

Fort Atkinson High School Show Choir
Competition Year Commitment Agreement 2023-2024

Director: Ms. Snow

Thank you for your interest in FAHS Show Choirs! The purpose of this contract is to give you an explanation as to the commitment that you and your family are agreeing to with the acceptance of a position in Lexington Singers or South High Street Singers for the 2023-2024 school year.

This contract must be signed by both the student and a parent/guardian and turned in to Ms. Snow before their audition in order to be considered eligible for a show choir.

The purposes of the choir of which you are auditioning for:

1. To expand and increase your knowledge and use of vocal technique and tone production.
2. To increase your knowledge in the realm of show choir, its background, its preparation, and its performance.
3. To advance your facility in dance.
4. To build and mold your choir into an outstanding choral group in performance and competition.
5. To help you develop maturity, responsibility, and teamwork skills.
6. To help you develop lifelong friendships and social skills.

If you are willing to put forth your time, talents, abilities, and efforts, the possibilities of performance within your choir are virtually limitless. **The limitations depend on your desire, determination, drive, dedication, and self-discipline.** We will take you as far as you will go musically. What you derive from your membership in this choir in the way of comradeship, musical knowledge, and musical and social experiences is directly proportionate to the positive attitude and enthusiasm you pour into it.

As long as you are a member of any FAHS show choirs, your fellow members and your director expect you to act as a **mature** high school young adult as befits a member of FAHS show choir.

As a member of a FAHS show choir, you will be graded according to the following criteria: **achievement, attitude, and attendance.**

FAHS show choirs have a reputation of excellence both musically and in the attitude of their members. **It is up to you to be and example of what FAHS represents.** How can you help FAHS continue this reputation? Each member of this choir must put forth the extra effort to be prepared musically/choreographically and to add your personal drive to help your choir to even greater heights!

We look forward to working with you!

Rules, Attendance, and Grading

I. Grading System

A. Rehearsal Participation (Attitude and Musicianship):

1. Rehearsals During School: 5 points per day

- a) To receive all points, students must meet all rehearsal expectations and director requirements for the day.
- b) Excused absences will be exempt from daily participation
- c) Unexcused absences will receive 0 points per rehearsal.

2. Rehearsals After School: 20 points per day

- a) To receive all points, students must meet all rehearsal expectations and director requirements for the day. Costuming, props, and set pieces not properly put away or mistreated will result in a point deduction.
- b) Tardiness or leaving before all equipment is put away, will result in a 10 point deduction.
- c) Excused absences will be exempt from the daily participation points.
- d) Unexcused absences will receive 0 points per rehearsal.

3. Choreography/Tech Week Sessions: 50 points per session

- a) To receive all points, students must meet all rehearsal expectations and director requirements for the day. Costuming, props, and set pieces not properly put away or mistreated will result in point deduction.
- b) Tardiness or leaving before all equipment is put away will result in a 20 point deduction.
- c) Excused absences will be required to make up the number of hours missed in dance sessions with a dance captain or a director-appointed student.
- d) Unexcused absences will receive 0 points per choreography session.

B. Performance Participation: 100 points per performance

1. All performances are required.
2. To receive all points, students must meet all director requirements for the day. Costuming, props, and set pieces not properly put away or mistreated will result in point deduction.
3. Tardiness or leaving before all equipment is put away will result in a 20 point deduction.
4. Unexcused absences will result in 0 points per performance.

II. Rehearsal Expectations

- A. Be on time for every rehearsal.
- B. Cell phones are to be silenced and are not permitted in the rehearsal space at any time without permission.
- C. Proper dress is required for every rehearsal.
- D. No talking during the rehearsals unless you have raised your hand and have been acknowledged by the Director, choreographer or one of your captains or leaders.
- E. No food or gum permitted in the rehearsal at any time.
- F. Water is allowed.
- G. You are required to have your music folder at every rehearsal.
- H. Respect is to be shown at every rehearsal towards all.

Fees

Each student will be required to pay a general fee in order to offset some of the show choir expenses, such as costumes, choreographers, musical arrangement, and competition fees. Students will also be asked to purchase personal items that they will use throughout their time in show choir. Some of these personal items will need to be purchased every year, while others may last students all four years of show choir. Below is a tentative breakdown of fees. An exact breakdown of expected fees will be presented at the parent meeting on May 16th.

Breakdown of Fees (2023-2024):

- \$250 - General Fee (All students)
- \$80 - Shoes (All students)
- \$40 - Bodysuit (New dress-wearing students or if needed)
- \$15 - Tights (Per pair) (New dress-wearing students or if needed)
- \$15 - Bloomers (Per pair) (New dress-wearing students or if needed)
- \$20 - Earrings ((New dress wearing students or if needed)
- \$45 - Makeup (All dress-wearing students)
- \$50-\$75 - Overnight Trip Fee (All students)

Show Choir is first and foremost an educational opportunity. If you have any concerns about the fees, please reach out! We do have additional funding to assist with payments and will have fundraising opportunities.

Attendance Policy

If a student will be missing an outside of school rehearsal, they must submit an absence for at least two weeks prior. The absence form will be posted in Google Classroom. This is the only way for students to have an excused absence. Emailing Ms. Snow, telling a friend to communicate your absence, or communicating after the fact will be considered an unexcused absence. Emergency situations that prevent a student from attending rehearsal will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

Failure to attend a rehearsal immediately prior to a performance for any reason other than illness or extenuating circumstance will result in the student being suspended from the performance.

Attendance at all competitions, performances, and out of school rehearsals is mandatory. When a performance is missed due to a voluntary absence (work, tiredness, to complete homework, etc.) the student will be suspended from the following two performances. Preliminary and finals events occurring on the same day will count as one performance.

Students who habitually have attendance issues may be asked to have a meeting with Ms. Snow and their parents to discuss whether or not show choir is the best fit for them.

Time Commitment

While Show Choir is a class at FAHS and most of our rehearsal time occurs during the school day, there are a number of required rehearsals and performances outside of school. Failure to attend will lower your class grade and could result in removal from some numbers and/or the entire show. If there is a conflict with any out of school rehearsal, students must fill out an absence form no later than two weeks before the rehearsal. Failure to notify Ms. Snow will result in the actions above. Emergency situations that prevent a student from attending rehearsal will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

We acknowledge that students are often involved in other activities outside of show choir, and encourage students to do so. Ms. Snow will gladly assist any student in multiple activities to find a mutually agreeable decision. However, it is the students' responsibility to communicate conflicts with Ms. Snow at least two weeks prior to help create a plan.

Students can expect to have 5 all-day competitions in January-March, 2 weeks of after-school rehearsals throughout the entire school year, and 2-3 after-school clinics in January-March.

A complete schedule will be shared at the mandatory family meeting on May 16th.

Show Choir is an activity that highly relies on each individual member of the group. When someone is gone from a rehearsal or performance, it impacts all other members and the group as a whole. Please take time to consider the time commitment and decide if show choir is the right fit for you.

FAHS Show Choir Contract and Commitment Agreement

2023-2024

Parent/Guardian:

I have read the above information and agree to support the choir and its rules.

Print Name: _____

Sign Name: _____

Date: _____

Student:

I have read the rules and understand the importance of following the rules. I understand that by signing this agreement I am committing to any group that I am placed in and understand the level of commitment that is required. I also understand that all school and disciplinary procedures apply at all times.

Print Name: _____

Sign Name: _____

Date: _____

This page must be signed by both the student and parent/guardian and turned in by the time of the student's audition in order to be considered eligible for a show choir.