

To: All HHS Band and Choir Members and Parents  
From: Mrs. Conerty and Mrs. Nardone  
Date: September 8, 2020

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! We can't wait to work with you this year, and we hope that you are excited about the performing arts opportunities and adventures that await. Attached is our Performing Arts Department Handbook, which includes important information for students and families. Please completely fill out and return the [Authorization and Release Form](#) on page 2 and return it to Mrs. Conerty or Mrs. Nardone (via in person or scan and email) by Tuesday, September 15.

The performing arts have the potential to make meaningful connections to the lives of students, the community, and society as a whole. Now more than ever, we are all relying on the arts in many ways as we take in various forms of music and media to help make our days a little bit brighter. This year, we are all going to have to get creative and think outside of the box as we develop ways that we can come together as a performing arts department to create and perform.

Please visit our website at [www.hhsvt.com/academics/performing](http://www.hhsvt.com/academics/performing) and follow the Performing Arts Department on Instagram [@hartfordperformingarts](https://www.instagram.com/hartfordperformingarts) for photos, updates, and important announcements throughout the year!

Thank you for taking the time to read this information! Things in the performing arts world are frequently changing during COVID times and we ask for your patience and perseverance as we navigate these new pathways together. We will keep you updated as necessary via email. We are always available should you have any questions, comments, or concerns to share with us.

Lastly, we would like to invite every student and family to our opening "Welcome to the Performing Arts Department" Zoom meeting on Tuesday, September 15 at 7 PM. We will share the Zoom invite via email. Here's to a musical year!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Danielle Conerty*  
Instrumental Music  
(802) 295-8610 ext. 2536  
[conertyd@hartfordschools.net](mailto:conertyd@hartfordschools.net)

*Mrs. Andrea Nardone*  
Vocal Music  
(802)295-8610 ext. 2136  
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# HARTFORD HIGH SCHOOL

37 Highland Avenue - White River Junction, Vermont 05001

Phone (802) 295-8610 - Fax (802) 295-8611

## 2020-2021 PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION and RELEASE

I, as parent, or as legal guardian, do hereby authorize my child, whose name and address appears below, to participate in Performing Arts Department activities sponsored through Hartford High School. This may include transportation, use of equipment, use of facilities, and necessary preparatory activities. I further hereby release the Hartford School District and its employees from any and all liability for personal injuries and/or property damage sustained by my child, or any claim which I may have as a parent, arising directly or indirectly in connection with this program.

In case of injury or illness, I authorize the Hartford High School staff, or other music festival staff for the event at which the student is in attendance, to take my child to a doctor or to a hospital for treatment. This authorization and release is valid for the 2020-2021 academic year.

**Please sign below once you have read the handbook and agree to the contents. Please also complete the contact information and return to Mrs. Conerty or Mrs. Nardone.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Parental Guardian Contact Information:

Guardian A Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guardian B Name \_\_\_\_\_

Primary phone \_\_\_\_\_ Primary phone \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary phone \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Student Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# Hartford High School Performing Arts Department 2020-2021 Handbook

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## Highlights

*This list is subject to frequent alterations and additions*

**September 15 @ 7:00 PM:** Welcome to the Performing Arts Department Zoom Meeting (link to be shared via email)

**October:** Potential outdoor performance

**October/November:** Department fundraiser, more information coming!

**December:** New England Solo Festival Virtual Performance

**December:** Virtual Caroling

**April:** Annual Musical *The Drowsy Chaperone*; April 22-25

**May:** Performing Arts Department Recognition

**June:** Graduation, Friday June 11 (band and chamber choir may perform, please save this date!)

# Performing and COVID-19

During all in-person performing arts activities, we are following the VT AOE reopening guidance as well as the NFHS Coalition Performing Arts COVID-19 Study [Results](#). These guidelines are frequently changing, but some of the protocols are:

- Students will remain 6 feet apart while performing
- Wind instruments must be covered with a bell cover made out of 2 layers (homemade or purchased from a vendor; does not apply to flute or percussion)
- Masks are required when singing (it is advised to bring two masks to school, one for the day and one for singing)
- Rehearsals will frequently occur outdoors

## Assessment of Proficiency Based Learning Opportunities

- **CREATE: 75% of each quarter grade**
  - I can develop and refine skills in multiple music-making techniques and approaches. I can monitor my own progress and develop the next steps to improve.
    - Rehearsal P.E.P.P.:
      - **Positive Participation; Eye Contact; Posture; Punctuality**
    - Band Lessons
    - At-home practice
  - I can utilize compositional techniques to create my own musical works and collaborate with others on their works. I can provide myself and my peers with feedback.
    - Noteflight lessons and composition projects
    - Soundtrap
- **PERFORM: 15% of each quarter grade**
  - I can demonstrate growth in varying elements of musical notation (pitch, rhythm, articulation, expressive markings, etc.) through group and/or individual performance.
    - Students will be assessed on varying elements of musical notation throughout each quarter.
    - Students will perform with proper tone and technique and demonstrate proper performance skills.
- **RESPOND: 10% of each quarter grade**
  - I can evaluate musical performances of my own and others and provide suggestions for improvement using music-specific vocabulary.

- **FINAL PROJECT: 10% of your overall final course grade**
  - Students will participate in a project-based learning opportunity as the final for this course.

*\*While this course is taught at the “standard” level, students will have the opportunity to earn an “advanced” credit by applying to do so through the teacher on or before Tuesday, September 22. Please see the “Band/Choir Advanced Credit Criteria” below for more information!*

## **Band/Choir Advanced Credit Criteria**

If you choose to take this course for advanced credit, you need submit your proposal to either Mrs. Conerty and Mrs. Nardone by **Tuesday, September 22**. If you are in both band and choir, you will select a concentration (vocal or instrumental). Once we have received your proposal, we will be in touch with you regarding the next steps for advanced credit.

This year, students who are interested in advanced credit should develop a proposal outlining their plan of how they will achieve advanced credit through the lens of singing and/or playing instruments. Your proposal should include your project outcomes and the steps that you will take throughout the year (October through May) to accomplish your goals. Your proposal must specifically outline how you will show evidence in the 3 Performing Arts PBLs (proficiency based learning outcomes):

**Create-** Identify and use the creative process to develop works of art.

**Perform/Present/Produce-** Demonstrate skills through presentation and/or performance.

**Respond-** Apply criteria to evaluate and/or interpret artistic work.

## **Concert Attire**

All students will adhere to the following concert attire\*.  
A consistent, unified look will embody professionalism within our ensembles.

- Black blouse (shoulders must be covered)
- or
- Black button down dress shirt (long-sleeves)
- Ties should accompany button down dress shirts
- Black pants, slacks, or skirts (skirts must be knee length or longer)

- Black dress shoes, with black socks or tights

*\*In the event of an outdoor performance, the concert attire will be modified to account for colder temperatures.\**

*\*\*Chamber Choir and Jazz Band members may add blue accents for their portion of the concert.\*\**

**Avoid the following:**

Jeans, shorts, leggings, t-shirts, tank-tops, spaghetti straps, sneakers/flip flops/casual footwear, athletic clothing, white socks, exposed midriffs, dark/visible undershirts and/or underwear, and hats.

**If you cannot acquire this attire:**

Please see Mrs. Conerty and/or Mrs. Nardone as soon as possible and we will discreetly provide you with concert attire.

## **Music Festivals**

We will provide more information regarding this year's music festivals once the powers that be make it available.

The New England Solo Festival is happening virtually in early December! Students will submit a virtual recording of their performance. Now is the time to select your solo- please see Mrs. Nardone and Mrs. Conerty for the repertoire.

## **Additional Information**

**Extra-Curricular Opportunities**

Throughout the year, we offer various opportunities for students to perform in additional ways beyond band and choir, including:

Chamber Choir

Jazz Band

Musical: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Auditions 9/22 & 9/23)

**Tri-M Music Honor Society**

Tri-M is a leadership opportunity for those involved in the performing arts. The Hartford High School Tri-M Chapter hopes to inspire people to participate in the Performing Arts Department programs here at Hartford, put on fun events for everyone, and raise money for special additional equipment and trips. See Mrs. Nardone or Mrs. Conerty for a Tri-M application and/or to review the requirements of Tri-M members.

### **Community Service Opportunities**

We have many community service opportunities available within the performing arts department! Students can earn hours by helping the music department host festivals, organize music libraries,, and more. Ask how you can help!

### **A note about music selections:**

To ensure that all Hartford music students receive a well-rounded music education, both band and choir will perform a variety of musical styles including but not limited to: folk, sacred, secular, and multicultural. For more information about this, please visit the National Association for Music Education's website:

[www.nafme.org/about/position-statements/sacred-music-in-schools-position-statement/sacred-music-in-schools/](http://www.nafme.org/about/position-statements/sacred-music-in-schools-position-statement/sacred-music-in-schools/)

### **Social Media**

Instagram: @hartfordperformingarts

Website: [www.hhsvt.com/academics/performing](http://www.hhsvt.com/academics/performing)