

# **Northwest Girlchoir – ENSEMBLE – 2021-2022 Goals and Expectations**

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## **MUSIC EDUCATION**

At the Amore/Ensemble level, choristers participate in sophisticated music making, through the complexity and beauty of the well-established and ever-expanding treble-voiced choral repertoire. The independence and skills necessary to learn difficult 3- and 4-part music (a cappella and with various accompaniments) and complex poetic texts (in English and varying language from all parts of the world) are built upon the successful completion of younger choir levels and brought to bear in all aspects of Amore and Ensemble's artistic musical approach.

Amore/Ensemble increases the demands for consistent, healthy, and brilliant vocal tone and a mastery of high-school-level music reading skills. While voices are still maturing and changing throughout the high-school ages, responsible and engaged singing (physiological and psychological) is expected from all Amore/Ensemble choristers at all times (we are always using our "best voice" and representing the hard work we've done to get here). Expanding upon musical skills, solfa-based, rhythmic-based, and rote learning styles are employed, combined, and perfected. An Amore/Ensemble chorister will be fully prepared to excel in collegiate and adult choral ensembles upon completion of high school.

As a separate grouping, the Ensemble choir is comprised of a small group of intensively-auditioned Amore singers who want the experience and challenge of performing in a smaller group. Their repertoire includes more a cappella music, chamber music (specifically written for a small ensemble), and pop and vocal jazz arrangements.

## **PERFORMANCE PREPARATION**

Amore/Ensemble choristers share their talents and love of singing as Northwest Girlchoir's premiere large and small ensembles with exemplary execution and a choral/vocal approach that is in stride with the world's analogous choral organizations and ensembles. Because of this, Amore and Ensemble will often be tasked with representing Northwest Girlchoir on the local, regional, and world stage through season concerts, community events, cultural exchanges, master classes, and tours.

Each Ensemble singer has at least one individual voice lesson with the conductor during the season. Ensemble is also one of the featured performers at Spring Fling, Northwest Girlchoir's annual fundraising event.

## **COMMUNITY AND LEADERSHIP**

The Amore and Ensemble choirs achieve a high level of both independence and interdependence (one of the most brilliant dichotomies within a choral organization!). Within the choir, Amore and Ensemble choristers find a home and connection with a body of young adults striving for a mutual goal, all the while expressing their own gifts, talents, and hard work as independent members of a whole.

Amore graduates represent Northwest Girlchoir's strong history and enter their adult lives as leaders, cultural and artistic knowledge-bearers, and socially-responsible, kind-hearted citizens of the whole earth.