

KELLER HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL DEPARTMENT 2016-2017

Dear Choir Parents and Guardians:

It has been our experience that all choir students want to be a part of a quality choral program. It is our sincerest desire to offer just that to your child. In order to be even more productive by staying well informed, we would like to send you the newsletter and other important dates and information by e-mail. Please note your e-mail addresses when filling out the Medical/Insurance sheet.

We encourage you to take an active part in your child's music education. There are many opportunities for you to volunteer to help with the tasks required to run our organization. Please feel free to join in by letting one of the choir directors or a booster club officer know when you see something you could do. We believe that by working together, we will ensure the future success of the Keller High School Choirs.

Sincerely,

**Mrs. Chi-Chi King &
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chi-chi.king@kellerisd.net**

**Mr. Alex Carr
817-744-1571
alexander.carr@kellerisd.net**

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'Voices for Choir' Booster Club Executive Board

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KHS Head Choir Council

Lydia Wischmeyer, President

Aubrey Werner, 1st VP

Julia Sutter, 2nd VP

Jenna Erb, Secretary

Brighton Forsgren, Historian

KHS CHOIR PHILOSOPHY

"Today's Preparation Determines Tomorrow's Achievement"

Music is a universal language that can destroy prejudice, class barriers, and personality differences. People from different cultures and backgrounds, striving for musical excellence, can achieve an ultimate, aesthetic experience that will enrich them for their entire lives.

In singing, we use a human instrument for an exciting and challenging means of expression and communication. Many skills must be developed in order to produce beautiful music. While we do not expect every KHS Singer to be a virtuoso musician, we do expect every singer to establish both short and long-range goals for improvement in choral singing. We do expect from one another responsible actions, a team attitude, and a commitment to the success of the year through self-discipline.

AREAS OF STUDY

The students will study the following areas of choral music in compliance with the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) as prescribed by the Texas Education Agency:

1. Vocal Techniques
2. Choral Techniques
3. Sight Reading
4. Self-Expression and Creativity
5. Singing in English and a variety of foreign languages including:
Latin, Italian, French, German, Spanish, Hebrew, Russian, and others.
6. Music History and Literature
7. Music Theory
8. Performance Opportunities

GRADING CRITERIA

1. Class Participation and Daily Demonstration of Rehearsal Skills
2. Concert Attendance
3. Written Exams and Assignments
4. Sight Singing Tests; Singing of Choral Literature Tests
5. Listening Examples

Extra Credit may be given for attendance at professional/community music performances. The student must write a 1-page synopsis of the concert.

Don't forget "no pass, no perform." Any performance which takes students off-campus is considered extra-curricular and grades will come into play. Working hard this year on ALL courses and getting PASSING grades will ensure that no student misses out on extra-curricular events (i.e. All-State Competitions, UIL Contests, Choir trip, etc.).

A Student's position may be in jeopardy should there be a question of eligibility at any time during the semester. Constant evaluation means that a student may move from one ensemble to another during the school year if that student either excels or fails to meet the expectations.

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

Attendance at choir concerts and singing events (i.e. pep rallies, graduation ceremonies, etc.) is **MANDATORY** and is counted as a major exam grade. A written excuse from a doctor/parent must be given to the director within 5 days of the absence regardless of the reason for absence (illness, death in the family, etc.). Any other requests such as work or appointments are not considered emergencies and are not acceptable excuses. Remember, you are a student first, **NOT** a full-time employee.

One may make up an excused absence through 2 methods: writing a 3-page paper on a subject pertaining to the missed performance which the director will assign **OR** performing the music of the missed concert.

UNIFORMS

All Choir students will pay a \$75.00 choir fee this year and a portion of that fee goes toward the rental of the choir uniform. Students will be assigned their dresses/tuxes on a 1st paid basis.

- LADIES:** Hem – Must be 1-inch from the floor (while wearing your black shoes).
Hand hem using black thread. **DO NOT CUT OFF EXTRA FABRIC!**
Hose – Flesh tone
Shoes – Black (preferably a low, close-toe heel)
Jewelry – Rhinestone earrings (part of choir fee). No other jewelry allowed except watch.
- MEN:** Pant Hem – Same rules as the ladies.
Shoes – Black dress shoes
Socks – Black
Black Tie (part of choir fee)
No Earrings allowed in concert attire.
- ALL:** Keep your entire uniform hung up in your KHS Choir Garment Bag when not in use.

PRIVATE VOICE LESSONS

Students are highly encouraged to take private voice lessons from our qualified voice teachers during class time or after school. The cost is \$19.00 per lesson. Forms will be handed out in class. As a courtesy to your voice teacher, please call or leave a message if you are unable to attend a lesson. Otherwise you may be charged for that lesson.

CHOIR TRIP

The KHS Choir takes a trip every year. Those trips are staggered between in-state and out-of-state. In the past we've traveled to Orlando, Los Angeles, and Europe (England, Italy, France), as well as San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Galveston. This last year the KHS Choir opened for 2 professional shows in Branson. This next March, the ACDA Choir will be performing in Minneapolis. We are also planning a trip to Dallas in April where we will perform in the world-renowned Myerson Symphony Hall. More info to follow.

CHOIR LETTER JACKETS

Total points needed to receive a letter jacket: 10

Minimum requirement: Must fully participate in UIL competition and all required choir activities.

Possible points:

- Make the All-State Choir: **10 points**
- Receive a 1 on a class 1 solo at the Region Level: **3 points**
- Receive a 1 on a class 2 solo at the Region Level: **2 points**
- Receive a 1 on a class 3 solo at the Region Level: **1 point**
- Receive a 1 on a Class 1 Solo at the State Level: **3 points**
- Make area auditions: **5 points**
- Make the region choir: **4 points**
- Made the district choir: **3 points**
- Make a Varsity Choir: **4 points**
- Make the top show choir: **2 points**
- Choir officer: **2 points**
- Make the non-varsity show choir: **1 point**
- Audition for All-State: **1 point**
- Make non-varsity show choir: **1 point**
- 1 point for every consecutive year in high school choir: **1-3 points**

Possible deductions:

- 1 point for every ineligible 6 weeks: **1-6 points**

Examples:

Fantastic Freshman - lettered

- Made the region choir: 4 points
- Made a Varsity choir: 4 points
- Received a 1 on a class 1 solo at the regional level: 3 points
- **TOTAL POINTS: 11**

Stupendous Sophomore - lettered

- Made the area auditions: 5 points
- Made a Varsity choir: 4 points
- 2nd year in choir: 1 point
- **TOTAL POINTS: 10**

Just missed it Junior – did not letter

- Made the district choir: 3 points
- Made a Varsity choir: 4 points
- 3rd year in choir: 2 points
- Choir officer: 2 points
- 2 ineligible six weeks: 2 point deduction
- **TOTAL POINTS: 9**

REHEARSAL REQUIREMENTS & RULES

1. Be in your seat with your folder and pencil when the bell rings.
[See the next page for class times for all choirs.]
2. Follow directions the first time they are given.
3. Absolutely no inappropriate behavior or profanity is allowed.
4. Practice courtesy in dealing with other students and teachers.
5. No gum, food, or drink is allowed in the choir room or practice rooms.
6. Assume that whatever we do, we do as a GROUP/TEAM. When one fails, we all fail. Likewise, choir successes are enjoyed by all.

CONSEQUENCES

If any student is a behavior problem or refuses to follow instructions, he/she is disrupting the entire class and rehearsal process. Disciplinary actions include but are not limited to:

1. Detention
2. Writing Assignments
3. Attend Saturday School
4. Removal from the Keller High School Choir Program

There will be zero tolerance for any student who continuously decides not to be a part of the team.



**KELLER HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR
RELEASE AND CONSENT FORM**

2016-2017

I HAVE READ THE CHOIR HANDBOOK AND HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME/MY CHILD IN THE KHS CHORAL PROGRAM.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

I CONSENT TO THE VIDEO/AUDIO TAPING OF THE CHOIR DURING REHEARSALS/CONCERTS.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

I, _____, certify that I am the Parent/Legal Guardian of
(Parent/Legal Guardian Name)

_____, who is a student in the Keller Independent
(Student's Name)

School District and who desires to participate in Keller High School Choir activities and trips during the 2016-2017 school year.

I hereby give my consent for _____ to travel and/or participate in planned activities/performances/trips.

I hereby release the Keller Independent School District, its trustees, Superintendent, employees and servants from any and all liability, damages, or claims resulting from such student's travel and /or participation in any choir function/trip, and I agree not to hold them responsible for any damages or claims which might arise from injuries resulting out of any act or omission on the part of the District's staff, other than negligence in the operation of a motor vehicle or the use of excessive force in the administration of discipline.

In the event that the above student should, for any reason, require any medical or surgical treatment and/or medication while participating in the activities/trips, I authorize such physician or medical staff as the District's staff accompanying the student may appoint or designate, to carry out the necessary treatment. I authorize the staff to take my child to any emergency room of the nearest hospital, and I further authorize the hospital and medical staff to administer treatment as deemed necessary by them for the well-being of said student.

It is understood, however, that if hospitalization or treatment of a more serious nature is required, I will be contacted, if at all possible, for permission.

I have read and do understand the above and I freely give my consent and permission for all things contained herein.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date

**KELLER HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR
INSURANCE/MEDICAL INFORMATION SHEET**

2016-2017

NAME OF STUDENT _____ **CHOIR** _____

NAME OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS _____

ADDRESS _____ **CITY** _____ **ZIP** _____

HOME PHONE # _____

CELL PHONE # (Student) _____

E-MAIL (Student) _____

CELL PHONE # (Mom) _____

E-MAIL (Mom) _____

CELL PHONE # (Dad) _____

E-MAIL (Dad) _____

Name, Phone, & Relationship of Another Contact Person: _____

Group Insurance Company: _____

Group Policy Number: _____

Insurance ID # _____

Insurance Contact Phone Number _____

Special Health Conditions – Please list all (Allergies, Diabetes, Epilepsy, Physical Handicaps, Etc.)

Medications (List all – both OTC and Prescription) _____

