

Berkley School District Fine Arts Options

CHOIR

Participation in choir is the best choice for the student who loves to sing! It is not necessary that students have a “perfect” voice; rather, a positive attitude and enjoyment of singing are all that are necessary for success in this class.

Choir is different from general music in that the emphasis is placed on singing. Students learn about vocal technique and the proper use of the singing voice – including breath support, tone production, blend and vowel formation. Note reading and basic music theory skills begin at this level and continue on into the middle and high school choirs. Sight reading is also begun at this level.

There are many performance opportunities available in choir. Each school has its own concert schedule which may include all-school concerts as well as concerts that feature just the choir. Because the choir students are the oldest in the building, there is great responsibility placed upon them to lead the singing in school assemblies and concerts as well as set a good musical example for the other students.

In order to help your child make an educated decision about his/her ensemble choice, we will be discussing options for next year with all fourth graders, evaluating their skills and also make a recommendation. Based on this evaluation (plus the recommendation given to your child at the Instrument Fitting Night) you and your child will be armed with all the information necessary to make the best decision for him/her. Our goal is to place your child in the class where he/she is best suited so that it will be a positive and successful fifth grade year.

If, at this time, your child is absolutely certain that choir is where he/she wants to be next year, it is not necessary to attend the Instrument Fitting Night. Simply jot a note to the choir teacher at your child’s school letting her know that your s/he will be joining choir next year. It’s that easy!

This information is presented to you to help you better understand the expectations in choir. Keep these things in mind when making a decision about which ensemble is right for you and your child. If you have any additional questions about choir, feel free to contact the choir teacher at your school.

Mrs. Guleserian – Angell
Ms Kimmerly – Pattengill
Ms Maiuri – Rogers
Mrs. Manuel – Burton
Ms Smith – Norup