**Curriculum**

**8th Grade Choir**

**Course Overview**

Singing a varied repertoire of one and two-part music in ensemble. This may include (but not limited to) classical and popular songs, choral selections from Broadway shows and traditional Christmas carols and associated Holiday music. The course includes reading and notating Music as well as understanding music in relation to history and culture.

**Department Standards**

* Students will sing alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
* Students will perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
* Students will improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
* Students will compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.
* Students will read and notate music.
* Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music.
* Students will evaluate music and music performances.
* Students will understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
* Students will understand music in relation to history and culture.

**Benchmarks**:

* Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of music through performance
* Demonstrate appropriate rehearsal and performance behaviour with a readiness to work as a team member
* Demonstrate knowledge and basic understanding of musical theory and sight-reading
* Communicate an awareness of music history and cultural heritage through sensitive performance

**Performance Indicators**

* Ability to work as a team member
* Participation in concert performances
* Improvement in sight-reading skills

**Assessments**

Observation and performance

**Core Topics**

Musical Literacy (Rhythm, Meter, Pitch)

Posture and Breathing

Diction

Intonation

Pitches and Intervals

Musical Terms and Score Markings

Descriptive Vocabulary and Expressions

Italian Terms

Performance TechniquesHealthy tone production

Holding an independent line

Balance and blending

Singing in two or more parts

**Specific Content**

Discover Broadway Series (published by Hal Leonard)

Sing Together (Appleby and Fowler)

The Art of Song (Peters)

Voiceworks (Hunt)

Junior Voiceworks (Hunt)

Voiceworks at Christmas (Hunt)

Choral Anthology (Novello Youth Chorals)

Little Voices Series (Turner, published by Novello)

*Friday Afternoons* (Britten)

**Resources**

Choir Builders (Rollo Dilworth)

The Choral Approach to Sight-Singing (Crocker & Eilers)

The Kodaly Method

DVD, CD, Internet