

On behalf of our administration and myself, I gladly welcome you to the Green Valley High School Choral Music Program. You are now a very important member of what continues to be recognized as one of the finest high school choirs in the state of Nevada. Your decision to participate in the Green Valley High School Choir represents the opening of a door to tremendous opportunity. We are incredibly fortunate to be in a school district that has a tradition of outstanding choirs and to have a school administration that values and supports this type of study. Please recognize the value of this opportunity and make the most of it.

The Choral Program at Green Valley High School offers a unique educational experience in which you may gain not only musical skills and a lifelong appreciation of music, but discipline, self-confidence and a sense of accomplishment by working with others toward a common goal of “Commitment to Excellence”. As a member of the GVHS Choir you are expected to be a credit to your choir, your school, and your community. Because we are “Committed to Excellence” we must have a common high standard. The purpose of this handbook is to define that standard.

In our twenty-four years of existence, our choral department has established an outstanding reputation in Nevada, as well as around the United States. As members of the department, it should be our goal to continue building that reputation. We can be as outstanding as we want to be; it all depends on you. Superior music groups are a result of many hours of hard work as well as a strong dedication and commitment from each member.

This handbook is a guideline to make your experience in choir as productive and enjoyable as possible. The rules it contains have been developed over many years of experience and refinement. All of the rules are meant to serve one purpose: to promote the learning and development of the choir members. I am looking forward to working with each one of you. Your talent and hard work can make this 25th year at Green Valley very exciting, fun-filled, and musically rewarding for all of us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kim Barclay Ritzer

GVHS Choral Director

**“Singing and music must be taught in the school in such a way to instill lifelong thirst for nobler music. Often a single experience will open the young soul to music for a whole lifetime. This experience cannot be left to chance; it is the task of the school to provide it.”**

**Zoltan Kodaly, Hungarian composer and father of modern music education**

**A Few Words About Choir Citizenship......**

You will quickly realize that the students with whom I work mean a great deal to me. You can count on me as a source of support in all your efforts -- a champion of your cause in applying yourselves in an industrious manner toward becoming all that you can be. I always set very large goals for us; I have big dreams of what the Green Valley High School Choirs can do now and in the distant future. But my greatest goal is your growth and betterment. If you take me in earnest, I can promise you opportunities for great musical growth and even growth in areas where we need it most to survive successfully in life.

**That which we choose to do, we will want to do to the best of our ability.**  To that end I commit my full energy. I will give you my very best each and every day. From you I expect the same. As we continue to support each other, giving each other our best effort, no one could dare set a limit to our combined potential!!!

I know you are very busy; I also know that the busiest students are the best students. Do not suppose that I will spend my time dreaming up things to add to your schedule. But there will be difficult "time crunches" when you will have very heavy expectations coming at you from all angles. I challenge you to be disciplined, organized people who can plan and prepare for those difficult times. I expect you to be healthy, using wisdom in eating, exercise, and rest. I expect you to appear and conduct yourself in the manner appropriate of those who often represent the ideals of Green Valley High School. Remember, the success of our group rests upon your individual self-discipline.

Lastly, please, always be up front with me. When you have criticisms or questions, avoid agonizing over such problems with others, especially other choir members – this only compounds the problem. Bring such criticisms or questions straight to my attention so something concrete can be done as quickly as possible. You will find that I approach rehearsal in a very strong, certain manner -- simply because I desire to use our time as wisely as possible. But never conclude that I am closed to your ideas, suggestions, criticisms, or needs. When given in the right spirit and at the right time, we will all be able to accept and appreciate help from other singers.

Here's to the best year of music and fellowship yet,

**Table of Contents**

**Description, Mission, Purpose, Objectives Pg. 4**

**Priorities, Values, Code of Conduct Pg. 5**

**Classroom Procedures and Expectations Pg. 6**

**Student Grading and Evaluation Pg. 8**

**Attendance, Extra Rehearsals Pg. 9**

**Performances Pg. 10**

**Student Activity Conflicts Pg. 11**

**Make-Up Assignment, Fundraising for travel Pg. 12**

**Concert Attire Pg. 13**

**Choir Uniform Package, Minimum GPA and Attendance Pg. 14**

**Choir Tours and Travel Pg. 15**

**GVHS Random Drug Testing, Choir Service Hours Pg. 16**

**Music Room Responsibilities, Senior Cords, Four Year Choir Medallion Pg. 17**

**Requirements to receive a choir letter/pin Pg. 18**

**Private Lessons, Parent Boosters, Extra Curricular Groups Pg. 19**

**Achieving Musicianship/Attitude & Discipline Pg. 20**

**Six Rules for Choral Success Pg. 21**

**Tentative Schedule of Events 2015 - 2016 Pg. 22 - 23**

**National Music Standards Pg. 24**

**What is Music? Pg. 25**

**Students/ Parent Contract, We Need Your Help!, Fee Payment Option, CCSD Field Trip Permit, GVHS Overnight Travel Form, CCSD Publicity Permit, GVHS Random Drug Testing Form.....Items to be returned by Friday, September 4, 2015.**

**General Information**

**Description**

The Green Valley High School Choir Department offers courses with the goal of helping the student become the creator of music both through performance and active classroom participation. All grade levels are eligible for membership through auditions and/or with the approval of the director.

The choir department takes great pride in the academic achievements of our members. We support and encourage all students to maintain their grades. You will find a cross-section of the school in the choir department. Our members represent all athletic groups, cheerleaders, forensics, dancers, theatre students, instrumental music students, student council, and various clubs. The diversity of our members makes this a special and unique group. We encourage our students to be involved in many activities and to maintain regular, proactive communication with all sponsors and directors.

**Choir Mission**

Our mission is to develop a musical community. Before we can attain harmony, balance, and blend within our music, we must establish it with each other. To build and strengthen our musical performances, we have to build and strengthen our personal relationships within the group. We must create a safe atmosphere that encourages risk, growth, persistence, and a focus on excellence.

**Purpose**

* To serve the school and community through quality concert performances.
* To encourage an appreciation for music as an art form.
* To promote and encourage school spirit and pride.
* To encourage and develop leadership qualities.
* To assist students in gaining an appreciation of all forms and styles of music.
* To help students gain a respect for great performers and performances and discover the demands that quality music performance places on the individual student.
* To cultivate interpersonal skills and help to build self-esteem and confidence.

**Choir Department Goals/Objectives**

* To develop performance confidence, poise and etiquette.
* To develop ensemble skills including blend, balance, group intonation, rhythmic precision, and vocal technique.
* To learn to read and use the language of musical notation.
* To teach a high degree of music reading encompassing correct pitch, rhythm, tempo, and dynamics.
* To experience a wide variety of vocal literature.
* To develop the ability to comprehend and foster high-level thinking skills.
* To learn the art of teamwork and cooperation.
* To develop individual responsibility, group and individual respect, and a commitment to our musical family.

**-4-**

**Statement of Priorities**

* The personal growth and maturity of each student as a human being.
* The growth and maturity of each student as a musician and singer.
* Providing the best possible musical experience and education for each student.

**Statement of Values**

These six values must all be present in order to have students and ensembles perform at an exceptional level. Absence of any of these elements is debilitating to each student and to the ensemble as a whole.

* **Persistence:** keeping on when you would rather not, because you understand there is a payoff down the road.
* Commitment: choosing to fully and enthusiastically participate all of the time.
* **Accountability:** understanding you choose the consequence when you choose the action.
* **Intellect:** looking at music with intelligent, problem-solving attention, apart from emotional content.
* **Vulnerability:** willing to make yourself emotionally and personally vulnerable so that you can connect with the deeper, human meaning in music.
* **Talent:** using your natural abilities to their fullest potential.

**Code of Conduct**

This code of conduct exists to help each and every student be successful in growing and maturing as a human being, as a musician and singer, and to give each student the chance to have the best musical experience and education possible.

* All persons in the class will address each other with professionalism and respect.
* The words “please”, “thank you”, and “you’re welcome” should be used at every opportunity. No matter how directly, forcefully, or critically you must speak, respect and politeness are the rules for communication.
* Full and enthusiastic participation is expected from everyone for the entire rehearsal, including board work and warm-ups.
* Excellent self-discipline and order is expected at ALL times. In choir we are learning in a large group setting. Self-discipline and unselfish consideration for the group is the way choir members can reach their potential as individuals and as a group.
* We will behave in a **CON**structive manner, rather than a **DE**structive one. All actions that build up other members of the choir and help us reach our goals together will be strongly encouraged. Any behavior that “tears down” choir members, distracts from the musical or educational task at hand, or does not demonstrate an appropriate, very high level or focus, will be discouraged.
* Our classroom and all of the items it houses will be treated with the utmost care and respect. Students should not move, change or in any way disturb any classroom items unless specifically directed to do so. The piano(s) may only be played when Mrs. Ritzer grants specific permission.
* Membership in choir is truly a privilege. Each member must take the responsibility to be positive and be interested in working hard for the betterment of the entire ensemble. Students who, by their actions, display that they are not interested in putting forth such effort jeopardize both their grade and their membership in choir.

**-5-**

**Classroom Procedures and Expectations**

**Choir is a Community and Family, not just a class**

There is a bond that occurs between people who sing together that is different from any other. When you become a choir member at GVHS, you not only receive outstanding opportunities for making music. You also become part of a large family of people who are committed to supporting one another. It is crucial that you, as a member of this community show respect for others, making sure everyone feels welcome and safe as a part of the group.

**Commitment to Excellence**

Our concerts and performances can only be as good as our rehearsals. The key to a successful rehearsal is hard work! Attaining group excellence depends upon focused, diligent efforts of each member each day in each rehearsal. It is no coincidence that students who give their all are among the most accomplished and most respected musicians in their respective choirs. *Every student has to be committed to giving their best effort in all aspects of rehearsals for the choirs to be successful.* The reward for this hard work is an experience unlike any other in high school – fun, excitement, the chance to be a part of a very successful group, team-working skills, self-discipline and a lifelong passion for music and life.

**General Expectations**

* Be on time to class (Be in your seat with all materials when the bell rings).
* Have all materials ready each day (music, pencil, folder, journal, calendar).
* Check the white board for dates, vocabulary, journal work and announcements.
* No food, candy, drinks, or gum allowed on the risers. Exception: WATER.
* Bathroom trips should take place during passing time. Please plan accordingly.
* Cell phones, ipods: Respectful and appropriate use only – not during class.
* If you are sick and cannot participate in rehearsal, let Mrs. Ritzer know before class begins. Fill out a “Rehearsal Observation Form”.
* Please remain in your assigned seat during rehearsals unless otherwise instructed by the director.
* Singers are responsible for the care of the choir room. Clean up after yourself!!!
* **STAY INFORMED** by updating your personal calendar! Listen; read all communications for updates; check the calendar; ask, if you are unsure of something. The more involved you are, the more fun choir can become.

**Rehearsal Basics**

* Follow directions the first time they are given.
* LISTEN (to the music, to the director, to each other).
* Speak and act with respect, kindness, and compassion.
* Exhibit positive energy and rehearse with maximum effort.
* Exercise self-control and self-discipline.
* Work together. This is about US, not about ME.
* Be open to the unfamiliar.
* Celebrate success and accomplishment.

**-6-**

***The best disciplinarian in the choir is NOT the director, but each choir member***

***who wants the choir to be the best it can be.***

**If a student chooses to break a rule, the following sequence of events will occur:**

1)  **First time:**  Verbal warning to student (documented), loss of points

2) **Second time:** 1/2 Hour detention, loss of points, parent contact by phone

3) **Third Time:** Parent/Teacher conference, loss of points, possible loss of

opportunity to perform.

4) **Fourth time:** Referral to Dean, parent /teacher conference, loss of points,

possible loss of opportunity to perform, possible removal from the GVHS Choral Department.

**\*\*If a student causes a major problem or blatantly breaks school rules,**

**he/she will be sent directly to the dean with a referral.\*\***

**Hall Passes**

Students are to remain in the classroom at all times unless permission has been granted to leave. Written passes are obtained from Mrs. Ritzer or Mrs. McLean. Any abuse in the privilege may result in the denial of a pass. Excessive time away from class may result in the deduction of participation points. No student is to be out of the room at any time without the director’s knowledge. Passes are not issued during the first ten minutes or last ten minutes of class.

**Tardies**

When students are tardy, they disrupt the class and interrupt the learning process.

Classes/rehearsals are scheduled at a specific time and it is expected that students be punctual. Students are considered tardy if they are not physically present in their assigned classroom and seat at the time the tardy bell rings. Students will lose fifteen (15) participation points each time they are tardy to class. Tardies will result in a lower citizenship grade. Excessive tardies or tardiness on the day of a performance may result in alternate status/or forfeiture of the performance, based on the decision made by the director. This decision will be based on attitude, discipline and attendance.

Mrs. Ritzer follows the Green Valley High School tardy policy.

**“A performing group is a microcosm of society, In addition to well documented skills related to music reading, self-expression, self-discipline and concentration, performers become independent. There is no more important skill required in a democratic society than that of sharing common goals with others and working together to achieve them.”**

**Sally Schott, Texas Music Educator, 1984**

**-7-**

**Student Grading and Evaluation**

Choir seldom requires “traditional” homework or written assignments as in other classes; however, you are responsible for **practicing your music at least 15 minutes each evening.**  Grade evaluation in the GVHS Choirs is determined on many more levels than just music-singing ability. Each day, every student makes a choice about how he/she will conduct himself/herself and how he/she will behave during the class/rehearsal or performance. **The student must accept the consequences of his/her choices and behavior.** The superior choral music student will demonstrate:

* Positive contribution to class sessions and concert performances
* Consistent and punctual attendance
* Interest in the content of the class
* Qualities of leadership within the section and choir
* Attentiveness, a conscientious attitude and a sincere concern for others
* A willingness to grow musically and personally
* Respect for class materials and equipment
* Exemplary musicianship and vocal skill
* A desire to work hard to meet the National, State and CCSD Music Standards

The effort you put forth in this class is very important. Each time you enter this room and follow the classroom procedures you will receive 30 points (that is 150 points a week), all you need to do to keep these thirty points is to do **YOUR BEST** and follow the rules and procedures for 50 minutes each day.

**An explanation of the daily grading system follows:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Enter class quietly, get folder, go to assigned seat, follow class procedures | +30 points |
| Tardy to class (unexcused) | -15 points |
| No music, folder, pencil, journal or calendar | -30 points |
| Gum, candy, food or drink in class | -15 points |
| Use of cell phones in class (talking or texting) | -30 points |
| Disrupting class, not following classroom rules/procedures | -30 points |
| Excused absences (with note from parent/see **ATTENDANCE)** | -15 points |
| Unexcused absences | -30 points |
| Performance at concert (**including proper performance attire)** | +450 points |
| Performance at Festivals/Competitions **(including proper performance attire)** | +650 points |
| Unexcused absence from performance | +0 |
| Voice Tests (scheduled & pop quizzes) | +150 points |
| Vocabulary Tests/Rhythm Tests/Melody Tests | +100 points |
| Extra rehearsals (always scheduled in advance) | +400 points |
| Unexcused absence from rehearsals | +0 |
| Choir Journal (notebook for vocab. & writing assignments – provided by choir) | +400 points |
| Quarterly Choir Service Hours (4 hours per quarter) | +200 points |
| Wear you choir shirt on the day of our concert | +100 points |

-**8-**

**Make-up/Extra Credit**

Make-up work or extra credit can be done to earn points toward an unaffected nine week or semester grade. Points taken away for rule infractions, tardies or unexcused absences cannot be made up. Any make-up work must be completed and turned no later than two weeks after the end of your absence or missed performance.

**Quarter Grades/Semester Grades**

Your daily points will be totaled with any points earned on written/oral tests as well as performance points. The total points earned will then be fit into a scale. If you have:

**90-100% of the total points you earn an A**

**80-89.9% of the total points you earn a B**

**70-79.9% of the total points you earn a C**

**60-69.9% of the total points you earn a D**

Semester grades will be calculated on the following percentage scale:

**40% First Quarter Average**

**40% Second Quarter Average**

**20% Semester Exam**

**Infinite Campus**

You may access your grade on Infinite Campus. I update it every Friday afternoon. It is the student’s and parent’s responsibility to keep informed of all grades.

**Attendance, Extra Rehearsals, Performances**

**Attendance**

***Attendance is crucial for every choir member!***  Due to the nature of the course, when a student is absent he/she misses rehearsal and explanations that cannot be made up. In addition, the entire choir suffers because that student was not in school to learn his/her part along with the rest of the choir. If a student's absence is excused he/she may make up the participation points by doing make-up work or extra credit. This privilege is not extended for any unexcused absences or truancies. **In order for a student to be considered excused by Mrs. Ritzer, they must bring in an excuse note to Mrs. Ritzer (not the school office) signed by their parent/guardian stating the reason for the absence (*this note must be brought in the day after the absence)* - OR - a phone call from your parent on the day of the absence to Mrs. Ritzer (799-0950 ext. 4050) will be accepted. (This is a 24 hour number – if school is closed, you must dial “1” before the extension.**

**Extra Rehearsals**

Many times the difference between a superior and a poor musical performance is determined by the amount of rehearsal time spent in preparation. Extra rehearsals allow for many things: individual and small group work, help from visiting clinicians, and more time for that "extra polishing." They are vital for any good performing organizations.

**-9-**

**All extra rehearsals are required** and they will not be scheduled unless absolutely necessary. You will always be notified of an extra rehearsal well enough in advance in order to make arrangements to attend.  **If students are late or have to leave early, they must clear it with Mrs. Ritzer prior to the rehearsal. Excuses will be accepted for missing an extra rehearsal only if notification is received prior to the rehearsal. The director will determine whether an absence is excused or unexcused. WORK/NOT HAVING A RIDE IS NOT AN EXCUSE TO MISS REHEARSAL - YOUR GRADE WILL SUFFER!!!** Concert Choir, Bella Voce, and Madrigals will have an extra rehearsal and/or sectionals before our scheduled choir festivals.  **Any student who does not attend this rehearsal will not perform in pre-festival, festival or our out of state festival performance. In addition - if you do not perform in pre-festival you are not eligible to perform at festival or in our out of state festival performances.**

**Performances**

**Choir is a performance-based class.**  We work constantly to be prepared to perform. When performing, students receive a deeper appreciation of music and a greater feeling of unity from the organization and the people with whom they are involved.

**There is no other way as a director to duplicate a performance for the student who is absent.**  There is no other means to make-up the unique thrill of performing, feeling the reaction from the audience, or the excitement of knowing the hard work in preparation for the performance was worthwhile.

Every member of the choir plays a vital role in the success of the entire organization. **As a director, I cannot expect a total commitment from any one student without expecting the same amount of commitment from every member in the choir. Therefore, the following rules apply to performances:**

* **ALL PERFORMANCES ARE REQUIRED! Including Out of Town Festivals/Performances**
* Students are **REQUIRED** to attend all performances for which a two- week notice is given. Work schedules **MUST BE ADJUSTED TO FIT THE PERFORMANCE SCHEDULES** as absences due to a student's job are considered to be unexcused.
* Grades for each performance will be based on the following:

**Punctuality Proper Dress Following Instructions Stay for entire concert Positive Attitude Exemplary Behavior**

* Students will only be excused from a performance due to a personal illness,

death in the family, or an emergency over which the student has no control.

**Students will not be excused because they do not have a ride.**

* **Students will not be permitted to perform if they are absent on the day of a**

**concert, as our dress rehearsal is during our class time on that day.**

* The director must be notified of an expected absence **prior to the performance.**

**The choir room phone number is 799-0950, ext. 4050. This is a 24 hour number.**

**-10**

* The director will determine whether an absence from a performance is excused

or unexcused. If excused, it is the students’ responsibility to get make up work. If

unexcused, the student will not be given the privilege of making up the points

lost due to his/her absence. **Please see page 12 for specifics.**

* No points will be taken away from any student who cannot attend a performance

due to religious observations. However, **a two week notice must be given to the**

**director.**

* Students will perform **at the discretion of the director** based on attitude, g.p.a,

discipline, adherence to rules, knowledge of music, excessive tardies and attendance.

* Students who are not attending **ALL PERFORMANCES and REHEARSALS** will be

subject to removal from the GVHS performing choirs.

**Student Activity Conflicts**

There are times when students simultaneously participate in an organized sport or performing group. Conflicts occasionally arise when practices and regularly scheduled events take place concurrently. Although every attempt will be made to keep such scheduling to a minimum, the following guidelines from the CCSD Student Handbook will be followed:

* When a practice or rehearsal and an event are scheduled simultaneously, the **EVENT** takes precedent.
* When two practices or rehearsals are scheduled simultaneously, the students may **SELECT** the event in which she/he will participate. **He/She should make the decision, whenever possible, at least seven (7) days in advance. He/she should advise the coach or Mrs. Ritzer immediately.**
* **Under NO circumstance** will the student be penalized for his/her decision; that is, class grades are not to be lowered or unreasonable make-up work required, **the student will not be benched**, nor will the student's ability to earn a letter be impaired because of the decision.
* In case of a disagreement among the parties concerned, the matter should be referred to the administrator or administrators in charge for a solution.

\*\***Athletes** - please check your practice and game schedule with the choir schedule in the back of the handbook as soon as you receive the schedule from the coach - this way we can try to work the conflicts out early\*\*

**“In life we learn that we as individuals are but a small part of a great whole... a fellowship, a family. As an individual we cannot grow or even survive without others. With this in mind we realize that no personal sacrifice is too great for the preservation of the group. We learn that the clamor of desires and ambitions within us must be silenced whenever they could damage the group. We find that we must consider the needs of others and not ourselves. It is obvious that the group must survive or we as individuals will not”**

**-11-**

**Make up Assignment for Missed Performances**

Absences from a performance are excused at the director's discretion. Unexcused absences **CANNOT** be made up. Not having a ride or being scheduled to work is an unexcused absence.

**Excused absences can be made up by completing both of the following:**

1. You must attend a full-length choral concert (not a musical) by another high school, middle school or professional choir (as approved by Mrs. Ritzer) and a 2 page critique of the concert. Your critique must touch on the different aspects of singing and performance that we work on in class each day.
2. Make an appointment with Mrs. Ritzer to sing your voice part for all of the music that you would have sung in the concert that you missed.

**Make-up must be done within a timely manner to be considered for a grade. You will have two weeks from the time you are absent to sing for Mrs. Ritzer and until the end of that quarter to attend the concert. The grade will be based on the accuracy and completeness of the make-up assignment.**

**Fundraising for Travel**

Students can raise money to help pay expenses for choir travel. We offer off campus candy sales, entertainment books, cookie dough, program ads, Thanksgiving pie sales, Barnes & Noble gift wrap and several other programs. The money raised by the student is placed into his/her own music activity account at Green Valley High School. This account is kept under the student’s name during the school year. The money is not transferable to any other Green Valley High School account or activities. Because we are a non-profit organization, money used by students cannot be refunded to them when they leave the choral program.

**MONIES EARNED ONLY APPLY TO THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR - THEY DO NOT "ROLL OVER" INTO THE NEXT YEAR.** Any lost, stolen or damaged materials are the responsibility of the student, and will be charged accordingly. **STUDENTS MAY BE CHARGED A FEE FOR LATE PAYMENTS ON FUNDRAISERS AND/OR TRIP PAYMENTS.**

**\*\*All proceeds from fundraisers must be turned in two weeks following the initial start of the fundraiser. If monies are not turned in within this time frame, all profit will go to the GVHS Choir Program and it will result in a fine.**

**"PRACTICE DOES NOT MAKE PERFECT!! ONLY PERFECT PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT PERFORMANCE. PRACTICE TO BE PERFECT.”**

**-12-**

**Concert Attire**

Our choir has a reputation of looking very professional. In order for us to look this way, we must all wear the same outfits. All concert attire must be wrinkle - free and in tip-top condition for **ALL** performances. Students wearing dirty or wrinkled uniforms, as well as incomplete uniforms (missing tie/cummerbund, wrong shoes, etc.), will lose the privilege to perform and will lose 1/2 of their points for that performance. Uniforms are the property of the Green Valley High School Choral Music Department and must be returned in a timely manner. **CHOIR UNIFORM PACKAGE PAYMENTS ARE DUE BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2015.**

**Women of Concert Choir and Bella Voce:**

The GVHS women in Concert Choir and Bella Voce wear formal gowns. All gowns are made by a reputable company and are rented through the choral department. The cost of the rental is included in the Choir Uniform Package**.**  You are responsible for any alterations that need to be done on your gown. We have suggestions of seamstresses that may be available.

The women will also need **closed-toe, black, low heeled shoes (no boots)and skin tone pantyhose. No jewelry or colored hair accessories are to be worn.** You are responsible for renting your uniform and keeping it in good condition. When you graduate or leave the choir, you must return your gown in good condition or you will be fined $100.00 which is the actual cost of the gown.

**Men of Concert Choir and Mens' Ensemble:**

The GVHS men wear tuxedos. We purchase them through a Formalwear Dealer for $160.00. The cost of the rental is included in the Choir Uniform Package**.** The tuxedos include: shirt, tie, cummerbund, jacket, studs, cufflinks and pants. When you are graduating or leaving the choir, you need to turn in your tuxedo and all accessories or you will be charged for the balance of the cost. You will be responsible for obtaining **BLACK DRESS SHOES (NO TENNIS SHOES) AND BLACK SOCKS** to be worn with the tuxedo.

**Madrigal Concert Attire:**

Our Madrigal Singers wear peasant outfits for most of our performances. The uniforms are made by our seamstress. Upon your acceptance into Madrigals, you will be given all uniform information. It is your responsibility to meet with the seamstress and have your uniform made before the second week of September. All Madrigal Singers are responsible for purchasing their own uniforms and accessories. When you graduate or leave the group, you have the option of selling your uniform to an incoming singer OR keeping it as a memento.

**Women’s Choir:**

If Women’s Choir performs at a concert, they will need to wear their GVHS Choir t-shirt (included in their Choir Uniform Package) and provide a black skirt or black DRESS pants with **closed-toe, black, low heeled shoes and black pantyhose. No jewelry or colored hair accessories are to be worn.** The uniform should be black from the waist to the toes.

**-13-**

**Green NV:**

The women of Green NV will need to purchase an outfit that they will use exclusively for Green NV performances. The uniform must have kelly green and black and must be approved by Mrs. Ritzer – if you do not have kelly green, you will be asked to purchase one that does have it. The men of Green NV will pay a one time rental fee of $35.00 for their kelly green shirt, black vest and black tie. Men will wear their tuxedo pants with the uniform.

**Choir Uniform Package**

Realistically, it takes $10,000.00 to run our choir program each year. Due to the district budget cuts, we are almost self-sufficient. The choir uniform package will help with the costs of running our program and pay for the rental of the uniforms. The money is used to pay accompanists, purchase new music, maintain/replace equipment, choir library maintenance, hire clinicians, pay festival fees, hire substitutes for when we travel, bus travel to and from local performance venues, print concert programs, to buy classroom supplies and other expenses. Each student will receive a choir t-shirt, choir journal, 2 pencils, a water bottle and cinch sack as part of this payment. **The choir uniform package fee of $75.00 ($35.00 for Women’s Choir) is due by Friday, September 5, 2014.**

**Minimum G.P.A. and Attendance**

Choir students are very visible in the school and must represent GVHS in a responsible fashion. It is imperative that you keep your grades up and attend **ALL** of your classes on a regular basis. There will be times that you will miss school due to performances and trips, if your grades are not up to par **OR** you have had too many absences, your teachers can keep you from these performances. As you are aware, if you are not at these performances you are jeopardizing the ensemble and our performance. Your grade will suffer if this situation occurs. Therefore, the following rules will apply:

* **All choir students must maintain a minimum Grade Point Average**

**of 2.0.** Report cards will be checked during class on report card day Anyone without a 2.0 GPA will not be eligible to perform for the following

quarter (this includes traveling) **\*\*\***. **Parents will be informed of this situation by** **mail or phone if it is within a few days of the performance/trip. \*\*\*** Anyone who is ineligible for 2 consecutive quarters may be subject to removal from the auditioned GVHS choirs.

* **Choir students may have no more than 10 overall absences a semester** (this is very generous). It is important that you attend all of your classes everyday - missing one class counts as a full day absence. Any choir student who has more than 10 absences from school in one semester will be ineligible for the following semester. **Parents will be informed of this situation by mail.**

**-14-**

**\*\*\*With Infinite Campus so readily available, there is no excuse not to know what your grades are. *If report cards come out close (i.e. within days) of a performance or trip the above rules still apply and your trip fees will be forfeited.***

**\*\* Ineligible students are still required to attend performances and work as assigned,**

**(unless they are during school hours) to receive credit for that performance. Students must write a critique on the concert and turn it in to Mrs. Ritzer on the next school day following the performance. If the performance is during the school day, another make-up assignment will be given (please see make-up assignment for performances - page 12).**

**\*\*Truant students from choir or other classes that Mrs. Ritzer is made aware of, could be made ineligible to perform. If you don't care enough to go to all of your classes, including choir, you must not care enough to perform. \*\***

**Choir Tours and Travel**

One of the most rewarding parts of being in a performing group is the opportunity to travel with that group in order to perform. The GVHS auditioned choirs usually travel out of town at least once each school year. This is a privilege and only students who exhibit proper execution of all classroom rules, attend all performances/rehearsals and have the permission of the director may attend. All out of town trips are required performances for Madrigals, Bella Voce, Green NV & Concert Choir. Men's choir will travel if it is determined that we have a good representation of each section. After all, the reason we travel is to perform and without a full choir, traveling would not prove to be worth it. Because this is a performance trip, students who do not attend the trip for any reason will be given a make-up assignment (this assignment is for missing the performance on the trip). Costs for each trip will be determined and announced in advance. The costs of the trips will depend on the availability of funds, location and duration of the trip, and other factors. Parents and students will be required to sign a form stating their intention to attend or not attend the trip by the specified date to be determined.  **Once a deposit has been** **made, no refunds (on any portion of the trip) will be given, and you are responsible for the total amount of the trip payment. \*\*\*** We travel with a tour company and cannot get the money refunded. A complete schedule and trip guidelines for each trip will be issued to each student and parent in advance. Students will be required to follow all trip rules as stated in the trip guidelines. Any infraction of the rules will be dealt with on an individual basis. There is an **OVERNIGHT TRAVEL PERMIT** located in the back of this handbook.  **It must be filled out, signed, and returned to Mrs. Ritzer by Friday, September 4, 2015.** Please fill it out completely and turn it in even if you are not sure if your student will travel.

**\*\*\*Please understand that if you do not travel due to GPA requirements, behavior violations, theft, or any act within the control of the student, no refunds on any portion of the trip will be given and you will still be responsible for the total amount of the trip payment.\*\*\***

**-15-**

**Please be aware of the following travel guidelines:**

* You will be required to sign rule sheets for each trip to make sure you are aware

of all of the travel expectations. These will be provided with the itinerary.

* There will be one (1) chaperone for every ten students traveling on the trip.
* Room and bus assignments will be selected by Mrs. Ritzer.
* No smoking or drinking of alcoholic beverages will be tolerated at any time at any function. Violators will be dealt with severely and in accordance to CCSD and GVHS policies.
* Only exemplary conduct will be accepted from the members of any Green Valley Choir performing ensemble. Members must be on their best behavior at all times. This includes conduct on the buses, in hotels, in restaurants, at other schools, and in all group appearances.

**GVHS Random Drug Testing**

All Green Valley High School students in the auditioned choirs will be responsible for signing up for the GVHS Random Drug Testing. You will need to be enrolled by September 30, 2015. You may not perform in any performance until you are enrolled. Please bring a copy of your receipt to Mrs. McLean as proof of enrollment. Any student that has a violation will be ineligible for performing off campus for the remainder of the school year. This includes festivals in and out of town.

**GVHS Choir Service Hours**

All GVHS auditioned choir students will be responsible to complete 4 hours of service to our choir department each quarter. As stated in the grading policy, this will be worth 200 points each quarter. At the beginning of each quarter, students will receive a list of approved service projects for that quarter. They will have 9 weeks to complete the hours and turn in the designated service hours form for approval by Mrs. Ritzer. The form signed by the students and parent must be turned in on or before the last day of each quarter. This is a way for the students to become more involved in the workings of the choir and to give back to the program.

**“Leaders are not born. They are made. They are made just like anything else…through hard work. That’s the price we have to pay to achieve that goal or any goal.” Vince Lombardi**

**-16-**

**Music Room Responsibilities**

**Music** is a part of the choir equipment owned by the school and careful handling of it will extend its usefulness. Music should be kept in your choir folder when not in use. Please do not use pen to mark your music - PENCIL ONLY!! Any damaged or lost music must be replaced by the person it is assigned to. Each time music is passed out, your music number will be recorded on an inventory sheet. If your music is not returned in good condition, you will be fined for the amount of the music. Students are responsible for providing their own choir folder at the beginning of the school year. You are responsible for keeping your folder in good shape. You are also responsible for returning it to the assigned spot at the end of class. **\*\*All music must be returned to the GV Choir within 1 week following the concert for which it was used. After 1 week, you will be charged a fine for the music regardless of whether you turn it in or not. This will assist with keeping our choral library in good shape.**

**Choir Room:** Choir members are to keep the choir room neat and clean. Keep the chairs in place and use the waste baskets for items to be thrown away. The room is not a storage place for all of your books and assignments.

***Storage Rooms and Cabinets:*** Storage areas throughout the room are for approved equipment only. Please do not hang your uniforms in these areas without permission. Access to these areas and equipment are through the director only.

**It is a privilege to use the music, choir room and equipment – please treat it as such.**

**Senior Cords**

Senior cords are available for purchase by **ALL** senior choir members (Concert Choir, Bella Voce, Women’s Choir, Madrigals and Men’s Choir) who have been **upstanding\*\*\* members of the choir department during their senior year** (this will be determined by the director). The senior cords are worn at graduation and the cost of the cord is $15.00.  **Payments for the cords will be collected in April and they will be distributed at the Choir Banquet or Spring Concert.**

**Four Year Choir Medallion**

The GVHS Choirs have many students who participate in the choir program for 4 years. A special medallion is given to those choir students who were enrolled in the GVHS Choirs for 4 years, have been **upstanding\*\*\* members of the choir department all four years**, and have made a considerable effort to be outstanding leaders, musicians and people. Recipients of the medallion will be determined by the director. They will receive the medallion at the choir banquet/Spring Concert and it may be worn at graduation.

**\*\*\*Upstanding members – attend all concerts, no behavior infractions, and no action on their part that will bring disgrace to the GVHS Choral Program.**

**-17-**

**Requirements to Letter in Vocal Music**

(Auditioned ensembles only)

Students will be awarded letters/pins based on an accumulation of points; a minimum of **20 points** must be earned. Students can receive a letter/pin in choir each year they are in the program but the points are awarded yearly. POINTS ACCUMULATE OVER ONE YEAR. THEY DO NOT "ROLL OVER" INTO THE NEXT YEAR. It is the responsibility of the student to keep track of his/her individual point totals. A form will be made available to students at the end of the year to apply for a letter/pin. **IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A LETTER/PIN, STUDENTS MUST HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED CHOIR WITH A GRADE OF A "B" OR HIGHER (SEMESTER GRADE AVERAGE).**

**\*\*After you have lettered, you will then receive a choir pin for the following year (s).**

Points are awarded fir the following:

6 points Participation in Concert Choir with a grade of "B" or higher each quarter

5 points Participation in Madrigals or Bella Voce with a grade of "B" or higher each quarter

5 points Participation in Green NV – attending ALL rehearsals and performances

4 points Serve as a section leader or choir department officer

4 points Taking private lessons for the given school year. Students must take regularly scheduled weekly lessons for a minimum of one semester to

qualify for these points, and must provide written proof from the instructor

3 points Participation in the musical. Students must attend all rehearsals.

2 points Participation in the CCSD Solo & Ensemble with a rating of I or II

2 points Participation and completion of Men's Choir

2 points Participation in All-State Solo & Ensemble with a rating of I or II

1 point Audition for CCSD Honor Choir

2 points Successfully complete CCSD Honor Choir

1 point Audition for the Nevada All-State Choir

2 points Successfully complete Nevada All-State Choir

1 point Participation in the Talent Show

1 point Participation in an approved community performing ensemble

**-18-**

**Private Voice Lessons**

Every attempt is being made to find competent vocal coaches for each choir member who shows interest in taking private voice lessons. Individual voice lessons should be an integral part of every serious choir student’s curriculum. A list of instructors will be made available to students within the first month of the school year, lesson prices will vary. If a student is serious about his/her training, he/she should plan a minimum of three hours of weekly practice time for each weekly lesson received. If a student is planning on participating in Solo & Ensemble Festival or auditioning for college scholarships (you can still receive $$$ even if you do not major in music - singing can help you pay for college), you should seriously consider taking private lessons.

**C.P.A. – Choir Parent Association**

We have a Choir Parent Association for the parents of the GVHS choir students. This organization exists to provide support through active participation in choir events activities, and yes, even some fundraising. If you are interested in helping our program this year, I would encourage you to sign up. Information on the group will be sent to you in our September mailing. If you would like more information about this organization, please contact Mrs. Ritzer or Mrs. McLean at 799-0950 ext. 4050. Remember that the support of the parents and families is an important component to our success.

The CPA help out with several events during the year: Choir Garage Sale, Fright Night, Winter Concert Silent Auction, Election Day Concessions, GVHS Chamber Invitational Concessions. All funds raised by the CPA at our events help to keep our choir department running smoothly and efficiently.

**Extra-Curricular Choral Groups/Activities**

GVHS Choir students will have the opportunity to perform in various extra-curricular choral ensembles throughout the school year. Those ensembles include: Men’s Choir, Men’s Barbershop, Women’s Barbershop, ACDA Honor Choir, CCSD Honor Choir, Nevada All-State Choir, NMEA Southern Zone Solo & Ensemble Festival, NMEA Regional Solo & Ensemble Festival, State Command Performance Solo & Ensemble Festival and Green NV.

All students who engage in these extra-curricular choral activities will be held to the same

rules and standards that are expected of GVHS Choir students in our curricular choirs.

This includes all of the aspects discussed in this handbook. Students who fail to follow the

rules, G.P.A. requirements, or represent the GVHS Choir Department in nothing but an exemplary manner will be removed from these events.

**“Unless you try to do something beyond what you**

**have already mastered, you will never grow.”**

**-19-**

**Achieving Musicianship**

**The Importance of Attitude**

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual is attitude. Students should keep a positive attitude toward reaching high expectations all the time. It takes dedication to reach goals and a positive attitude makes achieving goals enjoyable. The "right attitude" must be present with sincerity, concentration, and dedication as the foundation.

Approach each new musical piece the same way: What can I make out of this?

What is the music trying to say? Am I giving every last effort to make my part contribute to the whole sound of the ensemble? This shows a positive attitude.

Music is an academic discipline, but it is not something that only a few especially gifted can appreciate. Music is not something that is mysterious and difficult to understand, though it is a complicated science. It is demanding, and only by great effort and study can you really be rewarded as a performer. By keeping our expectations high, we can challenge the boundaries of our limited perception and really appreciate the beauties of life.

Analyze your own attitude and try to develop more positivity. You who are in musical ensembles are a favored few. Choir can do much for you. Make the most of it in every rehearsal and in every performance. Make each rehearsal like a concert.

**The Importance of Discipline**

Because of the nature of the organization, choir discipline must be strict. Choir students and parents must be willing to accept the ideals, principles, and rules of the organization.

Because musicians are constantly on display, each must continually be aware of the importance of good behavior. The student should remember that he/she represents his/her organization, school, and community whenever he/she performs or appears publicly. Any misconduct casts a direct reflection on our school and community and may well undo the work of hundreds of loyal students.

A good musical ensemble is built on discipline and discipline must be evident in every aspect of the program. The self-discipline needed to practice diligently whether individually or as a group is vital to the program. Rehearsals must also be disciplined. With discipline comes attainment of things worth-while.

**"There must be individual achievement if there is to be achievement in our musical ensembles. The progress of each student will reflect in the performances of the organizations in which he/she performs, and in turn will act as his/her benefactors in providing him/her with an outlet for his/her expressive talent and a basis for furtherance of his/her appreciation "**

**--Mark Hindsley**

**-20-**

Six Rules for Choral Success

**1. It’s more fun to be good.** Participating in choir is a fun, life - long activity. We are here to have as much fun as possible. It will be more fun for all of us and our audiences if we are good at what we do.

**2. Attitude is everything.**  No matter what our talent, intelligence or experience level, if we do not bring a positive attitude through the door, then we bring nothing.

**3. Never be afraid to fail.** The only way to fail in choir is to not try. If we all try, the guarantee is that we will do fine. What we do is HARD. It is hard to take a chance and sing in front of others. It is hard to show true inner feelings. It is hard to possibly make a mistake in front of others. We will only get better and more secure when we take a chance. GO FOR IT!!!

**4. Communicate, Communicate, Communicate!!!** There is no way we can all know what everyone is thinking, feeling and going through each day. Expect to be pushed everyday to be our best. If we cannot be our best for some extenuating circumstance, COMMUNICATE!

**5. Be there and be on time.** To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late, to be late is unacceptable. Time is money; music is a business and must run like one. To be late is selfish and the essence of ensemble is teamwork, not self. Do not make the entire choir repeat something because of lateness or unpreparedness. In case of a problem, see #4.

**6. Support each other.** The only way for us to be not afraid to fail is if we support each other when we try. There is no place in choir for those who are non - supportive of others, see #3. Treat others as you would be treated.

**“Teamwork is a challenge. It means coordinating our efforts with those of others, not solely for personal glory, but for team achievement.” -Eph Ehly**

**-21-**

**Tentative Schedule of Performances 2015 - 2016**

**(all performances and workshops are required)**

August 12 - 13, 2015 Madrigal Camp

August 18, 2015 Choir Officer Mini-Retreat/Room Set-up

September 10, 2015 Dr. Tim Workshop - Choir Officers

September 19, 2015 8th Annual Choir Garage Sale Fundraiser

September 21, 2015 Open House Performance - GVHS

Concert Choir / Madrigals Call 5:15 p.m.

Performance 6:00 p.m.

September 23 – 25, 2015 CCSD Honor Choir Auditions

October TBA 2015 Shakespeare in the Park – Mads

October 7, 2015 All choirs - Pasta Dinner/ Fall Preview Concert

Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

Performances (approx) 7:30 p.m.

October 9, 2015 GVHS Homecoming Carnival

October 24, 2015 8th Annual Fright Night Fundraiser

October 28, 2015 CCSD Honor Choir Concert 7:00 p.m. UNLV Ham Concert Hall

November 6, 2015 Madrigals – UNLV Madrigal Festival @ UNLV

Time TBA

November 7, 2015 Concert Choir Men – Men’s Festival at Desert Oasis HS

November 10 – 11, 2015 A capalooza @ GVHS (Green NV & Interested Students)

December 2, 2015 CCSD Holiday Choral Extravaganza @ The Smith Center (select students)

December 7 - 11, 2015 Various performances all week for GVHS Fine Arts Week

December 16, 2015 GVHS Choirs Winter Concert

GVHS Theater - All Choirs

Call 5:15 p.m. Performance 6:30 p.m. $5.00

January 19 - 22, 2016 Nevada All-State Choir Auditions – Select Students

Jan. 28 - 30/Feb 4-6, 2016 GVHS Musical 7:00 p.m. - GVHS Theatre

February 5 & 6, 2016 NMEA Solo & Ensemble Festival - Location – Clark HS

Times TBA - Madrigals, Barbershop, Bella Voce & soloists

-22-

February 8, 2016 Madrigals – Mandatory Chapman Rehearsal (4 – 6 p.m.)

February 9, 2016 GVHS Talent Show Auditions

February 12 – 13, 2016 Madrigals perform at Chapman University Invitational Choral Festival - Orange, California

February 17, 2016 GVHS Annual Talent Show

February 19– 21, 2016 Madrigals perform at University of Redlands Invitational Choral Festival and attend a concert by The King Singers

March 7, 2016 GVHS Choirs Pre-festival Concert w/ Thurman White M.S.

& Greenspun JHS Call 5:30 p.m. Performance 6:30 p.m.

March 11 & 12, 2016 GVHS Invitational Chamber Choir Festival – GVHS

Madrigals

March 14 & 15, 2016 CCSD Advanced HS Choral Festival – UNLV

Concert Choir, Bella Voce & Men’s Choir

March 17 - 21, 2016 Festival Tour to Hawaii – Heritage Hawaii Festival (CC, BV, GNV, Mads, MC)

April TBA, 2016 GVHS Performing Arts Dept 25th Anniversary Concert – The Smith Center

April 14 - 16, 2016 Nevada All-State Music Conference – Las Vegas - Selected Students

April 26 & 28, 2016 Auditions for 2016 – 2017 GVHS Madrigal Singers

May 2 – 20, 2016 Auditions for 2016 – 2017 GVHS Concert Choir

May 5 & 12, 2016 Auditions for 2016 – 2017 GVHS Bella Voce

May 17, 2016 Dress rehearsal for Spring Concert 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

May 18, 2016 GVHS Choirs 25th Anniversary Spring Concert - GVHS $5.00

Call 5:15 p.m. Performance 6:30 p.m.

May 28, 2016 GVHS Choir Banquet - GVHS $15.00

6:00 p.m. - Student Activity Center

TBA - June 2016 GVHS Graduation - All Concert Choir Graduates (2016)

and returning Madrigal members from 2015 - 2016 perform during the ceremony

**\*\*\*All dates and times are subject to change. Any changes and/or additions/deletions will be given as soon as possible. Two weeks notice is given whenever possible. Monthly calendars are emailed to all choir parents - please make sure you note any changes. \*\*\* Please check our website for all other information. It can be accessed at** [**www.greenvalleyhschoir.weebly.com**](http://www.greenvalleyhschoir.weebly.com)**.**

-23-

National Music Content Standards and

Nevada Growth Model Standards

1. Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music

2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music

3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments

4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines

5. Reading and notating music

6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music

7. Evaluating music and music performances

8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts

9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture

**Just as there can be no music without learning,**

**no education is complete without music.**

**-24-**

**What Is Music ?**

**Daniel Mooney, New York**

**Music is a science**

**It is exact, specific; and it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume change, melody, and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.**

**Music is mathematical**

**It is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.**

**Music is a foreign language**

**Most of the terms are in Italian, German or French; and the notation is certainly not English - but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language**.

**Music is history**

**Music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation, often even the country and/or racial feeling.**

**Music is physical education**

**It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lips, cheeks, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragmatic, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.**

**Music is all these things, but most of all,**

**Music is art**

**It allows a human being to take all these dry, technically boring (but difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion, call it what you will.**

**Music is taught in schools**

**not because you are expected to major in music**

**not because you are expected to play or sing all your life**

**not so you can relax**

**not so you can have fun**

**But** - **so you will be human**

**so you will recognize beauty**

**so you will be sensitive**

**so you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world**

**so you will have something to cling to**

**so you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, more good –**

**in short, more life**

**Of what value will it be to make a prosperous living unless you know how to live?**

**That is why music is taught.**

**-25-**

**After reading this handbook in its entirety, please detach, complete and return this page and the ones that follow, and return them to the instructor by Friday, September 4, 2015. Students must have these completed pages on file with their director before being allowed to participate in a concert.**

**STUDENT/PARENT AUTHORIZATION FOR OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES**

The Clark County School District (“CCSD”) offers a variety of learning activities at designated off-campus locations in which students will have the opportunity to participate. I hereby give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the various off-campus activities associated with the Green Valley High School Choir program. I understand that CCSD may not provide transportation to and from all activities. Students are expected to use school transportation to and from all activities, if provided. In the event that CCSD does not provide such transportation, I further understand that I must provide transportation for my son/daughter as a condition of his/her participation in that activity.

Student Name (print)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**GREEN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR**

**HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I have read the GVHS Choir Handbook in its entirety, agree to be responsible for the information contained within it, and have marked my home calendar with all required events. I understand the ramifications of missing a required event. I understand the expectations and my responsibilities in choir and am willing to live up to them.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Contact Information:**

Parent Name(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent email address (print neatly): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**-26-**

**GREEN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR PROGRAM**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Please volunteer to help the students and me by checking a few jobs listed below. You will meet a great group of music supporters, all of whom help keep things running smoothly behind the scenes. Thanks so much!!

Name of Volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer’s phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Choir: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_ Work the Garage Sale Set-up on the afternoon/evening of Friday, Sept. 18.**
2. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Donate yummy goodies to sell at the Garage Sale on Saturday, September 19.**
3. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Work a shift at the Garage Sale on Saturday, September 19.**
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_**Work a shift at the Homecoming Carnival on Friday, October 9.**
5. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Contact our elementary & MS feeders about Fright Night Flyer Distribution.**
6. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Help sell concessions at Fright Night on October 24.**
7. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Obtain items/donations for the Winter Concert Silent Auction in December.**
8. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Work a shift on A capalooza selling concessions (November 10 – 11)**
9. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Be a “Bouncer” at the Talent Show on February 17.**
10. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Donate yummy goodies for the Chamber Festival Concessions on March 11/12.**
11. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Work a shift selling concessions at the GVHS Chamber Festival-March 11/12.**
12. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Secure potential advertisers for our concert programs (all year long).**
13. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Help with Choir Uniform repairs.**
14. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Serve on a committee to plan the Annual Choir Banquet.**
15. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to help as needed when available.**

**-27-**

**Green Valley High School Choral Program**

**Choir Uniform Package**

**The total amount due for choir is $75.00 per student ($35.00 for Women’s Choir members). Several payment options are available. Please select your payment option, and return this form with your payment in the form of cash, cashier’s check or money order made payable to Green Valley High School Choir. Payments may also be made on the GVHS Webstore by debit or credit card.**

**Please return this form and your payment by Friday, September 4, 2015.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Choral Ensemble(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Option 1

Pay all fees, in full, by September 4, 2015, using cash, money order, cashier’s check or GVHS Webstore.

Option 2

Break your payment into two separate payments. $40.00 due by September 4th and the remainder due by September 25, 2015.

Option 3

Break your payment into three separate payments. $25.00 due by September 4th, $25.00 due by September 25th, and the remainder due by October 2, 2015.

Please check the appropriate option, sign, and return the form.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**By completing this form, the parent/guardian of the choral student accepts responsibility for meeting the financial obligation.**

**-28-**

**Addendum to 2015 – 2016**

**GVHS Choir Handbook**

The following supplies will be needed for your choir class by

Friday, August 28, 2015 (this will be worth 100 points):

1. Portfolio Folder with two inside pockets – please put your name and choir clearly on the outside – this is for your choir music.
2. Two pencils that will be kept in your choir folder for marking your music.

All auditioned choir students must be registered for Mrs. Ritzer’s Remind 101 account by Friday, August 28, 2015. This is worth 50 points.

The following items will gladly be accepted as a donation to the choir department at anytime during the school year:

1. A Box of Kleenex
2. Hand sanitizer
3. A new pack of CD-R recordable CDs
4. CD cases
5. Ream of white copy paper
6. Expo Dry Erase Board Markers

**Green Valley High School Choir**

**Service Hours**

**As a form of outreach to the community and to ensure that the Green Valley High School Choral Program will continue to thrive , each choir member is required to serve 4 hours of Service to the GVHS Choirs and the Green Valley Community.**

**Service Hour Opportunities for the 1st Quarter:**

1. **Work 2 hours at the GVHS Choir Garage Sale (Friday, 9/18 & Saturday, 9/19)**
2. **Sell two ads for the Choir Program (2 hours)**
3. **Sell 4 Fall Concert Tickets (1 hour)**
4. **Obtain a raffle Prize for the Fall Concert (2 hours)**
5. **Sell one box of Chocolates (1 Hour)**
6. **Work 2 hours at the Homecoming Carnival (2 hours)**
7. **Bring goodies for Homecoming Carnival (1 hour)**

**Service Hour Opportunities for the 2nd Quarter:**

1. **Work 2 hours at the GVHS Fright Night (October 24th)**
2. **Sell two ads for the Choir Program (2 hours)**
3. **Obtain a Donation for the Winter Concert Silent Auction (3 hours)**
4. **Sell one box of Chocolates (1 Hour)**
5. **Donate 1 hour at Thurman White or Greenspun to help the kids learn their Music**
6. **Bring in 60 Cup of Noodles (1 Hour)**
7. **Sell 10 Smith Center Extravaganza Tickets (2 Hours)**

**Service Hour Opportunities for the 3rd Quarter:**

1. **Attend the GVHS Musical (3 Hours)**
2. **Sell two ads for the Choir Program (2 hours)**
3. **Work at GVHS Invitational Festival (4 hours)**
4. **Attend GVHS Talent Show (2 hours)**
5. **Sell one box of Chocolates (1 Hour)**
6. **Donate 1 hour at Thurman White or Greenspun to help the kids learn their Music**
7. **Bring in 60 Cup of Noodles ( 1 Hour)**

**Service Hour Opportunities for the 4th Quarter:**

1. **Sell two ads for the Choir Program (2 hours)**
2. **Obtain a raffle prize for the Spring Concert (2 hours)**
3. **Sell one box of Chocolates (1 Hour)**
4. **Bring in 60 Cup of Noodles (1 hour)**
5. **Donate 1 hour at Thurman White or Greenspun to help the kids learn their Music**
6. **Perform for the Community at a nursing home, hospital, etc. (2 hours)**
7. **Work on approved projects in the choir room - See Mrs. Ritzer**

**If students have other ideas to use as Choir Service Hours, they are encouraged to pursue them but they *must get them approved by Mrs. Ritzer first.*  Please use the Service Hour form to log your hours – forms are due by the last day of each quarter.**







Visit:

www.greenvalleyhschoir.

weebly.com

For…

* Important dates
* Reminders
* VOCAB and MORE

Join the GVHS choir group on Facebook

(Search Green Valley High School Choirs and request to join)

Got Pictures???

Send them to [gvhshistorian@yahoo.com](mailto:gvhshistorian@yahoo.com)

**Or use**

#Slideshow2k16

\*\*\*with date of picture\*\*\*

Follow/ Tag us on Instagram: @Choir.gv

~Your Historians