

YPAS Vocal Development 1 syllabus

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(502) 485-8355

YPAS 105

Required Materials:

1.5 inch, three-ring binder and dividers for Textbook

Internet access with Google Chrome (can be phone) for outside of class assignments

Learning Objectives:

- ◆ Develop proper, efficient vocal technique
- ◆ Learn and perform a variety of solo and ensemble repertoire and understand stylistic differences
- ◆ Achieve a high level of proficiency in sight-singing
- ◆ Understand musical terminology
- ◆ Build on understanding of music theory
- ◆ Demonstrate expressive singing through understanding expressive qualities of music
- ◆ Dramatic expression in solo performance (twelve guideposts, subtext)
- ◆ Develop a sense of confidence in performance
- ◆ Develop professionalism and self-discipline (be a servant to the ensemble and process)
- ◆ Develop leadership traits
- ◆ Achieve a level of musical, dramatic, and personal skill to be a life-long participant in music.

Classroom Expectations:

- * Be in the room ready to start class when the bell rings. Do your best to take care of personal needs before arriving in class rather than asking to leave the room during instruction or activities. After accumulating 3 late arrivals or asking to leave class 3 times, there will be assigned make up work for the missed class time
- * Bring text book, pencil, and solo music with you to class each day. You may also choose to bring a water bottle, but only water.
- * Talking during instruction is detrimental to the creative and learning process. All of our activities should be focused on learning.

- * Phones will be placed in an assigned space in a hanging storage unit. Each slot will be individually numbered, and the expectation is that your phone is placed in your slot before class begins. We will end class in time for you to get your phone prior to the bell ringing. You will not be allowed to take your phone with you to the restroom.
- * Sometimes in this class, the teacher may work with small groups or individuals. During that time, you will be given instruction on how to stay productive. During our class time, you should remain engaged in music learning or study.
- * Demonstrate good posture for singing whether we are standing or seated. Remember that good posture is the foundation of good singing. Maintaining excellent posture is difficult, but it is part of our vocal technique and an expectation. Posture will be part of any assessment based on vocal technique.
- * Gum, Candy, food or any drink other than water are not permitted in the classroom.
- * Show respect to yourself by doing your best work. Show respect to others by allowing them to do their best work. Show respect to the learning environment by observing expectations and taking care of our space.
- * Wait until acknowledged to speak. Note that you may not be immediately acknowledged. If this happens, simply put your hand down and wait. Your question matters, but sometimes it will be answered during the subsequent explanation. If, after hearing all instruction, your question wasn't answered, please raise your hand to ask it. There will be time for answering questions.

Grades and Grading Policy:

- Student Progression 30%

- Technique assessments

- Individual recorded assessments and live sight-reading assessments

- Writing assignments (review of performance literature, text exploration, homework)

- In-class demonstration of skills

- Student Mastery 70%

- Recording assignments

- Performance assessment (assigned music, prepared melodies/etudes, solo performance)

- Juries (solo repertoire, singing final)

- Fall Recital

- Written tests (mastery homework, end of unit quizzes, tests, writing about music)

- Written homework assignments

Co-curricular classes:

Classes in the vocal department are considered co-curricular classes because the best way to create an authentic assessment in our classes is through public performance. Sometimes there will be required events outside of school hours that are part of the student’s grade. In vocal development there are not many outside of class events, but as students progress into choral ensembles, the outside of class time increases.

Excused Absence Make-up policy:

Our classes are performance based classes and therefore it is very important to be present. It is not possible to replicate a rehearsal or performance that is missed. Please read the excused absence make-up policy below carefully. Any unexcused absence from a performance or rehearsal will be a zero.

Missed Class– If you are absent from class, there will be a Collabra assignment given to make up the singing work for the day. You are also responsible for missed homework and tests. Your make up assignments will be due the next RED day.

Missed Performance- Missed performances require documentation sent to Mr. Cook. It is almost impossible to replicate a missed performance, so an alternative assignment covering the performance material will be assessed. Scheduling a make up is the responsibility of the student, and the make up will take place after school.

Calendar of Events for Vocal Development Students

- **August 19** **Syllabus acknowledgement form due**
 - **August 29** **Senior Recital** **7:00** **Polly St. Clair Hall**
All students are required to attend as a demonstration of solo performance
 - **November 10** **Vocal Development Solo Recital** **7:00** **venue TBA**
Vocal Development 1 students will sing one of their Art Songs at this recital
 - **December 9** **YPAS Choirs in Concert** **7:00** **Polly St. Clair Hall**
Vocal Development will perform as a choir on this concert
 - **December 12-16** **First Semester Juries**
 - **February 8-9*** **KMEA Junior High All-State Choir**
 - **March 1-21*** **Possible Extra Variety Show rehearsals** **2:30-4:30**
The Show will feature some numbers that are optional. These will rehearse after school
 - **March 22-23** **Variety Show Dress Rehearsals** **2:30-5:30** **Polly St. Clair Hall**
 - **March 24-25** **The Variety Show** **7:00** **Polly St. Clair Hall**
 - **April 22** **KMEA Solo and Ensemble** **TBD** **University of Louisville**
Vocal Development students will perform a solo Art Song at this event
 - **May 10-25** **Second Semester Juries**
- *these are optional, all others are required

Honor Choir and Optional Opportunities:

1. 9th grade students may audition to participate in the KJHC Choir at KMEA in February. This event is in Louisville and requires a recorded audition. Staying in the Galt House with a parent is optional, but you can significantly reduce the cost by staying at home.
2. All Students can audition for ACDA National Honor Choir. National Honor Choir will take place during the ACDA National Conference in Cincinnati, OH. Students are responsible for the audition fee, hotel, and registration. A parent chaperone is also required for each student. Financial details will be available early in the school year.

Communication and Technology related to class:

1. We will be using **Google Classroom** for most classroom communication. Turn on all the notifications so that you receive posts in a timely manner. If you choose not to use notifications, you should check Classroom every day.
2. All students will receive access to **Collabra Music**. Collabra is an online practice tool that students will use for individual practice and some assessments. Collabra can be accessed through Google Chrome or as an iPhone or Android app. The online version of Collabra has a pitch pipe and metronome. If you use the app, you may need an alternate source of finding pitch.
3. Messages to parents will be sent using IC Mailer. Please make sure parents have an email address in Parent Portal.

Class Fee:

The class fee for vocal development is \$65 for (Solo and Ensemble, pianists, sheet music and textbook license, maintenance of classroom instruments, and artist in residence instructors)

The uniform fee for performances is \$65. This uniform will be worn as long as you're at YPAS, so you will only have to pay this fee one time. The QR code for paying this fee on "myschoolbucks" is:



Voice Lessons:

Ongoing private voice lessons are important to student success. They cannot be required because of the financial element, but I cannot recommend them highly enough. As the classroom teacher, I am hearing 30 students at once. I can hear issues and diagnose the group as a whole, but having someone who hears students individually every week will help give the individual student technique attention specifically for them.

A list of recommended teachers is included in the syllabus. These are not the only teachers in Louisville, but rather, they are my colleagues and people I have known to do good work. There are definitely other great teachers in town. If you study with a teacher who isn't listed, please let me know about them. I would love to meet them and get them on our list!

Recommended Private Voice Instructors:

Edward Caruthers- (502) 439-2291

Garrett and Elizabeth Sorensen- (502) 718-8472, <http://www.louisvillevoicelessons.com/>

Jennifer Diamond- (502) 526-2608

Mark Kano- (859)- 457-0304

Emily Fields- (502) 314-3403

Elizabeth Huling- (502) 644-6671, elizabethhuling@gmail.com

Parker Van Houten- (502) 821-5816 (available 2022-2023 school year)

YPAS Voice Major Requirements:

- Enroll in a minimum of two vocal department classes per year
- Sing a solo jury both semesters. Students will sing 2-3 songs from memory each semester.
 - 9th-10th: two NEW songs per semester (one song per year should be Italian)
 - 11th-12th: three NEW songs per semester (Italian and English required each year)
- Perform solo repertoire in class during the semester prior to juries (performance days)
- Perform in a fall semester solo recital
- Participate in KMEA Solo and Ensemble in April (included in class fees)
- Honor choir participation is encouraged (JCPS All-County, KMEA All-State, ACDA, etc)
- Ongoing private voice lessons (outside of YPAS, a list of possible teachers is in the handbook)
- Attendance and performance in all YPAS Choirs' concerts, rehearsals, and other invited events
- Participation in College and Career Day masterclasses, seniors sing the auditions
- Practice a minimum of 30 minutes per day on vocal technique, solo repertoire, and choral repertoire. Time spent in practice will increase as you advance as a musician. Some of your practice will be required to be recorded in Collabra. Collabra recordings will be graded.

YPAS Musical Theatre Requirements:

- Enroll in at least one vocal department class per year
- Sing a solo jury both semesters. Students will sing 2-3 songs from memory each semester.
 - One of your songs should be in Italian
- Perform solo repertoire in class during the semester prior to juries (performance days)
- Perform in a fall semester solo recital
- KMEA Solo and Ensemble in April (included in class fees)
- Optional participation in honor choirs
- Attendance and performance in all YPAS Choirs' concerts, rehearsals, and other invited events
- Practice a minimum of 30 minutes per day on vocal technique, solo repertoire, and choral repertoire. Time spent in practice will increase as you advance as a musician. Some of your practice will be required to be recorded in Collabra. Collabra recordings will be graded

How Parents Can Help:

- Join the Producers, which is the YPAS PTA. <https://www.producers-ypas.org/> They support all our programs, and YPAS wouldn't be what it is without them. Four years of membership would also make your student eligible to apply for a Producer's scholarship should they choose to major in a performing arts related field in college.
- Bookmark www.ypasvoice.com for information about our events, and sign up for Google Classroom digest where you can see all class communications.
- Show an interest in your student's work. Ask them about what they are learning in class and how they feel they are doing. Taking an interest in your student's work goes a long way to show them that you support their efforts and care about their music learning experience.
- Make arrangements for your students to attend all after school rehearsals and concerts. This will take planning, but all of these events are important. See the section on co-curricular classes and grading policy of after school and evening events.
- Allow students to practice and record their singing at home. Students who practice outside of class will accelerate their skill level significantly more than those who do not. Also, practice at home and recording is a part of the class grade.
- Schedule appointments, trips, or other items that will require missing school around the YPAS choir classes. It is easier to make up an individual based class such as math, science, or English than it is to make up a group performance class. Any absence from class will require make-up singing and recording at home.
- Feel free to email or call about your student's progress or if you have questions. (502) 485-8355 or jacob.cook@jefferson.kyschools.us
- Attend concerts and recitals. It means a lot to students for them to have support in the audience rather than being dropped off at our events.

STUDENT and PARENT RECEIPT AND UNDERSTANDING OF SYLLABUS

I, _____, have received and read the Vocal Development Syllabus. As long as I am a participant in this class I agree to abide by the standards and policies set forth in this handbook.

I, _____, understand that participation in YPAS Vocal Department classes means that there will be outside of class activity that will be required as part of my grade. I will attend all events and rehearsals required. I understand that this means our classes are Co-Curricular.

I, _____, understand that I will not have access to my phone during class. My phone will be placed in a hanging storage slot during class time.

I, _____, will do my best and do what I can to make everything and everyone around be better. I understand that practice and hard work is part of this endeavor.

PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By signing below I acknowledge that I have read and understand the syllabus. I know what my student's requirements are in terms of class fees, grades, attendance, practice time, and the nature of a co-curricular class. I will support my student's endeavors through allowing and encouraging practice in the home, and I will be an advocate for their growth and learning. I also understand that my student will be focused on their learning during class time, and if I need to contact them, I will call the school at (502) 485-8355.

_____ (parent of _____)

PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION:

PHONE NUMBER(S): _____

EMAIL ADDRESS(ES): _____