

MUSIC

CANTABILE SOPRANO/ALTO CHOIR

Grade Level: 10	Credits: 1.5	College Credit: No	Fine Arts Credit: Yes	Prerequisite: By Audition
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This choir will meet every other day all year long during the same period as Symphonic Band. Cantabile Soprano/Alto Choir is an advanced vocal ensemble for Soprano/Alto voices. Cantabile membership requires an advanced level of musical literacy and command of the vocal instrument. Students can expect to be challenged musically, intellectually, and interpersonally through participation in Cantabile Soprano/Alto Choir. Attendance at all concerts and performances is mandatory. The Cantabile Soprano/Alto Choir will focus on:

1. Vocal technique including: breath support, vowel formation, diction, phrasing and vocal freedom
2. Advanced music literacy including: advanced music theory and sight-reading, as well as melodic and rhythmic dictation
3. Choral tone and blend
4. The preparation of challenging music
5. Concert, contest and festival preparation

CONCERT BAND

Grade Level: 10-12	Credits: 3	College Credit: No	Fine Arts Credit: Yes	Prerequisite: By Audition
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This band will meet every day all year long during the same period as Concert Choir. Selection to Concert Band will be used on audition results and instrumentation requirements. Concert Band is for instrumentalists in grades 10-12. This performance class will place emphasis on the development of basic musicianship (tone quality, rhythmic execution and understanding, balance and blend, technique and goal oriented behavior and attitude). Music in a variety of styles will be taught and performed. Concert performances are included on the school calendar and can also be found on the band website and syllabus. In addition to these concerts, the Concert Band will travel on a performance tour every third year. Grading is based on individual practice, play tests, written tests, daily performance grades, lesson preparation, daily effort and behavior. Expectations include a desire to learn and improve on an instrument, a positive attitude, self-discipline, and cooperation. Lessons and attendance at all public performances are required.

CONCERT CHOIR

Grade Level: 10-12	Credits: 3	College Credit: No	Fine Arts Credit: Yes	Prerequisite: By Audition
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This choir will meet every day all year long during the same period as Concert Band. Concert Choir is our advanced mixed choir consisting of primarily 11-12 graders. Students must be proficient in their musical literacy and have an advanced level of control over the instrument. Students in Concert Choir are required to attend one vocal lesson with Mr. Olson per trimester. Attendance at all concerts and performances are mandatory. In addition to these concerts, the Concert Choir will travel on a performance tour every third year. The Concert Choir will focus on:

1. Vocal technique including: breath support, vowel formation, diction, phrasing and vocal freedom
2. Advanced music Literacy including: advanced music theory and sight-reading, as well as melodic and rhythmic dictation
3. Choral tone and blend
4. The preparation of challenging music
5. Concert, contest and festival preparation
6. Tour preparation

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Grade Level: 10-12	Credits: 1	College Credit: No	Fine Arts Credit: Yes	Prerequisite: None
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Music is a part of everyday life. This course will introduce students to the varying styles and musical eras of western music from the medieval period to modern times. Through exposure to our musical history we will discover ways to expand our enjoyment of music. Students will develop listening skills to help in distinguishing quality performances as well as knowledge about choosing quality recordings or attending the best concerts. This course is designed for all students of all musical abilities.

MUSIC THEORY

Grade Level: 11-12	Credits: 1	College Credit: No	Fine Arts Credit: Yes	Prerequisite: None
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This course is designed for the student who is interested in expanding his/her knowledge of the written aspects of music, including harmonic structure. The course includes the study of all the fundamentals of music theory and the development of listening skills. Students who are interested in studying music in college will find this course particularly helpful.

SELECT CHAMBER CHOIR

Grade Level: 10-12	Credits: 3	College Credit: No	Fine Arts Credit: Yes	Prerequisite: By Audition
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This choir will meet every day all year long, during the same period as Wind Ensemble. The Select Chamber Choir is the most advanced vocal ensemble offered at Waconia High School. It is composed of 40 singers (20 male and 20 female). The Select Chamber Choir membership requires an advanced level of musical literacy and command of the vocal instrument. Students can expect to be challenged musically, intellectually, and interpersonally through participation in the Select Chamber Choir. The Select Chamber Choir will perform extensively throughout the community especially during the holiday season singing traditional Holiday Carols. Attendance at all concerts and performances is mandatory. In addition to these concerts, the Chamber Choir will travel on a performance tour every third year. The Select Chamber Choir will focus on:

1. Vocal technique including: breath support, vowel formation, diction, phrasing, and vocal freedom
2. Advanced music literacy including: advanced music theory and sight-reading, as well as melodic and rhythmic dictation
3. Choral tone and blend
4. The preparation of challenging music
5. Concert, contest and festival preparation
6. Tour preparation
7. Numerous community performances
8. Christmas caroling especially around the holiday season

SYMPHONIC BAND

Grade Level: 10	Credits: 1.5	College Credit: No	Fine Arts Credit: Yes	Prerequisite: By Audition
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This band will meet every other day all year long during the same period as the Cantabile Women's Choir. Symphonic Band is predominantly for instrumentalists in grade 10. This performance class will place emphasis on the development of basic musicianship (tone quality, rhythmic execution and understanding, balance and blend, technique and goal oriented behavior and attitude). Music in a variety of styles will be taught and performed. Grading is based on individual practice, play tests, written tests, daily performance grades, lesson preparation, daily effort and behavior. Expectations include a desire to learn and improve on an instrument, a positive attitude, self-discipline, and cooperation. Lessons and attendance at all public performances are required.

VARSITY BAND

Grade Level: 9	Credits: 1.5	College Credit: No	Fine Arts Credit: Yes	Prerequisite: None
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This band will meet every other day all year long during the same period as the Varsity Choir. Varsity Band will place emphasis on basic scales, rhythms, and tone quality. Tone quality and good rehearsal techniques will be stressed. Music in a variety of styles will be taught and performed. Grading is based on play tests, written tests, and rehearsal technique. Expectations include a desire to learn and improve on an instrument, a positive attitude, self-discipline, and cooperation. Lessons and attendance at all public performances are required.

VARSITY CHOIR

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.5

College Credit: No

Fine Arts Credit: Yes

Prerequisite: None

This choir will meet every other day all year long during the same period as Varsity Band.

Varsity Choir is our entry-level choir at Waconia High School. Membership consists primarily of 9th graders but all singers are welcome. Students in Varsity Choir are required to attend one vocal lesson with Mr. Olson per trimester. Attendance at all concerts and performances is mandatory. In the Varsity choir we will primarily focus on:

1. Vocal Technique including: breath support, vowel formation, diction, phrasing and vocal freedom
2. Music Literacy including: basic music theory and sight-reading
3. Concert Preparation

WIND ENSEMBLE

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 3

College Credit: No

Fine Arts Credit: Yes

Prerequisite: By Audition

This band will meet every day all year long during the same period as the Select Chamber Choir. Membership of this group includes 10th – 12th grade students that are accepted upon auditioning the previous spring. This ensemble rehearses each school day throughout the year, performing in concerts during each trimester, Region 2AA Large Group Contest, and other events. Concert performances are included on the school calendar and can also be found on the band website and syllabus. In addition to furthering technical abilities as individual musicians, great emphasis is placed on creating a unified musical expression by the entire ensemble. A variety of repertoire will be explored, in addition to relevant theoretical and historical concepts and information. Participation in private lessons is strongly encouraged, but not required of students wishing to be members of Wind Ensemble.