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<https://sites.google.com/a/north-reading.k12.ma.us/mrs-kane/>

2021-22 North Reading High School NOTEorious

What is A cappella?

A cappella means performing music alone – without the help of instruments. All sounds come from the student. NOTEorious is an auditioned, mixed contemporary a cappella group at North Reading High School. The ensemble performs songs from a variety of genres using only their voices to mimic instrument sounds and create new sounds. Being able to push the boundaries and think outside the box is helpful when making sounds. It's *very different* than standing and singing in a classic choral setting.

What is the time commitment?

In a regular year, NOTEorious rehearses Monday, Tuesday and Friday directly after school until 4 or 4:30pm (then many go to musical rehearsal or play rehearsal until 5:30). Aside from regular rehearsals, the group performs at events in school (assemblies, pep events, etc) winter and spring concerts, events within the community, as well as competitions and festivals, television spots, recording studios etc throughout Massachusetts and the US. Commitments do happen during the week, both after school and at night, as well as the weekends. Some events require overnight stays. Members are required to be in attendance at each rehearsal and performance. While it is a year long commitment, it is a rewarding experience, and you get as much out of it as you put in.

NOTEorious, along with the rest of the music department performing ensembles, is travelling to Walt Disney World in April 26—May 1, 2022 to be a featured performer as well as compete. Students involved in NOTEorious are expected to attend.

Attendance

NOTEorious is an elite select performance group. Rehearsals are scheduled with consideration of each of your schedules and they are required. Rehearsals are typically Monday, Tuesday and Friday directly after school. More are added and longer time frames are included when preparing for a performance specifically during September, January and May. Significant conflicts will affect one's ability to participate and you may be dropped from the ensemble or not cast at all. Please do not over extend yourself, this group should be your number one priority.

Academics and Eligibility

To be eligible for participation in any high school afterschool program, you must be in good standing in both your academic work and as a citizen of the school. This means that you need **grade eligibility** (to be passing seven (7) of your eight (8) classes) and uphold NRHS's **code of discipline**. Any suspensions, class cuts, truancy or greater than 10 unexcused absences may jeopardize your involvement in our organization. We hold students accountable for their academic and social behavior. The image you portray reflects directly on the music program and North Reading HS. Any student not doing his/her part will be asked to forfeit his/her role. Please make sure you read the student handbook section on School Policy and Student Behavior.

What happens if I am accepted into the group?

The group will be posted by Sunday, June 6. You will need to pick up a contract off the music call board or download it from the web site. Go over it with your parents/guardians, sign it and return it by Monday, June 14. You will receive music once you turn in your forms and at the first rehearsal on Monday, June 14. The forms can also be found online on the NOTEorious web site. NOTEorious typically hit's the ground running so you will need to work your part in the summer, and this includes sectionals and group work that happens over the summer to be prepared for September. We will have August/early September rehearsals. We have a competition in October.

There is always the possibility of additional groups. It largely depends on how many students are interested in and audition for NOTEorious. Those currently in the group must re-audition and their spots are not guaranteed. It has happened that a new member can bump an existing member out of the group. So it is important to prepare to the best of your ability.

What happens if I am not accepted into the group?

NOTEorious can not take over 18 students. The ideal number is 15 students equally spread out between Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass, two soloists and a perc. If you are serious about singing, talk to the Choral Director or NOTEorious student representatives and ask for constructive feedback. Take private lessons and, most importantly, join Chorus – a day time class with no after school rehearsal commitments - where you will work on ensemble singing, reading music, theory and vocal technique. You could audition for the fall musical – all very important factors with singing a cappella. Although it may be difficult, re-audition the next year. And, if needed, the time after that. Work the craft and never give up.

I play/want to play a sport – can I still be a part of NOTEorious?

While it would be great to offer a simple answer, it depends entirely on the coach and times that sport gets together. Since NOTEorious practices directly after school, we have many students who bring their uniforms down to the PAC dressing rooms and get dressed for a game or practice and attend our rehearsal at the same time. They run down to the field and are able to juggle both commitments. NOTEorious council will look at each instance individually. If you advocate for yourself with your coach, NOTEorious is willing to work a compromise so you can do both. However, that is up to the individual student. For example – Masquers is very easy to balance with NOTEorious because the director is the same person. Winter swim team and spring track and spring frisbee are very easy to balance historically.

One Final Thought

We want you to sing. We want you to enjoy music. In order to be good, you need to work on your craft. Students should be taking private lessons and/or join Chorus to sing and work essentials daily. Everyone involved will work to make it a positive experience for everyone who participates.

Current STUDENT OFFICERS and DIRECTOR

- Rachel Schladenhauffen rschlady19@gmail.com
- Meg Carey mcarey033@gmail.com
- JJ Pruisken jjpruisken2020@gmail.com
- Mrs. Allison Kane akane@nrpsk12.org

Youtube channel - NRTV Allison Kane