

## **Lower School Performing Arts Casting and Placement**

From the time a student enters Harker's kindergarten, our goal is to create a safe environment where students of all interests and abilities can enjoy their time on stage. All students perform in their grade level production as everyone participates in K-4 music concerts and everyone is cast in the Grade 5 Show.

### **K-5 Music & Dance**

#### **Kindergarten Music Class**

All in kindergarten show are in the show and have a featured moment.

#### **Grades 1-3 Music Class**

Students who are interested in a featured part in our grade level performances (narration, dance, singing or instrumental) will have that opportunity and are placed at the teacher's discretion. Teachers keep track of all grade 1-3 students who desire a featured part.

#### **Grade 4 Music Class**

All students perform as a class at the Harker Family & Alumni Picnic and Grandparents' Day.

#### **Grade 5 Performing Arts & Production**

All students in grade 5 perform in the Grade 5 Show. Auditions are held for the first time for all students in grade 5 and are used not only as an assessment tool, but as an opportunity for students to experience a true audition process in a non-cut situation. While all fifth graders perform in the production, many are selected for principal or featured moments on stage (singing, acting, dance).

For those students interested in more vocal music experience, students in grades 4-5 may participate in our Bucknall Choir which meets Friday afternoons and performs throughout the year.

## **Dance**

From K-5 all students can dance after school. Grades 1-5, if they attend dance class yearly afterschool may perform in the annual dance concert.

Beginning in grade 4, advanced dancers may audition for Dance Fusion. This popular dance team draws between 50 and 70 students to audition for between 16 and 20 spots. This is a highly competitive audition situation, and those who do not make the ensemble receive 1:1 coaching about their audition. Those students who do not make Dance Fusion may perform in the annual dance concert as everyone who participates in after school dance at the lower school during the year, may perform.

## **Lower School Bands, Groups, Ensembles and Orchestras:**

All students who wish to enroll in bands, groups, ensembles and orchestras are welcome, provided they play one of the approved instruments.

Auditions consist of performance excerpts from the year's repertoire as well as sight-reading. These materials are provide upon request.

Students are placed on articulation, phrasing, tone and rhythmic accuracy. Grade and experience level also play a role in placement.

Students are placed on their given parts at the discretion of the director.

Seating placement is purely organizational and does not impact how involved a student is in the program.