FORM SIGNED BY YOUR DIRECTOR)	3 pts max	_____
Church Musical (RETURN THE APPROPRIATE FORM SIGNED BY YOUR DIRECTOR)	2 pts	_____
Community Musical (RETURN THE APPROPRIATE FORM SIGNED BY YOUR DIRECTOR)	2 pts	_____
Perform National Anthem at athletic event (1 pt each) (LIST ATHLETIC EVENTS ON BACK)	10 pts max	_____
Ushering/Working at Concerts or contests (1 pt each)	5 pts max	_____

(LIST ON NEXT PAGE WHICH CONCERTS/CONTESTS)

Summer Music Camp or Clinic, 3 pts each _____
(occurring during summer *before* current school year
this does not include band, theater or All-State camps)

(LIST BELOW WHAT CAMP/WHERE/WHEN)

Student Aide for a choir director (**DETERMINED BY DIRECTOR**) 1-2 pts _____

Choir Officer 3 pts _____

Miscellaneous: (**DETERMINED BY DIRECTOR**) 1-3 pts _____

(music filing, August set-up, June clean-up,
summer volunteer, computer work, robe room assistance)

(LIST BELOW)

Subtotal points: _____

Did you letter last year (2006-2007)? _____

If not, points carried over from last year: _____

TOTAL POINTS: _____

List Choir Concerts or Musicals that you have attended or worked as usher (but not performed in-10 pts total) Must have verification!

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 6. |
| 2. | 7. |
| 3. | 8. |
| 4. | 9. |
| 5. | 10. |

List Events where you have sung the National Anthem: (10 pts total)

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 6. |
| 2. | 7. |
| 3. | 8. |
| 4. | 9. |
| 5. | 10. |

If you attended a Summer Music Camp: (3 pts)

Where _____ When _____

Miscellaneous: Check the job that you have assisted in to help out the EVHS Choral Department: (1 pt. each)

_____ Summer Volunteer _____ Robe Room Assistance

_____ June Clean-up _____ Music Sorting/filing

EVHS Choral Calendar 2009-2010

Aug. 30	Concert Choir Retreat, Camp Sacajawea
Sept. 11	Coronation auditions
Sept. 14-15	Co-Curricular Choir Auditions, grades 10-12
Sept. 16, 18	Musical auditions (Call-backs scheduled for Sept. 23, 4-7pm)
Oct. 14	9-10 Honor Choir tapes due (9 th & 10 th graders only)
Oct. 31 (Sat)	ACDA Men's/Women's Choir Festival – St. John's University
Nov. 2 (Mon)	Fall Concerts, 6:00pm & 7:30pm – EVHS Performing Arts Center
Nov. 5 (Thur)	Dakota Valley clinic, Periods 1-7 (Concert Choir only)
Nov. 8 (Sun)	Dakota Valley Festival, noon-5:00; 7:30pm concert – Prince of Peace, Burnsville (Concert Choir only)
Dec. 11-13, 18-19	<i>Annie</i> , musical theater production
Dec. 20	Strike <i>Annie</i> and Set-Up for Winter concerts
Dec. 21 (Mon)	Winter Concerts, 6:00pm & 8:00pm – EVHS PAC
Jan. 9-11	Dorian Vocal Festival – Luther College
Jan. 20	Men's Choir Festival, periods 1-7 (Men's Chorale only)
Feb. 5	Voices of Hope singathon
Feb. 8-9	<i>Bravo!</i> Auditions (vocal) – Call-Backs on Fri, Feb. 26 3:30-?
Feb. 9	Lake Conference Treble Choir Festival, at Eden Prairie (Women's Chorale only)
Feb. 16-19, 22-23	2010-2011 Choir Auditions (<i>all</i> current choir members must audition)
Feb. 11-13	MMEA Mid-Winter Clinic (9-10 Honor Choir is Feb. 12, All-State is Feb. 12-13)
Feb. 17	<i>Bravo!</i> Dance auditions
Feb. 24	Lake Conference Concert Choir Festival, at Lakeville South (Concert Choir only)
March 2	Masterclass Day
March 3-6	ACDA Divisional Convention Honor Choirs
March 12	All-State Auditions, EVHS
March 13 (Sat)	Copland Opera with Vocalessence, Ted Mann Concert Hall (Concert Choir only)
March 16 (Tues)	Masterworks Concerts, 6:00pm & 7:30pm – EVHS PAC
April 10 (Sat)	Solo & Ensemble Contest – RHS, noon-6:00pm
April 23-25, 29-30, May 1	<i>Bravo!</i> Performances
May 27 (Thur)	Spring Concert & Awards, 6:00pm & 7:30pm – EVHS PAC
June 5 (Sat)	Commencement (Concert Choir only), Time TBD
August 29	Concert Choir Retreat (<i>mandatory</i>), details TBD

Note: Check the Choir Website for more information at
<http://www.district196.org/schools/evhs/activities/PerformingArts/Choir/index.htm>
Voice Lessons Permission Form

_____ has indicated an interest in taking voice lessons. He/She will be assigned a lesson day, time and teacher after returning this completed form.

Please circle your first choice:

Private Voice Lesson (\$160/quarter)

Class Voice Lessons (\$53/quarter)

Previous private or class voice teacher(s): (if any) _____

If there is availability, do you wish to continue with this teacher? (circle one) **YES** **NO**

Parent's Signature _____

Student's Signature _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Parent's Email _____

Student's Email _____

Please write in your current class schedule below:

Period 1 _____

Period 2 _____

Period 3 _____

Period 4 _____

Period 5 _____

Lunch: A B C D (circle one)

Period 6 _____

Period 7 _____

Are you available for lessons after school? YES NO Which days?

Are you available for lessons before school? YES NO Which days?

Are you available for lessons on Saturday?

YES NO