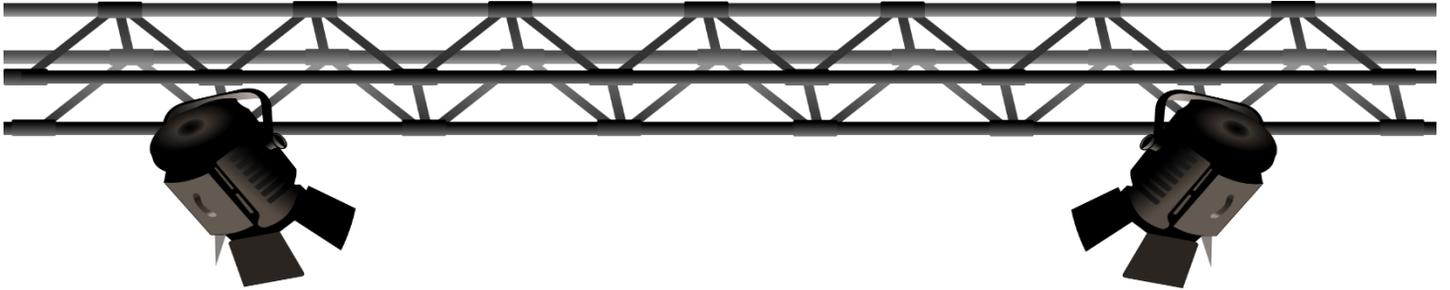


Dakota High School Choirs



DHS Show Choir 2021-2022

HANDBOOK

Director/Sponsor: Mr. Tyler Dargis
TDargis@cvs.k12.mi.us

(This copy is to be kept by parents and students for reference)

AUDITION INFORMATION

Students seeking to join the Dakota High School Show Choir will be required to participate in both a vocal and dance audition.

VOCAL AUDITION (9/16/2021)

Students will be asked to do the following on the day of the vocal audition:

- Submit their audition form, provided via Microsoft form and will be posted as a QR Code outside the choir room.
 - This should be completed before entering for the audition.
- Sing through a 1 minute or less snippet of any song they choose that best highlights their individual voice.
 - This process will be done on a one on one basis with Mr. Dargis
 - Please ensure that you bring with you an accompaniment track to sing along with
 - This may be a CD or an MP3 track on your phone (Make sure you phone has an aux port or bring the proper adapter with you)

DANCE AUDITION (9/17/2021)

Students will be asked to do the following on the day of the dance audition:

- Arrive to the audition in attire that is suitable for choreography
 - Athletic wear is recommended
- Be prepared to learn choreography varying in difficulty that is accompanied by a song selected by Mr. Dargis
- Be aware that this audition will be done in a group setting where Mr. Dargis will be taking note of those that pick up the choreography most efficiently and effectively

Please Note:

Ultimately, it is up to the sole, professional discretion of Mr. Dargis what students are selected for this prestigious performing ensemble. However, any students that desire feedback on why they may not have been accepted to this group are MORE than welcome to setup a meeting with Mr. Dargis to discuss what the student can do to improve for future years. *There will be NO negative consequences towards students that seek out this option and Mr. Dargis truly encourages ALL students to reach out and discuss their audition process to help aid them in their growth as a performer. 😊*

Expectations

Show Choir Members Will...

- Participate with 100% effort, always.
- **Remain respectfully quiet when the director is teaching others.**
- Arrive on time for rehearsals.
- Treat others with respect and consideration.
- Demonstrate respect for all equipment.
- Be attentive to any given instructions.
- Use appropriate language.
- Practice as individually necessary.
- Focus on achieving musical excellence



- ➔ **Show Choir members must not hinder the progress of the group as a whole by preventing Mr. Dargis or any other instructor from delivering information efficiently and effectively.**
- ➔ **Students must demonstrate respect for others through words and actions.**
- ➔ **Show Choir is an elite performing ensemble and will be treated as such. This will require a disciplined rehearsal process. If students fail to meet expectations of professional rehearsal conduct, the “discipline procedure” outlined below will be enforced.**

Discipline Procedure

1. Verbal Warnings
2. Removal from Rehearsal + Parental Contact
3. Probation
4. Dismissal from Show Choir

Show Choir Dues

2021-2022 Show Choir members are asked to pay a \$70 fee for Show Choir (for the whole year). This will help to ensure the continued quality of the ensemble by providing Dakota Choirs with funds for the items listed below for this group. If this fee may pose a problem for your student to participate in this ensemble, parents should contact Mr. Dargis via email.

Show Choir dues provide funds for the following:

- Dry cleaning + clothing repair for Show Choir specific school-issued uniform items
- Contracted outside professionals (*choreographers*, clinicians, live instrumentalists for performances)
- Purchase of new music, props and accessories to enhance the onstage performance
- School-related fees (ex: bus drivers for field trips)

Choir Fines

All items must be returned in excellent/good condition to avoid a fine.

Fines will equal the monetary value of a new, *replacement* item. Per school policy, fines must be issued for:

- Lost or damaged music
- Lost or damaged uniform

OUTFIT INFORMATION

The Show Choir uniform is an important aspect of the ensemble. A uniform appearance unifies a group's members, and fosters a singular focus and purpose. Moreover, visuals are a critical component for show choirs particularly.

Show Choir members will be charged a cleaning/ repair fee (included in show choir dues) for the use of a school-owned show choir uniform. At the end of the year, the uniforms will be collected and the choir department will handle the dry-cleaning all the items for re-issue next year.

If repairs throughout the year are necessary, it is the responsibility of the student to report this information to Mr. Dargis immediately. Students may not alter school-owned clothing items themselves.

WOMEN

YOU PROVIDE:

- Natural skin-tone tights
- 2" CARAMEL character shoes
- Spanks - Color TBD (trunk-style)
- Preferred—skin-tone body suit

SCHOOL PROVIDES:

- Gown

MEN

YOU PROVIDE:

- Black dress shoes
- Black socks
- White undershirt

SCHOOL PROVIDES:

- Black tuxedo pants
- Turquoise dress shirt
- Black tie

OTHER INFORMATION

PERFORMANCE HAIR

Longer Hairstyles – Hair must be styled off the face and should be pulled back in a manner that the face is clearly visible. Bangs should be above the eyebrows. Hairspray and appropriate accessories need to be used so the hair remains off the face for the entire concert. A continual “fixing” or “pushing back” of the hair during a concert is extremely distracting. Any accessories **MUST** match your hair color and should not be noticeable from an audience’s view (i.e. no “bling”, shiny metal or bright colors)

Shorter Hairstyles – Hair must be styled off the face. Bangs should be above the eyebrows. If hair would cover the face, hair product (gel, spray, mousse, wax, etc.) must be used to keep hair styled back away from the face for the duration of a performance.

No jewelry during performance. This includes watches, necklaces, bracelets, rings, visible piercing jewelry, etc.

- Earrings are acceptable *if* they are *plain silver* with or without *clear stones* (rhinestones/diamonds).

Make-up should be worn to look “natural” under stage lights.

Undergarments must not be visible.

- Make sure to wear a plain, white undershirt under dress shirts.
- Use flesh colored or transparent bra straps.

When in uniform, you must remain in complete uniform from arrival until departure. At no time should shirts be untucked, sleeves rolled, ties off, etc.

Students will be checked before performance, and will not be allowed to perform without meeting outfit requirements.

COMMUNICATION

Rehearsals

Students will be provided with a list of rehearsal dates and times. ***It is mandated that students review rehearsal schedules when they are provided, and submit any conflicts to Mr. Dargis via email within one week of the schedule being posted.*** Rehearsal attendance is incredibly important to the success of this ensemble. Multiple tardies or unexcused rehearsal absences will result in the disciplinary action which may lead to probation or dismissal from the group.

Choir Website

The rehearsal schedule, this handbook, and other resources will be posted on the Show Choir page of the Dakota Choirs website (www.DakotaChoirs.com).

Remind

Students are required and parents are encouraged to sign up for Show Choir *Remind* text message notifications. These will mostly be reminders about rehearsals and will mostly be sent early in the school day or the night before a rehearsal. To sign up, send the text message @dhs-sc to the number 81010.

Facebook

Students are required to join the Show Choir Facebook Group. They will request to join it, and shortly be admitted. It is called “DHS SHOW CHOIR 2021-2022.” This group will be a place where community information is shared — mostly things like choreography videos for practicing, and any last-minute schedule changes. Facebook is a free website. If there are concerns about students joining this group, please feel free to contact Mr. Dargis.

OTHER

Individual Standards for Group Success

I do not anticipate any issues arising relating to the quality vocals or choreography due to our thoroughly structured rehearsal schedule. I know that all students in this group will hold themselves to a high standard to allow them to internalize the music/choreography in order to achieve an excellent performance. However, if for some reason, the group’s collective performance is below the quality that it needs to be within a particular timeframe, Mr. Dargis reserves the right to administer individual vocal testing and/or small-group choreography testing. This is not meant to single any student(s) out, it is meant to be used as a tool to help both Mr. Dargis and the group as a whole focus on what needs the most attention ESPECIALLY before a performance.

Additionally...

- Vocal solos/small groups and dancing solos/small groups may be offered via audition. However, Mr. Dargis reserves the right to assign these “features” to individual members based on professional assessment.
- Dakota’s Choral Department is one of the strongest around and is lucky to have so many amazing students and community members be a part of it. The purpose of this group is to achieve an excellent performance with high standards for student achievement. However, this group, as with all of Dakota Choirs is meant to help greatly enhance a student’s High School experience by being a vital part of the Choral Department and to build skills that can only be crafted by being a part of a performance based ensemble. Furthermore, know that it is Mr. Dargis’ personal goal to help you create meaningful musical memories that will last a lifetime. 😊

Now get out there and BREAK A LEG! 😊