

**Dubuque Senior High School Department of Choral Music**  
**Spring Semester 2017**  
**VOCAL JAZZ CHOIR**  
**(Senvoja)**

**Instructor: Stephen K. Slade Office Phone: 552-5605**

**EMAIL: [sslade@dbqschools.org](mailto:sslade@dbqschools.org)**

**Class Meeting Time: Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-4pm**

**Materials Required: Pencil, Folder, Single subject notebook for Jazz Journals**

**Purpose:**

- To create a high caliber choral ensemble dedicated to the study and performance of vocal jazz.
- To examine the development of the history of vocal jazz through the literature studied.
- To reinforce proper vocal technique and equate those to the vocal jazz idiom.
- To demonstrate the highest standards of performance, preparation, appearance and pride in all rehearsals and performances.

**Course Objectives:**

- Singers will gain and understanding of jazz style as it applies to both vocal and instrumental jazz.
- Singers will study and perform literature representative of various jazz styles including blues, swing, bebop, scat, ballad and unique jazz settings of classical works and folk songs.
- Singers will gain an understanding of microphone technique, but will not be trained in such a manner to become dependent on electronic technology for the production of tone, blend, etc. Emphasis will be placed on the healthy use of the vocal mechanism within the jazz genre.
- Singers will explore the area of vocal improvisation both as listeners and performers.
- Singers will study and perform jazz standards as soloists with a rhythm section.

**Responsibilities and Expectations:**

The success of this organization will depend largely upon prompt attendance, outside of class preparation of the literature, and rehearsal intensity. It is crucial that each member be prepared at each and every rehearsal. The music provided will serve as your class text. It must be brought to rehearsal in order to facilitate ensemble and individual growth. Inadequate rehearsal preparation or concert presentation may result in the student being removed as a performing member of the ensemble.

All students are responsible to assist with set-up and tear down of equipment prior to, and following rehearsals and concerts. The highest standards of performance, preparation, appearance and pride in all rehearsals and performances will be expected from each member.

**Attendance:**

The success of this ensemble is closely tied to the attendance of each member. No more than three unexcused absences will be allowed for this class. The student is responsible for notifying the instructor prior to any missed rehearsal session or concert and meeting with the instructor upon return to arrange make up work. Three tardies will equal one missed absence. Students are expected to be on time, which means early. Excessive absences, unexcused absence from a performance or habitual tardiness may result in course failure and automatic dismissal from the ensemble. This is an auditioned, select ensemble with very high goals and expectation.

**Academic Assessment:**

Assessment of individual progress will be made based on daily rehearsal participation, preparation, attentiveness,

