

## MUSIC VOCABULARY

<b>Accompaniment</b>	A vocal or solo part that supports or is background for a solo part.
<b>Bar</b>	A unit of music, such as 12-bar or 8-bar, denoting length.
<b>Beat</b>	A unit of measure in rhythmic time.
<b>Canon</b>	A musical form in which melody is imitated exactly in one or more parts, similar to a <i>round</i> .
<b>Chamber music</b>	Any music written for a chamber ensemble—a string quartet, a piano trio, a chamber orchestra, etc. Music for a soloist, or for a soloist with accompanist, may or may not be chamber music.
<b>Choral, chorus</b>	Choral means of a choir; a <i>choral work</i> is a work for choir, and a chorus is a relatively large choir, or group of singers.
<b>Chord</b>	Three or more tones played simultaneously.
<b>Compose</b>	To create original music by organizing sound. Usually written down for others to perform.
<b>Composition</b>	A single, complete piece of music, (also, piece and work).
<b>Concert</b>	A program by a chamber ensemble, orchestra, band, or chorus; there are also rock, jazz, and pop concerts.
<b>Dynamics</b>	Variation and contrast in force or intensity.
<b>Elements of music</b>	Melody, harmony, rhythm, and form and the expressive elements of dynamics, tempo, and timbre (tone color).
<b>Embellishment</b>	Notes that are added to ornament a melody (melodic embellishment) or rhythmic pattern (rhythmic embellishment).
<b>Ensemble</b>	Any group of performers, but it is most commonly used for smaller groups. A large group would be referred to as an <i>orchestra, chorus, or band</i> .
<b>Form</b>	The organization and structure of a composition, and the interrelationships of music events within the overall structure
<b>Genre</b>	A type of musical work such as choral, jazz, mariachi, etc.

<b>Harmony</b>	The simultaneous sounding of two or more tones of relative tone.
<b>Improvise</b>	To spontaneously compose music.
<b>Melody</b>	A rhythmic succession of single tones organized into a cohesive or aesthetic whole.
<b>Notation</b>	Written documentation of musical notes indicating pitch and rhythm for performance.
<b>Opera</b>	A drama set to music for voices and orchestra and presented with costumes and sets.
<b>Performance</b>	The actual act of making music; sometimes used to mean a musical presentation.
<b>Phrase</b>	A musical idea comparable to a sentence or a clause in language; may be complete or incomplete.
<b>Pitch</b>	The location of a note in related to its highness or lowness.
<b>Production</b>	A performance of a work that involves staging—costumes, scenery, etc.—as well as music. The term may also refer to the costumes, scenery, and so on, as distinct from the music.
<b>Program</b>	(1) An entire concert or recital (2) The printed booklet given to audience members at a concert, opera, recital, etc. (3) A literary text, a place, an event, or the like, on which a musical composition is based.
<b>Recital</b>	A program by a soloist or by 2 performers (soloist and accompanist, or a duo).
<b>Rhythm</b>	Combinations of long and short, or even or uneven sounds that establish a musical continuum and convey a sense of movement.
<b>Score</b>	The organized notation of all of the instrumental and/or vocal parts of a composition.
<b>Staff/Staves</b>	The horizontal lines on and between which notes are written.
<b>Symphony</b>	A composition for orchestra, usually in four movements.
<b>Tempo</b>	The pace at which music moves according to the speed of the underlying beat.
<b>Texture</b>	The character of the different layers of horizontal and vertical sounds.
<b>Theme and variation</b>	A compositional form in which a theme is clearly stated and is followed by a number of variations.
<b>Timbre</b>	The color or quality of a musical tone.

<b>Time Signature</b>	A sign used in music to indicate meter, usually written as a fraction with the bottom number indicating the kind of note to be played as a unit of time and the top number indicating the number of units in each measure.
<b>Twelve-bar blues</b>	A chord pattern often used in blues music based on the 1 <sup>st</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , and 5 <sup>th</sup> chords and the blues scale in specific order within twelve bars.
<b>Vocal, vocalist</b>	Vocal means <i>of the voice</i> ; vocalist is a synonym for <i>singer</i> .