



SAINT FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL

CHORAL AND INSTRUMENTAL  
**MUSIC**

## **PHILOSOPHY FOR MUSIC EDUCATION**

As the Alberta Education curriculum outlines, the High School music curriculum is based on the philosophy that music is an essential aspect of human existence. Music as an aesthetic form is an expression of human history that transcends language barriers and reflects the lifestyles, thoughts and aspirations of our cultural heritage. In today's rapidly changing society, the development of fundamental values and attitudes is paramount to human understanding. Music studies at Saint Francis High School provides the opportunity to bring art form to life; to express, perform and create.

***The Music Equation :***

***Success in Music = Success in Life.***



While we all enjoy listening to music, it is even more rewarding to create. There is a simple joy in playing and instrument or singing in a choir. At Saint Francis High School, we offer an exceptional selection of opportunities, both instrumental and vocal music.

### **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 10 (CONCERT BAND)**

(5 credit) Is a performance based course which allows students an opportunity to further music ability, and develop ensemble and leadership skills, and their creative potential. In addition to the class, students attend a weekly 75min 7:30a.m. rehearsal **Grade 9 band is a pre-requisite to Instrumental Music 10.**

### **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 20**

(5 credit) Continues to allow students to deepen their musical understanding through exploration and performance of the concert band repertoire.

### **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 30**

(5 credit) Students participate in the performance of concert band repertoire with further exploration of music theory and music history. The student will be exposed to more advanced concepts.

### **CHORAL MUSIC 10**

(5 credit) is a performance based course that introduces basic music theory, vocal technique, diction and aural skills related to the choral repertoire .

### **CHORAL MUSIC 20**

(5 credit) Deepens the students understanding of vocal technique, diction and aural skills related to choral production, whilst working towards the advancement of vocal production in relation to the choral repertoire.

### **CHORAL MUSIC 30**

(5 credit) explores key elements of choral singing such a tone, pitch and vowel production in relation to the choir repertoire, whilst working towards mastery of the art of vocal ensemble singing. No previous singing experience required.

Some of my best memories in High School were from our music trips. I was on the New Orleans trip in 2011 and I will never forget the wonderful time I had playing with the band in that incredible city!

Sarah

## **PERFORMANCE AND ENSEMBLES**

**All levels of music students are encouraged to become part of the many different performance groups!**

### **VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE 15**

(5 Credit) Allows Students a learning environment to improve their singing through more advanced musical styles such as swing, jazz, pop, Latin, ballad crossover and scat solo styles.

**Audition required**



### **VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE 25**

(5 Credit) An opportunity for further exploration of popular vocal styles with increased opportunities for engagement in performances solo singing opportunities. Microphone technique also addressed at length.

### **VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE 35**

(5 Credit) An advanced exploration of vocal technique and vocal performance practice within a contemporary context . A more in depth opportunity with microphone use.

### **JAZZ BAND 15**

(5 Credit) Students are encouraged to explore jazz scales and jazz performance based genres such as Big Band Swing, Latin, Funk, Blues, Jazz Waltz, and Ballad jazz styles. An introduction to improvisation will also be explored, Auditions take place in September.

### **JAZZ BAND 25**

(5 Credit ) Students are encouraged to further explore jazz performance based genres and a more in depth opportunity with improvisation is presented, with the option to have solo improvisations presented by the student in relation to the jazz repertoire.

### **JAZZ BAND 35**

(5Credit ) Students are encouraged to further explore jazz performance based genres . A more in depth study in improvisation is presented, with the option to present solo improvisations in relation to the jazz repertoire.



## ACCOLADES

We are extremely proud of the many awards and accomplishments of our music students, including:

- 2003 Heritage Music Fest (Montreal) Band (Gold), Choir (Gold)
- 2004 Canada Day Performance (National Arts Centre and Parliament)  
Concert Choir: Alberta representative
- 2005 Atlantic Band Festival (Halifax)  
Band (Silver)
- 2006 Heritage Festival (Anaheim, CA)  
Adjudicator's Choice (Spirit of San Diego Award)
- 2007 Gold Award AIBF (Band)
- 2008 Manhattan Choral Production—Lincoln Center Performance  
(Choir)
- 2008 Band Festival (Nelson, BC)
- 2009 Silver Awards (San Diego, CA)  
Top two performers (Band)
- 2010 Dalai Lama at the Saddledome  
Concert Choir performs
- 2011 New Orleans Music Festival  
Silver and Top Two performers (Band)
- 2012 Sun Peaks, British Columbia
- 2013 Anaheim, California
- 2014 **Hawaii Music Festival, April 2014**  
N.B . Fundraising opportunities available!



"I 'm glad I signed up for the band and choir last year. I enjoyed the class, and met what are now some of my closest friends in music! I also got to travel with my friends to cool places while doing what I love to do; play music"

Scott

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Due to the uniqueness of the music program, there are many questions that come up. Here are some of the most commonly asked inquiries:**

### **Is there a limit to how many ensembles I may join?**

You may join as many as you like., however there is a limit of 10 music credits per year.

### **When are the rehearsals?**

Concert Band : Wednesdays at 7:30 am and some Fridays

Jazz Band : Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 am

Choir: Thursdays 7:30 am and some Fridays

### **Can I play on a sports team, be part of a club , work with student council or perform in the drama productions and still be in music?**

**YES!** We will work with you and your teacher/coach to make sure you can do both!

### **Do I have to be in the band class to be in band?**

**Yes.** You must be in the band class to be in band. Exceptions will be considered only if you have AP class that conflicts with the band class, or if you have Extended French or Spanish Academy that conflicts with the band class, We will try accommodate band for a full time table of this nature.

### **Can I be in both band and choir?**

Yes, we have many students who do both, and we will work with you to make sure you can are able to fulfill both obligations.

**VISIT THE MUSIC WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION**

[www.saintfrancismusic.com](http://www.saintfrancismusic.com)



*"If I were not a physicist, I would probably be a musician. I often think in music. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music."*

*Albert Einstein*



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**CALGARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT**