

# ABRHS Choral Department

## DAILY REHEARSALS

- Vocal Warm-ups & Sight-Reading Exercises (sometimes student-led!)
- Review previously learned musical material & learn new music
- Class discussions on repertoire relating to cultural background, language, style & text
- Group games & social activities giving opportunities for students to connect with one another

## GRADING

In Choral Ensembles, grades reflect students' **INDIVIDUAL ACHEIVEMENT**. We do not grade students against their peers' academic or musical ability, rather against their own **POTENTIAL**. Grades are based on the following criteria:

- 1) *Individual* growth as a singer and musician.
- 2) Commitment to the ensemble - effort, attention, participation in rehearsals & performances.
- 3) Attendance at Performances
- 4) Occasional Hearing Participation (see below)
- 5) Group Musicianship Assessments (sporadic)

## HEARINGS

Hearings are when small groups of students sing a section from a song we've studied in Chorus for Mossy & Arlene. These hearings help assess if students have properly learned the notes and rhythms of a particular choral piece, but more importantly, they help ensure that students are using healthy vocal technique. Hearings are always announced before they occur, giving ample time for preparation.

## MOSS MUSIC NEWS

- Up-to-date Announcements
- Links to outside music sources: Performance Groups, Music Camps, Online Music Tools, etc.
- Link to the AB Choruses Facebook & Instagram, as well as our AB Friends of Music website
- **Performance Dates for 2023-2024:**
  - Cabaret Night: November 17 & 18 7pm - Tickets on sale October 28
  - Winter Concert: December 19 7pm - FREE
  - Pan Choral: March 14 7pm - FREE
  - Spring Concert: May 7 at Groton Hill 7pm - Tickets on sale in April 2024
  - Madrigal Dinners: May 24 & 25 at Sanctuary 6:45pm - Tickets on sale late April 2024

# High School Choral Ensemble Learning Goals

## VOCAL TECHNIQUE

Students will learn Healthy Vocal Technique:

- Singing Posture
- Breath Management
- Vowel Formation
- Diction and Annunciation
- Tonal Resonance

## MUSIC LITERACY

Students will read and understand musical notation:

- Sight-sing choral parts with or without using rudimentary solfege syllables
- Interpret musical markings
- Recognize melodic and rhythmic patterns
- Follow divisi in individual vocal lines

## PART INDEPENDENCE

Students will demonstrate the ability to hold their own vocal line:

- Learn Rounds
- Learn and sing independent voice parts
- Understand how their voice part relates to the others in a multi-part song
- Sing in small ensembles – 1 voice per part
- Sing in mixed formation to build independent confidence

## ENSEMBLE SKILLS

Students will demonstrate proficient ensemble skills:

- Accurate intonation
- Balance & blend between voice parts
- Musical Expression & Phrasing
- Ability to follow a conductor
- Rehearsal and Performance Etiquette
- Performance Critique

## REPERTOIRE

Students will sing a variety of vocal music representing:

- A variety of genres/styles, languages, and cultures
- A variety of tempos & meters/time signatures
- Music with expanded voice parts (ex. SSAA, TTBB, SSAATTBB)

## SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS

Students will engage in community building activities to strengthen social and musical connections within each ensemble and across the Performing Arts Department.