

# CONESTOGA HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC INFORMATION

## CONCERT CHOIR \* CHANTEUSES \* CAMERATA \* CHORALE

- \* WELCOME LETTER
- \* CALENDAR (2015-16)
- \* GRADING POLICY
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- \* PRACTICE/LISTENING SHEET

*Please sign and return the bottom portion of this page to Mrs. Dickinger by Friday, September 11, 2015. (This is worth 5 points toward your 1<sup>st</sup> marking period grade).*

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### Student/Parent Statement of Commitment

As a member of the Conestoga High School Concert Choir/Chanteuses/ Camerata/ Chorale, I have read and understood the information contained within this packet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

I, the undersigned, have also read and understood the choral information. I will encourage my son/daughter to maintain his/her status as a member in good standing.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

## ***Welcome, Parents and Students, to the Conestoga High School Choral Program!***

\* There are four different performing choral organizations in the curriculum:

*Concert Choir* (non-auditioned - SATB music)

*Chanteuses* (non-auditioned - SSAA music)

*Camerata* (auditioned 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders - SSAATTBB music)

*Chorale* (auditioned 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders - SATB music)

In addition, students in grades 10 - 12 (and 9<sup>th</sup>-grade tenors) may consider auditioning for the District 12 Chorus. Copies of the three audition pieces have already been distributed. Call or email Mrs. Dickinger ([dickingersu@tesd.net](mailto:dickingersu@tesd.net)) if you want to download the individual recordings from Box.net.

\* Participation in the choral organizations provides you with the opportunity to experience performing many different kinds of music. In fact, one of my basic objectives is having you sing pieces: (1) from all musical eras beginning with the Renaissance; (2) in different languages and contrasting styles; (3) accompanied and *a cappella*; and (4) secular and sacred. (Please note: singing sacred music does not indicate an affiliation with a particular religion. Rather, sacred music is utilized in a cultural and historical context). I EXPECT ALL CHORAL STUDENTS TO PERFORM THIS WIDELY DIVERSE SELECTION OF MUSIC!

\* All students are provided with a choir folder and their own copies of each piece of music. They are responsible to return all music after each concert and the folder at the end of the year, or they will incur a debt!!!!

\* All choral students MUST complete the "Choir Registration" Form, which is located at [stogamusic.com](http://stogamusic.com) on the Choral page.

\* The choirs are only as good as each individual's performance. Consequently, every rehearsal is important. (Although *you* may know your music, *you* are not helping the overall sound quality if *you* are not there singing!) Each concert is equivalent to a final exam and obviously cannot be taken at a later date, *so do not miss performances or the two required evening rehearsals before each concert!* The [stogamusic.com](http://stogamusic.com) calendar is available for reference and updated weekly to help avoid conflicts.

\* All choral families are encouraged to become members of TEMPO (the Tredyffrin-Easttown Music Parents Organization). The primary goals of TEMPO are: supporting ALL the music programs throughout the TE School District; providing the resources and opportunities to encourage and musically challenge students; and awarding membership pins, letters, and scholarships. They also provide fundraising opportunities for the New York trip in April. I strongly encourage the parents of choral music students to become active - WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP! Parents are strongly encouraged to register on the TEMPO website (at [stogamusic.com](http://stogamusic.com)) to receive emails and Music Dept. notifications.

\* This year should again prove to be musically exciting. The Winter Concert will feature "Alleluia " and "Come In" by Randall Thompson. Our 9th annual "Guys Harmonize" workshop will take place in November, and our 6th annual middle school "Gal Chorale" event will occur in October. The Spring Concert will include French pieces and some jazz selections. I can't wait to see all my returning students and welcome the new ones to our music family!

\* Conestoga's Tri-M Music Honor Society chapter (Modern Music Masters) will have new inductions on September 30, 2015. (Prospective students have already submitted their applications and should be rehearsing for their September performance requirement). Tri-M offers students the forum to share and enjoy the diversities of their musical experiences. It also provides recognition for musical achievements, scholarship, and character and presents opportunities for service. The 2015-16 officers include: President - Nour Elkassabany, Vice President - Seyoung Kim, Secretary - Rose Kantorczyk, and Historian - Emmi Dolph.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES 2015 - 2016

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>SEPT</u>	9/8 (Tues)	Fall Drama Auditions	3:00 - 6:00 pm
	9/9 (Wed)	Fall Drama Callbacks	3:00 - 6:00 pm
	9/8 (Tues)	TEMPO Meeting	7:00 pm
	9/17 (Thurs)	Tri-M auditions	12:50 - 3:00 pm
	9/18 (Fri)	Tri-M auditions	12:50 - 3:00 pm
	<b>9/19 (Sat)</b>	<b>*Senior Expo???</b>	<b>Noon - 1:00 pm</b>
	9/30 (Wed)	Tri-M Induction	9-10:30 am
<u>OCT</u>	10/7 (Wed)	Broadway Class Trip to NYC	all day
	10/21 (Wed)	"Gal Chorale"	9 am - 2:00 pm
	10/27 (Tues)	Tri-M Recital #1	6 - 7:30 pm
<u>NOV</u>	11/6 (Fri)	Musical Packets Available	Application online
	<b>11/7 (Sat)</b>	<b>Marching Band Cavalcade</b>	
	11/9 (Mon)	Musical Meeting (parents/students)	6:30 pm
	11/10 (Tues)	"Guys Harmonize"	9:00am - 2:20pm
	11/19, 20, 21	Fall Drama	7:00, 2&7:00(Sat),
	11/20 (Fri)	Musical applics/forms due	
	11/21 (Sat)	District Chorus/Instru Auditions	morning
<u>DEC</u>	12/1 (Tues)	Winter Concert 1 Rehearsal	TBD
	12/2	Winter Concert 1 Concert (All Bands)	7:00 pm
	12/3	Musical Dance/Singing Auditions	2:30 - 9:30 pm
	12/4	Musical Singing Auditions continue	2:30 - 6:00 pm
	12/4	West Chester Parade-Marching Band	evening
	12/5	Musical Callbacks	9:00am - 2:00 pm
	<b>12/7 (Mon)</b>	<b>Winter Concert 2 Rehearsal</b>	<b>4:00-9:00 pm</b>
	<b>12/8 (Tues)</b>	<b>Winter Concert 2 Rehearsal</b>	<b>4:00-9:00 pm</b>
		(see stogamusic.com calendar for specifics)	
	<b>12/9 (Wed)</b>	<b>CHS WINTER CONCERT 2</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
	(All Choirs and Orchestra)		
<u>JAN</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
	1/11 (Mon)	TEMPO Meeting	7:00 pm
	1/14 - 1/16	District Orch Festival (Springfield HS)	
	1/20 (Wed)	MS - HS Meet and Greet	11:30 am-12:30 pm
	1/21 (Thurs)	TE Auditions for Mrs. Dickinger	morning
	1/22 (Fri)	VF Auditions for Mrs. Dickinger	morning
	1/28 - 1/30	District Band Festival (Phoenixville HS)	

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES Continued

<b><u>FEB</u></b>	2/4-2/6	District Chorus Festival (Unionville HS)	
	2/25-2/27	Region Orchestra Festival (Council Rock HS)	
<b><u>MAR</u></b>	3/1 (Tues)	Musical	10:00am
	3/2 (Wed)	Musical	7:00 pm
	3/3 (Thurs)	Musical	7:00 pm
	3/4 (Fri)	Musical	7:00 pm
	3/5 (Sat)	Musical	2:00, 7:00 pm
	3/10-3/12	Region Band Festival (Garnet Valley HS)	
	3/17-19	Region Chorus Festival (Upper Dublin HS)	
	3/30-4/2	PMEA All-State Festival (Hershey, PA)	3 1/2 days
<b><u>APR</u></b>	4/9 (Sat)	Jazz Cavalcade	TBD
	4/16 (Sat)	Music Dept/TEMPO Trip to NYC	9:00am-9:30 pm
	4/20 (Wed)	Choral Concert Rehearsal	4:00-9:30 pm
		(see stogamusic.com calendar for specifics)	
	4/25 (Mon)	Choral Concert Rehearsal	4:00-9:30 pm
		(see stogamusic.com calendar for specifics)	
	4/27 (Wed)	SPRING CHORAL CONCERT !!!	7:00 pm
<b><u>MAY</u></b>	5/2	TEMPO Meeting	7:00 pm
	5/2 (Mon)	Instru. Concert Rehearsal	TBA
	5/3 (Tues)	Instrumental Concert	7:00 pm
	5/4 (Wed)	Jazz Festival (HS and MS)	7:00 pm
	5/6 (Fri)	*Camerata Performance (Surrey Services)	3:00 pm
	5/10 (Tues)	Tri-M Recital 2	6:00 - 7:30 pm
<b><u>JUN</u></b>	6/1 (Wed)	Music Dept. Banquet (Desmond)	6:00 - 9:30 pm
	6/6 (Mon)	Reflections (Choir Seniors)	7:00 pm
	6/7 (Tues)	*Graduation (Camerata Seniors)	7:00 pm

Concert Choir/Chanteuses Dates

\* Camerata Only Dates

# PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

All Concert Choir and Chanteuses Members (who are not also members of Chorale or Camerata) are required to wear the following outfits for concerts, or they will not be allowed to perform:

MALES:

- \* White, long-sleeved dress shirt
- \* Black dress pants (Dockers or equivalent are acceptable - NO JEANS)
- \* Black bow tie - can be purchased through Mrs. Dickinger for \$ 6.00
- \* Black socks, black belt, and black dress shoes

FEMALES:

- \* White (not off-white or ecru) long-sleeved blouse, tucked in!
- \* Black, ankle-length skirt (NOT PANTS)
- \* Black dress shoes and stockings

CHORALE:

- \* Males: in addition to the above attire, black vests will be ordered in September. The check (made out to CHS in the amount of \$27.00) is due by Friday, September 11, 2015 \*\*

- \* Females: The same attire as Chanteuses. Red corsages will be purchased by new female Chorale members from Mrs. Dickinger at a cost of \$10.00.

CAMERATA:

- \* Males: Please purchase a standard black, single-breasted tuxedo, with a white winged-collar tuxedo shirt. No cummerbund or vest is needed.

- \* Females: Black, sleeveless, floor-length dresses will be ordered in September. The check (made out to CHS in the amount of \$85.00) is due by Friday, September 11, 2015. \*\*

\*\* Please contact Mrs. Dickinger about any problems you may have.

I will assume that you will iron your clothes so that they don't look like you slept in them!!!!

\* The following choir officers will be integral in helping the Conestoga Music Department function smoothly throughout the school year:

OFFICERS

President - Deanna Drennen  
Vice President - Nour Elkassabany  
Secretary - Caroline Kneeley  
Historian - Jack D'Emilio

Sophomore Representatives - Bryce Bundens, Jahnvi Rao

Librarians - Bianca Altamirano, Katie DeVries, Nick Marcil, Thomas Murphy, Emma Motel, Lainey Nordone

CONDUCTORS

Period 8 - Zack Kathol, Emily Poll, Becca Susskind, Rachel Winfield

Period 7 - Charlotte Kalilec, Neil Humphreys

PERIOD 8 SECTION LEADERS (GRADES 11-12)

Soprano - Katie DeVries (1), Anna Shipp (2)

Alto - Julia Scribano (1), Amelia Quazi (2)

Tenor - Amy Xiang, Zack Kathol

Bass - Troy Gartner (1), Evan Haynos (2)

PERIOD 7 SECTION LEADERS (GRADES 9-10)

Soprano - Mia Dubendorf, Dani Dittman

Alto - Katie Bondi, Maddie Marchese

Tenor - Bryce Bundens, Max Mooney

Bass - James Alvarez, Warren Zhao

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN SEPTEMBER!

Suzanne E. Dickinger, CHS Choral Director  
(610)240-1022 [dickingersu@tesd.net](mailto:dickingersu@tesd.net)

Remember...

- \* [www.stogamusic.com](http://www.stogamusic.com) Choir Registration Form
- \* Return the student/parent commitment statement in the Choir Packet
- \* Pay for the various required choir attire items

# Performing Group Grading Policy

## (All students begin with 70 points)

### POINTS ARE EARNED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

#### Quarterly Performance Evaluation (up to 10 points)

Performers are tested individually or in small groups on repertoire currently in rehearsal

#### Quarterly Research and Analysis (up to 10 points)

During the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> marking periods, the performers complete a choral research and analysis form (PA Standard 9.2: Historical and Cultural Contexts) based upon compositions that they are currently rehearsing

#### Semester Post-Concert Evaluation (up to 10 points)

Performers complete a concert assessment form (PA Standards 9.3 Critical Response and 9.4: Aesthetic Response) for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> marking periods

#### Positive Contributions to the Group (up to 10 points)

- is productive at all rehearsals and performances (daily observation)
- is cooperative and shows respect to all (daily observation)
- is prepared for all rehearsals/performances
- is punctual (daily observation)
- remains positive and committed to the organization (daily observation)
- participates in all rehearsals/performances (daily observation)
- shows energy and concentration and exhibits good posture
- has a pencil with which to mark music

#### Actions which may further enhance the final grade:

##### 1 point addition if the student

- attends a music-related concert/event (shows ticket stub/playbill and submits type-written review)
- submits practice/listening sheets (1 point for each 30 minutes) - see packet
- submits theory worksheets (up to 3 points) - see Mrs. Dickinger for sample copies

##### 5 point addition if student:

- writes a 3-page essay on a musical topic of the director's choice -see packet for list of topics
- serves as a Section Leader or Officer in good standing (up to 5 points)
- is selected for PMEA District 12, Region VI, All-State, or All-Eastern Festival (5 points per festival)

### POINTS ARE DEDUCTED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Absence from a scheduled concert/event (20 point deduction) - schedule provided in packet!

Absence from a mandatory evening dress rehearsal (5 point reduction) - schedule provided in packet!

#### Rehearsal Attendance

1 point deduction if the student is absent from a class rehearsal

½ point deduction if the student arrives late/leaves early from a class rehearsal

## CHORAL CLASSROOM RULES

*From the very first day of school, the choir is moving toward the first performance. The performance itself is not the goal but a demonstration of all the musical elements you have previously learned.*

1. You should come to class in a spirit of cooperation, wanting to accomplish something positive that day. Coming to a rehearsal to “visit” won't do anyone any good.
2. Be ready to rehearse, beginning with warmups. Take the gum out of your mouth; have a pencil handy so you can make notes in your score; have your music open; pay attention to your posture.
3. To learn, **YOU MUST LISTEN!** Listen to directions; listen to and analyze your tone; listen to your section; listen to your part and its relationship to the other parts.
4. Ask questions. When you hear people in your section struggling with a part, don't wait for the director to catch the mistake. Raise your hand and ask how the part should sound without calling attention to those singing incorrectly. Submit a “Musical Mistakes” page, if necessary.
5. When the director is working with another voice part, pay attention to those instructions, also. Try to follow your part to see how it fits. Remember...*the choir is only as good as each of its members.*
6. **WRITE IT DOWN!** Do not assume you will remember.
7. The best disciplinarian in the choir is **NOT** the director, but each choir member who wants the choir to sound the best it can and will not tolerate those who don't appropriately contribute.
8. **STAY INFORMED!** Update your personal calendar, and check your email daily for Music Department messages.



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DUE:

## Choral Research and Analysis for CONCERT CHOIR

(Assessment tool for PA. Standard 9.2: Historical and Cultural Contexts)

Select one major composition from this year's concerts and complete the following page.

This is a required assignment, worth 10 points toward your marking period grade.

1. **Title of composition**
2. **Composer and/or Arranger**
3. **Native country of composer / arranger**
4. **Birth and death years**
5. **More biographical information about composer**
6. **Genre of musical composition (motet, cantata, spiritual, folksong, etc.)**
7. **Musical period - please circle: Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Contemporary**
8. **Text translation (if necessary)**
9. **Compositional form (strophic, fugue, ABA, etc.)**
10. **Key(s)**
11. **Meter**
12. **Texture (polyphonic, homophonic)**
13. **Voicing (e.g. SATB, SSA)**
14. **Accompaniment**
15. **Historical Significance/Historical Events**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Choral Group: \_\_\_\_\_ Winter or Spring (circle one)

## Post-Concert Evaluation

(Assessment tool for PA Standards 9.3 Critical Response and 9.4 Aesthetic Response)

Honestly assess our most recent choral performance before and after hearing a recording of that concert:

### Before

Tone Quality	1 2 3 4 5
Blend	1 2 3 4 5
Pitch	1 2 3 4 5
Rhythm	1 2 3 4 5
Dynamics	1 2 3 4 5
Pronunciation	1 2 3 4 5
Interpretation	1 2 3 4 5

### After

Tone Quality	1 2 3 4 5
Blend	1 2 3 4 5
Pitch	1 2 3 4 5
Rhythm	1 2 3 4 5
Dynamics	1 2 3 4 5
Pronunciation	1 2 3 4 5
Interpretation	1 2 3 4 5

Honestly assess your individual performance during our most recent concert:

Tone Quality	1 2 3 4 5
Blend	1 2 3 4 5
Pitch	1 2 3 4 5
Rhythm	1 2 3 4 5
Dynamics	1 2 3 4 5
Pronunciation	1 2 3 4 5
Interpretation	1 2 3 4 5

**KEY: 5 - excellent      4 - good      3 - fair      2 - poor**  
**1 - I (we) need a lot more rehearsal time and dedication**

**I (we) can improve our performance by:**

# MUSICAL MISTAKES FORM

Please circle the appropriate section:

S1      S2      A1      A2      T1      T2      B1      B2

Title of Song: \_\_\_\_\_

Measures of concern: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the problem? (notes, rhythm, tone, etc.)

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Please return to the Conductor, Accompanist, or Section Leader

OR

Email Mrs. Dickinger ([dickingersu@tesd.net](mailto:dickingersu@tesd.net))

Thank you very much for your input!

# PRACTICE/LISTENING SHEETS FOR CHORAL ENSEMBLES

Practice Time (at least 2 students practicing together)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ Time begun \_\_\_\_ Time ended \_\_\_\_ Total minutes \_\_\_\_

Composer/Title                      Pages                      Concepts/problems

Composer/Title                      Pages                      Concepts/problems

Composer/Title                      Pages                      Concepts/problems

## LISTENING TIME

(one or more students listening at once)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ Time begun \_\_\_\_ Time ended \_\_\_\_ Total minutes \_\_\_\_

Works or recordings heard:

Comments:

# VOICE TEACHERS

The following are voice teachers who have indicated that they wish to be included in the TEMPO private teacher list.

2.	Brown, Paula	214-247-5137	Philadelphia
3.	Cary, Nancy	610-651-0322	Berwyn
4.	Creamer, Michelle	610-293-1688	Wayne
5.	Duffy, Cathy	610-783-5434	Valley Forge
6.	Eisenhower, Jennie	610-220-8080	Berwyn and Philadelphia
7.	Farmer, Janellen	610-933-7090	Phoenixville (Valley Forge)
8.	Fiore, Janice	215-872-0985	Brookhaven
9.	Gienger, Roseanne	610-527-8878	Bryn Mawr
10.	Mallon-Day, Katherine	610-613-8965	Paoli
11.	Murphy Powell, Marian	610-743-8303	Collegeville
12.	Russell, Kim	610-696-3523	West Chester
13.	Sarakatsannis, Melanie*	610-989-9992	Wayne
14.	Schauer, Joy	610-918-1612	West Chester

\* Women only

# MUSIC PAPER TOPICS

The following is a list of topics about which you can write a three-page paper for 5 additional grade points (1 paper per marking period). You may also create your own topic; make sure it is teacher-approved before you begin. Reports are to be typed and double-spaced and must include a bibliography.

1. The Madrigal (Renaissance Period)
2. *Bel Canto* Singing (Baroque Period)
3. The *Castrato* (Baroque Period)
4. The Cantata (Baroque Period)
5. Italian *Opera Seria* (Classical Period)
6. Mozart's Choral Music (Classical Period)
7. Wagnerian Opera (Romantic Period)
8. German Lieder (Romantic Period)
9. Leonard Bernstein (20<sup>th</sup> Century)
10. George Gershwin's Musicals (20<sup>th</sup> Century)