

# Oakland School for the Arts School of Vocal Music

## Overview 2013-2014

Middle School Vocal Music Students Enrolled	45
High School Vocal Music Students	62
Total Number of Vocal Music Students	107

Oakland School for the Arts (OSA) School of Vocal Music offers a pre-professional music program for aspiring young vocalists. The department is founded on the principles of self-motivation, artistic excellence, professionalism, and a strong work ethic. Students are educated in a variety of musical genres including jazz, classical, musical theatre, spirituals and contemporary. Through the courses offered, each vocal music graduate will attain the necessary skill sets and character qualities to prepare for college or eventually pursue a professional music career.

## Department Philosophy

We believe that students must be competitive and relevant in today's artistic climate. The department's objective is to prepare students for the expectations that are present at both the professional and collegiate level.

## The Vocal Music Curriculum

The curriculum in the School of Vocal Music emphasizes training for students in rehearsals, performance and solo opportunities. A strong emphasis is placed on music literacy and reading and determines student placement in foundational through advanced musical theory courses and membership in one of six advancing choirs. As students master skill sets they have the opportunity to audition for more advanced courses and choirs.

Courses offerings include: Choral Ensembles, Music Theory Levels I – III, Audition Preparation, Aural Skills I-II and Solo Repertoire in Classical, Musical Theater & Jazz.

# Oakland School for the Arts Vocal Music Department Choirs

## Foundational Choir

Grades	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> grade
Instructor	Lenny San Jose
Number of Members	23
Audition	Not required
Accompanied or A Capella	Accompanied
Repertoire	Folk, World, Classical and Contemporary

## Select Ensemble Choir

Grades	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> grade
Instructor	Lisa Forkish
Number of Members	17
Audition	Required
Accompanied or A Capella	Both
Repertoire	Traditional, Folk, World, Jazz

## Encore Choir

Grades	7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> grade
Instructor	Cava Menzies
Number of Members	6
Audition	Required
Accompanied or A Capella	A Capella
Repertoire	Contemporary, Pop, Soul, Jazz & World

## One Voice Choir

Grades	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Instructor	Lenny San Jose
Number of Members	23
Audition	Not required
Accompanied or A Capella	Both
Repertoire	Folk, World, Classical, Contemporary

## Chamber Choir

Grades	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Instructor	Cava Menzies
Number of Members	26
Audition	Required
Accompanied or A Capella	Both
Repertoire	Traditional, Choral, World, Jazz, Contemporary

## Vocal Rush

Grades	10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Instructor	Lisa Forkish
Number of Members	12
Audition	Required
Accompanied or A Capella	A Capella
Repertoire	A Capella Soul, Pop, Rock and R&B

## Awards and Notable Events

Competitions	2013 International Championship of High School A Cappella 1 <sup>st</sup> Place
	2012 International Championship of High School A Cappella 1 <sup>st</sup> Place
	2013 L.A. A Cappella Festival Competition 1 <sup>st</sup> place
	Contemporary A Cappella Recording Awards 2013 Best High School Song, Best High School Soloist
	A Cappella Community Awards Favorite High School Group
	2008 KBLX Choral Competition 1 <sup>st</sup> Place
	2007 KBLX Choral Competition 1 <sup>st</sup> Place
YouTube Competitions	2012 Delta Rae YouTube Video Contest 1 <sup>st</sup> Place
	2012 Peter Hollens YouTube Video Contest 1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Concert Tours	New Orleans, LA (2012) Puerto Rico (2010) Florence, Italy (2005)
Performances with	Delta Rae (folk rock band) Latoya London (American Idol, Season 3) CAKE (platinum record selling, alternative rock band)
Notable Events	President Obama (June 2012, Visit to Oakland Fox Theater) Governor Jerry Brown (January 2011 Inauguration) 2012 Oakland Children's Hospital Notes and Word Benefit
Performances for California Professional Sports Teams	Oakland A's San Francisco Giants Oakland Raiders Golden State Warriors

# Faculty

## **Cava Menzies, Chair, Vocal Department Choir Director: Encore and Chamber Choir**

Education and Professional Studies	BA, Berklee College of Music (Summa Cum Laude); MM, University of Miami
Teaching Experience	Founding Faculty Member, 11 years
Professional Experience	15 years
Websites	<a href="http://www.cavamenzies.com">www.cavamenzies.com</a> <a href="http://www.cavalisamusic.com">www.cavalisamusic.com</a> <a href="http://www.cavamenziesnickphillips.com">www.cavamenziesnickphillips.com</a>
Year joined OSA	2001

## **Lisa Forkish, Vocal Music Faculty, Vocal Department Choir Director: Select Ensemble and Vocal Rush**

Education and Professional Studies	BA, Berklee College of Music (Summa Cum Laude)
Teaching Experience	10 years
Professional Experience	12 years
Websites	<a href="http://www.lisaforkish.com">www.lisaforkish.com</a> <a href="http://www.cavalisamusic.com">www.cavalisamusic.com</a> <a href="http://www.artiestecard.com/theriveters">www.artiestecard.com/theriveters</a>
Year joined OSA	2011

## **Leonard San Jose, Vocal Music Faculty, Vocal Department Choir Director: Foundational and One Voice Choir**

Education and Professional Studies	BA, UC Berkeley
Teaching Experience	4 years
Professional Experience	5 years
Website	<a href="http://www.ukulenny.com">www.ukulenny.com</a>
Year joined OSA	2011