



Helena Middle School Choir 2025-26



Concert Dates 2025-26

- October 30th at 6 pm. HMS Auditorium. All grades.
- December 19th at 10:00 am. HMS Auditorium. All grades.
- February 26th at 6 pm. HMS Auditorium. 6th and 7th grade.
- March 10th at 7 pm. HMS Auditorium. 8th grade Choir Fest with HHS.
- May 29th. Time TBD. HMS Auditorium. All grades.

Concert dates and times are subject to amendment. Any changes will be emailed.

Welcome to a new school year of fun and excitement in the choir program! This syllabus has been assembled to explain to students and parents the details of our program and its expectations. Please review it, discuss the information it contains, and ask questions if any arise

Goals

1. To learn and develop the basic skills necessary for a proper singing voice.
2. To read and understand written music.
3. To have the opportunity to sing in an ensemble.
4. To have an enjoyable experience while becoming a musician.

Basic Classroom Rules

1. Be prepared for class with music, supplement notebook, and pencil.
2. Always respect others-students, teachers, instruments, room, and equipment, using the Montana Behavioral Institute Guidelines.
3. No gum, food or drink (except bottled water) is permitted in the classroom.
4. Director gets every student's complete, undivided attention during class.

Specific Responsibilities of a Choir Member

1. Follow all school rules in the choir room.
2. Be to class on time with your supplement notebook and pencil.
3. Enter the room quietly and calmly, proceed to your seat, and get your notebook ready for the day's class.
4. Keep your hands to yourself
5. Stop talking when Ms. Kecskes is in front of the class or taking role.
6. Raise your hand if you have a question or a problem.
7. Do not bring food, gum, or drinks into the choir room.
8. Keep feet off chairs and other equipment.

Consequences

1. Verbal warning
2. Removal from regular seat/ Conference with student.
3. Call home to parent.
4. Conference with student and parent.
5. Conference with student, parent, and principal. Possible removal from group.

All Negative Consequences Result in Loss of Daily Points

Disciplinary Action

One of the most unpleasant tasks of any teacher is the necessity to take disciplinary action against a student. The HMS Choir Program operates on a tradition of excellence and much pride. There are very few rules as we try to operate on the idea that everyone will do their best at all times. When working with a large number of students it is necessary to have certain responsibilities and rules. Each member is expected to uphold and follow these responsibilities and rules. It is the director's responsibility to ensure fairness in the classroom and to act if the criteria for proper class behavior are not followed.

Grading Policy

Classroom Participation/Preparation

10 points are awarded each day to students who:

- Arrive in the classroom before the class starts
- Have their music, paper, and pencil out ready to use
- Participate in class (sing, listen, or wait quietly whenever requested)

Singing, Rhythm, and Written Tests

- Singing tests will consist of materials presented in class. Tests will include various vocal exercises.
- Rhythm tests will consist of materials presented in class and will be performed individually.
- Written tests will consist of Music Theory, Listening Assignments, and various other written assignments.

Concert Readiness

Total = 100 points per concert

Other Assignments

Will vary depending on daily activities
Total = Point Value will depend on Assignments

Extra Credit

Will be available throughout the year for participation in selected voluntary activities and certain classroom activities

Final Grade:

Earned Points / Total Points = Final Grade

Grading scale:

100-90%	A
89-80%	B
79-70%	C
69-60%	D
59-0%	F

Concert Information

Concert Attire

- Students are asked to wear "Sunday Best" semi-formal clothing.
- If uncertain about concert attire ask Ms. Kecskes.

Performance Guidelines

1. Always be 15 minutes early.
2. Come prepared physically and mentally.
3. Be ready to perform.
4. Dress in appropriate concert dress.

-Concert Absences – It is each student's responsibility to plan for concerts during the year, but it is also understood that conflicts sometimes arise. To make up a missed concert for full credit, you must turn in a note (signed by a parent or guardian) to Ms. Kecskes two weeks prior to the concert and consult with her about your make up assignment. Missing a concert because of illness will be similarly excused, but the parent-signed note will be turned in following the concert. Deviations from this policy may result in complete or partial loss of credit for the concert.