

MUSIC TIME

SMS CHOIR & PIANO NEWSLETTER

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2018 VOL. 1 NO. 1



INTRO TO PIANO

The Intro to Piano class is not just for beginners! This class is designed to teach beginners and to accommodate students beyond the beginning level.



HONOR CHOIR

Honor Choir is a year long advanced choir class for 7th and 8th students.



VOCAL EEEZE JAZZ CHOIR

VocalEeze is a select group of 7th & 8th grade students that perform with our Jazz Band. It's also a precursor to Vista Ridge High School's Show Choir.



6TH GRADE CHOIR

A quarterly choir class that explores the methods and practices of the fundamentals and skills of vocal techniques.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: <https://hjarmon.wixsite.com/website>

eMail: hjarmon@d49.org

Office Phone: (719) 495-1149 ext. 4260

CLASS FEES: Intro to Piano & Honor Choir \$25

GETTING OUT OF THE COMFORT ZONE

Music Time Newsletter will be available on a "need to know" basis! I usually keep a brief news page on the Skyview School Newsletter that entails short news briefs and concert information. Please bookmark my website to view the full length **Music Time Newsletter!**



THINGS YOUR PIANO STUDENT NEEDS TO BRING TO CLASS EVERYDAY!

Piano Students are required to bring their notebooks to class everyday! Student notebooks are essentially their class textbook! Each student will need a 1-1/2" - 2" three ring binder with dividers and pencils.

Piano Students are also required to have the following items:

- *Piano keyboard or piano to practice on at home
- *Headphones or earbuds to bring everyday for class

FIELD TRIPS are optional. I like taking the kids to perform for the most forgotten members of our society - Senior Citizens. Stay tuned in upcoming newsletters for more information!

Piano Software is provided by eMedia Piano Methods. Each student will receive a serial number and download instructions so they can practice their lessons at home. If the download does not work, contact me immediately.

IS PRACTICE REALLY NECESSARY?

Many students who take a piano class are excited for the first week or two and then when they realize that practicing is a huge part of success, many struggle with the thought of tackling this monster! I will provide various tips on helping you to encourage your student to take the time to practice daily!

RECITALS

Piano Concerts or Recitals are a large part of your students grade. Each piano student is **REQUIRED** to perform in each recital! Please mark our calendar for these very important dates:

Christmas Recital - Dec. 14th @ 6pm
Spring Recital - May 10th @ 6pm



WHAT TO EXPECT IN A PIANO LAB CLASS.....

A piano lab class is very different from receiving piano instruction from a private teacher in a studio! Each student learns at their own pace in a classroom setting. I give direct instruction and the material is reinforced through the eMedia software. Students put the material to practice via the software lessons. We also have master classes where the students perform for each other. This teaches students the basics of solo performance and helps build their confidence as a soloist!

The first semester will be very rudimentary as students learn music history and the basic music theoretic fundamentals. They will also be receiving their first recital piece. I cannot stress enough the importance of practice! Each student will create an account on the online website below: <https://www.onlinepracticerecord.com>

Practice logs are due weekly. Students who do not turn in their logs will receive a failing grade which cannot be made up.



Students will have the opportunity to receive one-on-one instruction during class as well as during REACH.

THINGS YOUR HONOR CHOIR STUDENT NEEDS TO BRING TO CLASS EVERYDAY!

Honor Choir Students are required to bring their notebooks to class everyday! Student notebooks are essentially their class textbook! Each student will need a 1-1/2" - 2" three ring binder with dividers and pencils. Each student will receive their performance music for the year before the end of August.

Please Note: Students will be responsible for losing or damaging their music. Replacement costs will vary.

Uniforms

Students will be issued uniforms by the end of August. Boys will receive a tuxedo coat and girls will receive a gown. These uniforms have been dry cleaned, so please DO NOT take it upon yourself to have them cleaned! Students will return the uniforms at the end of the school year.

Jazz choir students will also receive the following uniforms:

- *Boys - black dress shirt
- *Girls - purple top & black skirt

Please Note: Students will be responsible for damaged or lost uniforms.

Concerts

Participation in all concerts are required for Honor Choir students. Performances are a major part of their grades and missing them robs my students the opportunity to showcase their hard work for the year! Please mark your calendar for these important concert dates:

- All-School Concert - Dec. 6th**
- Christmas Concert - Dec. 11th**
- Spring Concert - April 30th**
- All-School Concert - May 16th**



GOING FOR THE GOLD! CHSAA LARGE ENSEMBLE CHORAL COMPETITION

Every year Colorado High School Athletics & Activities Association (CHSAA) is host to music competitions across the state for high school and middle school students in all areas of music performance as large ensemble to solo & small ensemble. Choral competitions are usually held in late March to early April. As the schedule becomes available I will be notifying parents of the date and times.

My students work extremely hard for this one time event! They learn the songs at the beginning of the year and work regularly to perfect the techniques and the pronunciation of all foreign words. Their vocal skills and techniques are not the only thing adjudicated, but their sight-singing abilities are judged as well. This takes work and practice! Students will be responsible and graded for completing their practice logs on a regular basis! Recording Tracks will be available on my website so students can sing using the recorded tracks!

All Practice Logs will be submitted through Schoology!



VocalEeze is a hand-selected group of 7th and 8th grade students to perform in this non-graded choir. They perform on Jazz Night with the SMS Jazz Band! I also teach the group to learn basic vocal jazz techniques and prepare the 8th graders for Vista Ridge's Show Choir!

Students will receive uniforms once the group has been put together. Each student will be responsible for their uniforms. Students will be responsible for any damaged or lost uniforms. I will keep and manage the accessories.

BOYS: black shirt

GIRLS: purple sequined top and black flared skirt

VocalEeze also performs in the All-School Christmas and Spring concerts!

THINGS YOUR HONOR CHOIR STUDENT NEEDS TO BRING TO CLASS EVERYDAY!

6th Choir Students are required to have their folder in class everyday! Student music folders are essentially their class textbook! Each student will need a plastic folder and pencils. Each student will receive their performance music for the quarter.

Please Note: Students will be responsible for losing or damaging their music. Replacement costs will vary.

Class Performances

All 6th grade choirs are required to perform. **However, all performances are not concerts!**

First and third quarter classes will participate and perform "In-Class Performances". Students from at least two other classes will be able to attend these performances and give constructive as well as positive feedback. Parents are welcome to attend these performances.

Concerts

Participation in all concerts are required for 6th Grade Choir students. Performances are a major part of their grades and missing them robs my students the opportunity to showcase their hard work for the quarter! Please mark your calendar for these important concert dates:

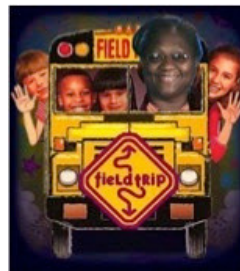
All-School Concert - Dec. 6th
Christmas Concert - Dec. 11th
Spring Concert - April 30th
All-School Concert - May 16th

Field Trips

Colorado Springs Philharmonic Orchestra gives performances twice a year for students to reinforce Colorado Standards for Music.



The 6th Grade Choirs performs with the Honor Choir in Christmas and Spring concerts. You will see the concerts listed as Honor Choir & Friends - referring to the 6th grade choir classes!



First and Third Quarter students will be attending a field trip to the symphony. Please make sure that you read your emails and check the newsletters (SMS and Music Time) to stay abreast of details regarding all trips.

Students in First quarter will attend their trip during 2nd Quarter. Please mark your calendar for:

NOVEMBER 01, 2018 for "Peter and the Wolf" presented by the Colorado Springs Philharmonic Orchestra. Buses will leave at 10:00 for the 11:00 performance at the Pikes Peak Center. Following the performance, lunch will be at the Citadel Mall.

FEBRUARY 21, 2019 for "The Orchestra Moves" presented by the Colorado Springs Philharmonic Orchestra. Buses will leave at 10:00 for the 11:00 performance at the Pikes Peak Center. Following the performance, lunch will be at the Citadel Mall.

