



Indiana Christian Academy Choir Syllabus

2011-2012

Dear Choir Member,

Welcome to another exciting year in ICA choir! Mr. Plew and I have great plans for the year ahead in the ICA music program. We have chosen some fun, exciting, and perhaps a bit challenging music. We know that through the Lord's enablement, we'll be able to accomplish much and provide you with an excellent education and excellent experiences in singing! But none of that will be possible without your hard work and a few strategies for making this a fun and productive year.

There are some important policies for the year that we would like for you to observe in order for this to be a successful year for the choral program at ICA. Please refer to this often throughout the year as questions arise. We have posted this on the school's web page for your convenience should you or your parents need to consult it throughout the year. That web address is www.indianchristianacademy.org. If you have a question concerning something that is not here, please feel free to call us at school (643-7884 ext. 215), or you may e-mail us at kevinplew.ica@gmail.com or sherrydubois.ica@gmail.com.

In order to justify giving you as students credit for your involvement in the music program and in order to provide accountability and consistent direction, we'll be operating on a Points System for the music program again this year. This is detailed in the pages to come and will be further discussed in choir, band, and handbells. This system will be a bit different than in years past, but we believe you'll appreciate that difference! We're truly looking forward to a great year of music!

Your parents will want to look through this as well. Please read this syllabus with them and sign the portion that indicates both you and they have done so. Detach that section and return it to Miss DuBois by Tuesday, August 30 (one per family).

Sincerely,

Miss DuBois
Mr. Kevin Plew
Indiana Christian Academy
Directors of Music

2011 Choir Calendar 2012

Aug. 30*	Syllabus must be signed and returned to Miss DuBois	
Nov. 4*	Grandparents' Day concert (GBC Auditorium)	8:30 a.m.
Dec. 13*	ICA Christmas program	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 18	GBC Christmas Cantata (GBC Auditorium).....	6:00 p.m.
	"The Gift of a Lifetime"	
Jan. 9-10	Junior and Senior High Academic Meet Try-outs	TBA
Mar. 16*	Sr. High Academic Meet (South Bend)	TBA
April 9-12	AACS - Bob Jones University	
April 24*	ICA Spring Concert	7:00 p.m.
April 27*	Junior High Academic Meet (Colonial)	TBA
May 25*	ICA Year-End Awards Ceremony.....	.8:30 a.m.

*These events are required for all choir members (where applicable).
Grades will be docked and/or demerits given for failure to meet these requirements.

Attendance

Attendance to all scheduled events is crucial. The group's morale and overall performance suffers when you are either late to or absent from rehearsals or performances. Your participation in the group mandates your attendance to the required events. Any exceptions to this will be made on an individual basis.

Awards

The National School Choral Award - This award is presented annually to the top male and female singers in the high school choir. It is based upon musicianship, effort, leadership, testimony and dependability.

Letter - Any student can letter in choir as many as four times, once each of his or her high school years, by the accumulation of 200 points, as well as by displaying the qualities of musicianship, dependability, loyalty and cooperation, and maintaining a good testimony.

Dress

For every performance, the dress code will be as follows:

Ladies:

Black hose and black dress shoes

Men:

Black dress pants and belt
Black dress shoes and socks
White dress shirt
White t-shirt

The students will be asked to purchase or rent a necktie (guys) or an outfit (girls) that is chosen for the entire group. **Please have these outfits clean and pressed as needed, and the shoes polished for every concert.** The cost for these outfits will be applied to your school bill unless you contact the school office to make different arrangements.

Hair standards should also be met by young men before all performances. Young ladies should avoid heavy make-up and should not wear large earrings, large rings, large bracelets, large hair accessories, or colored necklaces. (Diamond-looking, clear, gold, or silver is acceptable, provided it is small and does not draw attention to the wearer.) Also, young ladies are requested to pull hair away from the face as much as possible. We want to see your lovely eyes!

Passes

If a student wishes to practice during a study hall, he or she must obtain a pass before the day he/she wishes to practice. Please follow the school's study hall regulations when obtaining any pass.

Private Lessons

Private lessons are encouraged for anyone interested in improving his/her singing ability. The lessons will be 30 minutes in length and will be around \$10 apiece. There are only a few time slots available, so if you are interested see Miss DuBois as soon as possible to work out arrangements.

Grading

Your grade in choir is based on the following criteria: points and effort. The points earned convert to the school grading scale. Please keep this for reference throughout the year. There are positive *and* penalty points. Certain penalty points will carry a demerit penalty as stated in the ICA handbook. Points are collected the first day of choir each week for activities from the preceding week ONLY, and are tallied each 9 weeks. A conversion chart has been attached for your information.

Points

A. Positive points

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Participation points (1.4 given per practice at school) | 25 |
| 2. Practice - for each ½ hour per week | 1 |
| (Time spent in our weekly rehearsals DOES NOT COUNT for practice time.) | |
| 3. Vocal solo in public | 4 |
| 4. Ensemble singing in public | 3 |
| 5. IACS solo/ensemble | 6/4 |
| 6. Fine Arts Festival/AACS solo/ensemble | 10/5 |
| 7. Help to director | 2 per occasion |
| 8. Lead singing in public | 2 per occasion |
| 9. Sing in church or teen choir | 2 per occasion |
| 10. Voice lesson | 2 (per lesson) |
| 11. Attending concert | 3 |
| <i>***A program of the concert must accompany points***</i> | |
| 12. Listening to a vocal recording | 1 |
| <i>***Must turn in a listening card with the following information:</i> | |
| - Title of recording | |
| - Performer(s) | |
| - Length of recording (must be at least ½ hr. total for credit) | |
| 13. Accompanying others | |
| *Congregational singing | 1 |
| *Solo/ensemble | 3 |

B. Penalty points

- 1. Absence from required performance -20
- 2. Unexcused absence from class* -3
- 3. Unexcused tardy to class* -1
- 4. Music left lying around -1, -2, -3 etc.
- 5. Abuse of music* -5

(Note: #5 may also require the replacement of any damaged music as determined by the director.)

- 6. No music for rehearsal -2

****Penalty points will also carry a demerit penalty as stated in the ICA handbook.***

Grading Scale			
Points Received During 9.5 Weeks	Grade Earned	Points Received During 9.5 Weeks	Grade Earned
40+	100	21	83
38-39	99	20	82
37	98	19	81
36	97	18	80
35	96	16-17	78
34	95	14-15	76
33	94	12-13	73
32	93	10-11	70
31	92	8-9	69
30	91	7	64
29	90	6	61
27-28	89	5	58
26	88	4	55
25	87	3	50
24	86	2	25
23	85	1	15
22	84	0	0

Bonus points are rarely given, but may be given at the director’s discretion.

Questions regarding grades should always be addressed as soon as possible.

It is our goal to grade accurately and fairly, but also, to challenge students to do their best!

Please sign and detach, returning signed portion to Miss DuBois by Tuesday, August 30th.

I have read and understood the rules and regulations set forth in the syllabus. I also understand the corrective action that may occur as a result of not following the rules and regulations contained herein.

(Student’s Signature)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)