

Choral Department, 2016-2017:

- 189 students grades 7-12 (114 in HS, 75 in MS) which is 16% of the HS population and 21% of the MS population
- 14% of 7-12 singers non-white, another 14% identify as jewish
- six choirs, grades 7-12

Highlights:

- Over the past three years, MS and HS singers have worked with living composers including Haitian born Sydney Guillaume, Swedish composer/conductor Jacob Patriksson, and the founder of Cantus, Tim Takach. Two of those composers were commissioned to write new selections for Vocal Ensemble, forever connecting Bexley choirs with those composers.
- All HS singers combine for their final concert of the year to focus on major works. Recent performances have featured Brahms' Liebeslieder Waltzer, Orff's Carmina Burana, and Puccini's Messa di Gloria. This spring will be a presentation by Donald McCullough entitled A Holocaust Cantata on Monday, April 24th at 7pm, which is also Holocaust Remembrance Day.
- MS singers just participated in the first ever CommUNITY Sing Event at Franklin Park on Saturday, October 15th. Members of 7th and 8th grade choirs combined with the choirs from Arts Impact Middle School in Columbus City and Rosemore Middle School in Whitehall City Schools. They worked together on bringing unity to our larger Columbus community through their music. Selections focused on acceptance, kindness, love, and understanding others. We hope to continue this event next year again.
- Vocal Ensemble members are invited to perform on large stages each year. In the 2015-2016 school year, they performed for the Ohio Music Educators Association Professional Conference in Cincinnati as well as the American Choral Directors Association Professional Conference in Chicago. This March, they will be performing in Lincoln Center in NYC as the featured choir with composer Eric Barnum. These opportunities, along with international touring, provide experiences which can't be replicated in the classroom.