

# Elk Grove High School Choir Class Syllabus 2017-2018

**Teacher: Mr. Sebastian**  
Office 686-7741 ext. 6477  
Email: msebasti@egusd.net  
Class Time: 4<sup>th</sup> Period



## A Welcome from the Director

Welcome to the Elk Grove High School Choir. This class is a mixture of advanced, intermediate, and beginning choir students with a focus of show choir, jazz repertoire, and concert choir. We will work together as a team to be the best choir. I am very excited that you have chosen to commit your time to the group.

This course syllabus will give you an introduction that you will experience in the performing groups and the different class activities you will be involved in. Please read the course syllabus carefully and share it with your family since your choice will also affect them. After all, being apart of concerts after school productions or during school affects the whole family schedule.

The class has a commitment to excellence and education. We will emphasize a work ethic that will become very valuable to you after high school in the real world. As an Elk Grove High School music student, you will be expected to work hard, respect each other, and be the best musician and performer you can be. I expect you to practice at home, rehearse in class, and perform to the fullest capability in performances. We do not strive for mediocrity but excellence and everything we do will emphasize commitment and excellence. We take pride in what we do and work as a team to achieve common goals. Remember, each individual student is important to the ultimate performance so NEVER let your team or choir family down.

I cannot stress how important COMMUNICATION is. Many situations can and usually do happen when there is a lack of communication, we do not work well together if you do not communicate. So please make sure Mr. Sebastian is updated with schedule conflicts or attendance issues two weeks in advance. If there is an emergency, please have your parents contact Mr. Sebastian.

This class focuses on reading music, dance, vocal method and performance. We will learn music theory that will give you the tools to become an advanced vocal/choir student on your own.

## **WEBSITE: WE WILL NOTIFY YOU WHEN OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE IS READY**

*Please be patient while our school is getting used to the new SYNERGY & WEBSITE PROGRAM*

Thank you,

Mario H. Sebastian,

Elk Grove High School Director of Music  
Performing Arts Director

# Choir Class Information



Life in the music world

HELP each other to succeed

H – Help one another to have good work ethic.

E – Begin with the END in mind - Your end result is up to you and the whole group.

L – Listen to directions – Pay attention to school loop, announcements, the board, updates, and bulletin boards.

P – Perform together –Performing together takes great team work and work ethic.

## Course Description:

This is a performing group which will be singing music of a high technical level, and will perform at numerous concert and performances. This group will also function as a show choir performing many styles through dance and musical theatre style. This class may be repeated for credit. This class is the center of the Music Department at Elk Grove High School and is one of the premier groups. It is a performing group that represents the department and the school at public appearances throughout the school year. Active participation in this ensemble for a full year satisfies the Fine Arts Requirement for graduation. The course uses choral music literature to teach vocal techniques, musicianship, show choir, dance, music theory, and concepts of ensemble performance. Students are expected to participate fully in each day's rehearsal, some after school rehearsal's, concerts, competitions, and fundraiser performance opportunities, and to prepare work outside of class as time as needed. Students will be taught a little bit of piano to understand pitch and tone.

## Music Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Elk Grove High School Music Department

- \* Promote a love of music through strong teamwork.
- \* Promote fierce competition and a professional performance level in classical, modern, and world music.
- \* Create a dedicated family environment with each other and learn habits that will create success in the future.
- \* Create great leaders that will make a positive difference in the world around them and everything they do.
- \* Maintain a high expectation of performance level from ALL of the Music Department members at everything we do.
- \* Display professionalism in rehearsal and performance.
- \* Lead by example

## Goals:

To have a love, passion, and understanding of the performing arts at an aesthetic and performing level. To have knowledge of skills needed to succeed and be a great asset to the community and to support and appreciate the performing arts after high school graduation. To understand and identify musical concepts that is involved in making great music.

## Objective:

The students will achieve these goals through standard based teaching and lessons designed to give a good understanding of music and what it takes to perform. The student will also, through everyday habits and routines, gain a great understanding of skills needed to achieve any goal he/she sets and works hard to maintain. Through performances and practices, field trips and writing assignments, the students will evaluate themselves and others in order to grow and understand musical and leadership concepts and ideas that are included in making great sounding music.

Students will learn to work as a team to achieve a common goal as well as gaining leadership training and applications to outside band situations.

## **TEACHER EXPECTATIONS:**

The teacher will provide music of a high technical level, as well as presenting music from a cultural and historical background, as well as presenting music of different backgrounds. Teacher will be prepared for class, and will have lectures organized prior to class meeting. The teacher will use resources, special guest speakers and guides to inspire students in practicing and studying their content music subject. These resources also help motivate and to inspire students to reach our goal of high performance level.

## **STUDENT:**

This class will help develop a student's confidence in their ability to fulfill their unique potential in music, both on an individual basis and collectively as a group. This class will provide students with music of a high technical level, and also teach them about our diverse cultures through music, so that they develop a respect for an appreciation of that culture. Students will work with the Teacher on mastering the music for the class, and will have an opportunity to select music and develop the ability to make sound musical judgments, as outlined in the **State of California Visual and Performing Arts Framework**

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT:** As in other curricular areas, parents are often active supporters of the music program. Music teachers welcome parental partnerships that bring parents into the classroom. By providing additional support to meet student and program needs, attending performances, and encouraging their student's musical experiences, parents who are not musicians can donate to the program through our Voluntary Academic Donations. The inclusion of community and parent resources does not, however, substitute for the sequential, comprehensive music program but does strengthen it. Please encourage your students to practice.

## **IMPORTANT PERFORMANCE & COMPETITION DATES**

These are graded competitions and performances. Performances are 50% of your student grade. More details as we get close to the date. Approximately 2 weeks prior to the performance date.

August 30<sup>th</sup> - Back to School Night Performance - Evening performance

October 14<sup>th</sup> - Franklin Invitational Competition – Day performance

October 30<sup>th</sup> – Academic Awards Performance – 5:30pm

December 7<sup>th</sup> - Winter Concert - Evening performance

February 20<sup>th</sup> – Academic Awards 5:30pm

May 11<sup>th</sup> – Spring Concert

May 15<sup>th</sup> – Awards Night

### **OTHER PLANS IF PERFORMANCE AND DISCIPLINE GOALS ARE ACCOMPLISHED:**

Elementary school visitation / performance

Music In The Parks / Great America

Rallies

Football Games

*Schedule is subject to change.*

# Classroom Rules Organization Focus

## Time Management

1. Be on time
2. Be at afterschool rehearsals, concerts, and competitions.
3. Be prepared for class

## Ownership

1. Label your instrument and belongings
2. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items
3. Practice at home / Rehearse at school

## Cleanliness

1. Keep the room clean
2. No food or drinks in the classroom – liquids ok
3. Clean up your own mess
4. Put things back where they belong

## Lead by Example - LBE

1. No cell phones or iPods allowed during class sessions
2. Raise your hand before you speak while in group lessons
3. Treat guest speakers & substitutes with respect
4. Use good manners
5. Help with fundraisers
6. We follow the EGHS Parent/Student Hand Book
7. Take notes during lectures

## Good attitude

1. Respect
2. Listen to directions & lectures
3. Do not talk while lecture is in session

## Patience

1. Help create a positive environment

## Communication

1. Teacher needs to be present in order to pick instruments/equipment during non-school hours.
2. Mr. Sebastian's office is PRIVATE, please ask before entering
3. Schedules are subject to change
4. Pay attention to announcements.
5. Read the board & bulletin boards for updates



# Class Discipline

Respect    Responsibility    HERD PRIDE

1. Music Department Members and staff only in G3 & G4
2. Lockers are for band students. Keep the locker floor area clear.
3. No eating in the music room. Liquids are ok.
4. If it's not yours, please do not touch it.
5. Ask before entering Mr. Sebastian's office.
6. Clean up your own mess. Put items back where they belong.
7. Have a good attitude and work ethic.
8. Follow instructions.
9. Be ready to work.



## **Discipline action:**

- LEVEL I - Warning ticket – Student sign, teacher will email parents about the incident, and the incident report will be placed on student record.
- LEVEL II - Detention - Parent conference or phone call conference and the incident report will be placed on student record.
- LEVEL III - Referral – Students will follow Administration procedure and consequence.
- LEVEL IV - Suspension - Students will follow Administration procedure and consequence. The teacher may recommend taking another elective.

### **The following examples will not be tolerated!**

- \* Bad attitude
- \* Lack of team support
- \* Consistent unexcused absence or tardiness
- \* Inappropriate PDA's
- \* Students talking while the teacher is talking
- \* Stealing and touching other student property
- \* Disrespectful
- \* Rude behavior

### **Communication with the Director - You can district email the teacher: [msebasti@egusd.net](mailto:msebasti@egusd.net)**

If you have not received a response within 2 days sometimes emails could get sent back or could be defective through SPAM, **please call the teacher:** 916-686-7741 ext. 6477 or leave a message in the office - You can fax the teacher: 916-685-5515

# Student Evaluation

1. Attendance in class and performances | 2. Student's performance in class |
2. Group and individual testing with instructor | 4. Written assignments and theory test as required
5. Class participation and attitude | 6. Helping with set-up | 7. Folder organization check
8. Challenges – UPON REQUEST & Approval Concert Reports

## Homework Policy:

Your homework is to practice at home every day and assignments.

Any parent handouts, updates, and permission slips that needs to have parent approvals and signatures will be part of homework points.

## Recommended Materials Needed:

- ✓ A 3 ring binder to organize music with dividers
- ✓ Pencil & Paper
- ✓ Supplies to maintain instrument /equipment
- ✓ Metronome Tuner App

*If you need any assistance, please see Mr. Sebastian*



## Grading Policy

The grading policy is based on participation. Basically you get points for what you do for this class. If you are late, you don't get the same amount of points as someone who has been on time. If you do not perform to your fullest or are unprepared for a rehearsal you may lose grade points.

Students are graded on a point scale on the following:

Weekly Class Participation Points	200 points (50 points per day)
After School Rehearsals	100 points
Per Performance/Competition	500 points
Tests and Quizzes:	50 points
Writing Assignments / Forms	150 points
Folder Checks:	50 points
Concert Reports:	50 points
Sectionals	50 points

Make-up work / Extra Credit

- Students may do concert reports for extra credit if needed with teacher approval
- The teacher must clear extra credit.
- Extra credit work can be a writing assignment, volunteer work, and solo performance, or extra office work after school.
- An unexcused absence earns no points
- Note that an absence will only be excused if written notice is given at least two weeks BEFORE the absence
- Absences & Tardiness due to Emergencies will be excused after parent communicates with Mr. Sebastian.



# EGHS CHOIR 2017-2018 Class Information Contract

**DUE DATE: Monday August 11<sup>th</sup> Points: 50 points**

**Put class syllabus information in your binders.**

Student name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email \_\_\_\_\_ Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Information**

Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

In case of an emergency and we cannot get a hold of you, who do we need to contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEDIA Release**

A performing group will always be in the public eye. At EGHS many of our students will have the opportunity to be on our website, programs, advertisements, television, videos, and/or news letters

Please check one of the following

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I will allow my students picture or performance in the media

\_\_\_\_ No, my child's picture or performance is not allowed in the media

**Class Information Contract**

Student Initial \_\_\_\_\_ I have read the following class information and understand the class information.

Parent/s Initial/s \_\_\_\_\_ I/We have read the following syllabus and understand the class information.

Student initial \_\_\_\_\_ I have read the EGHS Parent/Student Handbook.

Parent/s Initial/s \_\_\_\_\_ I/We have read the EGHS Parent/Student Handbook

Parent/s Signature/s : \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signature Signature

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

Please initial here if you have signed up for REMIND: Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Student \_\_\_\_\_

Health/Allergy issues your child may have that Mr. Sebastian needs to know: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents – Write something positive about your child

THIS PORTION IS NOT GRADED – Please check the following donation items to help with our class materials:

- \_\_\_\_ Box of tissue      \_\_\_\_ Pinter paper      \_\_\_\_ Manila folders      \_\_\_\_ AA Batteries      \_\_\_\_ 9volt batteries
- \_\_\_\_ Pencils            \_\_\_\_ Pens                \_\_\_\_ Post its            \_\_\_\_ Paper clips        \_\_\_\_ Sharpies
- \_\_\_\_ Staples            \_\_\_\_ Dry erase markers