



Dear Parents/Guardians,

My name is Melody Dotson. I am beyond thrilled to be leading the Cantando Choir this year and sharing my love of music with your children!

Our Cantando Choir is made up of students from grades 3 to 6. During our rehearsals, students will learn to develop their voices by singing one and two part songs. This will build teamwork and unity throughout our choir! Students will also have the wonderful opportunity to perform. This helps students to build confidence in their skills and create lasting memories with their friends.

### Goals

- Choral participation will enrich the quality of our lives and the lives of those for whom we sing.
- Singing will help us to develop our presentation skills and our voices in a healthy and confident manner.
- A knowledge of music will help us to understand the historical and theoretical nature of music, both as an academic subject and in practical application.
- Belonging to the choir will foster a cooperative learning environment and engender friendships based on shared musical experiences.
- Singing great choral literature will lead us to understand that music is a wonderful gift that God has given to us! We will always strive to honor Him with our voices.

### What We are Looking Forward to!

- **Weekly Rehearsals:** Every Wednesday from 3:30-4:30 PM
- **Cardinals Game Performance:** September 10th at 6:45.
- **Veteran's Day Performance:** November (Date TBD) Located at Garden View Care Center)
- **Christmas Concert:** December (Date TBD).
- **Variety Show Fundraiser:** March (Date TBD)
- **Spring Concert:** May (Date TBD)

### Uniforms

- Students will be expected to wear our formal uniforms to our Spring and Winter Concerts and our Choir T-shirts to informal concerts. These can be worn throughout their time in choir.
- All students can purchase a Cantando Choir T-shirt for \$12.
- **Girls** - In Cantando, the girls wear a floor-length black dress with a sash. This dress is about \$70. It will need to be hemmed after ordering it to fit your child. (This can be let out if your student grows during their years in Cantando.)
- **Boys** - In Cantando, the boys wear a black shirt, black pants, and a black tie. Their outfit usually costs about \$50.
- All of our T-shirts and Concert uniforms can be purchased by filling out our uniform order form and returning it to Kim Latta with cash or a check payable to SSCHE.
- If you need help purchasing a choir uniform, you can buy used uniforms at a discounted price. Please let me know if you are interested in this option!

### Contact

- If you need to contact me directly for any reason, you can email me at [mrs.melodydot@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.melodydot@gmail.com).
- We will also be sending out reminder text messages through the app called GroupMe. If you would like to receive these reminders, you can scan the QR code to join our Cantando group.



- Students can also ask questions and practice their music on our *Cantando Google Classroom* page! I will post all of our practice videos on Google Classroom, so that students can learn their singing parts and home. You can access our google classroom by scanning the following QR code.
- Lastly, we would love to keep you updated with all of the things happening in the life of our choirs! The *SCCHE* choirs have an active social media presence. Check us out on Facebook or Instagram!



### Expectations

- **Rehearsal Attendance:** Please be at **all** rehearsals unless absence is pre-approved.
- **Performances:** Choir members are expected to participate in all performances. Please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early for all concerts.
- **Behavior:** It is expected that students in *Cantando* behave well at all times—on stage, in rehearsal or during out of Choir trips. We represent *SCCHE* and strive to set a Christ-like example in all that we do. If a student has difficulty meeting this expectation she/he may be dismissed from choir for the remainder of the year.
- **Commitment:** As with any extra-curricular activity, choir members are expected to commit for the duration of the season- in this case the remainder of the year. Please understand that, by the nature of this group, a student who leaves choir due to behavioral or academic concerns will not have an opportunity to return until the next year (or possibly at the semester break). As with math, we learn new skills every day and to expect a student to know and demonstrate skills learned in his/her absence would be unfair.

I am looking forward to an amazing year for our *Cantando* choir and I am so glad that you have chosen to be a part of it! ☺

Musically Yours,

Mrs. Dotson

As a choir member, I agree to the following objectives as part of participation:

1. I will help to create a safe environment where each person is treated with respect and dignity, and each person's worth is valued and honored.
2. I will participate willingly and actively in the learning process, contributing my part to the success of the whole group.
3. I will not talk disruptively during rehearsals nor make inappropriate remarks at any time.
4. I will work to improve my knowledge of music and my skills of sight singing and vocal production.
5. I will attend all rehearsals and performances (unless excused), and understand that my attendance is important to our choir team!

I have read the goals and objectives and will strive to fulfill these statements through hard work, self-discipline and a positive attitude!

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Student's Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information:**

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Contact Name/Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO MRS. DOTSON**