



Huron High School Choirs

2017-2018 Choir Handbook

2727 Fuller Road Ann Arbor, MI 48105

(734)994-2096

Welcome to the Class of 2021!

Information Includes

- Contact Info
- Choir Website
- Choir Camp
- Dates for Concert, MSVMA Festival, and other important choir events
- Classroom Procedures and Expectations
- Curriculum and Grading
- Concert Attire
- Huron Music Association
- Student Choir Contract (To be signed by student and parent and returned)

Choir Teachers

Bonnie Kidd kidd@a2schools.org

Cantando, Bel Canto

Kent Wattleworth wattleworthk@a2schools.org

Cantare, A Cappella

Huron Music Office Phone: 734-994-2096

Huron Choir Website: www.a2huronchoir.weebly.com

Huron Music Association Website: www.huronmusicassociation.weebly.com

Curricular Ensembles:

There are currently four curricular ensembles at Ann Arbor Huron High School.

Cantando	Cantando is a treble choir grades 9-12. Most 9th grade treble voices sing in Cantando.
Cantare	Cantare is a tenor-bass choir, grades 9-12. 9th grade basses and tenors sing in Cantare.
Bel Canto	Bel Canto is the advanced treble SSAA ensemble open by audition only. This ensemble is open to qualified freshmen, but most members are in their second or third year in the program.
A Cappella	A Cappella is the advanced SATB choral ensemble open by audition only. This choir is open to singers grades 10-12 who have successfully completed an audition. Most members have completed at least one year in Bel Canto and Cantando/Cantare.

Extra-Curricular Ensembles

There are currently five extra-curricular ensembles at Ann Arbor Huron High School, comprised of students enrolled in the curricular ensembles.

Chamber Choir	Comprised of singers from A Cappella Choir who audition and are chosen for this treble and bass voiced ensemble. Maximum number of members is 20.
Pitch Please	(Mixed SATB voices)
Harmonics	(Treble voices only)
Treble Makers	(Treble voices only)
Clef Hangers	(Treble voices only)

Auditions for Extra-Curricular groups take place in September. Members of any extra-curricular ensemble are required to participate in a curricular choir at Huron. Auditions for Chamber Choir and the other four choirs take place in September.

Huron Choirs Performance Calendar

-Dress rehearsals and concerts are required for all choir students

-See the dates below for the concerts specific to your choir

-Please check the choir website for updates regularly as some information may change or be added.

Choir Camp - August 15-21, 2017

**Ann Arbor Symphony Holiday Pops Rehearsal, Monday, December 11, 6-8pm in Meyers Auditorium
(Bel Canto and A Cappella only)**

**Ann Arbor Symphony Holiday Pops Rehearsal, Thursday, December 14, 7-9pm at Hill Auditorium (downtown Ann Arbor)
(Bel Canto and A Cappella only)**

**Ann Arbor Symphony Holiday Pops Performance, Friday, December 15, 7pm at Hill Auditorium (will meet in Modern Language Building behind Hill)
(Bel Canto and A Cappella only)**

**Winter Concert - Wednesday, December 20th 7:30pm at Meyers Auditorium
(All Choirs)**

**District Solo and Ensemble Festival - Saturday, February 3rd, specific times TBA
(A Cappella and Chamber Choir, as well as any soloists or other ensembles who elect to perform)**

**Huron Musical - Friday-Sunday, February 9th-11th
(Open to anyone at Huron)**

**Choral Cavalcade - Wednesday, March 14th 7:30 pm at Meyers Auditorium
(All Choirs)**

**District Choral Festival - Tuesday through Thursday, March 13th-15th, specific day and times TBA
(Bel Canto and A Cappella only)**

**Spring Choir Concert - Wednesday, May 2nd 7:30pm at Meyers Auditorium
(All Choirs)**

**State S & E Festival - April 20th-21st Fordson HS, Dearborn, time and day TBA
(Singers who qualify from District S & E Ensemble)**

**State Choral Festival - April 26th-27th at Brighton HS, Brighton, time and day TBA
(Bel Canto and A Cappella Choir only)**

**Michigan Youth Arts Festival - May 11th Kalamazoo at WMU. Either 9am or 1pm
(Any qualifying soloist or ensemble)**

**Huron High School Graduation - Wednesday, June 6th - 2:00pm - 10:00pm
(Bel Canto and A Cappella only)**

CHOIR CAMP 2018!!!!

47th Annual Choir Camp at Interlochen - August 14-21, 2018

Our 47th Annual Choir Camp will be held at the world famous Interlochen Center for the Arts. Students stay together in cabins while enjoying a week of singing and camaraderie. Camp is an amazing opportunity for incoming 9th grade students to begin their transition to high school. Lifelong friendships are forged with new members who are paired with upper classmen mentors and guides. We strongly encourage everyone registered in the Huron Choral Program for Fall 2018 to attend camp with us.

Dates: August 14-21, 2018 @ Interlochen Center for the Arts

**Mandatory Registration for Camp is MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2018 1:00PM TO 3PM
AT HURON HIGH SCHOOL.**

Forms: Available mid March.

Payment: \$400.00 - Partial scholarships are available upon request.

Deadline: Registration forms and payment is due by June 1st, 2018.

Information for incoming freshman choir students

- 1. Counselors from Huron High School will be, or already have visited your middle school.**
- 2. Register for Cantando (all 9th treble voices) or Cantare (all 9th grade tenor and bass voices) on your course request forms.**
- 3. Attend Choral Cavalcade – Wednesday, March 14th to hear the choirs from Huron, Scarlett, and Tappan.**

4. Mrs. Kidd will visit Scarlett, Clague, and Tappan for Bel Canto auditions at the end of March. Sign ups will be available at your school with your choir director.
5. You may also contact Mrs. Kidd for an audition at Huron if you wish. Her contact information is: kidd@aaps.k12.mi.us.
6. Once registered for a choir at Huron, register for Choir Camp.
7. Contact Mr. Wattleworth or Mrs. Kidd for any questions you might have.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does choir fulfill the Fine Arts graduation requirement?

Yes, Each curricular choir course meets the State of Michigan Fine Arts graduation requirement.

2. Should Freshmen attend Choir Camp?

Yes! Freshmen are encouraged to attend this fantastic event! All members of the Huron Choirs are welcome to participate in our annual choir camp.

3. Can I enroll in both choir and orchestra/band at Huron?

Yes, we have many students who are enrolled in multiple music classes. This is one of the benefits of Huron's 7-period day.

4. I will be attending Community High next Fall. Can I still sing in the choirs at Huron?

Yes, we have many students who dual-enroll.

5. Can I sing in the choir and participate in Huron Players Theater group?

Certainly. Our students are involved in a myriad of after-school activities.

6. Do I have to audition for Bel Canto Choir?

Yes. An audition and permission of the conductor is required to be in this choir.

7. Do I have to audition for A Cappella Choir?

Yes. An audition and permission of the conductor is required. Freshmen are not accepted into A Cappella Choir.

Auditions for Bel Canto Choir

Auditions for Bel Canto Choir will be held in late March. Mrs. Kidd will travel to Tappan, Clague, and Scarlett to hear singers who wish to audition. An audition is required ONLY if a student wishes to be in Bel Canto. Cantando and Cantare choirs require NO audition to participate. Auditions will be comprised of a vocal range test, hearing the singer sing a song a cappella, testing sight-reading abilities in 4/4, 3/4, 6/8 time signatures, knowledge of major key signatures, solfege, dotted

rhythms, ability to subdivide the beat, and clarity of voice. Auditions will be arranged through each middle school director.

Performance Activities

The Huron Choirs perform several concerts each year in Meyer Auditorium. Students in advanced choirs attend District and State level events as well which are off-site.

Performance activities include but are not limited to:

Solo and Ensemble Festival

Solo and Ensemble Festival provides opportunities for interested singers to individually prepare a musical performance. Students perform solos for an adjudicator who provides feedback, instruction, and an overall performance rating. This festival takes place in early February. Students who wish to participate should be studying privately with a voice teacher in order to prepare the required literature for the festival. Chamber Choir performs at Solo and Ensemble Festival. If the singer and or Chamber Choir receives an excellent rating at District festival, they may participate in State Solo & Ensemble.

Michigan Youth Arts Festival

The very best solos and ensembles from all of Michigan who perform at State Solo & Ensemble Festival are selected to perform at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival in Kalamazoo at Western Michigan University.

Choral Cavalcade

The Huron choirs perform each year with some of the Ann Arbor middle school choirs.

Choral Festival

Bel Canto Choir and A Cappella Choir perform at District Choral Festival (March). If the choirs receive a rating of Excellent, they also have the opportunity to participate in State Choral Festival (April). The Huron Choirs consistently receive top ratings at Choral Festival.

Private Voice Study

Many of our students elect to study voice privately. We have a teacher who comes to Huron for this purpose if a student wishes to study at school. Contact Mrs. Kidd if you are interested in studying voice privately. Each year Huron offers two scholarships to choir students who want to take voice lessons. The scholarship will cover half the fee for the lessons. Interested students must fill out an application, which can be obtained from Mrs. Kidd or Mr. Wattleworth.

Class Philosophy on Assessment/Grading Policies

In a music performance class, each student is expected to do their best at all times. This involves punctuality and focused work every day in class. The student needs to positively engage in large group as well as small group rehearsal. Everyone is important to the success of the whole choir and is expected to reflect an understanding of personal responsibility for that success. As a performance class, attendance at all scheduled rehearsals and performances is required because it is the summative assessment for the class. We are successful as a result of our collaborative efforts. This is an important life lesson. The structure of this course, along with the broad range of the cultural emphasis aligns it well with the International Baccalaureate Learner Profile.

Grading

Class participation/effort
Attendance at required performances
Quizzes(written and vocal)
Tests

Huron Music Association

The Huron Music Association is our parent organization boosters organization. HMA supports all of the choirs, bands, and orchestras of the school. They perform fundraising activities to provide for activities, materials, services, and other necessities to conduct a high quality choral program at Huron High School. Any parent interested in helping HMA is eligible to volunteer for a variety of activities or be elected as a board member. HMA meetings are held once a month from September through June at 7:00pm in the band room at Huron.

International Baccalaureate Music Curriculum Statement

At Huron High School we recognize the importance of a balanced education and believe that the music curriculum plays a vital role in nourishing our students' intellectual, physical, social, and emotional growth. The IB music curriculum of Huron High School centers around fostering compassionate, thoughtful, and respectful communities of learning. Through the rehearsal process students are inspired to make musical discoveries through the use of inquiry and collaboration and learn empathy for those in their ensembles in our school, community, and world. Students communicate with others by creating music that elevates, enlightens, and inspire those around them

Huron Choir Handbook Contract

Student Name _____

Choir Class _____

Parent Cell Phone number _____

Home Phone number _____

I have read the choir handbook and understand all of the guidelines therein. We understand our responsibilities as students and parents and we accept the conditions stated in the choir handbook.

Student Signature

Parent Signature