

Individual Development Guidelines

General Information

- College Prep credit students need to earn 30 points per trimester for full credit
 - At least 10 points must be completed by mid-trimester
 - Points must come from a minimum of two of the categories below
- Honor credit students need to earn 70 points per trimester for full credit
 - At least thirty points must be completed by mid-trimester
 - Points must come from a minimum of three of the categories below
- All students need to earn a minimum of 10 points per trimester through voice lessons
- Completing an activity below does not automatically guarantee all the points for that activity

Voice Lessons – 10 points per lesson

- You will need to set an individual goal for improvement or event at which you will perform per trimester
- Per trimester you will need to learn at least 1 piece other than the choir repertoire, they may be solos or your part of a small ensemble with others, styles are negotiable
- Some **individual practice outside of lessons** will be needed in order to complete goals and receive full credit
- For full points you need to complete a lesson review **no later than two days after** your lesson

Outside Concert Review – 10 points per review

- You will need to attend an entire choir concert somewhere outside of CDH, that does mean you can't arrive late or leave early.
- The performance does need to be a choir "concert" – a formal performance by a choral group, if you're not sure about whether a performance qualifies, ask before you go.
- Following the performance you need to write a 1-2 page paper answering the following questions:
 - What did you like and dislike about the performance?
 - Did the choir portray the meaning of the songs, do you think they knew the meanings?
 - What did the choir do to engage the audience?
 - What did this choir do (not specific pieces) that you would like to do?
 - What did this choir do that you would like to avoid?

Research Paper on a Relevant Topic or Reflection Paper – 20 points per paper

- You will need to research and write a short (4-6 page) paper on a topic relevant to choir, the music we're doing, or topics we're discussing
- A major focus of any paper should be why the topic you choose is relevant to you, your culture, and your musicianship
- You should use a minimum of 3 sources cited and documented correctly
- Some possible topics include the following, there are many more possibilities, though you should ask for approval before researching and writing:
 - Composers – composers whose work we're singing or major **choral** composers – be sure include information about their **choral** or **vocal** music
 - Genres of music we're singing
 - Cultures who's music we're singing
 - Social issues reflected in the music we're singing – connect it to the music
 - History of the music, particularly major historical pieces
- You may also choose to write a reflection (non researched, more analytical) paper of the same length, some possibilities, again get prior approval to ideas on the list
 - Concerts are often themed, how do 2 or more of the pieces reflect that theme, compare and contrast.
 - Connect a piece to your life experience or to common experiences of people your age.

- Examine the messages of a piece or two, how is that relevant to society, why is music a good medium to spread that message.
- Examine an older piece, compare and contrast it's meaning and place in society when it was written with it's possible meaning and place in society today.

Honor Choir or Other Outside Choral Activities – 20 points

- After participating in a pre-approved experience **write a 2-3 page reflection** on your experience describing how you prepared for the activity, what happened there, what you would do differently the next time, and how the activity affected your singing and CDH choir membership.

Rehearsal Review – 10 points per set

- You will take notes/review a set of four rehearsals over no less than four weeks using the form provided
- You will then write or record a short reflection on what has been gained by the group and by yourself over the course of those rehearsals

Small Group Sectional – 10 points

- Students may be scheduled for one small group sectional per trimester, depending on the needs of their ensemble and section
- You will rehearse and learn your section's music with 2-4 other members of your section

Other

- Other ideas you may have to assist in your growth as a singer or choir member.
- Other project ideas need prior approval from Mr. Jacobson.

Extra Credit

- You may do more activities than required for extra credit
- College Prep credit students will be allowed a maximum of 10 points extra credit per trimester
- Honors credit students will be allowed a maximum of 20 points extra credit per trimester