

## 2017-2018 Chorus Audition Information Sheet

### When:

Auditions for Concert Choir/Women's Chamber Ensemble and the PCHS Chamber Choir are being held on **Wednesday March 8 through March 9** after school and during Smart lunch (by appointment)

### Classes:

- **Mixed Chorus:** Just 1st semester (**#52302X0A**). This class will be open to all students who have signed up. **NO audition is necessary—just sign up!** Students will learn/reinforce basic singing and music reading skills. This group will perform mostly for regular concerts and potentially for large school functions. A variety of musical styles will be chosen, but most of the pieces will be easier in difficulty. Grades of students will range from 9-12, though the group will be primarily freshman. Performance outfits are simply white dress shirts and black bottoms.
- **Women's Ensemble** A year-long class. This class is for female students in 10-12: audition required for NEW students (that haven't been in chorus before). **Female students that have taken Mixed Chorus may sign up for this without auditions.** Students MUST have a proficient ability to sight-sing using solfege. A performing outfit will be required for this group.
- **PCHS Chamber Choir** A year-long AUDITION ONLY class. A mixed group consisting of about 40-45 singers performing often in the school year. This group will require the highest level of musicianship, commitment and concentration. Boys must have tuxedo outfits (about \$140) and girls must purchase a dress (~\$95). Music selections will focus on difficult jazz styles, a cappella choral music of the last 500 years, as well as challenging masterworks including classical music and spirituals. **Pop music will NOT be an integral part of this curriculum.** Students are encouraged (though not required) to consider taking private lessons if they are in this group. All students in this group should already possess a strong ability to sight read and understand music. Only the most committed students will be considered.

Honors Credit—Available for students in vocal 3 and 4 who are in the Women's Ensemble or the PCHS Chamber Choir. Students will be leveled in these classes as Intermediate, Proficient/Advanced (level 2 or 3/4). All 3/4 students will receive Honors Credit, and will need to complete out-of class work for this designation. Honors credits begin automatically during the 4<sup>th</sup> semester of chorus.

### Audition Process:

**FIRST** sign up for a time on the SIGN UP GENIUS on [www.panthercreekchorus.com](http://www.panthercreekchorus.com).

Auditions will **BE RECORDED** and will require/include the following aspects:

- Discussion with Mr. Bensen about chorus perspectives, goals, vision, etc.
- Vocalizing: Checking your range and tone quality of the voice
- Sight-singing: Students will look at a short line of music and will sing after a minute of study time without the piano playing along.
- Rhythms: Students will speak or clap a set of rhythms on a paper
- Sing a prepared piece: ~1 minute will be fine. This song can be a cappella, or accompanied. It does not have to be memorized, but the most prepared students are likely to have memorized it. Being prepared is a good indicator of future commitment to the program...

**Mr. Bensen will then figure out which group is best for you! Results posted by the 2nd week of March**

