

Van Hoosen Middle School Choirs

About the Choirs

Established at the time the school was built, the Van Hoosen Middle School Choirs are comprised of grade-level ensembles which were taught by Betsy Marsh, Van Hoosen Choir Director Emeritus and have continued under its current director, Thomas Blue.

The choirs (which include a 6th Grade Boys Choir, a 6th Grade Girls Choir and a concert choir of 7th and 8th Grade Boys/ Girls) are the heart and foundation of the choir program.

The vocal music students are involved in school performances, community performances, and Michigan School Vocal Music Association activities including district and state solo/ensemble festival, district and state choral festival.

The Van Hoosen Middle School Choirs have consistently received “superior” and “excellent” performance ratings at MSVMA sponsored festivals.



6th Grade Girls Choir is a (SA) vocal ensemble designed for middle school girls voices. Students will receive vocal and general music training in the various aspects of voice development (the changing female voice), choral singing, stage presence, sight-singing and music theory and other classroom activities designed to incorporate the National Standards in Music. These activities prepare the chorus for participation in all concerts for the school and greater Rochester Community.

6th Grade Boys Choir is a (TB) vocal ensemble designed for middle school boys voices. Students will receive vocal and general music training in the various aspects of voice development (the changing male voice), choral singing, stage presence, sight-singing and music theory and other classroom activities designed to incorporate the National Standards in Music. These activities prepare the chorus for participation in all concerts for the school and greater Rochester Community.



7th/8th Grade Choir is a (SATB) vocal ensemble that performs a variety of choral music. This is a group of students who have the desire to pursue more advanced skills of ensemble performance. Each student will demonstrate knowledge of basic music theory, sight-singing and ensemble skill through classroom activities that are designed to incorporate the National Standards in music. This ensemble participates in all concerts, MSVMA Solo & Ensemble and District and State Choral Festival. These activities prepare the chorus for participation in all concerts for the school and greater Rochester Community.



9th Grade Concert Choir (1.0 credit) is a (SATB) vocal ensemble that performs a variety of choral music. This is a group of students who have the desire to pursue more advanced skills of ensemble performance. Each student will demonstrate knowledge of basic music theory, sight-singing and ensemble skill through classroom activities that are designed to incorporate the National Standards in music. This ensemble participates in all concerts, MSVMA Solo & Ensemble and District and State Choral Festival. These activities prepare the chorus for participation in all concerts for the school and greater Rochester Community.



The Benefits of Music

Participation in music provides opportunities for students to grow musically, emotionally, and socially. Few other middle school activities present such opportunities for complete personal development. The extrinsic/ intrinsic values of participation include:

- ◆ whole brain development
- ◆ development of multiple intelligences
- ◆ Increased academic performance
- ◆ High expectations
- ◆ High musical rigor
- ◆ Performance opportunities
- ◆ Individual musical development
- ◆ Musical enjoyment & appreciation
- ◆ Teamwork
- ◆ Commitment
- ◆ Responsibility
- ◆ Leadership
- ◆ Time management
- ◆ Goal setting
- ◆ Smooth transition into high school
- ◆ Well roundedness
- ◆ Family atmosphere & friendships
- ◆ Sense of belonging
- ◆ Confidence & self-esteem
- ◆ Memorable experiences
- ◆ Development of social skills
- ◆ Stress management
- ◆ Self-discipline
- ◆ Excellence
- ◆ Motivation
- ◆ Physical fitness

Parent Support

A successful choir program needs the support and involvement of all parents. Successful students have a family support system and our choir family needs one as well.

Van Hoosen Parents for Choral Music (VHPFCM) is the parent support group for the Van Hoosen Middle School Choirs. Anyone that has a student in choir is a choir supporter. The primary objectives are to:

- ◆ Maintain an enthusiastic interest in the many facets of the program
- ◆ Lend all possible support to the program and students
- ◆ Provide social programs, publicity, connection to the greater Rochester community
- ◆ Cooperate with the director, school administration, and school board
- ◆ Build and maintain an organization which will help promote the activities of the program

VHPFCM provides several experiences and opportunities to students including:

- ◆ Scholarships
- ◆ Fundraising
- ◆ Guest Clinicians/ Conductors
- ◆ Equipment/ Uniform Purchases
- ◆ Performance/ Travel

Van Hoosen Middle School

Presents



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<http://www.rochester.k12.mi.us/van-hoosen-middle-school/pages/67456/blue>



Rochester Community Schools