JEFFERSON show choir

SIOUX FALLS, SD

JHS SHOW CHOIR HANDBOOK 2026-2027

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Welcome to the Jefferson High School Show Choir program! You are now part of a tradition of excellence, teamwork, and dedication. This handbook outlines our expectations, policies, and schedules to ensure a successful year for all members. Read it carefully, as you are responsible for understanding and following these guidelines.

EXPECTATIONS Being a member of the Jefferson Show Choirs requires commitment, discipline, and respect. We expect every student to:

- Be enrolled in a curricular choir (singer/dancers) or a curricular band/orchestra (band).
- Attend all rehearsals and performances, on time and fully prepared.
- Show respect to directors, choreographers, fellow performers, and parent volunteers.
- Maintain a positive and cooperative attitude.
- Strive for excellence both on and off stage.
- Follow all school policies and uphold the reputation of our program.
- Remain academically eligible at all times (passing 4 classes per semester).
- Maintain behavior eligibility (no activity violations, no negative behavior in person or on any digital communication/social media platforms).
- Communicate effectively and in a timely manner.

REHEARSALS & ATTENDANCE Rehearsals are mandatory. The most up to date calendar will always be the one on www.JeffersonChoirs.com. You are expected to:

- Arrive early to warm up/stretch and be ready when rehearsal begins.
- Choreography Days and Competitions are NOT the time to schedule vacations, appointments, etc.
- Notify the directors **in advance (24 hr minimum)** if an unavoidable conflict arises.
- Prioritize JHS activities over non-school activities and communicate any conflicts early.
- Split overlapping time **evenly** with other JHS activities.
- Understand that excessive absences may result in loss of performance opportunities.
- Excused absences include severe illness, death in the family, mandatory academic events and previously discussed JHS activities.

- Unexcused absences include work, club or NON-JHS activities (sports, dance, cheer, private lessons, etc.), social events, transportation issues, or anything else not approved.
- Excessive *excused* absences may impact blocking and/or ability to participate.
- Two “tardies” will count as one unexcused absence.
- Performers must be present at the final rehearsal before a performance in order to perform.
- First unexcused absence will result in removal from blocking on material missed.
- Second unexcused absence means you will sit out from the next performance completely.
- Third unexcused absence will result in removal from the team.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS Every performance is a team effort. You are required to:

- Attend all scheduled performances unless excused in advance for extenuating circumstances.
- Wear the full, approved costume and maintain a professional appearance.
- Arrive on time and stay for the entire event.
- Demonstrate professional behavior on and off stage.

COSTUMES & ATTIRE Costumes are provided but must be handled with care. You are responsible for:

- Keeping costumes clean, in good condition, and bringing all necessary items to performances.
- Paying for any lost or damaged costume pieces.
- Wearing appropriate undergarments and shoes as directed.

FEES & FUNDRAISING Participation in show choir includes financial responsibilities. The 2026-2027 fundraising targets cover competition entry, costumes, travel, and instruction. Payment plans and fundraising opportunities are available. Fundraising targets must be met on time to ensure full participation.

- Fundraising targets should be met by January 1, 2027.
- Singer/Dancer target is $500
    - Parents/Guardians can complete 8 hrs of volunteer time with the department to earn a maximum of $100 credit towards this goal.
- Doublers (students who perform in both Revelry & Legacy) will have an additional $200 target.
- Band/Tech target is $200
- Additional expenses
    - Team jacket (uniform for travel days - approx $75)
    - Rehearsal t-shirts (uniform for rehearsals - approx $20)
    - Makeup and hair needs (approx $25-50 female, $10-15 male)
    - Undergarments (approx $150 female, $50 male)

DISCIPLINE & CONDUCT We uphold a high standard of behavior. Any violation of school rules, disrespect, or failure to meet expectations may result in disciplinary action, including suspension from performances or removal from the program.

- The audition does not end once you are selected. Students are not guaranteed a place on the performing stage simply because their name is on the roster. You must continue to earn your position through hard work and dedication in rehearsals.
- Blocking, soloists, performing status, and all decisions surrounding the performances will be made by directors/choreographers based on observation and professional opinions. The goal is always what is best for the team as a whole.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT Parent volunteers are vital to our success. Opportunities include helping with costumes, chaperoning trips, and assisting at events. We appreciate all efforts to support our program! Parents/Guardians can complete 8 hrs of volunteer time with the department to earn a maximum of $100 credit towards fundraising goals.

CONTACT INFORMATION For questions or concerns, please reach out to the director via email. Communication is key to a successful year!

- www.JeffersonChoirs.com
- Email – please check your email regularly and read to the bottom. Sometimes these will come directly from a director, sometimes these will come through CutTime or Infinite Campus.
- Text Messages - these will come through CutTime
- Facebook - @sfjeffersonchoirs
- Instagram - @sfjeffersonchoirs

We are excited for a fantastic 2026-2027 season! Thank you for your dedication and passion for show choir!

JHS Show Choir Student Acknowledgment and Agreement

Due by April 10, 2026

Students, please check each box below to indicate your understanding and agreement with the following statements:

- ☐ I am enrolled in a curricular choir (**Aurora, Chorale, Independence, or Concert Choir**) for the entirety of the **2026-2027** school year. (If not, I will contact my counselor ASAP to get a choir class added.)
- ☐ I understand that solo selections and blocking placements are determined at the discretion of the Directors and Choreographers. I will maintain a professional attitude and demonstrate good sportsmanship, regardless of the outcome.
- ☐ I will attend **all** scheduled choreography sessions, rehearsals, performances, and competitions.
- ☐ I will provide at least **24 hours' notice** and appropriate documentation for an absence to be considered excused.
- ☐ I acknowledge that excessive excused absences may result in **loss of blocking positions, removal from a competition, or, in severe cases, removal from the team.**
- ☐ I understand that **any unexcused absence** will result in **loss of blocking positions, removal from a competition, or removal from the team.**
- ☐ I will maintain the required academic eligibility to participate in Show Choir.
- ☐ I will not engage in smoking, drinking, vaping, or the use of any illicit substances that could result in an activity violation.
- ☐ I will not participate in **harassment or bullying** of any kind, including through actions, direct messages, or social media platforms (public or private). I understand that negative or inappropriate behavior will have consequences.
- ☐ I will fulfill my **fundraising commitment** through participation in fundraising events, direct payment by check, or credit/debit payment via **CutTime**.
- ☐ I have received and reviewed the **Jefferson High School Show Choir Handbook**. I understand that my actions and decisions impact my participation in Show Choir, and I accept responsibility for adhering to the guidelines outlined in the handbook.

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Student PRINTED Name

_____ _____

Student SIGNATURE **Date**

_____

Parent/Guardian PRINTED Name

_____ _____

Parent/Guardian SIGNATURE **Date**