

RIVERSIDE

A graphic of a musical staff with five horizontal lines, enclosed in a thin gold border. The text "Jr. High Choir" is written across the staff in a dark red, serif font.

Jr. High Choir

Mr. Will Rogers
Room: 163

Handbook

2023 – 2024

CALENDAR: Required & Graded Rehearsals/Performances

Rehearsals and Performances listed below are **Graded/Required** and will factor into your student's grade in this class. See Grades in Choir for more information.

| Month | Day | Date | Event | Location | Time |
|------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| September | | | | | |
| October | Monday | 10/02/23 | After-School Rehearsal | Hawk Hall | 4:00 – 5:30pm |
| | Tuesday | 10/03/23 | Fall Choir Concert* | Hawk Hall | 7:00pm |
| November | | | | | |
| December | Monday | 12/18/23 | After-School Rehearsal | Hawk Hall | 4:00 – 5:30pm |
| | Tuesday | 12/19/23 | Winter Choir Concert* | Hawk Hall | 7:00pm |
| January | | | | | |
| February | | | | | |
| March | Wednesday | 03/12/24 | ISSMA Preview Concert | Hawk Hall | 7:00pm |
| | Saturday | 03/16/24 | ISSMA Choir Competition* | TBD | TBD |
| April | | | | | |
| May | Monday | 05/20/24 | After-School Rehearsal | Hawk Hall | 4:00 – 6:00pm |
| | Tuesday | 05/21/24 | Spring "Pops" Choir Concert* | Hawk Hall | 7:00pm |

NOTICE: Public performances are an important part of participation in the performing arts. These dates should be prioritized as part of your student's experience. Any conflicts should be communicated well in advance for time to plan and adjust the preparation of our ensemble. We are a top performing choral organization in the state, and it's directly thanks to your support and encouragement of the arts!

HIGH PRIORITY DATES*: These are required/graded concerts and absences cannot be made up by completing other work.

- **EXCUSED ABSENCES:**
 - Sickness with Dr. Note
 - Family Emergency with Parent Note
 - HSE School sponsored regional, state, national tournament, game or match with 3-weeks' notice
- **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES** – including transportation or extra-curricular conflicts – will result in a **zero** for the performance grade and cannot be made up.

PRIORITY DATES: These are additional priority performances. These are graded, but their attendance can be made up with additional work if needed.

CALENDAR: *EXTRA* Events & Opportunities

These are extra performance opportunities. No grade assigned to performances/events below

| Month | Day | Date | Event | Location | Time |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------|---|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| August | Tuesday | 08/29 | Musical Auditions | Choir Room | 7:00-9:00pm |
| | Tuesday | 08/30 | Musical Auditions | Choir Room | 7:00-9:00pm |
| | | 08/31 | Show Choir Auditions | Choir Room | 7:00-9:00pm |
| September | Thursday | 09/28 | Fall Choir Get-together | Adrenaline | 6:00-8:00pm |
| October | Wednesday | 10/04 | <i>Deadline to submit auditions for Indiana Jr. High Honor Choir</i> - AUDITION ONLY - Overnight event - \$183 (all-inclusive) | IN CLASS | |
| November | Friday | 11/17 & 11/18 | <i>Musical Performance</i> | Hawk Hall | 7:00pm & 2:00pm |
| | Tuesday | 11/21 | <i>Solo/Ensemble Money Due to Directors</i> - \$15 for solo \$7 per member for ensemble | IN CLASS | |
| December | Wednesday | 12/06 | <i>Deadline to Register for Circle the State with Song</i> | IN CLASS | |
| | TBD | TBD | Winter Choir Get-together: Movie Night! | RJH | TBD |
| January | Thursday & Friday | 01/11 01/12 | Indiana Jr. High Honor Choir Performance | Embassy Theater Ft. Wayne, IN | All day |
| February | Saturday | 02/03 | ISSMA Solo/Ensemble for Voice and Piano | TBD | TBD |
| | Friday | 02/09 | Arts on the River | RJH | 6:00-8:30pm |
| | Saturday | 02/17 | ISSMA Solo/Ensemble for Voice and Piano <i>STATE COMPETITION</i> | Perry Meridian HS | TBD |
| | Saturday | 02/24 | Circle the State with Song Festival | Anderson University | All Day |
| March | TBD | TBD | Fundraiser Kick-off | RJH | <i>Periods 1-7</i> |
| April | TBD | TBD | Spring Choir Get-together | | |
| May | Saturday | 05/04 | Performing Arts Department Trip | Kings Island | 7:00am-10:30pm |

CALENDAR: Show Choir

These are dates show choir members MUST commit to. Show Choir is an elective, extra-curricular group. Students interested in participating, should plan to accommodate the schedule below. No grade is assigned to performances/events below. If absences or lateness become too frequent, students may be dismissed from the group.

Rehearsals BEFORE school every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY from 7:45 – 9:00am

| Month | Day | Date | Event | Location | Time |
|------------------|----------|-------|---|---------------------------|----------|
| August | Thursday | 08/31 | Show Choir Auditions | Choir Room | 7:00pm |
| September | Saturday | 09/09 | FHS Show Choir Clinic (encouraged) | FHS | TBD |
| | Saturday | 09/16 | Saturday Rehearsal | Choir Room | 9am-12pm |
| October | Saturday | 10/07 | Saturday Rehearsal | Choir Room | 9am-12pm |
| November | Saturday | 11/11 | Saturday Rehearsal | Choir Room | 9am-12pm |
| December | Friday | 12/08 | Anthem at Indy Fuel | Indiana State FG | TBD |
| | Saturday | 12/09 | Saturday Rehearsal | Choir Room | 9am-12pm |
| January | Saturday | 01/13 | Saturday Rehearsal | Choir Room | 9am-12pm |
| February | Saturday | 02/03 | Spotlight Choral Competition | Riverside Jr. High School | TBD |
| | Friday | 02/09 | Arts on the River | Fishers High School | TBD |
| | Saturday | 02/17 | Best of the Midwest Competition | Center Grove High School | TBD |
| | Friday | 02/23 | Franklin Central Hoosier Classic | Franklin Central High | Maybe? |
| March | Friday | 03/01 | Avon Show Choir Competition (Maybe?) | Avon High School | Maybe? |
| April | TBD | TBD | Show Choir Celebration Potluck Dinner | Hawk Hall | TBD |
| | TBD | TBD | Indianapolis Indians: National Anthem Performance | Victory Field | TBD |

About our choirs

Choirs at Riverside are comprised of kids at all levels of experience! Students in choir learn advanced vocal technique through developing healthy singing habits as well as learning how to manage the adolescent voice. Students also develop advanced techniques in harmony singing as well as practice their proficiency with music literacy by reading notes and rhythms through daily music exercises. Choir meets every day as a class for the entire year. Students will sing unison, two-part, three-part, and even four-part literature in a wide variety of musical styles including Broadway, classical, folk, gospel, jazz, madrigal, and pop selections. There are both auditioned and non-audition groups available.

- **7th & 8th Treble Singers (2 sections)**
 - Non-auditioned
 - Meets MTWThF
 - Class and performances subject to grade
- **7th/8th Grade Tenor/Bass Voices**
 - Non-auditioned
 - Meets MTWThF
 - Class and performances subject to grade
- **Golden Harmony: 7th/8th Show Choir**
 - Audition only
 - Meets M/W/F Mornings from 7:45-9:00 + ONE Saturday/Month
 - Featured performances at school travels to perform other events

Required Classroom Materials

Items Expected EVERY DAY

- iPad
 - Charged for class use
 - Loaded with Canvas, Sight Reading Factory. Both **Free**
- Choir Binder
 - Only holds choir music
 - Provided by Mr. Rogers
 - Does not leave classroom
- Pencil
 - For taking notes in music
 - Suggest leaving a pencil with the students choir binder



STRICTLY Prohibited Items:

- Cell Phones
- Chewing Gum
- Food/Drink (other than water)

Formal Concert Attire

- DRESSES:
 - *Students in one of the Treble Choirs will wear dresses for their concert uniform*
 - DRESS: Each treble singer will be sized for a concert dress.
 - SHOES: Each treble singer will be sized and order caramel-colored character shoes
- SUITS:
 - *Students in the Tenor/Bass Choirs will wear suits for their concert uniform*
 - SHIRT: Each tenor/bass singer will purchase a white-dress shirt through the school
 - BLAZER: Each tenor/bass singer will purchase a maroon blazer through the school
 - PANTS: Each tenor/bass singer will purchase black pants which will arrived un-hemmed through the school
 - SHOES/SOCKS: tenor/bass singers *must provide solid black dress shoes and solid black socks for performances*
- GENERAL GUIDELINES
 - HAIR: should be groomed and neat with consideration to avoid excessive decoration. Long hair will be groomed and kept away from the students faces
 - JEWELRY: Students may not wear jewelry with concert attire unless provided by Mr. Rogers as part of a uniformed ensemble. Small, stud earrings are acceptable.
- PAYMENT
 - Student Uniform cost for the 2023-2024 season is **\$90.00**
 - Checks written in blue or black ink should be made payable to Riverside Jr. High School with the student's name on memo line.
 - Students may use "SNAP RAISE" to raise the money for their entire purchase!
 - E-Fund payment is also accepted! (QR code)
 - *Please specify for choir uniforms*
 - Payment is due: **09/22/23**
 - Need payment assistance? Deadline extensions? Please contact me!
- ORDER INFORMATION
 - If you attended preview day, your student was sized with you before school started. If not, your student is trying on dresses during school or measuring for a suit. If you would like to come after school to be part of this selection process, please contact me and we'll schedule this!



***Students not conforming to the dress policy may be asked to sit out of the performance. If you have trouble obtaining an appropriate wardrobe for your student, please let a director know well in advance of the performance. Help is available!*

Grades in Choir

Grades:

| Summative – 75% | | Formative – 25% | |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|--|
| Weekly Rehearsal Grade | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 points Completed Weekly | Performance Benchmarks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 points each Completed 2-3/quarter |
| Priority Rehearsal & Performances | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 points Completed Quarterly | Written Assignments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 points each Completed as needed |
| Concerts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 points Completed Quarterly | | |

| Activity |
|---|
| Weekly Rehearsal Grade: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student behavior and rehearsal practices have a direct impact on the success of the performing group. Each week, students will receive a grade commensurate with their rehearsal contribution in class. |
| Performance Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will submit performance assessments through Sight Reading Factory or Canvas that will be evaluated against a specific rubric. |
| Written Assessments/Assignments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will complete written assignments or assessments that show understanding of music literacy and history concepts used in class. |
| Priority Rehearsal/Practice Grades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will attend important rehearsal/performance events. Non-attendance must be made up with completion of assignment prior to end of the grading period |

| PRIORITY Rehearsal/Practice Dates: | Date | Points |
|---|------------|--------|
| Fall Concert Rehearsal | 10/02/2023 | 200 |
| Winter Concert Rehearsal | 12/18/2023 | 200 |
| ISSMA Choral Competition Practice Concert (7pm) | 03/12/2024 | 200 |
| Spring Concert Rehearsal | 05/20/2024 | 200 |

| HIGH PRIORITY Performance Dates | Date | Points |
|---------------------------------|------------|--------|
| Fall Concert | 10/03/2023 | 500 |
| Winter Concert | 12/19/2023 | 500 |
| ISSMA Choral Competition | 03/16/2024 | 500 |
| Spring Concert | 05/21/2024 | 500 |

Grading Policy:

- Late work will be accepted with until the end of the quarter.
 - Chronic late work does not allow for alignment with class objectives and should be avoided.
 - Contact home will be made if lateness becomes a problem.
- Late work will be entered as a **zero** until it is graded.
- HIGH PRIORITY DATES MUST BE PLANNED FOR IN STUDENT'S CALENDAR – see page two for excused absences**

How Parents Can Help



Dear Choral Music Parent/Guardian,

The Riverside Junior High Choral Music Department welcomes you and your family to the upcoming school year! I look forward to an exciting year which will offer many opportunities for your student. I want you to know that your support is essential to our success. As a parent there are three ways you can help your students through your support of the choir program:

1) *Role Model!*

You can help by imparting the values of hard work and perseverance, reinforcing how to overcome personal failures, and encouraging your students to get more involved and explore new opportunities in our program. Your students may choose to audition for solos, find their place in leadership roles, or perform for judges throughout the year. When you model support for what they do, you will have a direct effect on how much they will accomplish and learn in this program!

2) *Volunteer!*

You may have the availability to volunteer with choir activities. The choir will have some fun activities to take part in throughout the year... and you and I know that organizing middle school-aged kids takes a village! If you want to help serve cake at a concert, chaperone an activity or extra rehearsal, or just take tickets as families arrive for a performance, I NEED YOU and would be glad to know about your interest!

3) *Give!*

A last area of support for any arts program may be financial. This is accomplished two ways: through fundraising and donation. Fundraising will take place in the spring and money brought in will assist with music purchases, hiring guest judges or clinicians, technology acquisition and repair, payment to accompanists and choreographers, providing additional props or costuming for concerts, or for designated use as scholarship for high-performing students with demonstrable need of financial assistance for concert attire or performance fees. Financial support may also be accomplished through donations and will be accepted at any point throughout the year. Donors will be recognized in concert programs for the 2023-2024 school year.

Thank you for your support of your students and the choir program! I hope that you'll have the opportunity to show support for the choir program in any way that you're able. I look forward to meeting and working with your kids this year – we're going to learn a lot!

Warmly,

Mr. Will Rogers

Director of Vocal Music
Riverside Jr. High School
wrogers@hse.k12.in.us
Phone: 317-915-4280 (ext. 6163)
www.RiversideChoir.weebly.com

Student-Parent-Teacher Agreement

Handbook can be viewed/printed here:



RETURN THIS PAGE TO MR. ROGERS BY: _____

Student Name: _____ Class Period: _____

Parent/Guardian name(s): _____

We have read and understand the concert dates which are mandatory and are a graded component of our students experience in choir. In order for our student to receive a grade for these events, they must attend and perform on these dates for the 2022-2023 Season: 10/03, 12/19, 3/12, 03/16, and 05/21.

We have read and understood what needs to be brought to class every day for a successful choir rehearsal and that frequent unpreparedness may affect our academic standing in class.

We understand our concert uniform obligations and its cost is \$90.00. There are payment options and arrangements for parents who reach out with financial need. No student will be turned away from choir due to financial limitations.

We understand how performance in choir will be graded and the weights of these grades. Grades are posted to skyward, missing grades will be entered as a zero until submitted, late work will not be considered past the 9-week grade period in which it was due.

Sometimes snacks and drinks are offered during extra rehearsals or outside events. My student has permission to consume snacks and drinks consistent with any diet restrictions.

We are always in need of volunteers!! If you plan to sign up to volunteer, you will need to complete the district's required volunteer policy designed to keep our students safe!

- District Volunteering Website:



We are interested in donating now and have enclosed the amount below:

\$10 \$20 \$50 \$100 Other _____

- *Donors and Volunteers will be thanked in concert programs.*
- *Checks must be made out to Riverside Junior High in blue or black ink with your student's name in the memo line. Donations are voluntary. All students will be allowed to participate regardless of donation or amount.*

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____