

- 2.1 Sing a repertoire of vocal literature representing . . . technical accuracy, tone quality, vowel shape, and articulation—written and **memorized, by oneself** and in ensembles

Vocal Solo Performance Unit

1. All students must LEARN and PERFORM a solo.
2. Students must choose from one of the three solos being taught in class.
3. All solos must be performed memorized.
4. All three solo pieces of music will be available in multiple keys. This will allow all students to sing in a range that is most comfortable for them and allow them to demonstrate their best singing. Mr. Huls will make the final decision on which key a performer should sing.
5. Students must use one of the three solos provided for the preliminary round of the annual District Kiwanis solo competition. The Kiwanis competition is an annual music scholarship competition in our district. It offers musical scholarships to three winners in each division (9th-10th, and 11th-12th). The preliminary round will take place in March and the finals will be in May. (Separate information will be made available regarding specifics of this competition). Students are NOT required to compete in the annual District Kiwanis solo competition but it is highly encouraged as it is an excellent opportunity to receive feedback and for growth.
6. All students hoping for consideration in Chamber Singers and Madrigal Ensemble **MUST** participate in the solo competition.
7. Students who do not wish to participate in the Kiwanis solo competition, will be assigned a specific day to perform their piece for the class prior to the competition.
8. Whether the solo performance is part of the competition or not, it is **PART** of the audition for placement in Fall 2022 Choral Ensembles.
9. When performing, students are to dress up (business casual, at least): no jeans, no shorts, no flip-flops, no t-shirts, no tennis shoes. Treat this as an interview for a job you really want.
10. A rubric is included for performance against which each student will be assessed.

Some Hints about Performance:

- Solo singing and acting are inseparable. Know what the words mean, and let your facial expression and body language communicate the song.
- Always acknowledge your accompanist at the end.
- Always hold the audience attention until the piano releases the final chord (Don't break your character or focus).
- Always acknowledge the applause graciously and smile even if you don't feel you performed your best.

Preparing a piece for solo performance is a different process of learning and requires a different level of details than group singing. It helps everyone have a deeper understanding of the music as well as technical aspects of their voice that they don't typically have to think about when performing with a group. Students will grow from the opportunity and gain a better understanding of their individual vocal instrument. It helps one learn to "rise to the occasion" (a necessary skill in ALL careers). Getting through the performance, doing your best in that single moment, realizing that you made it through and that you were able to do it, builds the brain muscle for each time you have to do or face something that you are afraid of. Fear is part of it. Professionals have fear. In life, in any profession there will be times that will feel uncomfortable, the more that we face these opportunities the better we get at it. Have a "growth mindset" and seize the opportunity!