



Somerset High School **2010-2011 "Electrify" Show Choir**



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Somerset High School
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EXPECTATIONS & INFORMATION

Welcome to the 2010-2011 Somerset High School "Electrify" Show Choir! You are about to embark on a wonderful year of music-making and camaraderie as you develop as an ensemble. Before we begin with this process, it is important to know what is expected of you as a member of this group. The following information is extremely important and should be read very carefully with a parent/guardian.

FINANCES

As a member of the show choir, you will be required to purchase performing costumes for our show. These costumes are selected by me. I will do everything in my power to keep the cost of these costumes as low as possible, but you should anticipate having to invest \$200-\$300 in these costumes. Exact figures for these costumes will be determined shortly after the start of the school year.

A deposit of \$100 is required by Wednesday, June 23rd, 2010. Checks should be made out to the "Somerset Friends of Music" and given directly to me. This deposit will be placed in your music account and will be used in its entirety for your costumes. If your deposit is not in by the deadline, you will not be permitted to participate in any summer rehearsals and retreats, which could put your position in the show choir in jeopardy. If there are special circumstances that I should be aware of, please speak to me privately as soon as possible.

There will be many opportunities for you to raise money to pay for these obligations beginning in the summer. This will be discussed in more detail later in this document.

REHEARSALS

Our regular rehearsals during the school year are scheduled for Tuesday evenings from 5:00PM-9:00PM. It is essential for you to remember that warm-ups will begin promptly at 5:00. In order for this to happen, we must have all risers and equipment setup prior to the rehearsal, meaning that all members of the show choir are responsible for arriving 20-30 minutes early to set up. It is essential that everyone is responsible about this to ensure the success of each rehearsal.

We will have several Thursday afternoon rehearsals from 2:30PM-5:30PM to rehearse with the pit band. These are extremely important as we have limited opportunities to put these two entities together.

We will also be holding dance captain's practices as well as vocal sectionals at the discretion of the dance captains and section leaders. These sessions are designed to give everyone an opportunity to further everyone's vocal and dance parts for the music being worked on at the time. Attendance will be taken each time one of these rehearsals is held, and there will be a mandatory minimum of two dance captain's practices and two vocal sectionals that must be attended each month.

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ABSENCES

Attendance at all rehearsals and events is crucial to the success of the group. Any absences from a rehearsal or show choir event must be submitted in writing to the director at least **two weeks in advance.**, unless there is a medical emergency. **FAILURE TO DO SO RESULTS IN AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE AND MAY RESULT IN PROBATION WITHIN THE GROUP OR POSSIBLE EXCLUSION FROM CONCERTS OR COMPETITIONS.** Arriving late or leaving early on two occasions without two week notice is considered to be equivalent to one unexcused absence and you will be subject to the same consequences as having unexcused absences.

I do understand that several of you have commitments to sports, and we do encourage you to pursue both athletics and the arts. With this said, it is your responsibility to refer to your sports schedules and report any conflicts with the group to the director at least two weeks in advance, just as you would with any other absence. **IT IS NOT PROPER NOTIFICATION TO HAND THE DIRECTOR A SCHEDULE.** In the event of major conflicts with a sport, please see me immediately so that we can try and reach a compromise with your coach/advisor.

BEHAVIOR

As a member of this show choir, you are expected to be a positive representative for the group, the music department, the school, and yourself. With this said, it is expected that you treat everyone with the utmost respect at every rehearsal and event. At rehearsal, you are expected to remain focused and listen to the staff and student leaders. There should be no excessive talking, texting, or fooling around. It is important for everyone to enjoy their experiences with this group, but there is also a multitude of dedication, focus, and hard work required to make this happen. Any inappropriate behavior or treatment of others will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action.

FUNDRAISING

As mentioned earlier, you will have several opportunities to fundraise to pay for your show choir expenses. Many fundraisers will be designed to gain money for your personal music accounts. We also have many other expenses that must be paid for, including staff members, music, set pieces, entry fees, and buses. In order to be able to pay for all of these things, the music department and the Somerset Friends of Music work tirelessly to fundraise for the group as a whole. As a member of this group, you are required to participate in these fundraisers. Individual fundraisers are optional, but group fundraisers are required. Two events that we specifically require you to participate in are the Assistant for a Day and the Bumper Sticker drive, both taking place in September (see calendar). As we receive more information about all of these fundraisers, you will be notified and asked to sign up.

NEW ENGLAND SHOW CHOIR CLASSIC

The show choir's largest fundraiser of the year is the show choir festival that we host, the New England Show Choir Classic. This festival typically brings in over 600 students from around New England, along with hundreds of audience members. To run a festival of this magnitude, it is essential to have a large crew of parent volunteers to assist with tickets, food, registration, hall monitoring, and any other jobs necessary for the day. We do ask that all students in the show choir have at least one parent volunteer for a shift for this festival so that we can maintain a high quality and efficiency at our festival. More information regarding this will come out as we approach the date of the festival.

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IMPORTANT DATES

(please note any dates with ‡ are tentative)

SEPTEMBER

‡September 8 – Assistant for a Day – 7:30AM-12:00PM

September 25 – Bumper Sticker Drive – 9AM-1PM

OCTOBER

October 7 – Musictown Ball @ Venus de Milo – 6:00PM-11:00PM

October 14 – Pops Night – 7:00PM

NOVEMBER

‡November 12-13 – Bay State Show Choir Festival @ Oliver Ames HS

DECEMBER

December 12 – Vespers Concert – 2:00PM

‡December 22 – In-School Concert

JANUARY

‡January 15 – Mill City Show Choir Festival @ Lowell HS

FEBRUARY

‡February 5 – Central Mass Show Choir Festival @ Shepherd Hill Reg. HS

MARCH

March 4-5 – New England Show Choir Festival (home festival)

*our students only on Friday to setup

APRIL

‡April 2 – Eastern Show Choir Festival @ Waltham HS

NOTE: A detailed rehearsal schedule with the dates listed above will also be distributed to each student over the summer. Also, some events have not yet been listed as we are still scheduling for next year, and those dates will be released as soon as we know.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS

I have completely read through the 2010-2011 Somerset High School "Electrify" Show Choir Expectations and understand what is expected as a member of the show choir. I agree to adhere to all of these rules and expectations and understand that not adhering to these rules may result in probation or expulsion from the group.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Date

SHOW CHOIR DEPOSIT

NAME _____

DATE _____

\$100 DEPOSIT ENCLOSED (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE):

CASH

CHECK # _____

MONEY ORDER

MUSIC ACCOUNT CREDIT