

# Karns Middle School Choral Department 2016-17

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*Welcome! This is an elective, participation-based class! We are watching for engaged singers! We will do a lot of different activities and assessments, & you are expected to participate to the best of your ability in EVERY CLASS & EVERY PERFORMANCE! It is better to try and fail than to fail to try...Your grade in chorus is an earned one. Remember that much of your grade will be based on your attitude, behavior, attendance in class and at concerts, and how hard you are willing to work for the excellence of our organization.*

## **REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THIS ELECTIVE CLASS:**

1. **A pencil & 1-subject notebook** – EVERYDAY. This can be a thin binder with paper, a folder with paper, or composition notebook. Keep everything you do in there – until the end of the year.

2. **Shirt Fee:** See prices below & on form - (Due Sept 13<sup>th</sup>)

**\$11** (Adult: Small, medium, large, XL, & Youth: YLarge & Youth XLarge) OR **\$13** (Adult XXL or XXXL)

Once you buy one, you will not have to buy another while at KMS, unless your shirt is messed up (visibly torn, stained, bleached, etc.) or you out-grow it. Trade-outs are sometimes available if you outgrow it. If you have a sibling or family who is a former KMS chorus member (from 2010 and later) – you may use it! This is NOT covered by fee waiver, because you keep it.

3. **Chorus Fee:** \$20 (Due by Sept 13<sup>th</sup>) This is covered by fee waiver. This covers music, festival registrations, materials they need for class, some field trip expenses, instruments, & much more! Cash or Check – must be turned in with a labeled envelope!!!!

**YOU MAY COMBINE YOUR SHIRT FEE & CHORUS FEE: \$31 or \$33!**

## **RESOURCES:**

**~Textbooks & CDs:** Share the Music, The Music Connection, Music & You, The World of Music

**~Selected Octavos** from the East Tennessee Vocal Association approved list; selections from Knox Co. Supervisors/colleagues

**~Various recordings** for movement, stretching, listening, analyzing, and evaluating

**~Educational videos and excerpts** about musical history, concepts/theory, and vocal technique/concerts will be shown during class.

Selected excerpts of movies, musicals, opera, and selected television interviews which showcase specific curriculum topics. Nothing will be shown without copyright approval or principal approval. Occasionally, your child will be required to write it in his/her agenda & have you sign it to return to us so we know he/she has permission to view the film.

**~Sacred Music:** It is the position of NAFME: The National Association for Music Education that the study and performance of religious music within an educational context is a vital and appropriate part of a comprehensive music education. The omission of sacred music from the school curriculum would result in an incomplete educational experience.

**~National Standards:** [www.nafme.org](http://www.nafme.org)

\*\*\**Feel Free to contact your child's chorus teacher if you have special circumstances about the curriculum!* ☺

## **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Respect Others – Respect their stuff, their feelings, their music  
Be silent when visitors are in the room, the telephone has rung, or announcements are being made on the intercom.
2. Respect the Teacher – Do Not talk or get up without permission.  
Do Not disrupt/interrupt class. Rude behavior, arguing, etc. will not be tolerated.  
Do Not interrupt someone when they are talking. NO HORSEPLAY (automatic write-up)
3. Respect the Room – No trash on the floor. Pick up after yourself & help others.  
Do not leave your belongings here. (Repeat offenses: Write-up.)  
No gum, food, or drink is allowed in the chorus room.  
Be Careful - Watch where you step!  
Do Not abuse or damage property of the chorus room – music, instruments, risers, chairs, etc.  
The following items are OFF LIMITS to students: teacher's desk, computers, whiteboards, stereos, pianos, & keyboard. You will be written up, you'll have to pay for & replace items, & Be where you are supposed to be at all times.
4. Respect Yourself - Participate/Obey teacher's first request – it's the biggest part of your grade! Turn stuff in & keep up with due dates, concert dates, and student responsibilities. If you don't know something – please ask!  
\* If you need to, come talk to us. ☺

## **BIG AFTER-SCHOOL CONCERTS - (REQUIRED)**

**WHEN:** Winter Concert (late Nov. or December) & Spring Concert (April/May) **DATES COMING SOON!**

**WHERE:** Hardin Valley Academy - 11345 Hardin Valley Rd.

<b>Times:</b>	<b>Grade:</b>	<b>Report Time:</b>	<b>Concert Start/End</b>
	6 <sup>th</sup>	5:45	6:00-6:30
	7 <sup>th</sup>	6:30	6:45-7:15
	8 <sup>th</sup>	7:15	7:30-8:00
	ENCORE	Report @ your grade's time	8:00-8:30



**Concert Attire:** Each student must wear the KMS Chorus issued blue polo (Included when you pay your dues) AND khaki colored pants or skirt. (Absolutely No Shorts/Capris!) All items must follow the guidelines of Knox County & KMS dress codes.

-The concert counts as a major test for the semester – it counts as 35% of your grade, daily/rehearsal grade = 65%

-Absences are excused only if they are documented & we must have a copy of the excuse on file. (doctor's note, funerals, incidents beyond you and/or your parents' control) Birthdays/parties, Sports games, running out of gas, vacations, etc. are NOT excused.

-‘Don't have a ride? Let us know ASAP so we might put you in contact with another student/parent! Not having a ride is NOT an excuse. PLAN AHEAD!

-Even if you have an excused absence, you will have to complete an alternative assignment to receive full credit. Unexcused absences cannot be made up.

### **GRADING POLICY**

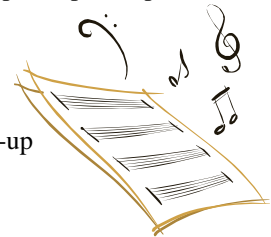
Along with your performance grades & tests, you will receive a daily participation/activities grade every day (100pts.). Your weekly average will be posted online. If you have trouble following the classroom expectations (below) for participation/performance, this is how we calculate the total :

1<sup>st</sup> Strike: -10 pts. AND a warning

2<sup>nd</sup> Strike: -10 pts.

3<sup>rd</sup> Strike: -15 pts. AND a parent phone call

‘Unable to improve the situation after a parent phone call? Meeting w/the principal & possible write-up  
Still unwilling to cooperate & make necessary changes = dismissal from chorus.



### **FIELD TRIP EXPECTATIONS:**

- A field trip permission form will be sent home with a “due date” on it. No permission slips will be accepted after that date – you will NOT go on the field trip. Students are expected to represent the school with respect and dignity when out in public with the KMS Choral Department. Students are expected to stay with the group/teacher at ALL times.

- After School field trips/Pick-Up Policy: This policy is for the student's safety when traveling with the KMS Choral program. Parents must be on time to pick up students after event/trip. If late, the student will not go on the next field trip. Parents must sign the student out IN PERSON before leaving. If student is not signed out by an adult, we will call home ensure safety. A write-up will be completed & the student will not be permitted to go on another after-school trip for the rest of the year.

Opportunities for travel: ETVA Festival, KSO, Musicals, Operas, and plays – as well as performing for community events.

### **TRYOUTS, ENCORE CHOIR, ETC.**

**Requirements for solos:** Current “A” Average in Chorus  
Satisfactory conduct grades in chorus AND all other classes  
No ISS or OSS during the semester of the solo  
Your fees & forms are turned in  
You have no outstanding fines with the choral department.

\*\*\*Arguing with teachers, complaining, harassing other students etc. is unacceptable; Write-up, banned from tryouts.



**ENCORE CHOIR** is an audition-only group that rehearses 2-3 days a week from 7:30-8:20 in the morning. Chosen students work on different material & sing with other grade levels. They have different performance attire for concerts & have more opportunities to perform – especially away from school. We have performed at the Opryland Hotel, the Country Music Hall of Fame, Knoxville nursing homes,, Salvation Army, the City County Building downtown, & recorded in studios in Nashville. We have also taken trips to see musicals & tours of cities in TN, AND Atlanta, Chicago, Cincinnati, D.C., & St. Louis! There is an additional set of expectations.

***\*\*TRYOUTS ARE SCHEDULED FOR: Sept 7-9 During your class & by appointment. Details are coming – stay tuned!***

**GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Birthdate:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Allergies:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Medications:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Emergency Contact Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Emergency Contact Phone Number(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR THE STUDENT:**

I, (name of student \_\_\_\_\_), have read the entire KMS chorus syllabus, and understand its policies & expectations. I realize my role in the chorus classroom & will abide by these policies while I am a KMS Chorus member. I understand the turn-in deadline for fees(\$20), a shirt order if I need one (\$11-\$13), AND this form is September 13, 2016.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR THE PARENT:**

I, (name of Parent) \_\_\_\_\_, have read the entire KMS chorus syllabus, and am aware of the policies, needed supplies (folders, pencil, etc.), & fees: \$20 class fee & chorus shirt \$11-13. He or she also needs a pair of khaki pants or skirt (dress code). I am also aware of the deadline to turn in this form AND any fees is September 13 , 2016. I give consent for my child to watch excerpts or entire viewings of the musicals, operas, or ballets listed on the website. (This handbook & all other info can be accessed via the school website! ☺ )

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Chorus Fee (\$20) + Shirt Fee (If you need one: 11 or \$13)**

*Please indicate what you are sending in by filling in the appropriate blank:*

**Check No.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cash \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee Waiver** \_\_\_\_\_ (Check this blank  
Check amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (amount) if your child is on file as a fee waiver student)

***IF YOU ARE ORDERING A SHIRT – CIRCLE A SIZE!***

|                                 |        |       |                                 |                  |                  |
|---------------------------------|--------|-------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Small                           | medium | large | <u><b>\$11 Adult:</b></u><br>XL | adult 2XL (\$13) | Adult 3XL (\$13) |
| <br>                            |        |       |                                 |                  |                  |
| <u><b>\$11 Youth Sizes:</b></u> |        |       |                                 |                  |                  |
| Youth Large                     |        |       | Youth XLarge                    |                  |                  |

\*\*\*\*Please put payment in **LABELED** envelope or container (ziploc bag) & turn into correct box in class.