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Bishop Seabury Academy

CHORAL HANDBOOK

School Year 2021-2022

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# Music Arts

## CHORAL

Mrs. Margie Lawrence, Director of Music Arts/Choral Studies

Dr. Stephanie Henry, Collaborative Pianist

785.832.1717 Mrs. Lawrence

Office Hours 7:45am-8:05am. (MWTHTF) and during study halls and afterschool until 4:30pm.

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# Bishop Seabury Academy

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# Welcome to BSA Choirs

We are glad you are here.

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August 5, 2021

Dear Student,

It is with great pride that we welcome you to the Bishop Seabury Music Arts Department. You are entering an area rich with pride and success attainable only through hard work, dedication and discipline. We are very proud to have you as our student. Our passion is to teach and to make music through the art of choral music singing, interpreting text, and in short creating a work of art that remains in your soul throughout your lifetime.

We believe that music rounds out the complete person. It encourages team work, self-discipline, increases intelligence, improves motor skills and of course adds aesthetic appreciation of the arts.

We hope your choral experience is a wonderful outlet for you. We also hope that your music becomes a source of comfort in your life where you make new friends and keep them forever.

Expectations are high in our classes. We expect your best effort and in return, we will give you every effort to create with you the best musical experience possible.

Have a great year, and welcome!

Mrs. Lawrence and Dr. Henry

BISHOP SEABURY ACADEMY  
MUSIC ARTS

**Instructor**

Margie Lawrence

[margielawrence@seaburyacademy.org](mailto:margielawrence@seaburyacademy.org)

Reese Hall Rm. 205

I am available before school (7:45am-8:05am) on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays in the Music Room, or you may set up an appointment during one of my planning periods before lunch. I am also available after school as productions allow. Please stop by my room or contact me through email if you would like to schedule a time to meet. I will be checking my school email until 6pm M-F. Messages coming in on Friday after 3:30pm will be answered on Monday.

The choral music program at Bishop Seabury Academy is integral to the school's liberal arts mission. Music Arts is considered a co-curricular subject and not an extra-curricular class. It gives the students an opportunity to develop particular skills that enhance their academic abilities. They actually complement the other curricular activities and help students grow in the "Art of living and working together."

**Voci Sesto – Tuesdays and Thursdays 6<sup>th</sup> Hour**

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade ensemble is designed to be experiential and provide a solid foundation of music theory, history and performance. Music of all different styles will be taught. This ensemble prepares the singers to move up to the Middle School ensembles. This course will strengthen the STEAM skills needed at Seabury: development of perceptual skills, language and literary abilities; spatial reasoning (related to skills used to do math); and fine motor coordination.

**Shea Maris – Tuesdays and Thursdays 8<sup>th</sup> Hour**

This 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade ensemble of girls is a two semester required course. The curriculum is designed to further develop the singing voice, ear training, sight singing skills and competency in reading three and four part voicing. Phonetics of various languages and a variety of musical styles are presented. Class work includes singing exercises to build and strengthen the voice, improve diction, breath support and resonance. Music Theory and Music History are also included in daily instruction. Sight singing technique is practiced on a daily basis. Additional work includes singing in small ensembles, written tests, singing tests and required evening performances. This course will strengthen the STEAM skills needed at Seabury: development of perceptual skills, language and literary abilities; spatial reasoning (related to skills used to do math); and fine motor coordination.

### **Mare Falco – Monday and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Hour**

This 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade ensemble of all boys is a two semester required course. The curriculum is designed to help young singers understand and develop the changing male voice, ear-training, sight singing skills and competency in reading three and four part voicing. Phonetics of various languages and a variety of musical styles are presented. Class work includes singing exercise to build, strengthen and carefully guide the voice through its development, improve diction, breath support and resonance. Music Theory and Music History are also included in daily instruction. Sight singing technique will be included on a daily basis. Additional work includes singing in small ensembles, written tests, singing tests and required evening performances. This course will strengthen the STEAM skills needed at Seabury: development of perceptual skills, language and literary abilities; spatial reasoning (related to skills used to do math); and fine motor coordination.

### **Academy Ensemble – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Hour**

This 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade ensemble of boys and girls is a two semester required course. The curriculum is designed to help young singers understand and develop ear-training, sight singing skills and competency in reading three and four part voicing. Listening skills are honed as this ensemble regularly sings four part voicing. Phonetics of various languages and a variety of musical styles are presented. Class work includes singing exercise to build, strengthen and carefully guide the voice through its development, improve diction, breath support and resonance. Music Theory and Music History are also included in daily instruction. Sight singing technique will be included on a daily basis. Additional work includes singing in small ensembles, written tests, singing tests and required evening performances. This course will strengthen the STEAM skills needed at Seabury: development of perceptual skills, language and literary abilities; spatial reasoning (related to skills used to do math); and fine motor coordination.

### **Chamber Choir/Chamber Singers/Prima Volta/Men's Ensemble – M-F 7<sup>th</sup> Hour**

A great deal happens in one 42 minute rehearsal period. Chamber Choir is the award winning primary ensemble of grades 9-12 out of which comes the auditioned 26 voice ensemble, Chamber Singers; Prima Volta (women's ensemble) and the Men's Ensemble. It is a two-semester elective course. This course provides opportunities for the further development of a mature singing voice and sight singing independence. Students perform a variety of choral compositions of contrasting periods and styles. Students continue to expand their musical knowledge through the study of harmony, melodic and harmonic dictation, and music history. Guest performers and clinicians are occasionally utilized in the rehearsal setting. Expectations include a sincere desire to improve understanding and technique. Some out of school rehearsal and activities occur throughout the year. Students are required to attend all performances/competitions.

## Curriculum

### Essential Standards & Course Objectives

This chart displays the 6 essential standards being taught in a choir class at BSA. "Endurance" refers to the way the skill will translate to the student's life after high school. "Leverage" is the ability for the skill to be used in other curricular areas and subjects. "Readiness" refers to the progression from one level of choir to the next.

Essential Standards for Choral Music in BSA Music Arts

Essential Standards	Endurance	Leverage	Readiness
1. <b>Sing while implementing</b> the elements of proper vocal production.	Good individual singing technique will provide enjoyment and quality of life in to old age. Student will be able to sing in a healthy way in college, church, and community groups or individually.	Will lead to proper vocal production in speech as well as singing. Individual will become a better public speaker and communicator.	Will lead to proper vocal production in speech as well as singing. Individual will become a better public speaker and communicator.
2. <b>Apply concepts</b> of historical and cultural interpretation through the performance of choral music.	This understanding will provide the student a perspective about cultural interactions and a sense of their own place in history that will last a lifetime.	Direct transfers to history and other humanities. Student will acquire a timeline of history through knowledge of musical time periods and cultural traditions.	In early grades the development of the vocabulary is paramount. This sets the stage for application of cultural and historical performance practice.
3. Demonstrate fluency in <b>reading</b> music notation.	Allows an individual the ability to participate in music later in life in college, church and community groups or individually.	Brain development enhanced greatly by mastering pattern recognition and spacial and temporal relationships.	The consistency with which the skills are demonstrated will increase with each course/grade level.
4. Develop and refine proper ensemble <b>singing</b> skills.	This skill requires teamwork and an awareness of the group as a whole. This will help the student in the future work and or study environment. A heightened understanding of group dynamics is a life skill.	Monitoring and adjusting individual traits to fit within a group dynamic is a valuable skill in any group related activity or discipline.	The consistency with which the skills are demonstrated will increase with each course/grade level.
5. <b>Listen to, analyze, describe and evaluate</b> music using the correct vocabulary.	Being a sophisticated consumer of music will increase aesthetic quality of life. Music is unavoidable, therefore a solid background in descriptive vocabulary can increase enjoyment of music.	Analytical and descriptive language is a learned skill and will transfer to any and all disciplines.	Vocabulary for listening, describing and evaluating will increase and reach higher level of thinking with each course level.
6. <b>Demonstrate</b> effective rehearsal and performance techniques.	This skill requires teamwork and an awareness of the group as a whole. This will help the student in future work and or study environments. A heightened understanding of group dynamics, and responding to criticism is a life skill.	Understanding parameters for effective group work allows a person to contribute to any group related work or study.	The consistency with which the skills are demonstrated will increase with each course/grade level.

**Weekly Rehearsal Skills Assessment:**

Every day each student will begin the class period with 10 points.

2 pts for on-time attendance

1pt Binder

1pt Sight Reading

1pt Pencil

1pt Participation

1pt No phone

1pt No Gum

1pt Considerate behavior

1pt Staying Focused

**Materials**

1. Have your class materials at your seat.
2. Rehearsal binder
3. Water Bottle (singing is THIRSTY business!)
4. **AND A PENCIL.** Always bring a pencil to class and leave it in your rehearsal binder. Pens are not permitted for marking on music.
5. After each concert singers will be responsible for erasing any marks in their music scores. Battered music will have to be replaced by the student. Respect your music!



### ABSENCES

If the student is **absent**, it is the student's responsibility to check what assignments were given for the days that were missed and get any notes/handouts required to complete the assignments.

Please see me **before school the day after you were absent** to gather any information. Out of respect for the students who were present in class I will not be able to bring you up to speed once class has started.

For **ALL** absences there will be a deduction of **2 points** from the Rehearsal Skills Assessment. Students can earn back these points by seeing me the morning after their absence. See my office hours above to make sure you can find me.

### Classroom Guidelines

All school guidelines concerning behavior will apply in this classroom. Please treat everyone with respect. Positive participation is vital to your success. Daily attendance is crucial to the progress of each student in this class AND their ensemble. The Seabury/KSHSAA attendance policy applies. Let's work together to make this class a safe, positive, and fun place to work and learn.

1. Be seated by class time
2. I will let you know when you will need your iPad.
3. No eating or drinking with the exception of water.
4. Respect all people and their beliefs.
5. Have *assigned* music learned before coming to class. Outside practice will be required.
6. **All concerts and competitions are required.** Written assignments can be used to make up points when the unforeseeable happens and you need to miss a performance.
7. NO CELL PHONES IN CLASS.
8. NO GUM/FOOD
9. *Practice is what you do **outside** of the classroom. Rehearsal is what we do **in** class.*



### Concert Dress Requirements - Ladies

Our ensembles present a uniform appearance that keeps our performance level high and allows our audience to fully engage in our performances.

1. Solid Black semi-formal shirt, blouse or dress (NO MINI SKIRTS, spaghetti strap or sleeveless tops).
2. Solid Black slacks or black skirts (NO MINI SKIRTS).
3. Solid Black Dress shoes – open toed or closed (no flip flops or athletic shoes). Be careful of heels that may prevent your moving up and down risers in a safe manner.
4. Solid Black socks (with pants) or solid black nylons (no bare legs).
5. Jewelry should be simple and sparse.

Performances on Seabury Campus are as per the School Handbook for Convocation and Stepping Up. Spring Variety Show will be a student designed t-shirt, jeans and tennis shoes.



Example

### Concert Dress Requirements – Men

Our ensembles present a uniform appearance that keeps our performance level high and allows our audience to fully engage in our performances.

1. Check out this website for young men's/boy's clothing.  
Shirts: <https://www.formalfashionsinc.com/menswear/shirts/style-2109bk-black-dress-shirt.html>  
Pants: <https://www.formalfashionsinc.com/menswear/pants.html>
2. Solid Black shirt with collar and long cuffed sleeves.
3. Solid Black pants with a belt. No denim.
4. Solid Black dress shoes. No flip flops or athletic shoes.
5. Solid Black socks
6. Royal Blue Tie provided by Music Dept.

Performances on Seabury Campus are as per the School Handbook for Convocation and Stepping Up. Spring Variety Show will be a student designed t-shirt, jeans and tennis shoes. All-school musical will have different requirement TBA.



Example:

Tie should be blue

## SEABURY CHORAL ARTS 2021 - 2022

### 6th GRADE CHOIR - VOCI SESTO

These dates are currently scheduled and on the school calendar.

Any additions will be given with plenty of advanced notice.

<b>2021</b>		
<b>Fall Tapestry Concert-All Choirs (6-12)</b> Seabury Sutherland Commons	October 1, 2021	CHOIR CALL: 5:45PM CONCERT: 7:30PM
<b>Lessons and Carols-All Choirs (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)</b> Place to be determined	December 10, 2021	CHOIR CALL: 5:45PM CONCERT: 7:30PM
<b>2022</b>		
<b>Spring Concert “Applause” Show</b> <b>All Choirs (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)</b> Seabury Sutherland Commons	May 18, 2022	CHOIR CALL: 5:45PM CONCERT: 7:30PM

## SEABURY CHORAL ARTS 2021 - 2022

### 7/8<sup>th</sup> GRADE CHOIRS - SHEA MARIS & MARE FALCO

These dates are currently scheduled and on the school calendar.  
Any additions will be given with plenty of advanced notice.

<b>2021</b>		
<b>Fall Tapestry Concert-All Choirs (6-12<sup>th</sup>)</b> Seabury Sutherland Commons	October 1, 2021	CHOIR CALL: 5:45PM CONCERT: 7:30PM
<b>Lessons and Carols-All Choirs (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)</b> Place to be determined	December 10, 2021	CHOIR CALL: 5:45PM CONCERT: 7:30PM
<b>2022</b>		
<b>Worlds of Fun Music Festival</b>	May 6, 2022	Departure from school. Please plan on an all-day event . Return by pickup - 3:30pm
<b>Spring Concert “Applause” Show</b> <b>All Choirs (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)</b> Seabury Sutherland Commons	May 18, 2022	CHOIR CALL: 5:45PM CONCERT: 7:30PM
<b>Stepping Up Rehearsal</b> Chamber Choir + 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade honor Choir	May 23, 2022	Choir Call: 12:15-12:45pm
<b>Stepping Up - BSA</b> Chamber Choir + 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Choir	May 27, 2022	Choir Call: 8am Ceremony: 9am

# SEABURY MUSIC ARTS 2021 - 2022

## Chamber Choir/Chamber Singers

These dates are currently scheduled and on the school calendar.

Any additions will be given with plenty of advanced notice. Possible field trips/performances in December.

<b>2021</b>		
Chamber Choir Fall Retreat Circle S Ranch 3325 Circle S Ln. Lawrence	August 8, 2021	10AM- 2PM Lunch included
Fall Tapestry Concert-All Choirs (6-12 <sup>th</sup> ) Seabury Sutherland Commons	October 1, 2021	CHOIR CALL: 5:45PM CONCERT: 7:30PM
Convocation-Chamber Choir	November 23, 2021	CHOIR CALL: 8:15AM
Lessons and Carols-All Choirs (6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> ) Place to be determined	December 10, 2021	CHOIR CALL: 5:45PM CONCERT: 7:30PM
<b>2022</b>		
KHSAA Regional Music Competition-small ensembles	April 2, 2022	Time to be determined. <b>PLAN ON AN ALL DAY EVENT (8am - 4pm)</b>
KSHSAA STATE - Large Ensembles Competition	April 13, 2022	Time to be determined. During school day
KSHSAA State Music Competition Salina, KS	April 29, 2022 April 30, 2022 Overnight	Depart afterschool. Friday night trip. <b>PLAN ON AN ALL DAY EVENT ON SATURDAY (8am - 4pm)</b>
Worlds of Fun Competition	May 4, 2022	Departure from school. Please plan on an all-day event. Return by pickup - 3:30pm
Spring Concert "Applause" Show Seabury Sutherland Commons	May 18, 2022	CHOIR CALL: 5:45PM CONCERT: 7:30PM
Stepping Up Rehearsal Chamber Choir + 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade honor Choir	May 23, 2022	Choir Call: 12:15-12:45pm
Baccalaureate 1011 Vermont St. Lawrence	May 26, 2022	Choir Call: 4:30pm Ceremony: 5:30pm
Stepping Up - BSA Chamber Choir + 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Choir	May 27, 2022	Choir Call: 8am Ceremony: 9am

## Music Arts Handbook

### Performance Make-Ups:

Students can earn total points for a missed performance.

All Projects Must Be Typed and shared with margielawrence@seaburyacademy.org on Google Drive

### Choose One:

1. Concert Review- Attend one CHOIR concert outside of BSA and write a 1- 2 page newspaper style critical review.
2. YouTube Project- Search for and select 5 videos of choral performances. Write one paragraph about each video evaluating the performance.
3. Research Paper- Select a music topic of your choice and write a 3 page research paper including cited sources.

All make up work must be turned in on the concert date.

### GENERAL MUSIC ARTS EXPENSES

Average formal uniform cost (divided by 4 years of use)	Cost Individually determined
Grade 7/8 Worlds of Fun tickets	\$40 due March 25, 2022
All grades - SPRING CONCERT: Each Spring it has been a tradition at Seabury that all of the choirs perform in a t-shirt designed by a student. The cost is minimal and provides a backdrop to this casual and high energy evening.	\$10 TBD

