

8th Grade Choir: Royer

Final Assignments:

1. Download an Audio Recorder
2. Voice Placement
3. Playlist for your Life

Due Dates:

Download a Recorder: *Friday, May 8th*

Voice Placement: *Friday, May 15th*

Playlist for your Life: *Friday, May 22nd*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

The first 2 assignments (download an audio recorder and voice placement) are only for students who wish to audition for Women's Choir or Symphonic Choir next year. There are 3 choirs in high school: Concert Choir, Women's Choir, and Symphonic Choir. You do not have to audition to be in Concert Choir.

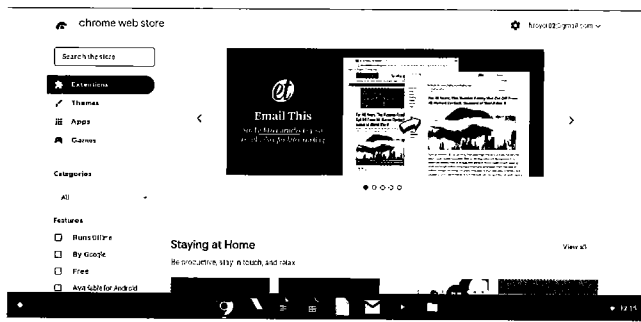
You only have to complete these 2 assignments if you would like to be in Women's or Symphonic Choir next year. Ms. Royer will be using a combination of what she has seen from each student throughout the year, as well as this small assignment to find the best place for you and your voice next year.

Assignment: Download an Audio Recorder

Show Ms. Royer that you have downloaded the app, “Simple Audio Recorder” by recording yourself stating your name and your favorite song. Upload that recording to Google Classroom, or send it in an email to Ms. Royer.

Directions for How to Download the Audio Recorder:

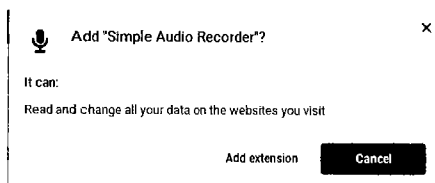
1. Go to the “Chrome Web Store” by typing in “chrome web store” into Google, or your internet browser. The Chrome Web Store looks like this:



2. Where it says, “Search the Store” in the upper left hand corner, type in “simple audio recorder.” The simple audio recorder app looks like this:



3. Click the blue button that says “Add to Chrome.”
4. You will see a pop up that looks like the picture below. Click “Add extension.”



5. Once you click that button, this page will appear:



Dear user,

Thank you very much for installing Simple Audio Recorder

If installation was successful you can see the popup where your Chrome is asking you to allow Simple Audio Recorder to use your mic. Please allow, read the small description below and turn the extension on.

The extension's functionality is dead simple yet powerful and useful. Click on the mic icon that lives beside the address bar. After that recording of your voice will begin and you will see a small timer that informs you about elapsed time. Click it one more time - the recording will stop and there will be a prompt that suggests you to save your recordings as an audio file.

Turn on

Developed by Sergey Chernykh

6. Click the button that says "turn on." Once you do that, a small microphone will appear in the top right hand corner of your screen. If you click that microphone, it will start recording everything you say/sing. Once you are done recording, click the microphone again. You will see a pop up at the bottom of your screen. If you click on that, it will play your recording.
7. You can access this recording by finding your chromebook's files. You will have to look under "downloads," and your sound will be there!
8. Show Ms. Royer that you have downloaded the app, "Simple Audio Recorder" by recording yourself stating your name and your favorite song. Upload that recording to Google Classroom, or send it in an email to Ms. Royer.

Assignment: Voice Placement

Sing warm ups like we do in class, record them on the audio recorder, and submit the recording to Ms. Royer on Google Classroom or send it through an email.

Directions for how to complete a voice placement:

1. Find the files on Google Classroom called:
 - Ascending Ladies Warm Ups
 - Descending Ladies Warm Ups
 - Ascending Gents Warm Ups
 - Descending Gents Warm Ups
2. Sing along with the recordings until you feel comfortable recording yourself. You should sing along with the ascending warm ups as well as the descending warm ups.
3. Once you are ready, record yourself using the audio recording app and submit it to Ms. Royer through email or Google Classroom

Assignment: Playlist for Your Life

Directions:

First, find 15 songs that you love listening to. You can pick any songs you like, any type of music. Next, you must describe **why** you like each song. Finally, pick your favorite 3 songs from Ms. Royer's list of choral music. You must describe **why** you picked each song from the list. You must use the worksheet titled "Playlist for Your Life" to complete this assignment.

How to turn it in:

Find the worksheet titled, "Playlist for Your Life." You can complete the worksheet by printing it out, completing it by hand, and then sending a picture or scan to Ms. Royer by email or through Google Classroom. You may also drop it off at the school between 10-12 each day.

You can also complete this by typing up your answers on a word document on your computer. You can send that through email or Google Classroom as well.

A Letter from Ms. Royer

OMS-OHS Choirs | April 30th, 2020

Note from Ms. Royer:

Dear students,

Greetings! I hope you are staying healthy! Please be checking ProgressBook to see which assignments you have completed, and which ones you still need to complete. If you have not completed the assignments in full, please do so as soon as possible. **Students and parents will be able to drop off their assignments at the school Monday-Thursday 10-1.** Please know that I miss seeing and teaching each and every one of you on a daily basis. All the best to you during this time and don't forget to make music part of each day!

Sincerely,
Ms. Royer

Assignments:

One final assignment posted to Google Classroom AND available for pickup at the school.

- *Final assignment due Friday, May 22nd.*
- *It is suggested that students do parts of this assignment each week to pace themselves.*

8TH GRADE STUDENTS: If 8th grade students would like to audition to be in Women's Choir or Symphonic Choir, they may submit a "voice placement" assignment. This assignment is not required to be a part of Concert Choir next year, but it should be completed if a student would like to audition for another group.

ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS: If middle school students have completed the packet from the first 3 weeks we were online, they may turn that into the school or send it to Ms. Royer through email. They may also choose to log onto Ms. Royer's office hours to show her the work.

Submission of Assignments:

Students may submit their assignments at the school, on Google Classroom, or through email. Please email Ms. Royer at orvl_hroyer@tccsa.net

Google Classroom Codes: Join your choir class on Google Classroom to access online materials.

6th Grade Choir: vtjwh3q

8th Grade Choir: s5axext

Concert Choir: wa53bgb

Women's Choir: kllkmma

Symphonic Choir: mu5ordg

Office Hours and Assignment Help:

- Ms. Royer will be available for online "office hours" where you can speak with her virtually and ask any questions you may have.
- **Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 9-10am AND 12-1pm
- To speak with Ms. Royer online...
 - You must log onto Google Classroom and look for an announcement titled "Office Hours."
 - Look at today's date, and click the appropriate link.
 - After clicking the appropriate link, you must select "join meeting."

Email Ms. Royer at orvl_hroyer@tccsa.net

Ms. Royer will be checking/responding to email and Google Classroom every day.

Playlist for Your Life

Name: _____

Directions:

1. List 15 songs that you love listening to! They can be any song, and any type of music. Once you list the songs, you must explain *why* you like them in at least 2 complete sentences. Responses such as "it's cool" will be marked incomplete.
2. Find 3 pieces of music from Ms. Royer's list (found on the last 3 pages) that you like. Listen to them and tell me what you like about them, just like you did for your own playlist.

Your Playlist:

Song 1

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 2

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 3

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 4

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 5

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 6

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 7

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 8

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 9

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 10

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 11

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 12

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 13

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 14

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Song 15

Title: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why you like it:

Songs that you like from Ms. Royer's playlist:

Song 1

Title: _____

Why you like it:

Song 2

Title: _____

Why you like it:

Song 3

Title: _____

Why you like it:

Ms. Royer's List of Choral Music:

1. Title: Rivers of Light

Composer: Eriks Esenvalds

Listen: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AIJGI_xkraY

Why I like this piece:

I love that the two completely different solos at the beginning and in the middle of the piece are eventually sung together. It was so difficult for the composer to take those two different melodies and put them together. But they sound beautiful!

“Dissonance” is when two or more notes that are very close together are sung at the same time. This piece has a lot of great dissonance, and it is one of my favorite things to hear in music. The composer uses dissonance and dynamics (loud/soft) together, to make some really epic parts of this piece!

2. Title: Earth Song

Composer: Frank Tichelli

Listen: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qZ4u_2ZA1c

Why I like this piece:

This piece has some of the best dissonance that I have heard in choral music. (Look at my explanation of dissonance above to see what it means.) The low men's voices support the rest of the higher notes being sung above them, and the high women's voices in this choir are so clear and beautiful. This choir brings out the melody while so many other notes are being sung. Here are the beautiful words that the choir is singing:

“Sing, Be, Live, See. This dark stormy hour, the wind, it stirs. The scorched earth cries out in vain: O war and power, you blind and blur, the torn heart cries out in pain. But music and singing have been my refuge, And music and singing shall be my light. A light of song shining strong: Alleluia! Through darkness, pain, and strife, I'll sing, be, live, see...peace.”

3. Title: O Fortuna

Composer: Carl Orff

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXF5K0ogeg4>

Why I like this piece:

You may have heard of this piece before! It is featured in many different epic movies and commercials. It is originally from a large musical work called “Carmina Burana” and is sung in Germanic Latin. My favorite part of the song is at 1:37 in the recording. The orchestra and singers have been performing at a quiet dynamic, but with a lot of energy. You can tell something is about to happen! All of the sudden, at 1:37, the music picks back up again, and the “bass drops!”

4. Title: O God Beyond All Praising

Composer: Gustav Holst

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TymGK7HzbwI>

Why I like this piece:

This piece is a small snippet from a large musical work called, "The Planets." "The Planets" includes 7 songs - one about every planet in our solar system. This song is about the planet Jupiter. Each of the planets has its own personality, and Jupiter is supposed to be a king. I love the regal and majestic sound of this piece! I also love that the melody stays the same throughout the whole song, but it's a little different each time. Later in the piece, you can hear some women singing a high part that wasn't there before. It adds some extra drama to the piece, that makes it even more epic!

5. Title: Speechless (from Aladdin)

Composer: Alan Menken

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=csmku3VHFS0>

Why I like this piece:

I love the empowering message of this song. My favorite part about this recording is the amazing choir! Their diction (consonants) is so crisp, and I can understand every word. The soloists have such great voices, and they are so expressive and confident. It is so neat that choir can be something like this, or something totally different and classical.

6. Title: Dies Irae

Composer: Wolfgang A. Mozart

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RKJur8wpfYM>

Why I like this piece:

This is another piece for me that sounds so dramatic and epic! This is another piece that has been featured in many movies. One of my favorite parts of this piece is when the ladies and gentlemen trade parts back and forth. The ladies might sing a section, and then the gentlemen echo.

7. Title: Tykus Tykus

Composer: Vaclovas Augustinas

Listen: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_kRP8ozzwSk

Why I like this piece:

The word "tykus" that you keep hearing over and over is supposed to make you think of secrets being whispered. It means "quietly." One of the coolest parts is right

around 2:35 when the choir clicks their tongues to sound like a horse! This piece is about a boy and a girl in love, and the boy is riding his horse to go see her. I can't help but smile when I listen to this piece - the melody is so much fun!

8. Title: Unicornis Captivatur

Composer: Ola Gjeilo

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IlylPJx9q0>

Why I like this piece:

The best thing about this piece is what the text means! It is meant to sound very dramatic, but the text is so silly. It is sung in Latin, but here is what it means:

“The Unicorn is captured, it's presented to the royal court in the hunters' snare. Creeping, it freed itself from the pole. Because it's wounded, it heals itself with the viper's venom. Sing Alleluia to the dying lamb, sing Alleluia, cry Alleluia to the victorious Lion. Life returns to the wounded pelican after miserable death in its nest for the sins of the world. The Phoenix' light is burnt out, the ancient sins of the world are utterly consumed by flame. Sing Alleluia! The Hydra enters the crocodile, kills it, and comes back alive. Three days long the Lion slept till the King awakened it with a roar. Sing Alleluia!”

9. Title: Nearer My God To Thee

Composer: Arranged by James Stevens

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WyxXGdG3-Io>

Why I like this piece:

I like this piece so much not just because it is dramatic and awesome, but I love how the composer took a traditional song and made it different. The melody is part of a traditional hymn, but all of the extra stuff sung around that melody makes it sound pretty dramatic.

10. Title: Hold On

Composer: Traditional Spiritual

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWEB64ewzzc>

Why I like this piece:

I love this piece because of its history. It is a traditional song that was created by African Americans during slavery. It shows that they had hope through all of their terrible circumstances. The singers are so soulful and you can tell that they understand what they are singing about.

****Bonus fact:** the man who has a few solos in this recording is Bobby McFerrin (who wrote the song “Don't Worry Be Happy”).**

