

VOCAL MUSIC 2011/2012

Welcome to a new school year. I plan to help keep you, the public, updated about things that are going on in the vocal music department through the use of the school's web site and through articles in the local newspapers as well as the school newsletter. To begin the year, the members of the high school chorus have had voice placements, received robe assignments, and have gotten all kinds of details taken care of that come with the beginning of a new year. A packet was sent home with all chorus members that contains a lot of important information. This info was covered with the singers in class and the students are to go over it with their parents. The slip at the bottom of the cover page then needs to be signed and returned to Mrs. Hemm at the school by Aug. 29th at the latest. If you have a student in chorus and have not yet seen this packet, please ask them about it.

Six members of the chorus attended a summer music camp at Wartburg College in Waverly in early August to help them prepare for all-state auditions which will be held in October. Practices have begun after school for these six students plus one additional student that was not able to attend the summer camp. These singers will be attending a pre-rehearsal in Belmond on September 10th, a festival at UNI October 2nd and 3rd, and a rehearsal at Music Man Square Oct. 9th to continue preparations for the auditions. Making it into all-state is an extremely difficult task to accomplish and everything these students can do to help prepare them for this challenge is a definite plus. Those choosing to try out for all-state this year are: Tyler Conlon, Nicole Helmers, Evan Meester, Allison Novotney, Michelle Stille, Celeste Staudt, and Sydney Staudt. Good luck to them as they spend many hours working towards auditions in the hope of being selected for the All-State Festival Chorus 2011.

The West Fork Music Boosters are sponsoring a trip to see the Broadway Musical "Wicked" in Des Moines on Sunday, Nov. 20th. We will be attending a 1:00 p.m. matinee. Fund raisers will be held for the West Fork music students to get the cost of their tickets as low as possible. The first big fund raiser dedicated solely to raising funds toward this cause will be a supper before the football game on Friday, October 7th. This trip will be opened up to the community as well, so be watching and listening for further information on this. Adult tickets will be \$63.

The concession stand during football games is a yearly fund raiser for the music boosters. They raise money to help support the music department with items not covered in the school budget. They will be helping with the cost of the student tickets to "Wicked", for example, and have contributed in numerous ways throughout the years, including video equipment, file storage cabinets (project in progress), new instruments, group t-shirts for the chorus and band, uniforms, senior awards and much more. If anyone would like to help out by working in the concession stand this season, there are 10 games that need to be covered and your help would be very welcomed. Just let Mrs. Hemm know. The students are also requested to sign up.

All concert and contest dates along with various festivals and other opportunities for the students are listed in the packet mentioned above and I have included them here as well so all will be aware of them as the year progresses. These dates are also on the school calendar. (One exception: The "Wicked" performance which was decided on after the dates were published.) Check this site often to get the latest and stay on top of the activities that are happening in the vocal music department this year.

Special elementary music happenings will also be posted. Thanks for your interest and support.

H.S. VOCAL IMPORTANT DATES—2011-2012

* means the performance is **REQUIRED**

SEPTEMBER:

Sat., Sept. 10th—Pre all-state district rehearsal in Belmond in a.m.

OCTOBER:

Sun. & Mon., Oct. 2nd & 3rd—UNI Vocal Arts Festival—all-state singers

Sat., Oct. 8th—Real Men Sing Festival at Wartburg College in Waverly

Sun., Oct. 9th—All-state clinic in Mason City at Music Man Square

Sat., Oct. 22nd—All-state auditions in Hampton

***THURSDAY, OCT. 27th—FALL VOCAL VARIETY SHOW**

NOVEMBER:

Mon., Nov. 7th—NCICDA 7-12 Vocal Festival at NIACC

Thurs.-Sat., Nov. 17th-19th—All-state festival at Ames

Sun., Nov. 20th—Broadway Musical “Wicked” in Des Moines

DECEMBER:

(Thurs., Dec. 1st—Sheffield K-3 Elementary Winter Concert)

***MONDAY, DEC. 12th—WINTER CONCERT—BAND and VOCAL**

JANUARY:

Sun. & Mon., Jan. 8th & 9th—Dorian Vocal Festival at Luther College in Decorah

Sat., Jan. 14th—Meistersinger Vocal Festival at Wartburg College in Waverly

FEBRUARY:

Sun., Feb. 19th—VIP Community Variety Show

MARCH:

***THURSDAY, MARCH 1st—POPS CONCERT—BAND and VOCAL**

Fri., March 9th—Young Performing Artists presentation/Franklin Co. Arts Council

Sat., March 31st—State Small Group Music Contest

APRIL:

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE

MAY:

(Tues., May 1st—Sheffield K-3 Elementary Spring Concert)

***SATURDAY, MAY 5th—STATE LARGE GROUP MUSIC CONTEST**

***TUESDAY, MAY 8th—FINE ARTS NIGHT**

Wed., May 9th—Baccalaureate (small group)

Sun., May 13th—Graduation (small group)