

KCS Cantus Choir

Welcome to the Cantus Choir! We are going to have a great year this year in Cantus Choir. Below you will find out more about who we are and what will be expected of you this year.

Firstly, there are several performances that will feature the Cantus Choir this year. They are:

1. December 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. – Middle School Christmas Concert
2. Feb 23, 24, OR 25 (one date only) – Pinellas County Choral Music Assessment –
3. May 15, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. – Choral Music Spring Concert

By signing below you are stating that you have secured these dates on your family calendar.

CHOIR UNIFORMS

Music students will wear the exact, prescribed uniform for all performances. Jewelry and other ornamentation must not be worn, with the exception of small earrings for girls. Uniforms must be clean and ironed. “Solid black” means that, from a few feet away, one can only see the color black, without any other distracting details (exterior pockets, brand badges, large stitching or embroidery, “swoosh stripes” etc.).

Please always hang up your uniform when you are not wearing it. Keep it clean and wrinkle-free so it’s sharp and ready to go for our concerts.

Cantus (7 -8) Choir Uniform:

Boys

- Solid black dress pants with a plain black belt.
- Solid black socks and shoes.
- Tux shirt, tie and cummerbund

Girls

- Black skirt of appropriate length (purchased through Music Boosters)
- Black tights or hose with dress shoes
- Tux shirt, tie and cummerbund

Along with the Concerts there are a few Music Booster fund-raising activities that alleviate the need for a music fee to be a part of our department. They are:

1. Square Dance on October 29, 2011
2. Bella Sera di Musica on April 20, 2012

There are also auditioned activities which your student can choose to be a part of.

1. Choral All State Auditions – October and November (exact dates TBA)
2. KCS Musical Auditions – November 28 – 30 (extra-curricular; requires fee, separate rehearsal calendar and contract)

Cantus (7-8 Choir) Grading Policy:

Keswick 7-8 Choir students will be graded in four major areas:

- A. Rehearsal Participation
- B. Performance
- C. Worksheets/Quizzes/Projects
- D. Extra Evidence

Your performance in each of these areas will determine each quarter's grade. The percentage scale is based on 100%; the letter grade breakdown is consistent with Keswick's grading policy.

- A. Rehearsal Participation: (50%) Each student's rehearsal participation will be evaluated daily on a five point scale based on the following:
 - Attitude
 - Concentration
 - Respect for classmates
 - Talking only when permissible
 - Materials
- B. Performance: (20%) The performances listed in the calendar play a major part in your final grade. At each performance you will be graded for timely arrival, uniform, and concert participation including behavior. An unexcused absence from a choir performance will result in a grade of 60% (F).
- C. Worksheets/Quizzes/Projects: (20%) There will be occasional worksheets, quizzes, and projects. These will be used to encourage growth and to assess student's progress. With hard work and concentration in class, students will have no trouble succeeding in this area.
- D. Extra Evidence: (10%) You will be responsible for 1 credit of Extra Evidence for each quarter. These are further specified on the Extra Evidence sheet and represent various contributions to your musical experience.
- E. Attendance: This is an important part of choir. One student's absence affects the whole group. Please be mindful of team aspect of choir class as you schedule necessary appointments that keep student's from being in class.



***...let all who take refuge in you be glad;
let them ever sing for joy. Psalm 5:11***



PERFORMING ENSEMBLE

COMMITMENT CONTRACT 2011 - 2012

PLEASE PRINT, SIGN AND RETURN TO YOUR MUSIC DIRECTOR(S) (copy as necessary) **BY MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2011.**

Please check the group(s) you will be a member of this school year:

- Cantus Choir (7-8)
- Concert Choir (9-12)
- Praise Band

For the Student:

"I have read the fine arts handbook, I agree to follow the rules in it, and I will cooperate with my director(s) in every way. I will attend all concerts and events pertaining to my group(s). I know this will take a lot of hard work, and I promise to do my very best at being an asset to my group(s), and to fulfill my God given musical potential this year."

Student name (please print)

Student signature

For the Parent(s):

"I understand and commit to follow the contents of the Fine Arts Handbook. I understand that my encouragement and commitment to my child's music education are a crucial part of my son/ daughter's success. My child will participate in all concerts and events. In the event there is an emergency, I will communicate as early as possible with my child's music director(s)"

Parent signature