

## CLASSICAL VOICE CONSERVATORY

YEAR	FALL	SPRING
<b>Year 1</b>	Concert Choir, Class Voice, Beginning Musicianship	Concert Choir, Class Voice, Beginning Musicianship
<b>Year 2</b>	Concert Choir, Class Voice, Beginning Musicianship, Opera From Scratch	Concert Choir, Class Voice, Beginning Musicianship, Opera From Scratch
<b>Year 3</b>	Theory I, Theory II, Movement/Improvisation Class, Women's Chorus, Men's Chorus, Art Song Literature, Italian Diction, Piano Class I	Theory I, Theory II, Movement/Improvisation Class, Women's Chorus, Men's Chorus, Art Song Literature, German Diction, Piano Class I
<b>Year 4</b>	Theory I, Theory II, Theory III, Vocal Forum, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, On Stage!, Piano Class II, Bel Canto Singers, Song Composition, Piano-Vocal Collaboration	Theory I, Theory II, Theory III, Vocal Forum, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, On Stage! , Piano Class II, Bel Canto Singers, Song Composition, Piano-Vocal Collaboration
<b>Year 5</b>	Theory I, Theory II, Theory III, Theory IV, Vocal Forum, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, Chamber Singers, Opera Scenes, Jazz Voice Bel Canto Singers, Music History	Theory I, Theory II, Theory III, Theory IV, Vocal Forum, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, Chamber Singers, Opera Scenes, Jazz Voice, Bel Canto Singers, Music History
<b>Year 6</b>	Theory I, Theory II, Theory III, Theory IV, Vocal Forum, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, Chamber Singers, Opera Scenes, Jazz Voice Bel Canto Singers, Conducting	Theory I, Theory II, Theory III, Theory IV, Vocal Forum, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, Chamber Singers, Opera Scenes, Jazz Voice Bel Canto Singers, Conducting

## CLASSICAL VOICE CONSERVATORY

### ACTING

This class is focused on Acting for the Singer. Students learn additional acting techniques (building on material learned in Movement Class) to add depth to solo and group vocal performances as well as monologue and scene work. Technical elements introduced in this course will help students learn how to carry themselves with poise through the interview and audition process while building a monologue repertoire and acting-focused skill set.

### ART SONG LITERATURE

This course is designed to expand each student's knowledge of solo and small ensemble art song literature. In-class rehearsal and a Fall and Spring recital strengthen each student's rehearsal and performance skills and create opportunities to improve overall vocal technique and musicianship.

### BEGINNING MUSICIANSHIP

Beginning Musicianship focuses on the basic elements of music theory and aural skills. Students will be prepared to sight-read music using *solfege*, as well as identify important musical concepts, such as key signatures, time signatures, notation, rhythm, etc. Students will also have the opportunity to utilize what they've learned to compose and create their own original compositions.

### CONDUCTING

This class serves as an introduction to choral conducting. Through discussion, score study, conducting experience and self-reflection, students will explore the relationship between physical gesture and sound. Although particularly relevant for students who will later pursue a degree in music education, all students will benefit by gaining experience from the "other side of the podium."

### CHAMBER SINGERS

Chamber Singers is an advanced level choral ensemble. This course will introduce students to challenging choral repertoire in different languages and cohesive musicianship instruction, alongside Theory/Musicianship III or IV. Students will study a variety of music and perform four (4) concerts throughout the course of the year. Through studying music, which spans a variety of cultures, genres, and eras, students will gain a working understanding of performance practices. Emphasis will also be placed on music literacy with daily sight singing exercises using *solfeggio*. Ultimately the singers will begin to achieve independent musicianship, and simultaneously garner a love of music and singing with peers in a collaborative, ensemble setting.

### CLASS VOICE

Class Voice is a beginning solo performance class. Each semester's work culminates in a concert, "An Evening of Art Song" (Fall & Spring), produced with the Art Song Literature class. In this course, students will be assigned classical art song, mostly in English. Students are expected to learn, memorize and perform vocal literature with comprehensive understanding of style, communication of the text, diction, classical technique and contextual background.

### CONCERT CHOIR

Concert Choir is a beginning level choral ensemble. This course will offer a basic introduction in theory, musicianship and choral singing. Students will study a variety of repertoire and perform four (4) concerts throughout the course of the year. Singers will gain experience singing in a variety of languages, including Latin, Italian, German, French, Russian and Hebrew, to name a few. Emphasis will also be placed on music literacy with daily sight singing exercises using *solfeggio*. Ultimately the singers will begin to achieve independent musicianship and simultaneously garner a love of music and singing with peers in a

**DICTION**

Diction for Singers takes place over the course of two consecutive semesters. Students are expected to develop an introductory familiarity with the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), through attaching IPA symbols to spoken and sung phonemes in English, Italian, and German (three of the primary languages in classical vocal literature).

**JAZZ VOICE**

Jazz Voice is an advanced performance class which takes place over the course of two consecutive semesters. Each semester's work culminates in an ensemble performance (fall semester) and a solo vocal performance (spring semester). In this course, students will be assigned vocal jazz arrangements and jazz standards. Students are expected to learn, memorize and perform jazz literature with comprehensive understanding of style, performance practice, healthy vocal technique and historical background.

**MEN'S CHORUS**

Men's Chorus is an intermediate level ensemble which performs male choral literature of all styles in four annual choral concerts. Students will apply the International Phonetic Alphabet and experience singing in various languages, including German, French, Italian and Latin. Music literacy will be emphasized with daily sight singing exercises using the *solfege* system. Students will collaborate to strengthen both independent musicianship and male ensemble singing.

**MOVEMENT/IMPROVISATION**

The course is designed for the participants to develop trust, free expression, collaborative skills, and an ability to act on impulse. There will be the creation of a space to experiment, without any attachment to success, or any preconceived outcome. The participants will feel more comfortable commanding space, and inhabiting their bodies as artists.

**MUSIC HISTORY**

This course is a survey of the progression and development of Western Music. Each student participates in lively discussion, listening and hands-on activities. Through active participation, students gain a greater understanding, appreciation and enthusiasm for music created over the past 2,000 years. We begin with Ancient Greece and Rome, and then move through the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Baroque Era, the Classical Era and the Romantic Era. We conclude the year with 20<sup>th</sup> Century music focusing on Jazz, Rock and contemporary pop music.

**OPERA FROM SCRATCH**

In a small workshop format, students create an "opera from scratch" beginning with a story concept and concluding with a final production at the end of the year. Students will adapt a pre-existing story, write a libretto, and set the libretto to music in the form of an original opera. They will have the opportunity to design costumes, plan props, and stage their own work. Subjects covered in this course include fundamental musical structure of opera, operatic history, composition techniques, storyboarding, libretto and motivic development, and theatrical aspects of operatic production.

**OPERA SCENES**

Opera scenes is an advanced performance class which takes place over the course of two consecutive semesters. Each semester's work culminates in a fully staged opera scenes program (fall semester) and a formal concert (spring semester). In this course, students will be assigned scenes from opera, operetta and some classical musical theatre. Students are expected to learn, memorize and perform operatic literature in a variety of languages with comprehensive understanding of style, performance practice, diction, classical technique and historical background.

**ON STAGE!**

On Stage! is an intermediate performing arts class which takes place over two consecutive semesters. The first semester consists of utilizing acting techniques and preparing music and text for the performance in the second semester. Each student is given a specific character role with spoken scenes and either an entire solo song or a solo segment in a song. Ensemble pieces are also learned and executed. Through the rehearsal process and ultimately performing the operetta in a public venue, students learn foundational skills in the integration and interpretation of songs, monologues, scenes and stage movement culminating in an original fully staged and costumed operetta.

**PIANO-VOCAL COLLABORATION**

Piano-Vocal Collaboration is a year-long class focusing on piano-vocal literature. Singers from the Classical Voice Conservatory and pianists from Instrumental Music Conservatory's Piano Program are assigned age and ability appropriate repertoire over the course of two semesters. Assigned literature includes songs in English, French, German and Italian ranging from the baroque to the modern era. The course is instructed by two professional teacher/musicians; one who is a singer and the other a pianist. The teachers work with students on an individual basis and students perform in class on a weekly basis.

**SONG COMPOSITION**

Song Composition mainly focuses on the formal organization of Western Music. This course will allow students to express thoughts and feelings freely through original works, utilizing various forms, styles, genres, and instrumentation discussed throughout the year. Students will actively participate in discussions about composition, compositional techniques, and matters of the heart. Ultimately students will become confident in taking chances, and freeing their creative self-expression through composing at least five compositions and/or arrangements.

**THEORY/MUSICIANSHIP I**

Theory/Musicianship I is a course for high-school students in 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade, depending on the individual student's prior knowledge. This course focuses on the basic principles of music theory, such as rhythm, major and minor scales, time signatures and key signatures. In addition, students are encouraged to experiment with music writing in unique composition projects allowing creative freedom and expression.

**THEORY/MUSICIANSHIP II**

Theory/Musicianship II expands on the lessons introduced in Theory/Musicianship I. This course focuses on fundamental musical building blocks and formal organization and creative expression of Western Classical Music. Particular emphasis will be placed on the following elements: Roman numeral analysis of harmony within a diatonic series, cadential formulas, conducting, intervallic ear training, triadic development, 7<sup>th</sup> chords, clef changes, time signatures, canon, and part writing.

**THEORY/MUSICIANSHIP III**

Theory/Musicianship III builds on material covered in Theory/Musicianship II. Students will progress in understanding of the structures and elements of music through written theory applications, sight singing, original composition, improvisation, artistry, and performance practice. Particular emphasis is placed on musical structure and form, modes, chromaticism, modulation, transposition, and accuracy in sight-reading. Ultimately, students will be able to analyze the structures of the music they are learning outside theory class (real world applications).

**THEORY/MUSICIANSHIP IV**

Theory/Musicianship IV is an advanced music course which focuses on fundamental elements, formal organization and creative expression of Western Classical Music based on the current California Music Content Standards. Particular emphasis will be placed upon the following elements: melody, species I-V, contrapuntal techniques, canon, fugue, form and analysis, Roman numerals, secondary dominants, borrowed chords, non-chord tones, cadences, scales, dictation, and composition.

**VOCAL FORUM**

This open forum class is primarily intended to give students an opportunity to participate in and observe weekly master classes led by invited guests who are experts in their fields. In addition to masterclasses, students will be presented with lectures on a variety of subjects related to music, including, but not limited to: college auditions, resume building, networking and marketing, performance related issues, vocal health, careers in music, history of famous singers, etc. Students will also have opportunities to perform for each other throughout the year in non-masterclass settings.

**WOMEN'S CHORUS**

Women's Chorus is an intermediate choral ensemble. Through the study, practice and performance of female choral literature, students in this course develop musicianship skills, learn to work in small and large groups, sing in a variety of languages, garner knowledge of musical terms and historical perspective, gain a sense of proper performance practice for various musical eras, develop aural skills, build musical independence, and foster a love of vocal music.