



# CHS SHOW CHOIR Newsletter

## Eligibility Requirements

## CHS Show Choir 101



CHS is proud of the school's two very talented co-ed show choirs. Our varsity show choir, Central Singers, Inc. (CSI), has been performing and competing for the past 30 years. Blue Vibrations (BV), the prep show choir, has been competing since 2001.

During the competition season, the groups perform a 20 minute show consisting of various pop and show tunes.

This year, approximately 100 students will be selected for show choir. The directors select groups that are as close to a balanced male/female ratio as possible.

**Another great way to get involved is to join the 15 member back-up band, or the 6-10 member crew that assist with the shows. Pit & crew travel with show choir.**

Show Choir is a Davenport District curricular course that has met outside the school day ever since CHS went to block scheduling. Students receive .25 credit (equivalent to one class) and a grade based on attendance, promptness, and teamwork, in addition to vocal and dance skills.



Show choir is a big commitment requiring dedication and many practice hours, but it is equally fun and rewarding. In addition to developing choral and dance skills, show choir students have an opportunity to improve their performance and public speaking skills. They also demonstrate leadership, mentoring, sportsmanship, and team-

building attributes.

The directors select the music for the season's show and hire choreographers specializing in show choir productions. The choreographers work with the students throughout the year at special camps and longer practice sessions. The members will learn the basics of the entire '10-'11 show. Details of camp dates are listed on page three. Students are required to attend these camps and all practice sessions.

**Mandatory** Monday night rehearsals begin when school starts and continue through the show choir performance season which ends in mid March.

Communication is vital and we keep parents informed via email and monthly meetings.

You can also check our website for more info and photos.

- Students interested in auditioning for the show choirs must be enrolled in chorus all four terms.
- **Current CHS students must have all current and prior year choir and show choir pledges paid in full by the audition date, May 11.**
- Students must be able to attend show choir camp. See the Camp section on page 3.
- **Students and parents must sign and return the *Show Choir Audition permission form* at or before their auditions.**

## Show Choir Audition Schedule and Format



### Current CHS students:

Tuesday, May 11  
3 p.m.

### Incoming 9th Graders:

Wednesday, May 12  
3 p.m.

### Call backs (if needed)

Thursday, May 13  
4 p.m.

### Lists posted

May 14 after school

A guest choreographer will attend the auditions to teach a short dance sequence that students will be required to learn and then perform. Students also need to prepare a short solo of their choice to sing for their audition. Broadway or show tunes are most appropriate for this audition setting, but not the only acceptable selections. Music should be supplied for the accompanist at the audition if possible.

The directors will listen to students sing, and the choreographer will join them to watch the dance auditions. Input from the directors and choreographer will be used to make decisions as to who should be in each group. Auditions will take place in the choir rooms, directly off of the cafeteria at CHS. Questions? Contact Emily Wall or Michael Reese

### Save this date:

### Mandatory Parent Meeting

Tuesday, June 1

6 p.m. CHS Café

One parent and student  
show choir member

**MUST ATTEND!**

# Practice Schedule and Teamwork

## Central Singers, Inc.

### Blue Vibrations

Every Monday 5-8 p.m.

First rehearsal:

Monday, August 30

and continuing every Monday through mid-March

(or Tuesdays of Monday holiday weeks)

*The strength of a team is each individual member, the strength of each member is the team.*

Three to five times in the season the choreographers return to work with the groups and the regular rehearsal times are extended. These extended rehearsals begin after school and end at 9 p.m.



During the competition season, the show choirs will add extra rehearsals during the week. These rehearsals will be discussed with the students in advance.

Show choir is a team effort and a successful performance season depends upon the discipline of individual team members at practices. Students may be dropped for unexcused absences, repeat tardiness, inappropriate behavior and lack of effort. Students (and their parents) will receive advance notice before being dropped.

It is very important for the success of the show choir that all show choir members attend all the competitions. Show choir is a curricular class and the competitions are similar to classroom exams. Competition dates are listed on page 4.

## Pledges

The show choir pledge is based on budgeted expenses and the exact number of students involved. Because we have a very tight budget to keep fees as low as possible, any student who decides to quit show choir or is dismissed by the Director, will be given a refund based on the following dates: If a student drops: before September 7th—full refund; after Sept. 20th—refund of pledges minus costs for uniforms ordered. There will be **no** refund of show choir pledges for students that drop after October 1st.

### 2010—11 Pledge

Central Singers, Inc.	\$510 / year
Blue Vibes	\$410 / year
Pit and Crew	\$195/ year

*Please note that because unforeseen costs occur, the Vocal Department reserves the right to assess an additional show choir fee. Every effort will be made to avoid this assessment, but there are many cost variables.*

Show choir expenses not included in the above price include personal items such as dance shoes for all; socks, compression shorts and v-neck t-shirts for boys; undergarments, tights and hair curling equipment for girls.



## Earn Your Pledge By Fundraising!

### Entertainment Books

(Aug. & Sept.)

Students earn \$7.50 for every book sold. One free book earned/5 sold.

### Fruit & Nut Sale (Oct)

Students earn an average of 27% for all fruit and nuts sold.

### Pizza Cards

(Summer)

Students earn \$4.50 - \$5 for each card sold from Papa Murphy's & Godfathers

### Car Washes (Aug & Sept)

Students can earn \$5—\$10/hour.



## Pledge Payment Schedule



Please pay as much of your pledge as possible through Birdies for Charity, the John Deere Golf Classic fundraiser. **We receive an extra 5-10% on all dollars pledged through Birdies.** We count on this additional percentage from the JD Golf Classic to keep our fees as low as possible. By pledging through Birdies you even get a chance to win a new car! Birdies pledge payments are due Sept 25.

All 2010-11 choir students will be receiving Birdies information very soon.

If you do not participate in Birdies, or just partially, your remaining pledge payment due is divided in thirds and payments are due August 1, October 1, and December 1.

**All pledges must be paid by Dec 1st or student will be dropped from the Show Choir.**

\* See unforseeable

## Assistance with Pledges

Unfortunately, there is no scholarship money available for show choir pledges. If you cannot pay the entire '10-'11 pledge by Dec. 1, you may request an extension which is due September. 15.

Families must request this extension in a written note to the director. It is your responsibility to let the director know. All financial matters are kept in strictest confidence.

*\*Unforeseeable financial circumstances arise. Contact Mr. Reese or Miss Wall to discuss payment extensions.*

## Pit Band and Crew ~ We need you!

Not sure if show choir is right for you, but you want to be involved? Join the Pit or the Crew! The **Pit Band** is the soul of the Show Choirs. The Pit Band has been recognized as **Best Band** at many of our competitions. **The Crew** is the heart of the show choirs. With the crew's amazing attention to details; they keep all of the costumes and props organized. Pit and Crew are essential members of the team!

## Camp Dates 2010-11



### CSI Summer Camp

Attendance is **required** by all CSI members.

Welcome back CSI choreographer

**Andy Haines!**

Sun.	June 27	12:30pm—9:00 pm
Mon.	June 28	9:00am—3:00 pm
Tue.	June 29	12:30pm—6:00 pm
Wed.	June 30	12:30pm—6:00 pm
Thu.	July 1	9:00am—3:00 pm

### Blue Vibes Summer Camp

Attendance is **required** by all BV members.

Welcome Blue Vibes choreographer

**Tara Tober!**

Monday July 19 - Thursday July 3  
12:00 noon - 6:00 pm  
daily

## Fall Choreography Dates with Andy and Tara

For CSI and Blue Vibes

October 12-14

December 6-9

January 7-9

## Central Choral Directors

### Michael Reese

Director of Choral Music  
323-9900 ext. 257  
reesem@davenportschools.org

### Emily Wall

Associate Director  
of Choral Music  
323-9900 ext. 255  
walle@davenportschools.org

## Our 9th Annual Great River Show Choir Invitational

February 18 & 19, 2011

**All families must SAVE THE DATE to help—**

**this is our biggest money maker that keeps our costs lower!**

2010 marked another tremendously successful Great River Show Choir invitational in the newly renovated Adler Theater. Central and West co-host this exciting two day event that provides an opportunity for middle and high school show choirs to compete in a first-class venue! 2010 had a record number of show choirs and the invitational continues to grow every year.

**All show choir families are required to volunteer to work 6 - 8 hours** and many families work more because it is such a great community event. This is just one way we work together to keep our costs lower than other schools!

## Dinner Theater - January 8th 6-9pm at West High School

In 2007, we began hosting a dinner theater as a warm up for our competition season and a chance to perform for our families and friends. The event has been a sell-out every year! 2011 will mark the 5th year of this entertaining evening! Save the date! Tickets will be available in December.



## Competition Dates 2011

**Save these dates!**

**All members must be present!**

Our Show Choirs will compete Jan. – March at high schools throughout the Midwest.



### Competition Dates:

Jan. 8 Dinner Theater (warm-up)  
Jan. 15 Linn-Mar, IA  
Jan. 22 Davenport North  
Feb. 5 Mt. Pleasant, IA  
Feb. 18-19 Great River (Hosting)  
Feb. 26 at Cedar Rapids Kennedy, IA  
Mar. 12 at Cedar Rapids Jefferson, IA

Our show choirs will also perform at the Great River invitational and the city-wide Show Choir Show Off at the Adler Theater.

On contest days, students are involved the entire day. The show choirs have an opportunity to compete twice during the same day. First in the preliminary round, and if the show choir makes "finals," they perform again in the evening round to compete for the top honors!

Out-of-town competition days are long days. For example, for the Cedar Rapids competition, both show choirs had to be at school at 5:30 a.m. and returned to Central at 1:30 a.m. the next morning. Parents are welcome to ride the bus to competitions when space is available!

Bus chaperones needed!



## Mandatory Parent Meeting

Show Choir audition results will be posted on Friday, May 14th, at CHS, Sudlow, and J.B. Young.

**There will be a Mandatory parent meeting for all show choir members, both returning and new, on Tuesday, June 1st at 6 p.m. in the CHS Cafe. One parent for every show choir member must attend.**

*This newsletter was created by Vocal Boosters to help families new to show choir. It is understandable that you might have more questions after reading this, so please contact either Vocal Booster Board Member below.*

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