**Inversions (Senior Vocal Jazz) – VJZ20G, VJZ30S, VJZ40S**

Instructor: Mrs. Melanie Urichuk Email: [melanie.urichuk@gvsd.ca](mailto:melanie.urichuk@gvsd.ca)

<http://gvcchoir.weebly.com>

**Course Description**

This is an auditioned group of singers from Grades 10, 11, and 12. This group focuses on performances of Jazz and contemporary styles, and subscribes to the provincially approved Vocal Jazz curriculum. The group performs frequently, at a variety of functions. Students in this group are animated, energetic performers, who can learn music quickly and can sing independently.

*“The overarching goal of the music curriculum is to support, nurture, and inspire the growth of every* ***student as a music maker****. Music-making is valued as* ***an individual and a collective experience****.”*

- Manitoba Grade 9 – 12 Music Curriculum Framework (2013 Draft)

**Primary Resources**

Choral Scores/Lead Sheets

Binder

Pencil (NOT PEN!)

**Performance Opportunities**

It is expected that all students will have regular attendance for rehearsals and performances. Performances throughout the year may include:

* Choralfest – November TBA – Winnipeg
* Winter Concert
* Brandon Jazz Festival
* Spring Concert
* Jazz Café
* Vocal Jazz Workshop
* Senior Tour
* May 25th – Concert with Virden Collegiate Institute \*TENTATIVE
* Other performances as they arise (i.e. concerts by invitation, community events, etc.)

**Learning Objectives:**

There are four Essential Learning Areas in Manitoba’s Grade 9-12 Music Framework. These four ELA’s are intended to centre around the student as an active and full participant in music-making.

Essential Learning Areas:

1. Music Language and Skills
2. Creative Expression in Music
3. Music and Context
4. Perception, Reflection, and Response in Music

Based on these four ELA’s, students should be able to use musical tools, to communicate creatively and expressively, connect to context, and reflect on their learning.

**Assessment Plan:**

**Late policy:**

Each assignment will be given a due date. A late penalty of up to ***2% per day*** may be assessed up to the date assignments are returned, at which point an alternative assignment may be required. There will also be absolute cut off dates for each unit, which will usually correspond to the final unit test.

Assessment is ongoing during all choir classes. In addition to traditional written assignments and tests, students will be assessed on each of the four Essential Learning Areas, as discussed above. Some of this assessment will be observational evidence based on the student’s demonstrated abilities and involvement during class/rehearsal time.

The mark breakdown is as follows:

* **Music Language and Skills**  30%  
  Technical abilities, literacy, theory
* **Creative Expression in Music** 20%  
  Acting through song, conveying appropriate mood
* **Music and Context** 20%  
  Music History/Music and Culture assignments
* **Perception, Reflection, and Response in Music**  20%  
  Listening Logs, program notes, ensemble skills
* **Practice Logs**  10%  
  Students will submit a weekly practice log detailing  
  personal goals, and how they will work to reach those goals.  
  (May be submitted via the website)

All course materials will be labeled with the ELA to which the marks will be allotted.

You will be able to check in at any time on PowerSchool for an update on your mark. I will do my best to keep the GradeBook as up to date as possible.

**Expectations**

The expectations of student attitude, behaviour and commitment are as follows:

1. Students will have a mature outlook on their participation in and commitment to the Senior Choir program. They will accept the responsibility for their performance in and commitment to this course.
2. Students will attend classes prepared with the necessary materials to complete the work at hand. Students will complete assignments thoroughly and thoughtfully, and will hand them in on time.
3. Students are expected to give their best effort for every piece of music. It is the student’s responsibility to communicate each piece to the best of their ability i.e. from the heart.
4. Students are expected to maintain sheet music, portfolios, theory and sight-reading books. These are considered our texts. Always bring your choral binder and pencil to class.
5. Students will attend all classes, rehearsals, and performances. Students are expected to arrange their schedules accordingly. Every member of the choir is vital to the entire group’s success. A positive and professional approach to this art form will greatly enhance individual and group learning.
6. All students are responsible for creating an accepting and safe learning environment where every student can thrive.
7. Students will take an active role in their learning by marking their music, following along with parts, asking questions, and spending personal time listening to recordings or rehearsing at home. Students are expected to regularly look on the classroom website for coming events, reminders, and news.

**Contact Information**

Please use the following methods to contact me.

Email: [melanie.urichuk@gvsd.ca](mailto:melanie.urichuk@gvsd.ca)

Telephone: 325-8008

**PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION**

***Please read the information provided on all three pages of the Course Outline, then tear off this last page, sign, and return to school this week.***

Email: [melanie.urichuk@gvsd.ca](mailto:melanie.urichuk@gvsd.ca)

Phone: 325-8008

At GVC, we use a Student Information program called PowerSchool, which is also accessed through our school website (gvc.gvsd.ca). From here, you can always be kept up to date with your child’s classes.

Please sign below and send this form back to school with your child to acknowledge that you have read and understood the course outline. Thank you!

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature