

Rehearsals (con't):

Please make personal plans around these dates – we need every member to attend the choreography sessions. Your commitment to participating in show choir includes your commitment to these dates.

Students are expected to arrive **ONE HALF HOUR BEFORE** scheduled rehearsal time to set up and warm up. That way the actual rehearsal starts on time. At the end of rehearsal, it takes about 15 minutes to break down the risers and put them away. We all leave together – every student has an assigned clean-up responsibility.

Show Choir Summer Camp

This camp will include vocal and choreography rehearsals as well as swimming, cookouts, volleyball and FUN! You will receive a separate letter with all necessary information about this event over the summer. Make sure we have your correct email and snail mail address.

Illusion – July 23 and 24

Fantasy – August 20 and 21

Festivals / Performances: Fantasy and Illusion participate in several New England Festivals. We will participate those listed below. Although sometimes things change, all dates have been confirmed except FAME, New York. A request for overnight travel has been submitted and that date will be confirmed once reviewed by the School Committee.

November 4 & 5 or November 11-12 – Bay State Show Choir Festival, Oliver Ames

December 16 and 17 – Holiday Spectacular, Shepherd Hill

Dress Tech Rehearsals December 14 and 15, 4:00-8:00

February 4 and 5 – Central Mass Show Choir Festival, Shepherd Hill

March 3 – Nutmeg Show Choir Festival, Windsor Locks

March 10 – New England Classic Show Choir Festival, Somerset

March 16, 17, 18 – FAME, New York (pending approval)

March 31 – Eastern Show Choir Festival, Waltham

Eligibility: Show Choir is an extra-curricular activity and consequently subject to Shepherd Hill academic requirements for participation in extra-curricular activities as adopted by the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee and outlined in the student handbook. Students must be passing a minimum of 4 major subjects to be eligible to participate. See your handbook for specifics. All show choir members are strongly encouraged to maintain an average of “C” or better in all classes. All show choir members are expected to participate in an academic performing ensemble to participate in Show Choir. Show Choir is designed to challenge students with above average ability in music. This assumes a level of technique and musical knowledge that is gained in the classroom ensemble.

Uniforms: There is no “set in stone” uniform policy. Most years, students are asked to purchase all or part of their uniform. If it is a uniform we feel we will be able to re-use, the department will purchase them. It is a good idea to plan 350.00 for your show choir uniforms.

Expenses: In addition to paying for custom music arrangements and choreography, the music department / MPA picks up the cost of all festival participation fees and transportation. Some festivals charge additional per person fees – usually to cover meals – which are passed on to the students. Overnight travel expenses are also the responsibility of the student. It is the policy of the Shepherd Hill Music Department not to exclude any student without the ability pay. Students with financial need should see Ms. Galli as soon as possible. The Music department sponsors several fund raisers throughout the year beginning with the magazine drive in September. Student involvement in these fundraisers has decreased significantly in the past few years, while festival fees and transportation costs continue to increase. If the Show Choirs are to maintain their active schedule of festivals and events, we need the support of ALL members in these fund raising events. Some families prefer not to participate in the fundraisers and choose to cover their child’s individual festival costs directly. (3 festivals – excluding Oliver Ames – at \$15.00 each) This is turned in at the fall fundraiser.

Financial Assistance: Music department policy remains no student will be left out of an activity or music trip because of an inability to pay. The following opportunities are available to ANY student who wants to bring the cost of their show choir expenses down:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| September | Magazine drive. Each Music Dept member is asked to sell 6 items. Students may use the profit (40%) from any sales ABOVE the first 6 toward their trip. There is a form located in the mailboxes by the office window and on the web site which MUST be submitted with your magazine returns in order to receive credit. Please note – magazine sales have become increasingly difficult over the past few years. We are looking for something to REPLACE this fall fundraiser. Ideas??? |
| October | Rehearse-a-thon. Students pledge to rehearse for 10 hours and solicit individual sponsorship per hour. All monies earned credited to the individual student account. Students have been very successful with this fund raiser. Last year several students earned over \$250.00 on this one event. |
| February | Candy Sale. Each music Dept member is asked to sell 1 box (40 bars). Credit of \$18 is given for each box after the first one. |

All students are encouraged to utilize the above mentioned fundraisers to minimize show choir expenses. Students with SIGNIFICANT financial need can apply for the work study program. Parents should see me individually for more information. Most work study jobs are assigned in the summer or early fall – please do not wait until September to apply as adequate hours may not be available in the fall.

Payment Schedule: We have found a monthly payment schedule to be very helpful. (See attached sheet) Additionally, we can often order uniforms and supplies at a reduced price if we pay up front. Our goal is always to do things as cost effectively as possible. If we can reduce costs throughout the year, we will eliminate or reduce payments. If there is a parent with good bookkeeping skills that would consider helping manage student accounts it would be most appreciated.

Notices: Students will (usually) receive information specific to each festival / event outlining the schedule for the day, guidelines for the event, directions, ticket info, etc. In addition, we will maintain a parent mailing list – all notices distributed to the students will be emailed home via the music parents’ mailing list. Distributing notices in a timely manner is NOT one of my strengths. However, the “Schedule” link at shepherdhillchorus.com is almost always up to date. Clicking on an event will open a window with additional information specific to that day.

Music Parents: One of the reasons we are able to offer so many opportunities in music to our students has been through the help and support of our parents. As the budget situation in all Massachusetts schools becomes more difficult, we are fortunate to have the financial backing of this dedicated group of people. In addition to assisting with monetary needs, we also rely on parents to chaperone, build, repair, sew, bake, sell tickets.... Can you please help? We are asking each family to complete the Parent Information Form contained in this packet. Music Parents meet the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the cafeteria. Please consider attending!

Sectional Rehearsals: Captain’s practices will be held informally throughout the summer and the school year for both groups. Students are strongly encouraged to attend as many of these practices as possible.

Forms: Included in this packet are a parent /student information form, a Dance-A-Thon sponsor sheet, payment schedule, and the 2011-2012 ad book form. You have already received you health form and Discipline Standards acceptance form. **Please complete and return all forms on or before our last rehearsal – June 6.** Earlier is better! (both can be printed from the “Forms” link at shepherdhillchorus.com should yours be lost) Health forms remain on file for the entire school year and should be updated as needed throughout the year. We ask all returning members to complete a NEW form annually with an updated photo. Students will not be allowed to participate in summer activities without this information in my hands.

Also – regarding ad book sponsorship. We would like to have 100% of our show choir families sponsor “Fantasy” and “Illusion” this year. Please consider this \$10.00 sponsorship if at all possible. And our students love looking through the program for personal messages addressed to them!!!

I think that covers most of it! Again – please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions.
And don’t forget about the meeting June 6. We are on our way to another rocking year!!!

Shepherd Hill Regional High School Show Choir
2011 - 2012

DISCIPLINE STANDARD GUIDELINES

The Shepherd Hill Regional High School Music Program has long enjoyed a reputation for musical excellence and worthy educational achievements. Because of our appearances at music conferences and festivals, our competition ratings, and our own local concerts; audiences, music conductors, educators, and students from other schools have come to expect exceptionally high levels of musical performance and personal behavior from the Shepherd Hill performing groups. The countless but productive hours, which have brought about this high level of proficiency, are indicative of the commitment the students and faculty bring to their work. The advancement of the music program at Shepherd Hill has been both exciting and rewarding and has resulted in a very well respected department.

We wish to maintain these worthy traditions while increasing the musical sensitivity and character growth of our students through cooperative effort, self-discipline, responsibility, patience, attention to detail, and the desire for perfection. A proper attitude and a strong concept of responsibility to ones' self and to the group are necessary to achieve these indispensable values. We believe that each student, through his or her full participation in the Shepherd Hill Regional High School Music Program, will have the opportunity to experience and achieve better things throughout their lifetime.

It is in the spirit of cooperation that I ask each parent or guardian of a participating student, as well as the students themselves, to read the following disciplinary objectives in order that the show choir continues to project the high standard of discipline and performance which is associated with our music program. Please sign and date the Discipline Standard Guidelines form included in this packet to indicate that you have read, understand, and accept these guidelines:

We are looking for students who **CARE**:

Commitment - to the group effort, which means keeping the good of the group as your top priority. **DO MORE** than your share. Set up / clean up / load truck without complaining. If you see that something needs to be done, **JUST DO IT**. Do not wait for someone to ask you for help – take the initiative. Bring your music and a pencil to every rehearsal. Practice during the week. Make sure you are not the “weakest link.”

Attitude Keep your comments and your outlook positive. Strive to improve with each rehearsal. Help the members of the group who need help. Offer that help graciously. Accept correction graciously. Keep personal problems out of rehearsal. Gossip is **BAD**. You don't need to be friends with everyone in the group, but all group members must respect each other and be able to work as a team.

Responsibility Attendance at **ALL** rehearsals and performances is **REQUIRED**. **There is no such thing as an “excused absence.”** In the event of legitimate illness or emergency, directors must be notified **BY A PARENT PRIOR TO** the missed event. It is the responsibility of the student to make up any missed work prior to the next rehearsal. We will do our best to work around conflicts with sports and other organized school activities **PROVIDED** details are worked out with the directors ahead of time. For most of the year, we only rehearse one day a week. Plan accordingly. Finish your term paper ahead of time...start studying for that big test the night **BEFORE** rehearsal. Parents can help by not scheduling appointments (doctor, dentist, etc.) on published rehearsal / performance days. Dates for choreography weekends and performances will be available before the end of the school year. If you cannot commit to these dates you cannot participate in show choir.

Excellence The Shepherd Hill Show Choirs have a long history as outstanding programs. Show choir should be fun, but that “fun” is a result of a great deal of hard work. Accept nothing less than your very best at all times. Every student deserves the opportunity to excel. Any behavior that infringes on another student will not be tolerated and result in your removal from the group.

StageRight Riser System with Z-800 Riser Supports



We are looking to replace our current Wenger Risers with new Stage Right risers, starting with the tallest levels and working our way down to the shorter decks. Our current risers have served us well for over 10 years, and have been well used. Weekly rehearsals and long weekends of dance involving lateral movement have loosened the corners where the posts lock in. Creative use of bungie cords and duct tape has kept our staging safe and stable, but looking ahead we are not sure how much longer that “bandaid” will work. The StageRight system is specifically designed to withstand the movement that traditionally weakens other riser systems. Most competitive show choirs have moved over to this system which has proven to be durable, stable, and easy to set up.

So far, with proceeds from the spring show choir concert and several private donations, we have enough to purchase 2 sets of StageRight risers. I am hoping to have at least 8 by the Holiday Pops and am looking to you for help. Does your place of employment consider charitable donations? Do you belong to a civic organization that might consider helping us out? Do you know of private events that might wish to “hire” our singers? Got a rich uncle? We can offer a complimentary ad in the Music Parents Adbook to any contributors, and will publicize the names of the donors at all our events.

Each StageRight 4’ by 8’ platform with a set of legs costs \$575. Any help you can give in either soliciting donations or putting me in touch with the right people would be most appreciated. Any profit from the Summer Middle School Show Choir Clinic will also be used toward the new risers, so please help us spread the word. I have included a flyer in this packet. Thank you in advance for all your help!

Shepherd Hill Regional High School Music Department
Show Choir Parent / Student Information Sheet 2011-2012

Student Name _____ Grade (2011-2012) _____

Residential Address _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Home Phone _____ Student Cell Phone _____

Student Email Address _____

Parent / Guardian Name(s) _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Mom Cell _____ Dad Cell _____

Parent Email Address (for mailing list) _____

Get Involved!!!! Your continued help and assistance are very important. Please let us know if there areas in which you are able to help out. Check as many as you wish and can!!!

_____ I would like more information about Music Parents or Parents Meeting Information

I am able to help in the following areas:

_____ Just give me something to do, I'll be
 here anyway. ☺

_____ Equipment Maintenance / Repair

_____ Sets/ Props Building

_____ Sewing

_____ I can't sew, but can help cut or pin!

_____ Stage Crew

_____ Baking / Cooking

_____ Chaperone

_____ Assist at events – ticket sales, etc.

_____ Publicity/Record Keeping/Mail Lists

_____ Make phone calls

_____ Drive/ load the truck

_____ I would like to help, however time does not permit me to do so this year.

For your planning purposes, the dates of our major Music Department events this year are listed below. Please indicate which events you will be available to help with.

_____ October 8 – Band Festival

_____ November 19 – Craft Fair

_____ December 16/17 – Holiday Pops

_____ February 3/4 – Show Choir Festival

_____ March (TBA) Winter Guard / Winter Percussion Festival

Shepherd Hill Music Parents Association 2011/2012 Ad Book Fund Drive Program

Dear Parents, Family Members, Students, Teachers, and Friends:

Your support of this fund raising program for our music department is critical to continued success! To contribute, you may choose to be a “*sponsor*” of one or more of the performing ensembles featured in the program book. *Sponsor* names will be listed adjacent to the appropriate group in the Ad Book. You may also wish to place a “*one-line support message*” for one or more of your favorite Shepherd Hill music students. **Any way you choose to contribute is greatly appreciated!**

SPONSOR AD: Yes! I (we) wish to be included as “*sponsors*” of the following performing ensembles in the 2011/2012 Program Book. **Each ensemble sponsorship fee is \$10.00.**

Please check off the group(s) that you wish to sponsor:

Concert Choir Band Chamber Singers Winter Percussion
 Show Choir Jazz Band Color Guard Women’s Choir
 Madrigals

***Sponsor Name(s): _____

Number of Groups Sponsored: _____ at \$10.00 each: Total: \$ _____ (Payable to “SHMPA”)

Example of sponsorship:

your

Color Guard Sponsors
 Lauree Larson Bowes & Bob Bowes
 The Deren & Phillips Families
 Don and Donna Wayman
 Dave and Christ Oristo

Personal Messages.....

Brent, we’re so proud of the heart and soul you’ve given to
 music...and your studies! Congratulations- with lots of love,
Mom, Dad, and Keith
 Kyle, have a great year! Keep the beat!
Mom and Matthew

One Line Personal Ad: Yes! I (we) wish to place our personal message of encouragement with this “*one-liner*”. This message will be placed randomly in our Ad Book. **Each one-liner support message is \$10.00.**

Payable to “SHMPA”. Please remember to include this total with your sponsorship total.

From: _____

Message: _____

Personal One Line Ad at \$10 each: Total:\$ _____ (Payable to “SHMPA”)

Please fill out this form (additional copies are available so do not “limit” yourself!) and send along with your donation **no later than September 15, 2011**. Please remember to fill in your name on the sponsor line and/or “from” line for the personal message. This will ensure proper recognition of your donation. The form and donation may be mailed to the address below, sent to school with your child, hand delivered to Dawn Pettinelli, or hand delivered to any member of the Executive Board. We are hoping for a “record year”. Please support this wonderful program.

Dawn Pettinelli - Chairperson of the Ad Book Fund Drive

Please attach your check to this form and return by September 15, 2011

SHMPA, P.O. Box 551, Charlton, MA 01507

THANK YOU!

Shepherd Hill Show Choir 2011-2012 Anticipated Expenses and Payment Schedule

Anticipated Expenses:

Uniform (including shoes and accessories)	\$350.00
Oliver Ames – student registration and hotel	\$ 85.00
Spring Travel	\$600.00

Please understand these are HIGH estimates for MAXIMUM costs. With successful fundraising, careful planning, some hand sewing in place of all custom ordered uniforms, etc. these numbers should come down. We are re-using some costume pieces like the 3 inch character shoes. Students who purchased them last year will not incur those costs again this year. Additionally your fund raising ideas are appreciated. Want to sponsor/supervise a car wash? Pancake breakfast? Can you sell extra tickets to the Holiday Show? Donate a gift item for the raffle? Does your place of employment have a charitable donations policy? Do you belong to a civic organization interested in sponsoring student events? Every time the choirs raise \$900 everyone's expenses go down \$10.00.

Note: Girls participating in both Fantasy and Illusion do not incur double travel costs, nor do they need to double fundraising minimums. They will, however, incur separate uniform costs for each ensemble. Last year, even girls involved in both ensembles still made it under the payment plan cap – with \$3 to spare!

Payment Schedule:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date Due</u>	<u>To Cover (Estimated)</u>
\$ 75.00	Summer Camp	Initial uniform deposit, shoes
\$150.00	September 15	Initial travel deposit
\$150.00	October 15	Uniforms
\$150.00	November 15	Oliver Ames, uniforms
\$ 60.00	December 15	Uniforms
\$150.00	January 15	Travel
\$150.00	February 15	Travel
\$150.00	March 15	Travel

Fundraising credits (magazines, rehearse-a-thon, candy sale) can be applied to any payment except the first one (summer camp). There is an area on the payment slips to list those credits. The expense list above assumes students will participate in the fall fund raiser. If you plan to opt out and cover festival fees on your own that will be considered part of the fundraiser and is not included on this payment schedule. Students in the work study program must complete hours prior to the payment due dates.

Please remit payment slip with each payment. Fund Raising or Work Study monies may be deducted from any payment EXCEPT payment 1.

Cut here -----

Payment 8 – Due on or before March 9, 2012

Name _____

Amount: \$150

Total: _____ Check Number _____ Please make checks payable to “SH Music”

Fundraising Credit: Activity _____ Amount \$ _____

Cut here -----

Payment 7 – Due on or before February 15, 2012

Name _____

Amount: \$150

Total: _____ Check Number _____ Please make checks payable to “SH Music”

Fundraising Credit: Activity _____ Amount \$ _____

Cut here -----

Payment 6 – Due on or before January 15, 2012

Name _____

Amount: \$150

Total: _____ Check Number _____ Please make checks payable to “SH Music”

Fundraising Credit: Activity _____ Amount \$ _____

Cut here -----

Payment 5 – Due on or before December 15, 2011

Name _____

Amount: \$60

Total: _____ Check Number _____ Please make checks payable to “SH Music”

Fundraising Credit: Activity _____ Amount \$ _____

Please remit payment slip with each payment. Fund Raising or Work Study monies may be deducted from any payment EXCEPT payment 1.

Cut here -----

Payment 4 – Due on or before November 15, 2011

Name _____

Amount: \$150

Total: _____ Check Number _____ Please make checks payable to “SH Music”

Fundraising Credit: Activity _____ Amount \$ _____

Cut here -----

Payment 3 – Due on or before October 15, 2011

Name _____

Amount: \$150

Total: _____ Check Number _____ Please make checks payable to “SH Music”

Fundraising Credit: Activity _____ Amount \$ _____

Cut here -----

Payment 2 – Due on or before September 15, 2011

Name _____

Amount: \$150

Total: _____ Check Number _____ Please make checks payable to “SH Music”

Fundraising Credit: Activity _____ Amount \$ _____

Cut here -----

Payment 1 – Due on or before Summer Camp, 2011

Name _____

Amount: \$75

Total: _____ Check Number _____ Please make checks payable to “SH Music”



**CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS
MIDDLE SCHOOL**



SUMMER SHOW CHOIR CLINIC

Dance Singing Friends

Five Fun-Filled Days!

Monday, August 1 through Friday, August 5

3:00 PM—7:00 PM Daily

Performance for family and friends—Friday at 7:00 PM

Vocal and Choreography Workshops
Small Group Vocal Coaching
Classes and Clinics on a Variety of Topics
(Microphone Techniques; Hip Hop; Ballet Basics;
Yoga and Breathing; Rock Your Solo; Etc)

Clinic Open to All Singers and Dancers Currently in Grades 4 through 8

Please complete and return by July 1 with \$125.00 Registration Fee to:
Connie Galli, Shepherd Hill Regional High School
68 Dudley-Oxford Road, Dudley, MA 01571

Student Name _____ Current Grade _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Phone _____ Other Phone _____

T-Shirt Size (Circle One) Child M Child L Adult S Adult M Adult L Adult XL

Please Make Checks Payable to “SH Music”

Additional materials will be mailed
upon receipt of registration.

Fun!

Fun!