

**North Andover Choral Program
2018 - 2019**



**Sara Durkin
Choral Director
Visual and Performing Arts Department Coordinator
North Andover High School
durkins@northandoverpublicschools.com**

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*North Andover Public
Schools
Music Department*

Dear NAHS Choral Department Members and Parents,

Welcome to an exciting year in the North Andover High School Choral Department. My name is Sara Durkin, and I am very excited to begin my eleventh year as the Choral Director at North Andover High School. It is my hope that you will not only gain musical skills and a lifelong appreciation of music, but also discipline, self-confidence, and a sense of pride and accomplishment through setting high standards and working toward our goal of excellence. Through our efforts, we will develop together as musicians and as people.

Our choral department strives to highlight how we experience music both similarly and differently as human beings. I am excited to continue to share my passion for using music as a vehicle for cross-cultural understanding and celebrating our common experiences, and creating opportunities for students to understand themselves and others through the medium of choral music.

This handbook will outline the commitments and responsibilities that are necessary to maintain and grow in our pursuit of choral excellence. Please read the contents together to find information on policies, expectations, rules, activities, the organizational structure, and calendar. This handbook, updated schedules, health and order forms for the 2018 - 2019 school year will be updated and available on the North Andover Music Association (NAMA) website at <http://www.northandovermusic.org> Please mark the dates on your calendar as attendance of every member is essential and mandatory in order to continue to achieve success. Please note this year all forms will be done on google docs.

Our music department will be using Remind and Google Classroom as ways to keep in contact with students and families. Please see the attached instructions to register for both platforms.

Becoming and being a member of the NAHS music program requires commitment, hard work and a positive attitude. The reward of being a member in this organization is not only your association with other students who share a sense of camaraderie and friendship, but also participating in the creation of a professional quality musical experience. We welcome you to another exciting year in the North Andover High School Music Program!

Sincerely,

Sara Durkin
Choral Director
Visual and Performing Arts Department Coordinator
North Andover High School
durkins@Northandoverpublicschools.com

North Andover Choral Department Handbook

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the North Andover High School Music Program is:

1. To develop strong musicianship and ensemble performance skills.
2. To develop character, leadership, teamwork and individual responsibility while maintaining high moral standards.
3. To inspire an understanding of other cultures, time periods, and people through music.
4. To provide entertainment and promote school spirit in cooperation with school and civic activities.
5. To compete/perform at the ensemble and individual levels.

Choral Department Offerings

All students at North Andover High School are welcomed to participate in the North Andover High School Choral Program.

Scarlet and Black Singers is the award-winning auditioned, honor level choir at North Andover High School. It meets daily during Period 2 for the entire school year. Students in this group perform a variety of college-level traditional, multicultural, folk, and contemporary chamber choral pieces at performances and competitions throughout the school year. All members are expected to attend additional weekly rehearsals. Auditions are held before course registration in March. All students in Scarlet and Black Singers are also members of the Concert Choir.

Concert Choir is one of the largest award-winning school choirs in the northeastern United States. It meet daily during Period 4 throughout the year and is open to all students through signing up during course registration or through speaking with your guidance counselor. Students in this group perform large-ensemble choral music in the traditional, multi-cultural, folk, and contemporary genres. All members of this group are expected to attend additional after-school rehearsals, performances, and competitions throughout the school year.

Treble Choir is the newest addition to our daily course offerings. This auditioned, award-winning honor level choir meets daily during Period 5 for the entire school year. Students will perform a variety of music representing different cultures, time periods, and styles in SSA (soprano 1, soprano 2, alto) and SSAA (soprano 1, soprano 2, alto 1, alto 2) voicings. Members are expected to attend weekly rehearsals. Auditions for this group are held in March. All students in the Treble Choir are also members of the Concert Choir.

Men's Choir is our after-school choir for any of our male singers wanting to enhance and expand their choral experience. This group meets weekly after school and is open without audition. No previous singing experience is necessary.

**North Andover Choral Department Student Leadership
2018– 2019**

President

Hannah Carroll

Vice-President

Courtney Francoeur

Secretary

Carly Fraser

Website/ Social Media Manager

Katie DiBlasio

Treasurer

Caroline Pace

Fundraising Coordinator

Nilan Rivers

Historian

Chloe Ostiguy

Performance Coordinator

Josh Holland

Coffee House Coordinator

Edward Nachamie

Concert Choir Liaison

Cara Grady

Men's Choir Liaison

Isaac Gliklich

Scarlet and Black Singers Liaison

Manal Boutissant

Treble Choir Liaison

Jordan Mongell

Soprano Section Leaders

Sophia Barbato

Lauren Brennan

Cat Jacques

Alana Kelly

Kaira Vo

Alto Section Leaders

Kadie Albrecht

Aleigh Gerron

Caitlin Howard

Carley Howe

Allison Thibert

Tenor Section Leaders

Eros Canetti

Derek Gilmore

Jack Muse

Liam Ross

Bass Section Leaders

Kyle Fielder

Frankie Hearst

George Lord

Parker Reinke

Classroom and Rehearsal Expectations

General:

Respect your fellow chorus members and the chorus room:

- Be KIND ALWAYS.
- Be ON TIME, be PREPARED. No excuses.
- Be positive! We all like to be around good vibes. Look for creative solutions. Have fun!
- No talking when your section is working. Keep it to whispers when your section is not working.
- We all share the same space in the chorus room.
 - No writing on the whiteboards
 - No playing the big piano without asking
 - PICK UP TRASH whether it's yours or not
 - NO EATING or DRINKING ANYTHING OTHER THAN WATER
 - NO GUM
 - Look out for the property of others

Classroom Attendance:

- During school hours, passes are required for tardiness.
- Students should be IN their seats WITH their music 5 minutes after the late bell.
- Bathroom, Water, etc. must be completed before or after class, or between pieces if it is an emergency. Since we are such a large group, please do not disrupt the flow of class unless it is necessary.

Information:

- YOU are accountable for information given in rehearsal and information that is posted on the bulletin board or in the chorus room. Pay attention!

Cell Phones:

- Cell phones are not allowed in the risers during rehearsals or in any performance setting.

Required Materials:

Provided Materials:

- Music-- students are responsible for having their OWN music in class EVERY DAY
- Choral uniform (components listed below)

Each student must provide the following materials:

- Black Binder (1" for S&B and TC members, ½" for CC members)
- Pencil IN the binder (VERY important)

Homework:

- Home practice is required to learn, retain, and memorize our music. MP3s of every part will be posted in GoogleClassroom.
- It is expected that students practice their music for at least 5-15 minutes per day at home.

Rehearsal and Sectional Attendance

Students and their families are asked to strictly adhere to the following rules regarding attendance.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY AS IT CONTAINS UPDATED POLICIES:

Students are GRADED on their attendance at our REHEARSALS, SECTIONALS, EVENTS, AND PERFORMANCES.

1. Performances/ Events:

- All performances and events are considered to be mandatory and are a culmination of our work throughout a set period of time unless otherwise noted. Students receive a GRADE for their attendance at performances and events.
- We are only as strong as when we are all together.
- The NASHVILLE trip is NOT a mandatory performance event.

2. Rehearsals

- Since we have three choirs and we all sing together, it is important to rehearse together. The only time everyone can be together is after school hours.
- All rehearsals are mandatory and are part of student grades.
- Scarlet and Black Singers and Treble Choir have weekly rehearsals
- Regular Concert Choir rehearsals are scheduled typically once every 2-3 weeks.
- Dress Rehearsals are in preparation for our larger-scale performances and competitions. These are held in the late afternoon/ evening, which allows for longer and more in depth practice time.

3. Sectionals:

- “Sectionals” refer to separate rehearsals for each “section” isolated from the rest of the group. Throughout the year, sectionals occur weekly. Each “section” will agree upon a weekly sectional rehearsal time for the entire school year.
- Sectionals are usually 20-30 minutes in duration and take place during after-school hours at NAHS.
- Sectional rehearsals aid in the development of blend and balance within sections as well as the overall ensemble.
- Sectionals are mandatory; students must attend a minimum of 2 SECTIONALS PER MONTH as part of their GRADE. **THIS IS A NEW POLICY.**

4. Scheduling:

- READ the date sheet provided at the end of this handbook CAREFULLY.
- WORK SCHEDULES to be fixed around our rehearsals. ALL students need to be held to the SAME standard out of fairness to the group.
- APPOINTMENTS should be scheduled around our rehearsals.
- If a student needs a ride to/ from rehearsal, they should ask their SECTION LEADER who will help find them a ride from a responsible student.
- In addition to the date sheet (provided at the end of this handbook), schedules will be posted on the bulletin board in the front of the chorus room and on the whiteboard in the classroom, on the North Andover Music Association (NAMA) website

(www.northandovermusic.org), and weekly schedule reminders will be sent out through the REMIND APP (instructions provided at the end of this handbook). Students are responsible for their knowledge of and attendance at all required activities.

3. Sports:

- REHEARSALS take priority over a sport practice, GAMES take priority over a regular rehearsal, DRESS REHEARSALS and PERFORMANCES are priority over practices, and if a conflict with a GAME, please discuss ASAP with Mrs. Durkin to figure out a plan.
- Since our rehearsals are so infrequent compared to sport practices, students are expected to attend rehearsal and THEN go to their sport. Mrs. Durkin will speak with coaches if necessary.
- Also, remember that chorus is a graded class and sports are extracurricular.

4. Not In Class:

- If you are not in class for the trimester, you are still welcome and encouraged to participate in our choir activities.
- In order to be eligible to participate, you must attend sectionals and rehearsals as outlined in our policies, or you will not be able to perform with the group.
- Make sure you join the GoogleClassroom for practice mp3s and information!

5. Unable to Attend:

- As described above, every effort must be made to attend all rehearsals and events. Work, sports, and appointments should be adjusted to work around rehearsals and performances.
- In the event of a non-movable conflict (family event, etc.), a note FROM HOME describing the absence must be provided with the date sheet, or at least ONE WEEK before a rehearsal or TWO WEEKS before a dress rehearsal to be excused. **THIS IS A NEW POLICY.**
- Verbal or telling a friend to “tell Mrs. Durkin that I can’t come” are not valid excuses.
- If a last-minute issue arises that will affect attendance, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the director **BEFORE** rehearsal. Then, the student must bring a note (signed by parent/doctor) upon return.
- Every attempt will be made to be fair and understanding in the event of unusual circumstances. We are here to support you, so you need to be clear and upfront with any attendance concerns.
- Any unexcused absence (or late notice) from a rehearsal or performance results in the lowering of the term grade.
- Unexcused absences from dress rehearsals may result in becoming ineligible to participate in the upcoming performance out of fairness to the rest of the choir. **THIS IS A NEW POLICY.**
- **Rationale:** if we know about the absence ahead of time, we can work around the conflict (change rehearsal timing/ days/ etc.). If it is too late notice, we cannot make any adjustments. We are strongest when we are together, and everyone is responsible for

their equal contribution to our group. Your absence means that you miss important information, changes, and corrections to our music that everyone else has worked hard to implement. Having EVERY MEMBER present is crucial to ensure that one person does not make mistakes that everyone else worked hard to correct, having a negative impact on the rest of the group. Please be fair to your fellow chorus members and classmates and know that this is **about the WE, not the ME.**

Dress Code

Casual Performances

Jeans and NICE black, red, or white shirts.

T-shirts, leggings, sweatpants, etc. are not acceptable for any performance.

Concerts, Competitions, and Formal Performances

Dresses:

Uniform dresses (provided, hemmed to the top of the shoe)

Red ribbon (provided)

Black tights/ knee highs

Black FLATS (heels, sneakers, boots, and sandals are not acceptable)

No JEWELRY other than earrings

Hair pulled off of face

Tuxedos:

Tuxedo (provided: black pants, white dress shirt, black vest, red tie, jacket for small group members)

Black socks

Black dress shoes (NO sneakers!)

All students are required to attend one day of uniform fittings. Students are expected to stay in uniform at all performances unless otherwise instructed.

Performance/Trip Conduct

When we are in a performance situation either in or outside of NAHS, every individual is representing the chorus, Mrs. Durkin, our music program, North Andover High School, and the town of North Andover. It is expected that all members behave and conduct themselves in a way that is mature, responsible, courteous, respectful, and professional. The impression set forth impacts the year's activities and the success of our other musical organizations. Anything done by a single member reflects on the entire organization, our leaders, and the school community.

Report:

- All members are to report to the chorus room at the designated time, warm-up, and load the bus.
- It is important to arrive by the designated time so you do not miss the bus. We cannot always wait for everyone because of set performance times, etc. Be considerate of your fellow choir members and please be on time.

Transportation:

- Transportation will be provided by bus if needed. Unless otherwise designated, every student will be expected to ride the bus to all choral events.
- School policy regarding conduct while riding a bus is applicable and will be enforced. Any student who does not follow the bus rules will have his/her parents/guardians contacted immediately and will be subject to consequences per the NAHS school-wide disciplinary policy. Students in violation of such policies may be subject to removal from a musical event and/or removal from the NAHS music department courses and programming.

Events:

- At football games, the chorus should meet in the chorus room before the performance and stay with the chorus until after the National Anthem has been performed. Everyone is then free to sit wherever/ with whomever they choose. Remember: you are always representing the NAHS Chorus Department when at a game. Please behave accordingly.
- Students are expected to watch other groups in the auditorium at all performances. Leaving before the concert is over or not coming until your performance is unacceptable since it is disrespectful to the other performers.
- Enter and exit performance halls only in between group performances. If you must leave the performance hall before a performance is over, ONLY do so in between pieces. Leaving while someone else is considered disrespectful to the performers.
- NO CELL PHONES in the auditorium or performance venue.

Disciplinary Code

Any member found to be breaking any rule from the North Andover Choral Handbook or the North Andover High School Handbook will be referred to the director and, when appropriate, the school administration for disciplinary action. Membership in any of the Scarlet Knight music ensembles may be terminated at any time by the director with the approval of the administration.

VISIT www.northandovermusic.org for updates!

Be Kind, Be Respectful, Be Inspiring.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

.....I have read and agree to the policies outlined in the NAHS Choral Department Handbook.

.....I have read and understand the **UPDATED** attendance expectations outlined in the handbook.

.....I understand that I will be held responsible to the outlined policies, including the outside of school rehearsals and performances.

.....I have read and understand the performance dress code. I understand there is a \$20 uniform fee payable to the North Andover Music Association for maintenance of the uniform. I have filled out the NAMA form to order my uniform with the link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfc0VxJ4yPmGBaQOLBoQ_O93PpKVrpnUhSPEm2KkIX7EJgp4A/viewform

.....I have signed up for the REMIND so I can receive schedule notifications:

Concert Choir: <https://www.remind.com/join/g9dh7>

Treble Choir: <https://www.remind.com/join/9eg77e> (also join CC)

Scarlet and Black Singers: <https://www.remind.com/join/8k4gh8> (also join CC)

..... I have printed and filled out the Health Card:

<https://northandovermusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/HealthFormMusicDept1718.pdf>

..... I have read the Date Sheet and have put the dates into my personal and family calendars.

Updates can be found at: www.northandovermusic.org

..... I have provided a note for any known conflicts for rehearsals or concerts.

.....
Student Printed Name

.....
Student Signature

.....
Parent Printed Name

.....
Parent Signature

PLEASE RETURN TO MRS. DURKIN BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2018 for a grade

Fall Schedule

1. Please see the fall schedule below. Note that some changes/ adjustments may be made as needed as we go through the year. They will be put out in the Remind and also updated on the NAMA website.
2. Please provide a note with this signature form for any known conflicts per the Choral Handbook. Please read the **UPDATED** attendance section if you haven't done so yet.
3. If you are involved in a sport, please provide Mrs. Durkin with your game schedule ASAP.
4. Please save the calendar. Weekly notices will be sent home through the Remind app (codes provided in this handbook).

.....

I have read the provided schedule, and have read and understand the attendance policy. I understand that I am responsible for attending all rehearsals and performances. I have/ will provide documentation in a timely manner for all unavoidable absences.

I also understand that sometimes rehearsals need to be changed due to snow, etc. I will make every effort to accommodate for any changes out of fairness to the group.

.....

Student Name

.....

Parent Name

.....

Student Signature

.....

Parent Signature

Please return to by Friday, September 7 for a grade

Date	Event	Time	Groups
Monday, 9/10	Men's Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	MC
Tuesday, 9/11	Scarlet and Black Singers Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	S&B
Thursday, 9/13	Treble Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	TC
Friday, 9/14	Football Game	6:15pm	S&B Only
Monday, 9/17	Men's Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	MC
	Optional Nashville Trip Info Meeting	5:30pm	Parents and Students
Tuesday, 9/18	Scarlet and Black Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	S&B
Thursday, 9/20	Concert Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	ALL CHOIRS
Friday, 9/21	Recording for #avoice4peace	5:00pm	ALL CHOIRS
	National Anthem @ Football Game	7:00pm	ALL CHOIRS
Monday, 9/24	Men's Choir	2:20- 3:00	MC
Tuesday, 9/25	Scarlet and Black Singers Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	S&B
Thursday, 9/27	Treble Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	TC
Friday, 9/28	National Anthem @ Football Game	6:00pm	ALL CHOIRS
Saturday, 9/29	National Anthem @ NESBA	3:15pm	S&B Only
Monday, 10/1	Men's Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	MC
Tuesday, 10/2	Concert Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	ALL CHOIRS
Thursday, 10/4	Treble Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	TC
Friday, 10/5	8th Grade Night @ Football Game	6:00pm	ALL CHOIRS
Tuesday, 10/9	Scarlet and Black Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	S&B
Thursday, 10/11	Treble Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	TC
Friday, 10/12	National Anthem @ Football Game	6:00pm	ALL CHOIRS
Monday, 10/15	Men's Choir	2:20- 3:00	MC
Tuesday, 10/16	Scarlet and Black Singers Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	S&B
Thursday, 10/18	Concert Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	ALL CHOIRS
Monday, 10/22	Men's Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	MC
Tuesday, 10/23	Scarlet and Black Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	S&B
Thursday, 10/25	Treble Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	TC
Friday, 10/26	Possible Football Playoff Game	TBA	TBA
Monday, 10/29	Men's Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	MC
Tuesday, 10/30	Scarlet and Black Singers Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	S&B
Thursday, 11/1	Concert Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	ALL CHOIRS
Friday, 11/2	Possible Football Playoff Game	TBA	TBA
Monday, 11/5	Men's Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	MC
Thursday, 11/8	Treble Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	TC
Friday, 11/9	Possible Football Playoff Game	TBA	TBA
Monday, 11/12	Men's Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	MC
Tuesday, 11/13	Scarlet and Black Singers Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	S&B
Thursday, 11/15	Treble Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	TC
Friday, 11/16	Possible Football Playoff Game	TBA	TBA
Saturday, 11/17	Senior District Auditions	TBA	Those who audition
Monday, 11/19	Men's Choir Rehearsal	2:20- 3:00	MC

Tuesday, 11/20	SMALL GROUP REHEARSALS		
	Treble Choir	2:30- 4:00	
	Scarlet and Black Singers	4:00- 5:30	
Monday, 11/26	Men's Choir	2:20- 3:30	MC
Tuesday, 11/27	SMALL GROUP IF NEEDED		
Thursday, 11/29	DRESS REHEARSALS		
	Scarlet and Black Singers	2:30- 4:00	
	Concert Choir	4:00- 6:00	
	Treble Choir	6:00- 7:30	
Friday, 11/30	SMALL GROUP IF NEEDED	After Finals	
Monday, 12/3	Men's Choir	2:20- 3:30	
Tuesday, 12/4	DRESS REHEARSALS		
	Treble Choir	4:30- 5:45	
	Concert Choir	5:45- 7:00	
	Scarlet and Black Singers	7:00- 8:15	
Thursday, 12/6	WINTER CONCERT		7:00