

# Vocal Ensemble

## Syllabus 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

### Course Description

This course is designed to introduce the student to the fundamentals of singing America's only original art forms, blues and jazz. The student will learn jazz phrasing, technique and increase their ability to hear and interpret melodies and chords. Thereby, not only becoming a good singer but a unique and powerful storyteller as well.

### Expectations and Goals

By the end of this course the student will have a working knowledge of blues and jazz music. They will be familiar with The American Songbook and its composers as well as some of the blues and jazz singers that have left an indelible mark on American popular music. The student will be expected to demonstrate the tools they have learned in this course through a written test and an onstage performance at the end of the course (Recital).

### Course Schedule

#### WEEK TOPIC

1 Oct 5	Placement Testing and Ensemble Auditions
2 Oct 12	Vocal Production: The Basics of Healthy Vocal Production Anatomy, Physiology, Posture, Breathing, Tone Production, Vocal Exercises
3 Oct 19	The Roots of Jazz: The Blues Blue Notes, the Blues Scale, the Blues Chord Progression, hearing the Chord Progression
4 Oct 26	Vocal Technique and Delivery Singing With Good Technique, Vibrato, Belting, Song Delivery
5 Nov 2	Melodic Improvisation Knowing the Chords of a Song, Changing the Melody Within a Song, Call and Response, Improvising With Words and Syllables
6 Nov 9	Interpretation Articulation, Vocal Inflections, Dynamics, the Message of the Song
7 Nov 16	The Ballad Characteristics of the Ballad, Song Form, Introductions, Endings, Telling the Story
8 Nov 23	The American Song Book American Songbook and Composers, Song Repertoire, How to Use a Microphone, Stage Presence
9 Nov 30	Examination
11 Dec 14	Recital