



WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

90 West Main Street
Westborough, MA 01581
westboroughhighschoolchoirs.weebly.com

June 12, 2015

Dear 2015 – 2016 Westborough High School Concert Choir,

Congratulations on being selected through competitive audition to be a member of this ensemble! Since you are now a member of one of the audition-only WHS Choirs, you are required to do a little summer work for preparation for the 2015 – 2016 school year. This summer work really isn't "work," it is singing! This is designed for you to keep your vocal chords moving over the summer in order to stay in vocal shape over the next two months.

There are four pieces you need to learn over the summer. These are *The Star Spangled Banner*, arranged by Tim Sharp, *Die Nachtigall* by Mendelssohn, *You Are the New Day* by John David and *For Unto Us a Child is Born* from MESSIAH by G. F. Handel. I have many exciting ideas planned for Concert Choir this coming school year. To help execute these plans, you need to do your part. Learn these four pieces over the summer. The expectation is that these pieces are to be learned for the first day of school. Please have *The Star Spangled Banner* memorized for the first day of school since you will be performing this in front of the entire student body on the first day of school. The additional piece in this packet is *Per la Gloria d'Adorarvi* by Giovanni Battista Bononcini. This piece is provided in both high and low voice – experiment with both keys and see which one fits your voice best. *Per la Gloria d'Adorarvi* by Giovanni Battista Bononcini will be used for the 2015 – 2016 Senior Districts Chorus Auditions, auditions for Chamber Singers at the beginning of September, and will be everyone's Quarter 1 Solo Recording Assignment. You are not required to learn this over the summer, but I provided it for you just in case you would like to get a head start and prepare for Chamber Singers auditions in early September.

On our website, westboroughhighschoolchoirs.weebly.com, I have provided you some tools to help you learn this music. These tools will be available by the end of the school year, June 19th. Under the "CHOIRS" tab there is a button for the page called "CONCERT CHOIR." Here you will see practice tracks for each voice part. **Use these tools** to help you learn the music! You also have a list of the membership for Women's Chorale. Get together with some of your choir friends/acquaintances and work together to learn your parts this summer.

This packet contains:

1. Letter
2. Chart indicating what voice part you will sing.
3. *The Star Spangled Banner* by Francis Scott Key / arr. Tim Sharp
4. *Die Nachtigall* by Mendelssohn
5. *You Are the New Day* by John David, arr. Peter Knight
6. *For Unto Us a Child is Born* from MESSIAH by G. F. Handel.
7. *Per la Gloria d'Adorarvi* by Giovanni Battista Bononcini (low voice and high voice)

I would like to reiterate that this summer work is not meant to cause stress. It is designed for you to keep singing over the summer and have a very attainable goal of memorizing "The Star Spangled Banner" and learning the other pieces (not memorizing). These goals can be reached if you practice a few times a week for 15 – 30 minutes and use the tools I have created for you on the website (the practice tracks). Do not forget you can also get together with other Concert Choir members and practice together!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at your convenience. I do check my email regularly throughout the summer months. I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I am looking forward to working with all of you next school year! Practice, practice, and practice so we can make music together on our first day of school!

Sincerely,

Alyson Greer Espinosa
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*For the Strength of the Wolf is the Pack,
And the Strength of the Pack is the Wolf.
~ Rudyard Kipling*