



WHS Choir Boosters
Washington High School
1 Paul E. Brown Drive
Massillon, Ohio 44646

“If it is to be, it is up to me.”

MESSIAH
REHEARSAL SCHEDULE
2018

Tuesday, November 20-
6:30-8:00 pm – Choir Room
Advanced and Concert Choir

Tuesday, November 27-
6:30-8:00 pm Choir Room
Full Messiah Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, December 4-
6:30-8:00 pm - Choir Room
Full Messiah Chorus Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 5 -
6:30-9:30 Auditorium
Soloists and Orchestra ONLY

Thursday, December 6-
6:30-9:00 pm – Auditorium
Full Piano Run - with procession

Saturday, December 8 -
2:30 pm-5:00 pm – Auditorium
Dress Rehearsal

Sunday, December 9 -
3:00 pm - Choir Call at 2:00 pm
MESSIAH 75th PERFORMANCE!

Handel's "Messiah"
W.H.S. 75th Presentation

Sunday, December 9th, 2018, at 3PM, will be the seventy-fifth presentation of Handel's *Messiah* by the Massillon Washington High School choirs.

As always, choir alumni will form an important part of this chorus, and our tradition. We enjoy their involvement very much. Call your alumni friends and invite them to join you in singing this season! **Alumni, PLEASE register by November 20th**. This season, a **registration fee of \$20.00 will be required; \$15.00 for full-time students under age 25**. This allows the department the necessary upkeep on choir materials. We are grateful for your support. Simply enclose a check with the form below, made payable to the **Massillon Board of Education**.

In fairness to all our own students who work throughout the autumn on the score, and in an understanding of all the logistical concerns, we are asking that all alumni participate in **at least two scheduled rehearsals. Dress rehearsal is mandatory!** **All books, robes and candles must be assigned *prior* to dress rehearsal.** We have a wonderful experience bringing together each *Messiah* performance. Please consider joining us this year for this fabulous musical experience. To the left, you will find the schedule of *Messiah* events, and an alumni registration form to return to the office.

ALUMNI REGISTRATION
MESSIAH, 2018

NAME: _____

GRADUATION YEAR: _____ PART SUNG _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ NEED MESSIAH
BOOK? Y/N _____

EMAIL: _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE A \$20.00/\$15.00 CHECK, MADE
PAYABLE TO "MASSILLON CHOIR BOOSTERS, INC."

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
ONE PAUL BROWN DRIVE
MASSILLON, OH 44646
Attn: Robert Cannon

2018-2019 Choral Newsletter

Director Bio

Mr. Robert Cannon
Massillon Washington High School
Director of Vocal Music

Robert Cannon is in his seventh year of teaching and his fourth year at Massillon where he directs Concert Choir, Advanced Choir, Men's Chorus, and Washingtonians. Mr. Cannon previously directed all middle school and high school choirs at Grand Valley Local Schools. The Massillon Advanced Choir and Select Choir annually perform Handel's *Messiah*, accompanied by a professional orchestra and 75 to 100 alumni singers. This will be the 75th year for this fine Massillon tradition.

Mr. Cannon earned his Bachelor's Degree and received Departmental Honors with Distinction for his music education thesis from Kent State University. He continued with Kent State to earn his Master's Degree for Music Education. His conducting mentors have included Dr. Ben Ayling and Dr. Scott MacPherson. He was also a member of the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus, Cleveland Chamber Ensemble, and the Canton Symphony Chorus. He has also been invited as a soloist at local churches and events.

Having student taught in the Massillon City Schools, Mr. Cannon is very honored to be a part of the fine Massillon choral tradition once again. Robert lives in Massillon with his wife, Courtney, their three-year-old son, Max, and a little one on the way.

Keep up with Massillon Choirs...

Facebook Page: Massillon Choirs-----Website: massillonchoirs.com

Massillon Choir Booster Officers and Contact Information

President.....	Wendy Santucci	wsantucci@massillonschools.org
Vice President.....	Nicole Miller	2blessed2stress1974@gmail.com
Treasurer	Janice Morris	janicemorris5@icloud.com
Co-Treasurer.....	Amy Gradijan	agradijan@yahoo.com
Secretary.....	Amanda Teall	tducks@sssnet.com
Co-Secretary.....	Dawn Slagle	slagledawn@gmail.com
Past Booster Representative..	Brenda Warner	brenda.warner@gmail.com

The WHS Choir Boosters meet the second Tuesday of the month, except in December and the Summer months. Meetings are held in the WHS choir room (door 22) and begin at 7:00 PM. The Booster officers encourage every parent to attend the meetings and get involved with the choir.

A Letter from the Director

Dear Massillon Choir Family,

We are so excited for another year of Massillon Choirs! This will be our 113th year and we are so excited to see this program still striving for greatness! We are already into the year and working towards our upcoming Holiday Concert, Washingtonian Community outs, and our 75th Messiah. Having finished our Patron's Concert, I am truly excited to see how these students grow in the coming months. We have a new group of booster and choral officers who have already worked hard to make this year efficient and run smoothly. I could not begin to tell you how proud I am to be a part of this program!

We are so excited to once again bring to the stage our annual production of Handel's Messiah. It will be our 75th year of performing this challenging and exciting musical work. The students are excited to work with you and see your experience in vocal form. We look forward to having you here with us once again as we prepare for this performance!

We are also eager to announce that after 75 years of performing Handel's Messiah, the Massillon Choirs will be reinvigorating this tradition with a brand new performance! We will continue to program Messiah Choruses for a portion of this new program and have our alumni return to sing! In addition to these choruses, we are hoping to energize the community with new pieces, include more choirs, add visual effects, and incorporate community involvement.

Over the course of the past ten years, attendance and funding have been areas of concern for the production of Messiah. A committee was formed by alumni in hopes of keeping this traditional performance. Much work was devoted to this project, and through those efforts we received a grant from Arts in Stark! However, our audience numbers have remained low despite our committee, outreach, and meetings. A decade ago, there was an audience of 500 from the community. Three years later, that number decreased to 300. For the past two years, patrons numbers have held around 200. Massillon Choirs loves having an event that connects our alumni to our students and connects our program to our community. With all of this in mind, we have worked to create a program that will once again reach out to our community, alumni, and students during the holiday season!

We are so enthusiastic to bring this program to the stage next year! As we move forward in this next step, we create a refreshed program focused on our long standing past and our exciting future!

Over **half** of our students have committed to our vocal coaching program! This is exciting news as our singers aim for their high standards in this program! Our vocal coaches this year are: Alumnus Kathleen Bachtel (a former Tiger choir member, Mr. Gary Smith, a retired music teacher with years of private vocal experience, and Ms. Katherine Schreffler, a piano and vocal instructor. We have great faith that these coaches will continue helping our students grow in their musical ability.

We are actively engaged in music making which always makes for an exciting year! I, personally, thank you for your support for this amazing choral program and all that you do! Be sure to get your registrations in by November 20th, bring a friend, and mark the dates on your calendar! I look forward to seeing you in the rehearsal and on stage!

Sincerely,
Robert Cannon

Notes from our Students:

Dear Massillon Choir Alumni,

Once again our choirs have immersed into preparation for this year's Messiah. We have been able to grow together as well as musically together. As we approach the 75th anniversary of the Messiah concert this year there is a plethora of preparations to make. We would be honored for you to come back and join us in this year's anniversary concert of the messiah. This is an opportunity for our members to meet some of the people who have constructed the traditions and great program we are able to utilize. We hope you will join us as a chance to perform on stage once again as a Massillon Choir!

Nathan Santucci- Choir President

Dear Alumni,

Welcome to Massillon Washington High School's 75th presentation of Messiah! Your dedication to the choir program does not go unnoticed and we are so grateful to have you here. The contribution that you are making will help to better our program as well as the performance itself.

It's been such an honor to serve the choir so far; this is truly an amazing program which we are providing for. As representatives, we are always looking forward to the opportunities that will always be opening up to us this year. One of these new opportunities include this very event, which will be the first for the two of us! It has been so exciting rehearsing for Messiah, and the people in which we are surrounded by make it even better.

We hope you find Messiah as enjoyable as we do, and good luck preparing for, performing, and carrying on this tradition that has meant so much to us for years on end!

Josie Mayle and Chris Wintrip – Select Choir Representatives

Dear Alumni,

Advanced choir has already started the year off great! We have learned challenging pieces, that have allowed us to increase our skills as a whole choir. It is such a great thing to see all of the new leaders arising to make this year a successful one! We are all truly excited to see what this group can accomplish this school year. Advanced Choir is extremely grateful for your continuous support. As a whole choir, we are striving daily, to make this year's Messiah the very best it can be. We cannot wait to be a part of a great Massillon tradition with the Alumni.

Demi Ward and Jacob Campbell - Advanced Choir Representatives

Dear Choir Alumni,

The Concert Choir would like to tell you how honored we are to be apart of the WHS choirs. It has opened up so many opportunities and let us meet so many great people. We have improved just over the matter of a couple of weeks and hope to continue to grow. So far we have sung two songs and working on three more, a big jump from last year. We also are honored to continue such a great program and tradition in the school. We thank you for continuing this program in the past and for supporting us on our journey now. Thank you!

Grace Erichsen and Ezra Teall- Concert Choir Representatives

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018-2019

	November 29.....	Holiday Festival Concert - 7:00 pm
	December 1.....	WHS Choirs' 4 th Annual Craft & Vendor Expo - 10am
-4pm	December 2	Candle Walk @ St. Mary's - Concerts @ 7:30 pm
	December 9.....	75 th MESSIAH -3 pm
	December 18.....	Jazz/Washingtonians Holiday Concert at Lincoln Theater - 7:00 pm
	December 14.....	Tour of Schools
	January 19	Solo and Ensemble at WHS
	February 21-23.....	<i>The Addams Family</i> - Musical
	March 5.....	Adjudicated Event Concert - 7:00
pm	March 15-16.....	District Large Group Adjudicated
Event	TBA.....	Choral Floral Ball
	April 26-27.....	State Large Group Adjudicated Event
	May 14	Spring Choral Concert - 7:00
pm	May 21	Washingtonians Showcase - 7:00
pm	May 22	Senior Dinner - 5:00 p.m./Awards Ceremony - 7:00
pm		

The Choir Prayer

**Bless our music, Lord.
 It leads us to infinity and back, in search of love.
 May we reach out to them, putting a song on their lips,
 Bless those who hear us sing.
 and bringing joy to their hearts.
 Best for you, best for them, best for us.
 Amen.**