

# **St. Veronica Vocal Ensemble**

**2019/2020**

**Director: Mr. Adam Gardner**

**Associate Director: Mrs. Monica Yates**

The Vocal Ensemble (VE) is a school choir that is open to any student at St. Veronica in grades 5-8. The chorus will rehearse regularly and perform at school and away from school throughout the year. This packet has been created to provide the information needed for parents and students interested in joining the Vocal Ensemble.

## **Rehearsals**

The Vocal Ensemble will rehearse after school on Mondays from **3:20-4:45** in the gym. Students can be picked up after rehearsal in the rear parking lot. Our first rehearsal is on Monday, September 16, 2019. Please keep a close watch on your primary email for changes and updates to the rehearsal schedule.

## **Fees**

There is a **one-time fee for \$100** to join the Vocal Ensemble. This money covers their participation in the VE for the whole school year and is due when you turn in this permission form. If you are unable to afford the cost to have your child participate in the VE, please contact Mr. Gardner and special arrangements can be made.

If your child does not currently own a VE uniform polo shirt (or does not own one that fits them), they will need to purchase one of these as an additional cost to the registration money. The cost of **one uniform polo shirt is \$20**.

All money turned in is non-refundable.

## **VE Rules**

Since we are only able to rehearse once a week, it is very important that everyone is present and remains focused at each rehearsal. Attendance, therefore, is critical, but I understand that many students are busy with schoolwork and other extra-curricular activities. If you are unable to make a rehearsal, please bring in a note from a parent and give it to Mr. Gardner as soon as possible. If a student does not bring in a note, it will count as an unexcused absence. If the student has three or more unexcused absences, they may be asked to leave the Vocal Ensemble. Also, please note that students who miss rehearsals may miss opportunities for performance solos or to be included on any recordings made.

It is also important that each student behaves well and in a manner that keeps everyone properly focused during rehearsals. If we find that a student is behaving in a manner deemed inappropriate, we will contact a parent regarding the matter. If this continues, the student will be asked to leave the Vocal Ensemble.

Students may bring a change of clothes for rehearsal if they would like. They may also bring a snack for before or after rehearsal. Students are responsible for cleaning up their garbage when finished with their snacks.

Students are encouraged to bring a bottle of water to rehearsal.

### **PARTICIPATION AT WEEKEND MASSES**

We have scheduled regular performances throughout the year to share our talents with family, friends, and the community. However, we also feel it is important for the VE students to share their God-given talents within the church community. Once again this year, each student in the VE will be expected to participate in a weekend liturgy one time each trimester. Three different mass dates/times will be made available each trimester for students to participate at mass. Dates and sign up information will be sent home soon. All music for weekend liturgies will be organized and run by the parish music director, Mr. Paul Bresciani. Students who do not fulfill this requirement will jeopardize their ability to participate in future performances, including the concerts and VE competition trip.

### **DRESS CODES**

The Vocal Ensemble has two different uniforms – a “Casual” and a “Professional.” Different performances require different uniforms. Please pay close attention to which uniform is needed for a performance. It is a good idea to get the parts of the uniform you need as early as possible so you can be sure to have everything for a performance.

#### **CASUAL DRESS CODE (Boys and Girls):**

“St. Veronica Music” Polo Shirt\* (see bottom of the page)  
Khaki-colored “Docker-like” pants  
White Socks  
Gym Shoes (Neutral color – black, white, gray, etc.)  
Girls’ hair must be worn down with no colored hair pieces showing.

#### **PROFESSIONAL DRESS CODE (Boys and Girls):**

Plain white, long-sleeved, buttoned-down “Oxford-style” boys dress shirt  
*This shirt must button up to the collar*  
Black “Docker-like” pants  
Black socks  
Black dress shoes (Girls may wear small heels if desired)  
Girls’ hair must be worn down with no colored hair pieces showing.

\*The Casual Dress Code consists of a blue polo uniform shirt with St. Veronica’s name written on it. Please fill in the appropriate size shirt for your child on the permission slip at the end of this packet. It should be the same size as their school uniform shirts. The cost for this shirt is \$20 and must be included in the check for the VE registration.

If your child already owns a VE polo shirt that fits them, they do not need to order a new one.

## **SCHEDULED PERFORMANCES:**

*\*Attendance at performances is mandatory  
(except for illness or family emergencies/conflicts)*

- Fine Arts Booster's "Halloween Bash" – 10/19/19 (6-9PM)
- Christmas Celebration of Music – 12/17/19 @ 7:00 PM
- Another possible Christmas performance?? – December 2019 (TBA)
- Spring Celebration of Music – 05/14/20 @ 6:30 PM

**Other possible performances this school year include:**

- Archdiocese Choral Music Festival – Spring 2019
- VE Competition Trip (trip to an out-of-state city) (optional) – Spring 2019
- Possible performance of the National Anthem at a Cincinnati Reds baseball game – Spring 2019

\*There may be any number of performance opportunities that "pop up" as the year goes on. Details on these performances will be emailed to you – so be sure to always check your email.

### **Vocal Ensemble Competition Trip**

The Vocal Ensemble is a competition choir. They are nationally recognized for their talents, achievements, and professionalism in all competitions in which they perform. This year, the Vocal Ensemble will take another trip; however, this trip will not be announced until the first rehearsal when all the primary details have been finalized. This is an exciting opportunity for the students and one that they would enjoy for the rest of their lives! Please know that attendance on this trip is **not** mandatory to be in the Vocal Ensemble.

Sending your child on a trip to a new city is never an easy decision to make. I am sure there are many questions floating around, including safety, costs, events planned, etc. Therefore, we will have a meeting to help explain the trip and all its details including fundraising opportunities. We will have this informational meeting for parents on Monday, Sept. 23 at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria. We encourage all to attend who are interested in learning more about this trip as well as those who are interested in chaperoning.

## Permission Slip - Return to Mr. Gardner by Thursday, September 12, 2019

I have read all of the information and give permission for my child to be in the Vocal Ensemble. I also understand that St. Veronica School may record the Vocal Ensemble for potential radio contests and creations of a music CD. I give St. Veronica School permission to use the recordings of my child. I also give St. Veronica School permission to include my child's name and photograph on the CD case design.

*This signed permission form will also serve as your note to the school office that your child will be staying after school every Monday that we have VE rehearsal. You will only need to send a note in on Mondays if your child is unable to stay for VE rehearsal in order to let the office know how they are getting home.*

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Primary Email Address:

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\*An email chain will be used to inform parents and guardians of any changes to the VE rehearsal or performance schedule. It will also be used to remind family and friends of upcoming events in the Vocal Ensemble.

**\*Please enclose your registration fee of \$100 to register for Vocal Ensemble. Checks should be made payable to St. Veronica School. If you need to order a new polo shirt as well, please add \$20 to the check (one check = \$120).**

### Shirt Order Form (for those students who need a new VE polo shirt)

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shirt Size (Please circle one):**

**Youth:**      **Small**      **Medium**      **Large**      **Extra-Large**

**Adult:**      **Small**      **Medium**      **Large**      **Extra-Large**