

Levi Fry Intermediate



CHOIR HANDBOOK 2022-23



Singing Strings Choir



 **One Big Happy Ohana!**

Mrs. Liesl Henry, Director

LCHenry@tcisd.org

(409) 916-0600 ext.1668

Rm D105

LFIS Administration

Felica Garrett, Principal • Dottie Williams, 5th Grade Assistant Principal • Andrew Lockhart, 6th Grade Assistant Principal

TCISD Fine Arts Department

Mark Lyon, Director of Fine Arts • Adam Hightower, TCHS Choral Director • Max Vowel, TCHS Assistant Choral Director • Glydel Obate, Blocker MS Choral Director

Greetings Singers!

Welcome to the Levi Fry Singing Stings Choir! In addition to singing and performing songs, students can also expect to be introduced to the beginning fundamentals of music. As the choral program develops, middle and high school students are expected to utilize these skills when competing on an individual and ensemble basis. Acquiring this knowledge at the beginner's level can only help to enhance the choral programs of TCISD and set our students up for success as they grow as young musicians.

Students will learn the basics of musical literacy, such as:

- Rhythm, tempo, and meter
- The Kodaly System for sight-reading
- The Musical Staff

CHOIR ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2022-23

★ Thursday, Oct. 6th/Time TBA – 5th / 6th Grade Choirs Fall Concerts
@ Blocker Middle School

★ Sunday, Nov. 6th/Time TBA – 6th Grade Choir Rotary Club Veterans Salute Performance

★ Tuesday, Dec. 13th/Time & Location TBA – 5th / 6th Grade Choirs Winter Concerts

★ Date/Time & Location TBA (Approx. End of February) – 5th / 6th Grade Choirs Pre-UIL Assessment Concert

★ Tuesday, May 2nd/Time TBA – 5th / 6th Grade Choirs Spring Showcase
@ Blocker Middle School

★★Date/Time/Location TBA (Approx. Mid May) – End-of-Year Trip

Dates and times may be SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Additional performances may also be scheduled throughout the year.

*All students are expected to participate for a grade

★★Students must meet eligibility requirements to participate. Details are found in this handbook.

CHOIR GRADE OVERVIEW

Students will receive numerical choir grades on each progress report and report card. Students will also receive a conduct grade every 9 weeks: E (Excellent – 0 Steps), S (Satisfactory – 1-2 Steps), N (Needs Improvement – 3-4 Steps), or U (Unsatisfactory – 5+ Steps)

EACH NINE WEEKS

Participation (60%)

- Daily Vocal Warm-ups
- Hand-Sign and Rhythm Exercises
- Singing of Music Repertoire★
- Behavior in Choir Classroom

★We will be learning a varied range of music styles that may include foreign languages and sacred music that are solely taught for educational purposes

Assignments (15%)

- Assignments evaluating student mastery of classroom concepts (written/oral)
- Handouts returned ON TIME

Morning Rehearsal (5%)

- We will have 1 morning rehearsal per concert for each grade level either the week prior or the week of the scheduled concert from 8:05-8:30am in the Levi Fry Gym. The exact date will be given with plenty of notice.
- All choir students are expected to attend. If they must arrive late to rehearsal due to transportation, parents must notify the director by electronic communication or handwritten note. Students who are ABSENT from morning rehearsal should also provide an electronic or handwritten excuse within 1 day of the rehearsal.

Concert Attendance (20%)

- Students are expected to perform at all concerts and a grade will be given for each concert. An automatic “0” grade will be given to non-performing students who do not complete the alternate assignment.
- Students who must miss a concert are expected to provide an electronic or handwritten note before or within 3 days after the concert to count as an excused absence.

- Students with excused absences may earn an alternative assignment concert grade up to 100. Students with UN-excused absences may only earn an alternative assignment concert grade up to 70.

Mrs. Henry's Basic Classroom Procedures

1. **How to enter the Choir Room** 🎵 Upon entering, students will ALWAYS WALK, first pick up their music folder/materials needed, then go straight to their assigned spot on the riser in an orderly fashion.
2. **How students will put away their materials and line up to leave** 🎵 Students will wait to be dismissed separately by rows to put away their music folders and then quietly line up inside the Choir Room in the designated spots until they are called for transition.
3. **Calling for students Attention** 🎵 Teacher claps 3x and says, "Ohana" then the students will respond with 1 clap saying, "Means" then sign with both hands saying, "Family" OR the teacher will use other call/response attention getters learned in class.
4. **Need a sharpened pencil?** 🎵 Raise hand with 1 finger, once teacher signals yes then students may quietly get a new pencil and place the old one in the "to be sharpened" bin.
5. **Need the restroom? (Emergencies ONLY)** 🎵 Raise hand with crossed fingers, once the teacher signals yes then students may sign out, take the restroom and quietly exit the Choir Room. Students may only go one at a time to the restroom. This is an **Emergency Only** policy since students are expected to take regular classroom restroom breaks with their core teachers. More than 2 restroom breaks per week will result in grade point reduction. In addition, students may not leave the classroom 5 minutes into the class period or 5 minutes before the class period is over for any reason except for extreme emergencies.

BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS



- Always watch the conductor for cues...this is what choir does.

At Rehearsal Choir Directors Be Like...



"Oh, I'm Sorry. Am I interrupting y'all's conversation with all this teaching?"

- Don't be *that* student who talks while the teacher is talking, singing and/or while the class is singing...it's rude.



- Gum is not permitted in the Choir Room or on the Levi Fry Campus. There is no eating or drinking in the Choir Room however bottled water is acceptable.



- Follow directions the FIRST time.



- We support one another 100% and DO NOT tolerate bully behavior including name calling, disrespect, and anything the director deems inappropriate.



- Do not leave your spot without permission from the teacher. Please raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged.

Students are expected to follow all the rules and expectations of the Levi Fry Student Handbook.

CONSEQUENCES

Students are expected to PARTICIPATE 100%. Talking without permission will not be tolerated. Points will be deducted from a student's participation grade for the following:

- Behavior Warning – reminder to refocus attention (-1 point)
- Step that is taken away (-5 points)
- Step in Planner (-10 points)
- After-School Detention (-15 points)
- Office Referral (-20 points)

Fighting WILL NOT be tolerated. Students will be removed from the choir classroom immediately.

The following steps will be taken if a student does not follow the classroom behavior expectations:

- First Infraction – Warning
- Second Infraction – Step (can be taken away by the end of class)
- Third Infraction – Phone Call Home/Detention
- Fourth Infraction – Office Referral

CHOIR DUES/FUNDRAISING

Choir dues for the year is \$25.00. This includes a casual choir t-shirt as well as a performance choir t-shirt. Family members may purchase additional casual t-shirts for \$10 each. The choir t-shirt order form is included in the packet of forms to be filled out and returned. Students may also participate in a fundraiser (TBA) to assist with choir dues and/or end-of-year field trip cost. Please contact Mrs. Henry directly for specific financial concerns.

CHOIR LEADERSHIP/CLASS REPS

Choir students will have the opportunity to apply to be their Choir Class Representative for the year. If any student is interested in applying for this position, please complete the application on the back of the T-Shirt order form.

CONCERT ETIQUETTE

Audience members will be expected to remain seated and quiet when the performance is in progress. If it is necessary to arrive late or leave before the concert is over, please do so between musical selections. The appropriate way to show appreciation for the performance is through applause. Parents will be expected to keep small children seated with them and not allow them to move around during the concert. Please ensure cell phones are silenced during performance.

CHOIR END-OF-YEAR TRIP

Our 5th and 6th grade choirs will take a trip at the end of the school year (locations TBA). To be eligible to attend the trip, students must meet the following guidelines:

- Students must be passing (70 or above) on all report cards.
- Students must have behavior grades of E/S on all report cards (no N/U).
- Students may have no more than 5 steps during the entire year in the choir classroom.
- Students may have no more than 1 after-school detention during the entire year from any teacher.
- Students may not spend a full day in ISS or be suspended.
- Students must attend all mandatory concerts during the school year. One excused absence will be permitted.

SOCIAL MEDIA/DIGITAL PHOTOS

Any choir member representing themselves or their organization in an unfavorable, questionable, or illegal manner through electronic media (including but not limited to text messages, Tik Tok, Snapchat, Facebook, personal homepages, blogs, etc.) or using electronic communication devices in such a way as to bring discredit, dishonor, or disgrace on the organization or members of any other school organization including themselves (i.e. camera phones, digital photos, electronic descriptions) will be subject to disciplinary actions determined by the directors and/or appropriate school officials, including but not limited to probation or dismissal from the choral program.

**** Changes to this handbook may be made throughout the year and will be posted on the Levi Fry Choir Website. A written copy of the changes will also be provided. ****

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

WE NEED YOU!!! Are you interested in helping our choir program this year as a chaperone/volunteer for any of our events? Please make sure you complete the Volunteer Criminal Background Check online via the link/QR Code below:






<https://appgarden2.app-garden.com/VolTrackTX084906.nsf>



This **MUST** be renewed every school year so if you completed this last school year, please go in and get renewed. Mrs. Henry will contact you about specific events as they occur.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Communications may be sent via Email through Skyward, Remind Messaging and Social Media platforms

 <p>Email Mrs. Henry</p>	 <p>Choir Website</p>	 <p>Remind</p>	 <p>Levi Fry Choir</p>	 <p>levifrychoir</p>
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Class: _____

Student Information/Acknowledgement Sheet

♪ Levi Fry Singing Stings 2022-2023 ♪

Please return all forms and fee\$ by

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Student Name _____

Grade _____ Homeroom Teacher _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number _____

Alternate Phone Number _____

Parent/Guardian E-Mail _____

Please read the following carefully and then sign below.

We have read and understand the expectations, grading, attendance, policies, and procedures required for being a member of the Levi Fry Singing Stings Choir as outlined by the choral director. We understand that failure to follow these guidelines may result in the student's dismissal from the program. We also understand that successful programs require teamwork between the school (teachers), students, and parents.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Please complete the photo release form on the back of this page



TEXAS CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Performing and Visual Arts

1700 9th Avenue North Texas City, Texas 77590 Telephone: (409) 916-0152 Fax: (409) 942-2655

2022-2023

**PARENT PERMISSION FOR RELEASE OF STUDENT
INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL-SPONSORED PURPOSES**

The District often requires the use of student information for the following school-sponsored purposes: student directory, yearbook, co-curricular and extra-curricular programs, photographs, television, school and community publications, and the webpage.

For these specific school-sponsored purposes, the District would like to use the student's name and/or photograph, to promote honors and awards received in our program.

_____ **YES, I DO GIVE** the Texas City ISD Performing and Visual Arts permission to release the information as listed in the above notice.

_____ **NO, I DO NOT GIVE** the Texas City ISD Performing and Visual Arts permission to release the information as listed in the above notice.

Student Name _____
(Please Print)

ID# _____ Grade _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

♪ **CHOIR SHIRT ORDER FORM** ♪

All Choir Students will receive 2 shirts which are included in the \$25 Choir Fee

Student Name _____

Choir Class Period: _____

STUDENT'S CASUAL SPIRIT & PERFORMANCE SHIRT:

Youth Sizing: YXS _____ YS _____ YM _____ YL _____

Adult Sizing: AS _____ AM _____ AL _____ AXL _____ Other _____

ADDITIONAL CASUAL SPIRIT SHIRT:

Youth Sizing/QTY: YXS _____ YS _____ YM _____ YL _____

Adult Sizing/QTY: AS _____ AM _____ AL _____ AXL _____ Other _____

Please include \$10 cash/check per additional T-Shirt. Checks should be made payable to Levi Fry Intermediate.

TOTALS (please use the envelope attached):

Additional Shirts _____ x \$10 = _____

+ Choir Fee \$ _____ 25.00

Order Total/Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Check # _____ or Cash _____

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING YOUR CHOIR CLASS REP

*****Please complete the application on the back of this page*****

CHOIR CLASS REPRESENTATIVE APPLICATION

OPTIONAL





Due: Wednesday, September 7th

1-2 students may be selected per class to be representatives depending on class size

First & Last Name: _____

Choir Class Period: _____ Homeroom Teacher: _____

Choir Class Representative Job Description/Responsibilities:

-  Model choir class citizen – is an example and behaves as they should by following the guidelines and expectations excellently. Also helps fellow choir students remain on task with encouraging words and actions
-  Assist with administrative duties i.e., organizing sheet music/folders, passing out/collecting materials, organizing choir shirts, etc.
-  Serve as a choir spokesperson for possible choir announcements
-  Class go-to person for questions. Students will ask rep(s) for simple choir-related information. If the representative does not know the answer, then Mrs. Henry will clarify.

Please Answer the Following Question:

Why are you interested in becoming the choir representative for your class?

PARENT/GUARDIAN REFERENCE:

Why do you recommend the applicant to become their choir class representative?

Thank you for your application! Mrs. Henry will announce in class who has been selected to serve as this year's choir class representative(s) on Friday, Sept. 9th