

**Cleveland Heights High School  
Vocal Music Department  
Jesse Lange, Director  
J\_Lange@chuh.org**

**2024 - 25**



## ***HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT***

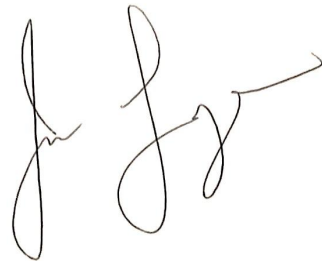
Cleveland Heights High School  
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Cleveland Heights, OH 44118  
Phone: 216-371-7101 ext. 3106  
[j\\_lange@chuh.org](mailto:j_lange@chuh.org)  
Mr. Jesse Lange, Director

Dear Parent or Guardian,

I ask that each student and his or her parents or guardians read this handbook and review the calendar of concert dates thoroughly. This handbook is intended to create a clear understanding of the expectations and responsibilities of the choir member and his or her parents or guardians. It is my hope that the information included will make participation more enjoyable and rewarding. It takes many things to make a successful music program: a positive attitude, open lines of communication, discipline and a willingness to work together are all key factors. We can be proud of the Heights High School Vocal Music Department. We will continue to strive to make the singing experience in this program a rewarding one for both the students and the audience. I am proud to serve as your choral music director and I am looking forward to an exciting year!

After reading through the handbook completely, please sign and return the attached commitment form, medical form and bond form (w/\$15 check/ensemble (a cappella and singers only) payable to CHHS).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jesse Lange', written in a cursive style.

Jesse Lange  
Vocal Music Director

## Purpose of the Heights High School Vocal Music Department

- To promote the highest possible standard of excellence in performance, professionalism, and pride in oneself, the choir, the Vocal Music Department, the school and the community.
- To support student learning and development as musicians and choristers.
- To provide a constructive and beneficial activity for student participation and expression.
- To encourage school spirit and pride.

## Student Objectives

- Practice and demonstrate proper classroom procedures and choral rehearsal techniques.
- Practice and demonstrate proper vocal technique (posture, breath management, resonance, vowel production, tone quality, etc.).
- Practice and demonstrate proper choral techniques (vowel unification, balance, precision of onset and release, clear diction, dynamic control, flexibility, articulation, timbre and blend).
- Demonstrate evidence of developing musicianship (interval recognition/production, tonal memory, rhythmic accuracy, phrasing, solfege, music reading ability).
- Rehearse and perform songs in several styles, genres and languages.
- Actively engage in public performances.

## Behavior and Conduct

- Members of the choir must remember that they are in a visible position, and as representatives of the school they shall behave in a dignified manner at all times.
- Attitude is important to the effectiveness of choir rehearsals and performances. The audience can see and often hear a lack of enthusiasm. The choir is a place where the problems of the outside world do not apply and the student can simply enjoy singing.
- Since the tongue is a major component of proper vowel/tonal formation, as well as proper diction, students are instructed to avoid piercing their tongues. Students may not wear any facial piercings for the performances. All piercings must be removed for performances. Failure to do so will result in sitting out the performance and losing all participation points with the corresponding impact upon grades.

## Course Requirements

- Participation in all rehearsals and concerts.
- Effort to improve vocal technique, choral technique and individual musicianship.
- Positive attitude towards and commitment to the choir as demonstrated by effort and achievement in rehearsal and performance.
- Minimum 2.0 GPA maintained to participate in field trips.
- Subscription to the Remind.com text messaging and email system

## Materials

- Pencil – *Pens are not acceptable.*
- Folders will be provided and are to be stored in the choir room.
- Proper attitude. Have it on the first day and make sure to hang on to it!
- Proper concert attire.

## Performance

- ALL PERFORMANCES ARE MANDATORY.
- Dress rehearsals are MANDATORY in order to participate in the concert.
  - Please refer to the attached Choral Events page for dates, times, and performing groups.
- All conflicts must be submitted in writing and signed by a parent or guardian well in advance of any concert event or no points will be awarded.
- Changes and additions to the scheduled events listed on the HHS Choral Events sheet will be made known as soon as possible.

## Grading

- Students are graded on a point system
- Points are awarded for participation during class, dress rehearsals and performances.
- Assessments will be both written and performance based.
- Student work on projects will be assessed using a rubric. Student performance on written work and homework will be determined using a percentage.

## Concert Attire

- Students who arrive inappropriately dressed for a concert will either be penalized academically or not be permitted to perform. This includes natural hair color.
- Singers and A Cappella Choir uniform bond fee due by September 20th, 2024.
- Uniforms will not be issued until your fees have been paid.

| Choir                  | Item  | Provided or Purchased |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------|
|                        |   |                       |
| Bass and Treble Chorus | Robes   | provided              |
|                        | Women's black dress shoes,<br>white dress shirt, black<br>pants/skirt, stockings<br>Men's long-sleeved button down<br>white shirt, black dress pant,<br>black dress shoe, black socks | purchased             |
|                        |   |                       |
| A Cappella & Singers   | Uniform   | provided              |
|                        | Women's character shoes and<br>stockings<br>Men's dress black shoes and<br>black socks, white short sleeve<br>undershirt  | purchased             |
|                        |   |                       |

## Uniform Cleaning

- Choir Women – Black Dresses
  - Dresses must be washed immediately after each concert, No Dry-Cleaning
  - Dresses are hand washable/gentle cycle in cold water. Hang on a plastic hanger to dry.
  - Do Not Put In The Dryer. Do Not Iron.
- Singer Women – Dresses
  - Dresses are not to be washed or dry-cleaned.
  - After each performance gently wipe the inside of the neck and underarms with a baby wipe.
  - Dresses are to be stored inside out in the garment bag.
- All Men
  - Shirts must be cleaned immediately after each concert. Machine wash/dry or dry-clean
  - Iron as necessary to eliminate all wrinkles.
  - All other men's piece must be kept clean and odor free. Dry-clean as necessary.

## Uniform Maintenance

- No alterations are to be made on any uniform piece. Contact Ms. Ader if you have a fit problem.
- All uniform pieces are numbered and assigned to specific students. NO pieces are to be traded or switched.
- Uniforms are distributed on a hanger, clean and in good condition. They must be returned the same way.

# 2024-2025 Heights High Choral Events

## Fall Semester:

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| August 29th - 7:30pm - 8:30pm        | Mandatory VAPO Meeting                                  |
| Mini Auditorium                      |   |
| October 17th - 3pm - 5pm             | Musical: Sitzprobe Rehearsal                            |
| October 21st - 3:30pm - 6:30pm       | Musical: Technical Rehearsal<br>(Leads & Lines, Act I)  |
| October 22th - 3:30pm - 6:30pm       | Musical: Technical Rehearsal<br>(Leads & Lines, Act II) |
| October 23th - 3:30pm - 6:30pm       | Musical: Technical Rehearsal                            |
| October 24th - 3:30pm - 6:30pm       | Musical: Technical Rehearsal                            |
| October 25th - 2pm - 4pm             | Dance Day   |
| October 28th, 29th, & 30th - 6pm-9pm | Musical: Dress Rehearsals                               |
| November 2nd - 2pm & 7pm             | Big Fish Performances                                   |
| November 3rd - 2pm & 7pm             | Big Fish Performances                                   |
| December 12th - 3:00pm - 4:30pm      | Dress Rehearsal for Winter Concert                      |
| December 13th - 7:00pm - 9:00pm      | Winter Concert  |

# 2024-2025 Heights High Choral Events

## Spring Semester:

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| January 30th - February 2nd     | Barbershop Tour to San Antonio, Texas<br>(Barbershoppers)                  |
| February 20th - 3:00pm - 4:30pm | Dress Rehearsal for Mid-Winter Concert                                     |
| February 21st - 7:00pm - 9:00pm | Mid-Winter Concert   |
| March 7th & 8th - TBD           | OMEA District Large Group Adjudicated Event                                |
| May 2nd & 3rd - TBD             | OMEA State Large Group Adjudicated Event<br>(TBD - potentially All Choirs) |
| May 15th - 3:00pm - 4:30pm      | Dress Rehearsals for the Spring Concert                                    |
| May 16th - 7:00pm - 9:00pm      | Spring Concert   |
| May 21st - 7:00pm - 8:00pm      | VMD Awards Banquet   |
| May 29th - 7:00pm - 9:00pm      | Commencement<br>(A Cappella)   |

# Uniform Bond Issue

## ***Only applies to A Cappella Choir and Singers***

### Bond Fee

- The fee is **\$15** per ensemble
- Fees are due no later than the end of September

The Board of Education of Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District has supplied the tuxedo/dress listed below to “student”. The student as principal, and the “parent or guardian” as surety is held firmly bound to the Board of Education of Cleveland Heights School District for the sum specified below.

The condition of this obligation is such that if the student shall return the said tuxedo/dress on demand to Cleveland Heights High School in good condition as when received, less reasonable wear and tear, then the obligation shall become null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| ALL STUDENTS             | - garment bag (\$20)   |
| SINGERS/BARBERSHOP WOMEN | - gold dress, black/gold dress, white/gold dress, inspire dress (\$200 ea)                         |
| CHOIR WOMEN              | - black dress (\$100)  |
| ALL MEN                  | - vests (\$70 ea.), ties (\$25 ea.), dress shirts (\$25 ea.), tux pants (\$75), tux jacket (\$150) |

Please fill out below and return this form to the vocal music department along the Bond Fee in cash or certified money order payable to CHHS.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_



## VMD MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM

Please print using black ink. This document must be photocopied.

### Student Information

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_, OH (zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Known Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

My student is allowed to receive over-the-counter medications (ie, advil, tums, etc.) from adult representatives of the school. **Circle** yes/no; **Initial** here \_\_\_\_\_

Prescription Medication: \_\_\_\_\_

Currently Being Treated for: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

### Emergency Notification Information

#### Primary Contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Home (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Work (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

#### Secondary Contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Home (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Work (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

### Health Plan Information

Health Plan Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number to verify coverage: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name & Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Student's Physician's Information

Physician's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, OH (zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

In case of emergency, I understand that every effort will be made to contact me. In the event I cannot be reached, I hereby give my permission to the physician selected by the group leader in charge, to secure appropriate treatment, which may include hospitalization, anesthesia, surgery or injections of medication for the above named student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(parent/guardian signature and relationship)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date signed)

# *Recognition and Commitment Form*

“We have read the Heights High School Choral Handbook and we understand the commitment we have made for the 2024-2025 school year. We will make every effort to lend our support to the Vocal Music Department.”

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email