

Chesnee Choirs Handbook

2018-2019



Lindsay M. Brazell, Director
Email: Lindsay.Brazell@spart2.org

August 20, 2018

Dear Chesnee Choir Parents and Students,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! I am thrilled to begin music making with Chesnee Choirs, and am excited to get to know your students and your families.

Music education is proven to enhance one's quality of life. Membership in choir fosters emotional development, leadership training, aesthetic awareness and perception, social skills, and, of course, the joy of making music! Choral ensembles are not just a source of enjoyment, but a means by which students can learn important life skills through music. My goals are twofold: 1) Train young musicians to appreciate the arts and flourish in any musical endeavors they encounter through life, and 2) Inspire young men and women to achieve their personal and professional goals and dreams.

This handbook should be read by both students and parents, and by new or veteran members, as some items may be different than in years past. Most questions can be answered by consulting this handbook, and it is my hope that the contents inform and inspire! Parents, please take time to read the sections outlined for you, as it will greatly benefit our students and program. Students need to know that we think what they do is important, and while chorus is an elective course, it is a family in and of itself! The memories from involvement in a choir will last a lifetime.

Please read all of the information and sign the form on the last page and return it by 8/31/18. I am looking forward to a wonderful year of music making!

Thank you for your support of the Chesnee Choir program!

Sincerely,

Lindsay Brazell, Director

Welcome to Chesnee Choirs!

Welcome to the Chesnee High School Choral Department! This handbook will provide information about our ensembles and classroom procedures to prepare our choirs for a successful year.

Chesnee Choirs provides opportunities to students who have an interest in singing to perform a wide variety of choral music, study proper vocal techniques, develop strong musicianship skills, and share our musical talents with our community. Membership in Chesnee Choirs requires teamwork, discipline, dedication, and professionalism in order to achieve the highest degree of musical success. As a team, each student must contribute his/her personal best in the interest of the ultimate success of our program.

Chesnee Choirs strives to give each student a well-rounded music education. Our goals include:

1. Develop strong musicianship skills, both on an individual and ensemble level.
2. Improve music literacy.
3. Develop student leadership and teamwork skills.
4. Encourage creativity and self-expression.
5. Foster a love of choral music and singing that will last a lifetime.

As a chorus, our ultimate goal is to achieve excellence in choral singing. Every student is of equal importance, contributing their voice and talents to the greater body of singers.

Ensembles

Chesnee Concert Choir

Prerequisites: None

Open to all choral students, grades 9-12, with an interest in singing. Students are given the opportunity to gain the basic music literacy, vocal skills and choral experience, which is necessary for membership in advanced choral organizations. Areas covered include rhythmic and pitch reading, vocal production (posture, breathing, diction), and choral techniques. Singing involves the gradual progression from unison to part music. Beginning students participate in 2 major concerts each year and students in grades 10-12 may audition for All State Choir. All students may audition for the ACDA Honor Choir in the Spring.

Chesnee A Cappella Group (Official name coming soon!)

Prerequisite: By audition only

This is a brand new group that will meet once a week after school, time and dates TBA. This ensemble will consist of 12-16 students, which will be determined by audition. Since this group will perform unaccompanied, an audition is necessary to assess vocal tone, blending, ability to learn music quickly, and fill available voice parts. This group will perform pop a cappella pieces, vocal jazz, and other chamber repertoire.

Voices of Chesnee

Prerequisites: NONE! Just come sing!

This choir is open to any Chesnee High student, faculty, and any family members grade 6 and above. We will meet once a month in the evening for about 2 hours (date and time TBA) and will perform 2-3 pieces in the winter and spring concerts. This is a great way to get middle schoolers involved in high school choir, and it's a fun place to sing with people in the community!

Rehearsal/Class Procedures & Policies

1. **ARRIVE ON TIME AND PREPARED TO START CLASS.** Students should have their music folder and supplies on the risers before the bell rings. Backpacks should be stored on the shelf on the side of the room. When the tardy bell rings, students will stand and sing the A pitch preparing to begin warm ups. Students not on the risers singing the A pitch will be marked tardy. In the event that a student is late to class, the following procedures will occur:
 - Each unexcused tardy will result in a 5 point deduction from the student's daily grade.
 - The 4th and 5th tardies will result in a 1 hour after-school detention.
 - Each tardy thereafter will result in a discipline referral.
 - If a student receives 3 or more ISS days in a semester, due to chorus class offenses, they will not be allowed to participate in the semester concert, resulting in a graded alternate assignment provided by the director.
2. **ALWAYS HAVE YOUR MUSIC AND A PENCIL.** Students are to mark their music during rehearsal to ensure continuity throughout the ensemble. Students without their music or pencil will receive a 5 point deduction from their daily grade.
3. **NO TALKING DURING REHEARSAL.** Students are expected to follow their music and pay attention to the director whether or not their section is rehearsing.
4. **NOT ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM:**
 1. Food –Students should not have food or be eating during a choir class. Students found eating food, chewing gum, or having beverages other than water will receive a 5 point deduction from their daily grade.
 2. CELL PHONE USE. If a student's cell phone is out during rehearsal, they will be asked to place it in the "cell phone box" until the end of the class period, and will receive a 10 point deduction from their daily grade. Repeated offenses will result in the following:
 - 2nd offense: Phone in cell phone box, 10 point deduction, phone returned at the end of the day.

- 3rd offense: Phone in cell phone box, 10 point deduction, phone turned into main office, written referral.
 - Additional offenses: Immediate referral.
3. Horseplay, wrestling, goofing off. Students acting inappropriately during rehearsal will be asked to sit out and receive a 0 for their daily grade. If there is a second occurrence there will be an immediate office referral.
 5. **OFF LIMITS:**
 1. Pianos and sound equipment. Please ask the director for permission.
 2. Director's office. Students will not be allowed to enter without permission. If the director is not in the office, you cannot go in!
 3. Unsupervised Chorus room. Students may not be in the Chorus room without a teacher, administrator, or substitute.
 6. **CARE OF MUSIC/MATERIALS:** School owned music is purchased by the school for use by the Choral Department and is loaned to students for use while in chorus. Students must take care of their music. A fee of \$1.50 per missing piece of music will be charged for damaged or lost music. Damage includes extreme rips and tears as well as markings in pen or marker.
 7. **CLEAN UP.** At the end of class, students are to return their supplies to where they belong. This includes folders, chairs, equipment, and other supplies. If your folder is found, you will receive a 5 point deduction for your daily grade. Make sure to clean up your own personal trash! We want to keep the room as clean as possible!
 8. **RESTROOM POLICY:** Using the restroom or getting water during rehearsal can be distracting to the entire class. Students should use the restroom before or after class. In the event of an emergency, students are to use the restroom sign-out sheet. **Students may only leave the classroom after warm-ups and bell work are complete.** Each student will be allowed to use the restroom up to 3 times per semester. For every additional time, students will be deducted 2 points from their daily grade for that day. When given permission, students will sign in/out using the designated form provided by the director.
 9. **CONFLICTS WITH SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES:** A performance or game takes precedence over a rehearsal or practice. If both events are of equal importance, the student, parents, director and coach/sponsor will make every attempt to have the student participate in both activities. If the student is not physically able to be at both activities, the student, parents, director, and coach/sponsor will make the best decision for the student,

ensemble, and team. **COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY!** 80% of conflicts can be resolved with communication.

10. **RETREATS:** Ensembles that have semester retreats are REQUIRED for all students. Attendance at these retreats is important, as they are major rehearsals and social events. This is where we get to know each other, form relationships, and begin serious work on our repertoire. Missing these retreats shows lack of dedication and results in a large amount of missed material. Ensemble retreats are scheduled far in advance, so students should arrange their schedules accordingly. Not attending the retreat results in a 0 for the student's retreat participation grade, and the student loses eligibility to audition for solos that semester. The reasons below are excused only when the following procedures are followed.

1. The student was not in school due to illness. A note/email from a parent/guardian is REQUIRED the day the student returns to school. **If no communication is received, the student will receive a 0 for retreat participation.**

2. The student has a family emergency. A note/email from a parent/guardian is REQUIRED prior to the retreat date. **If no communication is received, the student will receive a 0 for retreat participation.**

3. Retreats are scheduled with other school activities in mind. In the event that there are conflicting Chesnee activities with our retreat, the student must communicate with the director IN ADVANCE to work out a resolution. This will not compromise the student's retreat participation grade.

11. **DRESS REHEARSAL AND CONCERT ATTENDANCE:** All students are required to attend all dress rehearsals and concerts. These are counted as major assignments, as this is a performance-based course. In addition to the retreat procedures above, the following rehearsal and concert procedures will be followed:

1. Students who are not excused or do not attend a concert dress rehearsal will not be allowed to perform in the concert and will receive a 0 for both.

2. Students who are not excused or do not attend **the fall or spring concert** will receive a 0 and will be given an extra graded written assignment. Missed performance assignments are on the website. Failure to attend both concerts will result in removal from the choral program.

3. Students who miss 3 concerts (includes fall/spring, community performances) will not be eligible to remain in the program the following year.

12. **STUDENTS WHO CANNOT CONFORM TO THESE PROCEDURES AND POLICIES WILL LOSE THEIR PRIVILEGE TO PERFORM OR BE REMOVED FROM THE CHORUS.**

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Attitude: The most important component of a successful ensemble is attitude. The right attitude can be the difference between a mediocre choir and a winning organization. Students should make the most of every rehearsal and performance, bringing sincerity, concentration, and dedication to the music and the ensemble.

Discipline: Because the nature of a choral organization is one of social interaction and cooperation, it is extremely important for Chesnee Choirs students and parents to believe in the ideals, principals, and philosophy of our organization. Each student must always be aware of good behavior and think for him-or herself. Students should strive to represent Chesnee Choirs in a way that casts a positive light, not only on our program, but on our school and community. Any member who discredits our organization by his or her conduct/actions in chorus, another class, or trip will be subject to dismissal from the chorus program, or may lose privileges within the program. This decision will be at the director's discretion.

Responsibility:

1. **To Chesnee Choirs:** As a member of an ensemble, you are responsible for learning your music, attending rehearsals and concerts, and following the policies and procedures.
2. **To Ourselves:** You are primarily responsible for developing your own abilities! Individual practice or private lessons can greatly benefit! What you put in to it, you will get out of it! Mrs. Brazell is always available for your guidance and encouragement...just ask!
3. **To Chesnee High School:** Our school district provides us with the resources we need to rehearse and perform. We are responsible for representing our school in the community.
4. **To Music:** Music has always been a huge part of our culture! Our responsibly as musicians requires us to convey each piece of music as the composer intended. The great composer Gustav Mahler said, "Only 10 percent of the music is on the page." We are responsible for the other 90 percent! Making music in an ensemble requires self-discovery and creativity. No one expects you to be the next Andrea Bocelli, but only to be the best you can be! It is important for us to provide honest performances with integrity and respect for the piece of music.

5. **To Each Other:** We must put the welfare of the group before our own needs! An ensemble is a TEAM. Respect each other. Conflicts happen, but there are always resolutions. Treat each member as you want to be treated, both inside and outside of the chorus classroom. *“WE HAVE NOT WON UNTIL WE ARE ONE!”*
6. **Practice:** As with any skill or knowledge, you get what you put in! A choir can’t succeed unless each member pulls their weight. Practicing will not only better your musical skills, but it will contribute to other areas and aspects of your life!

Attendance Policy

The only excusable absences are prearranged school conflicts and those that would be excused by the school for regular attendance records, such as illness, death in the family, or religious holiday. Work, transportation problems, or unexcused absences from school are unexcused absences from choir.

For all performances and after school rehearsal absences, the following procedure must be followed by the student and parent. Failure to follow this procedure will result in removal from performances. An absentee request does NOT mean it will be approved by the director. This is the Chesnee Choirs policy:

1. The director must be notified **in advance**. Email or phone communication is acceptable.
2. For illness, a parent note or doctor's excuse must be submitted upon return.
3. Follow-up is the responsibility of the student!
4. Students who miss a concert will be required to complete an alternate assignment. It will be graded on quality and accuracy of the content, and will be due 1 week from the concert date. If the assignment is not turned in, the student will receive a 0 for concert attendance.

Note: If a student is removed from a performance, they will receive a zero for their performance grade. Performances and after school rehearsals are 35% of the student's grade.

Grading

The below is the grading scale for all ensembles. Assignments may vary between ensembles.

Grading Scale:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-60	D
Below 60	F

Grade Break Down:

Participation/Daily Grade	10%
Written Evaluations	30%
Singing Evaluations	20%
Semester Concerts/Rehearsals	40%

Participation/Daily Grades - 30% - The director observes students during class on the following: posture, holding music, preparedness/having supplies, attention to director, and following instructions. Students must refrain from excessive talking during rehearsals and remain on task at all times. Students have 20 points per day (100 points per week).

Written Evaluations - 10% - (Quizzes, Tests, Portfolio Assignments, Critiques, Practice Logs) - Written evaluations serve to test the student's knowledge of the elements of music, music terminology, as well as encourage analysis and reflection on various musical topics. Quizzes and tests will be multiple choice, fill in the blank, or essay. There will be 2 Portfolio Assignments per marking period serving the need for cross-subject integration. Students will NOT be graded on technical elements of these assignments, but on the expression of their ideas. The intent for these Portfolio assignments is for students to critically think about topics within choral music and have tangible evidence of their understanding and thoughts. These assignments will not always be written, and will either be individual or group assignments.

Singing Evaluations - 25% (Vocal Pitch Exercises, Quartet/Part Tests on Excerpts from Repertoire) - These evaluations will measure the student's knowledge of their repertoire and sight singing. Students will be asked to sing in large groups, small groups, and individually. **Please note:** One of the standards for music education is "Singing alone or with others a varied repertoire of music." Students may feel shy, embarrassed, or afraid to sing alone in front of their peers, and we are sensitive to that! The more we do it, the more comfortable we become! As an ensemble, we encourage one another and support each other.

Semester Concerts and Rehearsals - 35% - There are two major concerts per year, winter and spring. All Chesnee Choirs students are required to participate in the dress rehearsals and concerts in order to receive full credit. Students must arrive on time and stay throughout the entire event. They should be dressed in the required attire prior to arrival unless notified otherwise.

Concert Attire

Please follow the general guidelines and the uniform guidelines specific to your ensemble.

Concert Choir (Uniforms provided by school)

Formal:

- **Women:** Black dress, black shoes, white pearl necklace. Hair must be done so that your whole face is visible! Pulled back is preferred. Stud earrings may be worn, otherwise no jewelry please.
- **Men:** Black pants, white tux shirt, black tux vest, black bow tie, black socks, and black dress shoes. Hair must be neat and off of your face. Watches may be worn, otherwise no jewelry please.

A Cappella Group

- **Women:** Black pants, and any combination of black/gold/yellow/white top. Tops must have sleeves. Jewelry and accessories must follow the same color scheme. Black shoes.
- **Men:** Black pants, white button down shirt, and any black/gold/white combination tie or bowtie. Black shoes and black socks.

Voices of Chesnee

Unless in a previously mentioned choir, all members will be in concert black. (Black pants, tops, shoes, etc.)

Casual Attire for ALL Ensembles

Jeans, Chesnee Chorus T-shirt, comfortable shoes. Chesnee Choir T-Shirt are required and should be purchased at the beginning of the school year for \$10 if the student is new or needs a replacement.

General Uniform Guidelines

- **Hair color must be natural for all formal performances. Failure to comply will result in removal from the concert. We want our ensembles to appear professional, and not draw attention to individuals.**

- **Ladies – When you receive your dress it will remain yours throughout your high school career, though you must turn it in at the end of every school year. Your dress will be re-issued to you at the beginning of the school year unless you need a new size.**
- **Accessories such as pearls and bowties will remain in the music library! Do not take them home!**
- **Hemming dresses/pants will be the responsibility of the student. Dresses should be about 1-2 inches above the floor only.**
- **If uniforms are not returned in the condition received they will receive a fine. Here are some care-taking guidelines:**
 1. **The women’s dress should be dry-cleaned and returned with the receipt attached to the dress/bag. Cool iron can be used only if necessary. Never place the garment in the dryer!**
 2. **The men’s tux shirt should be washed after each use, paying attention to treat the collar area and the pants and vest should be dry-cleaned or hand washed, dripped dry, and a cool iron used only if necessary. Never place the garment in the dryer!**
 3. **Students are to wear the garment(s) only at chorus functions and they are not to be worn by anyone other than the assigned chorus student.**
 4. **In the case of loss, damage, or soiled garment(s), students will be charged the replacement cost of the said garment(s) and accessories.**

Black Dress	\$75
Black Tux Vest	\$35
White Tux shirt	\$20
Black Tux pants	\$30
Bow Tie	\$5

All uniforms must be returned cleaned a week after the last performance. This will be treated as a major assignment.

Field Trips and Traveling

- All District 2 rules and regulations apply.
- Males and females are not allowed in each other's rooms without the presence of a chaperone.
- Obey all chaperones as if they were Mrs. Brazell.
- All students must have signed a permission form.
- Curfews must be strictly observed.
- If a conversation can be heard in the front of the bus, it is too loud!
- There will be no hanging out of or talking out of bus windows.
- Please lower the volume considerable when entering towns or busy areas. This is for your safety and is courteous to the bus driver.
- Please keep the bus clean, pick up after yourselves, and ALWAYS thank the chaperones and bus driver.

In Hotel Situations

- Parents and students will be responsible for paying for any incurred charges, including lost room keys.
- Rooms are to be locked at all times.
- There will be no one of the opposite sex in your room unless accompanied by a chaperone.
- All school rules will be enforced on trips.
- All students should realize that any personal desires may have to be put aside for the duration of the trip in order to facilitate large group control and management.
- No one is to leave the hotel alone. Any student found leaving the premises without permission will be dealt with severely.
- Chorus members and chaperones are expected to be in the right place, at the right time, and ready to go.

Officers and Student Positions

Chesnee Choirs functions as a cohesive unit. Each ensemble will have class officers and section leaders that will aid in daily tasks and assist the director. These positions will be selected at the beginning of the 2018 school year by ensemble voting. Students elected will remain in their positions until the end of the school year when nominations and elections for the following school year take place. You must be enrolled in choir for both semesters to be eligible for a leadership position.

Position	Responsibilities
Student Directors (Co-Presidents)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lead choir in the absence of director. 2. Oversee other officers and help when needed. 3. Act as a student to director liaison. 4. Setup room for rehearsal – move piano if need be, make sure pencils are available, etc. 5. Take the lead on the Talent Show. 6. Assist in organizing retreats and social events. 7. Attendance at all events. 8. Be a mini Brazell.
Vice President	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assist the presidents. 2. Uniform distribution and organization. 3. Assist in the leadership of the Talent Show. 4. Assist in organizing retreats. 5. Keeps track of reasons to celebrate: birthdays, student achievements, school achievements, staff and administration achievements.

<p style="text-align: center;">Secretary</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hand out and collect any paperwork. 2. Take attendance each day. 3. Collect tardy passes and mark them appropriate on attendance sheet. 4. Make sure performance dates and due dates are posted on the designated board area. 5. Record information. 6. Assist in the organization and documentation of uniform distribution. 7. Assist in organizing retreats and social events.
<p style="text-align: center;">Music Librarian</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pass out and collect music. 2. Make sure any loose music is filed. 3. Make sure each student has music each rehearsal. 4. Account for music issued to each student – document which student numbers receive copies rather than originals. 5. Assist in organizing retreats and social events.
<p>Section Leaders - Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Bass 1, Bass 2.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>(THESE POSITIONS ARE CHOSEN BY THE DIRECTOR)</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lead the section in sectional rehearsals. 2. Practice music ahead of time to be able to lead your section. 3. Hold extra sectionals outside of school hours on an as-needed basis. At least 1 is recommended per semester. 4. Foster section unity and fellowship.

Students may hold only ONE office position, but may also double as a section leader. (Example: the President cannot also be the Secretary, but can be the Soprano 1 Section Leader). Students may run for up to 2 office

positions, and if elected to multiple positions they will be selected for the highest tier of those positions and the second place student will be selected for the position.

Students applying for these position are required to submit one non-arts teacher recommendation. A form will be provided.

Music Advocacy's Top Ten for Parents

1. In a 2000 survey, 73 percent of respondents agree that teens who play an instrument or sing are less likely to have discipline problems.

- Americans Love Making Music – And Value Music Education More Highly Than Ever, American Music Conference, 2000.

2. Students who can perform complex rhythms can also make faster and more precise corrections in many academic and physical situations, according to the Center for Timing, Coordination, and Motor Skills

- Rhythm seen as key to music's evolutionary role in human intellectual development, Center for Timing, Coordination, and Motor Skills, 2000.

3. A ten-year study indicates that students who study music achieve higher test scores, regardless of socioeconomic background.

- Dr. James Catterall, UCLA.

4. A 1997 study of elementary students in an arts-based program concluded that students' math test scores rose as their time in arts education classes increased.

- "Arts Exposure and Class Performance," Phi Delta Kappan, October, 1998.

5. First-grade students who had daily music instruction scored higher on creativity tests than a control group without music instruction.

- K.L. Wolff, The Effects of General Music Education on the Academic Achievement, Perceptual-Motor Development, Creative Thinking, and School Attendance of First-Grade Children, 1992.

6. In a Scottish study, one group of elementary students received musical training, while another other group received an equal amount of discussion skills training. After six (6) months, the students in the music group achieved a significant increase in reading test scores, while the reading test scores of the discussion skills group did not change.

- Sheila Douglas and Peter Willatts, Journal of Research in Reading, 1994.

7. According to a 1991 study, students in schools with arts-focused

curriculums reported significantly more positive perceptions about their academic abilities than students in a comparison group.

- Pamela Aschbacher and Joan Herman, *The Humanitas Program Evaluation*, 1991.

8. Students who are rhythmically skilled also tend to better plan, sequence, and coordinate actions in their daily lives.

- "Cassily Column," TCAMS Professional Resource Center, 2000.

9. In a 1999 Columbia University study, students in the arts are found to be more cooperative with teachers and peers, more self-confident, and better able to express their ideas. These benefits exist across socioeconomic levels.

- The Arts Education Partnership, 1999.

10. College admissions officers continue to cite participation in music as an important factor in making admissions decisions. They claim that music participation demonstrates time management, creativity, expression, and open-mindedness.

- Carl Hartman, "Arts May Improve Students' Grades," *The Associated Press*, October, 1999.

Other Music Advocacy Sites to Explore:

<http://www.amparents.org/resources/music-facts>

Parents' Responsibility to Chesnee Choirs

How Parents Can Help

It is the responsibility of every parent and guardian to see that the policies outlined in the handbook are followed and that the form in the back is signed and returned by **8/31/18**. This states that you understand the policies set within and that any questions are to be directed to the chorus director by making an appointment. Each parent is responsible for the attendance of his or her child at all chorus functions.

Here are just a few suggested ways you can help your student and Chesnee Choirs! These are encouraged, not required! (Except the last one...visit the website all of the time as it is the home base for the CALENDAR OF EVENTS!!)

- Show an interest in the musical study of your child.
- Arrange a regular time for your child to practice.
- Find a quiet place where he or she can practice without interruption.
- Listen to performances of practice material when asked to do so.
- Help the student keep a daily record of practicing.
- Take care of their instrument! The voice is part of the body! Eat healthy, rest, and stay hydrated.
- Teach your child to be prepared and on time each rehearsal or lesson.
- Provide for private lessons.
- Faithful attendance at all chorus activities!
- Buy your child a personal planner for marking important dates.
- Keep the chorus Handbook in a safe place and refer to it often.
- Notify the directors if the student is to be absent for rehearsals or lessons.
- Turn in fund-raising money and fees on time.
- Subscribe to Mrs. Brazell's Remind text messages! Directions are on the Chesnee Choirs website homepage.
- Visit www.ChesneeChoirs.com frequently to be informed of current events and how you can be an active participant. Export our google calendar to your smart phone! 😊

Choir Awards

Outstanding Student Awards: This is a new, informal, certificate award that is peer selected. Before the Spring Concert, students will nominate 4 students who they feel contributes to the overall success of Chesnee Choirs with a 3-4 sentence explanation. Such reasons could include, “Always has a positive attitude,” “Always makes us laugh,” “Always there to help,” or any reason they can think of that makes Chorus a great place to be! Students will turn their nominations in prior to the dress rehearsal and the students will be announced at the Spring Concert.

Concert Etiquette

For Students

- ALWAYS have good posture! Look like a choral singer!
- Approach every performance as the first time the audience is hearing your repertoire. You may feel tired of a piece (which hopefully you won't!) but need to remember that the audience has never heard it and desires a musical experience. It's your job to give them that experience!
- NEVER talk or laugh on the risers!!!
- Always watch the director. Adrenaline rushes in performance mode sometimes, so it's important to be in the moment and focus.
- Be aware of your facial expressions. You should always try to convey the text to the audience, and facial expressions help them greatly!
- Stand still until the director's hands are down. You want to preserve the mood of the performance until the very last second!
- **NO CELL PHONES ON STAGE!!!!**
- Enjoy performing! You have worked hard on your repertoire to make it the best that it can be, and deserve an undistracted performance! Enjoy the musical moments! That's why we do music!
- Remember to smile and acknowledge applause. Show the audience that you are appreciative of your support and that you enjoy performing for them.
- Don't leave the performance early!! Support your peers! Be seated and watch the remainder of the concert.
- **NO CELL PHONES ON STAGE!!!! SERIOUSLY!!!!**

For the Audience

- Arrive on time! If you arrive late, please do not enter during the middle of a piece. Please wait for applause to find your seat.
- Don't leave early! Though you may feel you are quietly sneaking out, other audience members, and sometimes the students on stage, can see you! It's not a good feeling to see people leaving your concert! If you need to leave early, please sit near the back of the auditorium and exit during applause or transition.
- Please turn off your cell phones or any devices you have that makes noise! The 21st century is full of things that beep and ring, and while we love them dearly, we want you to love our music more!

Contract of Mutual Consent

I, _____ (print student name) accept membership in Chesnee Choirs and understand that I am responsible for all policies set forth in the Chesnee Choirs Handbook. I full agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my ability.

I also agree to the terms of the Uniform sign out and return policies.

Student Signature

Date

I, _____ (print parent name) have read and understood the policies set forth in the Chesnee Choirs Handbook. I also grant full permission to my child to be an active member of the Chesnee High School Choirs. In addition, my child has permission to attend all choir functions. Furthermore, I understand that I must meet all financial obligations.

Parent Signature

Date

**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE OF THE
HANDBOOK TO THE DIRECTOR BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 31,
2018**

Chorus Fee

All students will pay a Chorus Fee at the beginning of every school year. The fee is \$30. This aids us in purchasing music, supplies, and uniforms for the year.

Please indicate below the quantity of each type of shirt and size being ordered. Payment should be made to Chesnee High School, and should be handed in with this form. **Please put this form and your money in an envelope labeled CHORUS FEE with your name and choir on it!**

Please note that a T-shirt is a required Chorus uniform for all students for the 2018-2019 school year, as we will wear them in mini performances around the community. All others are optional.

All sizes are ADULT sizes. Write the number of shirts you are ordering in the appropriate box. Parents/family members are welcome to order shirts as well!

	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE	XLARGE	2XL (add \$2.00)	OTHER (add \$2.00)
T-Shirt						
\$10.00						

Student Name _____ Choir: _____

Chorus Fee: \$30.00 + Additional Shirt Fees (optional): \$ _____ Total: \$ _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Parent Volunteer Form

Name: _____
Student's name: _____
Parent email address: _____
Parent preferred phone number: _____

Please sign and return this form regardless if you are interested in volunteering or not!

I am interested in volunteering for (check all that apply):

- Chaperoning All State Audition Trip (November)
- Chaperoning All State Weekend Trip (March) (If student numbers require extra chaperones, which we hope they do!)
- Coffee House (one each semester)
- Talent Show Auditions (TBA)
- Talent Show Backstage Help (TBA)
- Communications
- Accompanying capabilities: _____
- Dress Rehearsal Chaperones/Organization
- However you need me!
- I am unable to volunteer this year.

The above volunteer areas will be explained more in depth at CHS Open House. Please stop by as you follow your student's schedule! Looking forward to seeing you! If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me!

-Lindsay Brazell

X _____
(Parent Signature)

Chesnee Choirs Events and Happenings

Ways to keep up with us:

Website: *www.ChesneeChoirs.com*

Enter your email address to receive monthly updates straight to your inbox!

Remind text messages: Parents and students can subscribe to their singer's choral ensemble and receive Mrs. Brazell's reminders! Visit the Chesnee Choirs website for setup directions!

Google Calendar: On our website, you can download/subscribe to our calendar to your smart phone!!