Program Notes Project

**Project Description:**

Choose a piece your choir is currently performing and complete typed program notes using the guide provided. You must correctly site and document at least three sources for your research.

**Due Date:**

This project is due on **Monday, October 14th**.

**Project Checklist:**

- Choose one of the pieces that your choir is performing that you’d like to research.
- Be sure that you have the provided “Writing Program Notes” guide.
- Find at least three sources to refer to and support your writing.
- Write the program notes for the piece in a scholarly, yet interesting, style.
- Be sure that you have correctly sited all of your sources.
- Submit your completed program notes to Mrs. Batlle in person, via Edmodo, or via email.

**Grading Rubric:**

Rubric (100 points possible):

**Content:**

0  5  10  15  20  25  30

**Style & Creativity:**

0  5  10  15  20  25  30

**Research & Bibliography (Sources/Citations/Formatting):**

0  5  10  15  20  25  30

**Organization/Neatness:**

0  5  10
Writing Program Notes

Purpose
While many program notes aim to inform audiences comprised mostly of musical amateurs, these program notes should aim at a more musically educated audience. However, you should not go into long discussions of form or involved descriptions of harmonic events. Try to reach a middle ground.

Length
You should aim for at least 2-pages, double-spaced, 12 pt. font (including Bibliography).

Research and Analysis
You must do some research and analysis before you write the program notes. Standard research tools, such as Grove Online, The New Harvard Dictionary of Music, and Baker’s Biographical Dictionary, can be supplemented by more specific sources. You should not use websites like Wikipedia, but you may use websites sanctioned by reputable educational institutions or musical societies. In most cases, these sites have a suffix of either .edu or .org. Visit the Media Center for more suggestions and resources.

Plagiarism
The program notes must represent your own work. You must cite your sources as you would in a research paper. Also, if you quote from a source, you must cite it (author and title in parentheses). The idea is to do research, internalize the information, and then put it in your own words.

Writing Style
These program notes should be written in a scholarly, yet interesting, style. They should avoid excessive musical jargon and should not use slang or colloquialisms. They should also be proofread carefully before submitted.

What to Include
--Biographical information on the composer and/or lyricist as it pertains to the piece
--Historical information, if applicable
--Analysis aimed at a musically educated audience, as indicated above
--Programmatic features, if applicable
--Other interesting or important facts, e. g., about the first performance

Texts and Translations
If the work has words, include the text, and also the translation if the piece is in a foreign language.

Musical Titles
Long Musical Pieces: Puccini’s Madama Butterfly, Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite (but "Waltz of the Flowers"), Schubert's Winterreise (but "Ave Maria"). For musical pieces named by type, number and key — Mozart’s Divertimento in D major, Barber’s Cello Sonata Op. 6 — we use neither italics nor quotation marks.

Deadline
The program notes must be completed within two class meetings of the missed rehearsal or event.