

VOICE CLASS

2016-2017

Mount Pleasant High School

Mrs. Amy Anderson

(302) 762-7125 amy.anderson@bsd.k12.de.us
<http://www.mphsmusic.com>

VOICE CLASS is an introductory course on solo singing and musicianship. The goal of Voice Class is to develop each singer's vocal technique, music reading skills, musicianship, confidence in performance, and understanding of musical styles and periods. Previous experience is not necessary, and no audition is required. This course aims to challenge both the novice and advanced high school musician. It is expected that all students will work to their best potential for their individual good and will fully support other students in the class as they also progress in their singing.

OBJECTIVES:

to learn singing and music as a skill, providing lifelong enjoyment
to appreciate music as part of an aesthetic education
to apply proper vocal technique using a variety of vocal styles and genres
to develop responsibility and commitment through participation in singing
to begin learning to read basic music notation or grow in previous music reading ability
to become familiar with various periods and styles of music
to demonstrate risk-taking through individual performance
to evaluate musical performances

MATERIALS MRS. ANDERSON WILL PROVIDE: individual songs, worksheets, iPads, and sight-singing material. No textbook is needed for this course; however, Mrs. Anderson will be using *Steps to Singing for Voice Classes, 3rd Edition* by Royal Stanton, should you wish to purchase a copy.

MATERIALS YOU WILL PROVIDE: Your full attention, a 3-ring binder, headphones, and a pencil daily. You will have the opportunity to perform a song of your choice, and you may wish to purchase your own sheet music for this performance if you cannot find something in Mrs. Anderson's library that suits you.

GRADING:

Each marking period grade is made up of the average of two types of grades—formative (40%) and summative (60%). These grades include, but are not limited to:

1. Formative: Daily grades, written assignments, and individual assignments on portions of songs.
2. Summative: In-class performances, Schoology recordings of full pieces, projects, presentations, tests, etc.

In order to keep your grade up, you need to commit to practicing at home on a regular basis! Singing is a skill that is learned and perfected over time. Most people need to work hard at being an accomplished singer. While you will not have a lot of written homework, you will need to commit to practicing at home or after school to learn and memorize your songs!

CLASSROOM REQUIREMENTS:

1. Participation in class at **all times** is expected.
2. Be prepared by practicing assigned pieces and by bringing all required materials.
3. Respect the teacher's requests. This includes substitutes and student teachers.
4. Be respectful of every student in the class.
5. Use positive language.
6. Food, drink, and gum are not permitted. Water is acceptable.
7. Do not play the pianos without permission.
8. Show Mount P.R.I.D.E.

(over)

FUNDRAISERS:

Fundraisers enable us to travel, sponsor All-State musicians, offer scholarships, maintain uniforms, etc. Concert Choir members should participate in at least one fundraiser to contribute to the general fund, which benefits all choral endeavors. A record is kept of each student's account earnings. Accounts are to be used for trips only. Chorus members are responsible for all monies involved. If you drop out of chorus, your money reverts back to the general fund; i.e., your account will not be held for you or refunded to you if you are not in choir.

CONCERT ATTIRE:

A choral uniform is provided. Women will need black dress shoes (no sandals), preferably flats. If pantyhose are worn, they must be flesh-colored. Men will need a tuxedo shirt (not issued), black dress shoes, and black socks. **If you are out of uniform, you will not perform!**

PERFORMANCES:

Voice Class does not have any scheduled performances outside of the scheduled class period time, but every students will have several opportunities to perform for the class. Students are expected to show progress in vocal technique, stage presence, musicianship, and artistry. This progression will look different for each student depending on prior vocal experience, time committed to practicing, and understanding of the material presented in class.

It is highly encouraged that Voice Class students attend concerts both at Mount Pleasant High School and in the community. A copy of the MPHS choir, band, and orchestra performance calendar can be obtained from Mrs. Anderson, from the music website (www.mphsmusic.com), or from the school website.

COMMUNICATION: Grades and attendance will be posted regularly to eSchool. Additional communications will be sent through the eSchool email option. Parents and students are encouraged to make sure that their correct email is listed. Information will also be posted on the MPHS Music website (www.mphsmusic.com) which is also linked from the MPHS home page (<http://brandywineschools.org/mphs>).

The fastest and easiest way to communicate with Mrs. Anderson is to see her before or after class, or before or after school. If that is not possible, email (amy.anderson@bsd.k12.de.us) is the preferred method as you will be answered quickly.

Parents/Guardians, if the need arises to contact Mrs. Anderson, I would encourage you to email me first. If a phone conversation or conference is needed, we can make those arrangements. I check email regularly and will respond as quickly as possible. I will send an email out through the eSchool email option whenever any correspondence is passed out to students to take home, so I would encourage parents and/or guardians to be sure that their email is in the system and is correct!