



Bloomington Kennedy

Rhythm in Gold
East Side Rhythm

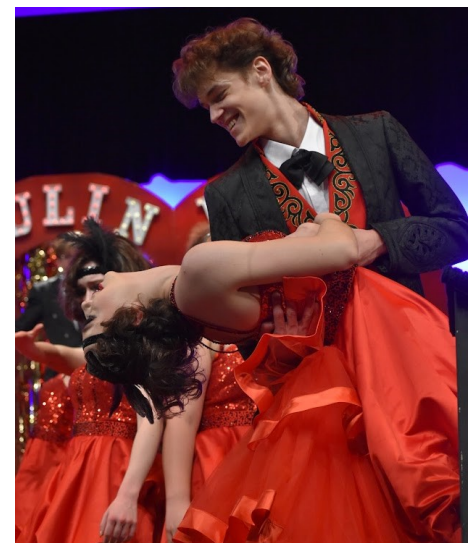
Parent Handbook 2023-2024



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Directors



Rhythm in Gold Director:

Nikki Goulet Jordan

Nikki Goulet Jordan has been the Director of Choral Activities at Bloomington Kennedy High School since 2001. She currently directs the three curricular



**Rhythm in Gold
Assistant Director:**
Matt Dymoke



Band Director:
Jack Elbert



Asst. ESR Director:



East Side Rhythm (ESR) Director:

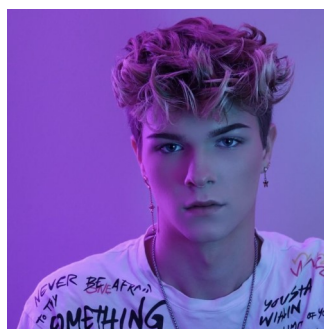
Chris Laumann



Asst. ESR Director:

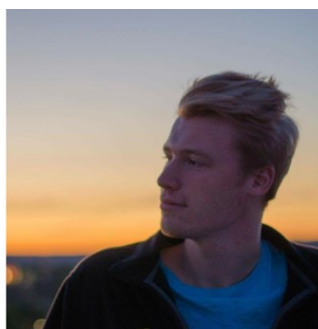


RIG & ESR Choreographer



RIG & ESR Asst. Choreographer

Alex Schultz



Vocal Coach

Vocal Instructor



2023-2024 Kennedy Choir Booster Club Contacts



President
Ashlie Keith



Vice President
Lori Kaufman



Treasurer
Michael Polzin



Secretary
Karla LeDoux



Communications
Debra Lane



**Co-Fundraising
Coordinator**
Brenda Wytonick

**Co-Fundraising
Coordinators**

mi-



**RIG Band
Representative**
Kelli Bovin



**Concessions
Coordinators**
Holly & Mark Larson

What is Kennedy Choir Booster Club?

The Kennedy Booster Club is a parent run organization serving two major functions:

1. Provide communication between choir families and the Directors.
2. Fundraise to supplement **essential** costs of the Show Choir Program.

Each year the Kennedy Booster Club raises approximately \$50,000 through our Fundraiser. This money helps to cover the cost of:

- East Side Rhythm (ESR) Director
- RIG Assistant Directors
- Choreographer
- Cleaner
- RIG and ESR Choreographer
- Scholarship aid as needed
- Transportation and hotel at out of town competitions

Kennedy Booster Club

- Provides meals for students during rehearsal workshops and other events
- Supplies for events (Preview Show, competitions, etc.)

Why Join?

- You get to be actively involved in the Kennedy Choir Program
- It's a great way to connect with other parents/families who are a part of the Kennedy Choir Program.
- With your financial support you are helping to build and sustain this important and valuable opportunity for your child.

Booster Club Meetings

- Take place the **2nd Thursday** of the month starting in September.
- Attendance is not required but strongly encouraged.
- Meetings last 1 hour max. (usually about 45 minutes)
- We need help throughout the year with a variety of events and fundraising opportunities. The more hands we have to help, the lighter the load for everyone. Come and share your talents with us!

We strongly encourage all families to join the Booster Club. Checks can be written out to KCBI (Kennedy Choir Booster Club Incorporated).

Thanks so much for your support!

2023-2024 **ESR** Schedule & Important Dates

Dates	Time	Event	Notes
Sat., Aug. 19	10-1:00	Car Wash	Group and Individual Fundraiser
Tues., Aug. 22	3-6:00 pm	Music Dist., vocal place..	Team building and measurements
Mon., Oct. 20	3-5 pm	1st Official Rehearsal	
Tues, Nov. 7	3-9:00 pm	Choreo with Alex	Dinner will be served
Fri., Nov. 10	3-9:00 pm	Choreo with Kevin	Dinner will be served
Sat., Nov. 11	9-5:00 pm	Retreat	Lunch will be served
Sun., Nov. 12	12-5:00 pm	Retreat	
Tues., Nov. 21	1:30-6:00 pm	Alex and Band together	
Nov. 27-Dec. 2		Holiday Show Week	
Fri., Dec. 15		Retreat with Alex	
Sat., Dec. 16		Retreat	
Fri., Jan. 12		Retreat with Alex	
Sat., Jan. 13	All day and 7pm	Retreat and Prev. Show	
Tues., Jan. 16		Reh/Retreat?	
Thurs., Jan. 18	2:30-3:15 pm	Run show and pack	Prepare for West Salem
Sat., Jan. 20	All Day	West Salem Comp.	
Fri., Jan. 26	3-9:00pm	BK Gold Set Up	Sound Check as well
Sat., Jan. 27	All Day	BK Gold	Required parent and student help
Thurs., Feb. 1	2:30-3:15 pm	Run set and pack	
Sat., Feb. 3	All Day	Eau Claire Comp.	
Thurs., Feb. 15	2:30-3:15	Run set and pack	
Sat., Feb. 17	All Day	Waconia Comp.	
Tues., Feb. 20	3-6:00 pm, 7pm	Sing into Spring Concert	Not a showchoir event but a curricular concert
Thurs., Feb. 22	2:30-3:15 pm	Run set and pack	
Sat., Feb. 24	All Day	TBD competition	
Thurs, Mar. 7	3-5:00 pm	Rehearsal for RIG Annual	
Mar. 11-14		Rehearsal and prep	Prep for RIG Annual
Mar. 15, 16	7:-00 pm	RIG Annual	

ESR REHEARSALS

Once the season begins, rehearsals will take place on Mondays (3-5:00 pm) and Tuesdays (3-6:00 pm). These are *required* rehearsals and attendance is *very* important. If you are not able to attend, your directors will need to be notified.



2023-2024 Show Choir Fees and Payment Schedule

RIG Cost:

\$900 ISD 271
\$232 KCBI

ESR Cost:

\$600 ISD 271
\$232 KCBI

Band /Crew Cost:

\$600 ISD 271
\$50 KCBI

RIG Singer

ESR Singers

Band/Crew

1st Payment July 1, 2023	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271		
Car Wash Tickets Aug. 13, 2023	\$42 (7 tickets @ \$6/each) Write checks to KCBI	\$42 (7 tickets @ \$6/each) Write checks to KCBI	
2nd Payment Aug.1, 2023	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271
3rd Payment Sept. 1, 2023	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271
4th Payment Oct. 1, 2023	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271
Pancake Breakfast Oct. 15, 2023	\$70 (7 tickets @ \$10/each) Write checks to KCBI	\$70 (7 tickets @ \$10/each) Write checks to KCBI	
5th Payment Nov. 1, 2023	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271
Pasta Dinner Nov. 17, 2023	\$70 (7 tickets @ \$10/each) Write checks to KCBI	\$70 (7 tickets @ \$10/each) Write checks to KCBI	
6th Payment Dec. 1, 2023	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271
7th Payment Jan. 1, 2024	\$150 Write checks to ISD 271		
Preview Show Tx Jan. 14 , 2024	\$50 (5 tickets @ \$10/each) Write checks to KCBI	\$50 (5 tickets @ \$10/each) Write checks to KCBI	\$50 (5 tickets @ \$10/each) Write checks to KCBI
8th Payment Feb. 1, 2024	\$150 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271	\$100 Write checks to ISD 271

2023-2024 Show Choir Fees and Payment Schedule Continued

Costs include: costumes, jackets, musical arrangements, competition fees, hotel, transportation, Directors fees, choreography, etc.

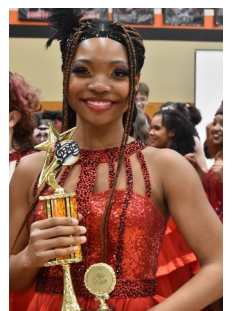
- Payments can be dropped off in the Main Office or sent to:
Kennedy Choirs
Attn. Nikki Jordan
Kennedy High School
9701 Nicollet Avenue South
Bloomington, MN 55420
- Please write Show Choir Fee on the memo line.
- Payments are NON-REFUNDABLE
- If the name on your check is different than your student's last name, please put the student's name on the memo of the check.

Costs DON'T include: Although show choir fees cover most expenses, your student may be asked to cover the cost of the following, if needed: undergarments, make-up and hair products. Please be aware that students must purchase their own food at competitions and outside food is often not allowed (unless there are dietary restrictions). This is how the host schools make money at their competitions.

Scholarship Requests: Questions regarding scholarships or setting up alternative payment schedules should be sent to the choir director. Scholarship requests require completion of an application form which can be obtained from the choir director or the choir website at: kennedychoirs.org. Scholarships are available based on need and on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Bloomington Kennedy Activities Foundation Scholarships: ALL students are eligible for one of these scholarships for up to \$150. Information can be found at the kennedychoirs.org website.

ALO (Account Link On-Line): Every student has an ALO account that is set up by the choir's administrative assistant (Gayle) to help document payments that are made. Parents and students will be sent a reminder email 5 days prior to when a payment is due. After a fundraiser occurs (car wash, pancake breakfast, fireman's tournament, etc.) your child's account will reflect the money raised based on his/her participation.





2023-2024 RIG Show Choir Required/Important Dates

Dates	Time	Event	Notes
Sat., Aug. 19	10-1:00	Car Wash	Group and Individual Fundraiser
Aug. 22-25	12-6 pm	Kevin Chase Retreat	
Sat., Aug. 26	9-3:00 pm	Kevin Chase Retreat	Lunch will be provided by Booster Club (look for Sign-Up Genius to come)
Sept. Aug. 26	2:30-3:30 pm	Sneak Peek & Ice Cream	RIG will perform what they have learned in front of parents. Then they will celebrate with ice cream. Parents will have a chance to meet and connect with each other.
Mon., Sept. 11, 18, 25	5:30-7 pm	Vocal Rehearsal	Required rehearsals
Oct. 26-29	7:00 pm	Fall Musical	<i>Newsies</i> Only musical participants need to attend
Mon., Oct. 30	3-5pm	Season Officially starts	
Sat., Nov. 11	9-5pm	Holiday Show Retreat	Students bring lunch, Dinner provided by Booster Club
Sun., Nov. 12	12-8pm	Comp. Set Clean-Up	Dinner will be provided by Booster Club
Mon., Nov. 13	3-9pm	Kevin and Alex	Dinner will be provided by Booster Club
Fri., Nov. 17	5-8:00 pm	Pasta Dinner	This will take place at St. Bonaventure
Nov. 30-Dec. 2	7 pm	Holiday Show	Call time is 6:15
Fri., Dec. 1	10am & 12:30pm	Holiday Show Matinees	
Sat., Dec. 16	10-6pm	Kevin Chase Retreat	Lunch will be provided by Booster Club
Sun., Dec. 17	12-8pm	Choreography Retreat	Dinner will be provided by Booster Club
Mon., Dec. 18	10-6pm	Choreography Retreat	Lunch will be provided by Booster Club
Fri., Jan. 5	3-9pm	Alex Choreography	Dinner will be provided by Booster Club
Sat., Jan. 6	10-8pm	Alex Choreography	Dinner will be provided by Booster Club
Fri., Jan. 12	3-9pm	Choreography Retreat	Dinner will be provided by Booster Club
Sat., Jan. 13	Students at 10 am Show is at 7:00pm	Preview Show	All students must sell 5 tickets @ \$10/each
Sat., Jan. 20	All day	West Salem	Bring money for food
Sat. 27	All Day	Bloomington Gold	Required parent and student help
Sat., Feb. 3	All Day	Eau Claire Memorial	Bring money for food
Sat., Feb. 17	All Day	Waconia Star Power	Bring money for food
Tues., Feb. 20	7pm	Sing into Spring Concert	Curricular Choirs Performance (not a showchoir event)
Sat. Feb. 24	All Day	Hastings	Bring money for food
Mar. 1-4	All Day	Chicagoland Comp.	Bring money for food, Overnight (3 nights)
March 15, 16	7pm & matinee on 15	RIG Annual	Not a competition, but the final performance of the Comp. Season
April 18, 19	7pm	Cabaret	Con Brio choir performs (not a showchoir event)
May 14	7pm	Pop's Concert	Curricular Choirs perform (not a showchoir event)
May TBD	6pm	RIG/BGV Banquet	TBD

2023-2024 Fundraising

We have 2 different kind of Fundraising opportunities: Group and Individual. The Group fundraising opportunities are ones that benefit all members of the Show Choir. And of course, the individual ones go directly to the individual show choir student.

We offer these fundraisers in order to help lower the out of pocket cost for the participants of Show Choir. We highly encourage you to take part in as many fundraisers as possible. Look for emails/Reminds with important dates and opportunities.

There are 4 REQUIRED Fundraisers that ALL students must participate in:

The Car Wash Ticket Sales (Aug. 19, 2023)

The Pancake Breakfast Ticket Sales (Oct. 15, 2023)

The Preview Show Ticket Sales (Jan. 13, 2024)

Bloomington Gold (volunteer shifts-kids and parents) (Jan. 27, 2024)

Fundraiser	Dates/Times	Overview	Ind. Or Group	Estimated profit (based on previous years)
Fireman's Tournament	July 14-18	Help with set-up, work concessions, help with clean up	Individual	\$15-20/hour
Car Wash (Required)	Sat., Aug. 19	Parents and students needed. Students sell 7 tickets	Group and Individual	Students will earn 100% of every ticket sold after the first 7
Pancake Breakfast (Required)	Sun, Oct. 15	Parents and students work at the breakfast. Students sell 7 tickets	Group and Individual	Students will earn 50% of every ticket sold after the first 7
Football Game Ticket Gate	Sept-Oct.	Parent check tickets at the gate of the football stadium	Individual	\$15-20/hour
Cub Foods Bagging	November	Students and parents bag groceries for customers, assist donation table	Individual	Varies
Pasta Dinner (Required)	Nov. 17	Parents and students work at the breakfast. Students sell 7 tickets.	Group and Individual	Students will earn 50% of every ticket sold after the first 7
Preview Show (Required)	Sat., Jan. 13	Students sell 5 tickets to the show	Group and Individual	Students will earn 50% of every ticket sold after the first 5
Bloomington Gold (Required)	Sat., Jan. 27	Each family member is responsible for 2 shift (students and parents)	Group	\$10,000-15,000
Cookie Dough Sales	September	Students are responsible for sale and delivery	Individual	50% of overall sales goes to student acct.
Gerten's Plant Sales	November & March	Students are responsible for sale and delivery	Individual	30% of all sales go back to student account
Dine to Donate	All year	Certain restaurants host Dine to Donate Days-proceeds go back to program	Group	Varies
Eagle's Nest Concessions	Oct.-March	Families can work concessions for sporting events (volleyball, basketball)	Individual	TBA
Droolin' Moose	April	Students can sell chocolates and are responsible for sale and delivery.	Individual	22-30%

Fundraising Fireman's Tournament

2022 65th Annual Fireman's Softball Tournament Fundraiser July 13-17, 2023

The Fireman's tournament is an Adult Softball Tournament with a long tradition held annually here in Bloomington at the Valley View and Dred Scot Fields. There are other groups who work this tournament, but Kennedy Choirs fill the most volunteer spots. Each year we provide positive, hard workers who cook, wrap and serve cheeseburgers, brats, nachos and other hot foods to the players and fans who attend the event. Students in the past have made up to **\$20/hour** and the money goes directly into their own ALO accounts.

- Students can have up to 3 people working, including yourself. These workers can be parents, grandparents, neighbors, siblings (must be 9th grade or older) or friends. If a student and a parent "work" for 4 hours each, then the student would get paid for 8 hours. The money will go into the individual ALO account by December.
- Students can work multiple days and multiple shifts (Thursday-Monday)

Thursday	10:00 am-1:00 pm (Set-Up Day) Heavy lifting is required for this shift.
Friday	4:00 pm-11:00 pm (7hour hour shift)
Saturday	7:30 am-10:30 pm (approx. 4 hour shifts)
Saturday	10:30 pm-7:30 am Overnight security and grounds clean up
Sunday	7:30 am-7:00 pm (approx. 4 hour shifts)
Monday	10:00 am-1:00 pm (Take down day) Heavy lifting is required for this shift.
- Please know that you will be working under HOT and GREASY conditions. Hats and *closed-toe shoes* are required to work this event.
- Money earned with this fundraiser will not be returned if you decide to quit ESR, RIG or Band.



Parent's Guide to Show Choir

What is Show Choir?

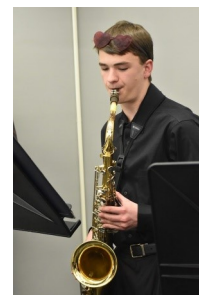
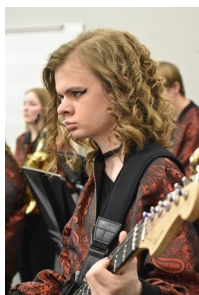
Show choir is a competitive form of entertainment combining in song, dance, bands and lots of creativity. Kennedy has two auditioned show choirs:

Rhythm in Gold (RIG): A Varsity choir of mixed voices from grades 9-12. Auditions take place in May.

East Side Rhythm (ESR): A second choir of treble voices from grades 9-12. Auditions take place in May.

The Band

Each of the groups is backed by its own band, made up entirely of students. They rehearse, travel and win trophies along with the choir. Each show choir competition has a separate award for Best Band and Kennedy bands have consistently been top-rated.



The Crew

Each group also has a crew that assists with the costumes and ensures that props are ready. Students volunteer to serve as members of the crew. Crew members may be members of the other show choir or students from outside of show choir. They travel to all competitions. Awards are also given to the Best Crew for working behind the scenes. They are an integral part of the performance and have often won awards for Best Crew.

The Season

The show choir competition season runs from January through late March or early April but the work for a show choir is year round.

Choreography Camps: Our choreographer, Kevin Chase, lives in Iowa so rehearsals with him usually involve anywhere from 3-5 days of intense work. The pace is fast and demanding. Attendance at these rehearsals is *mandatory* and students are expected to make EVERY EFFORT to attend. If a student must be absent, this conflict must be discussed with the director in advance. Students need to bring a water bottle to these camps along with a healthy snack. In some cases the Booster Club will provide a dinner or lunch for the kids but they will be notified prior to when this is happening.

What to wear during retreats: In general students should wear comfortable work out clothes. Tennis shoes are also necessary. Watch for specific information on shoes needed in the fall.

Rehearsals: Rehearsals involve vocal singing, dancing and breathing practices. They are intense, invigorating and fun.

Preseason: Mondays 5:30-7:30pm Not required, but *strongly* encouraged.

In-Season: Mondays 3-5:00 pm, Tuesdays 3-5:00, Thursdays 3-6:00 pm **Mandatory**

Concerts:

Holiday Show: Nov. 30-Dec. 2 RIG and ESR will perform a fun holiday set with choreography during this performance.

RIG Annual: March 15, 16 Soloists, small-group numbers and full choirs will be singing for this performance. ESR and RIG will also do their competition set for the final time. It's an emotional performance for our seniors who will be graduating.

Parent's Guide to Show Choir Continued

Costumes

The cost of your student's costumes is included in the show choir fees. Measurements for costumes will be taken in early June to allow for costume ordering intervals. Please be aware that in many cases these costumes are custom-made to these measurements.

All costumes are selected by the directors, the costume designers and the choreographer. Students are responsible for maintaining their costumes including making sure they have all required pieces before and after a competition.

After each competition, it is important to take the clothing out of the garment bags for airing and make sure that all pieces are accounted for. **DO NOT WASH OR DRY CLEAN** the garments until you know that it is ok to do so and follow the instructions provided, such as making sure to wash t-shirts inside out and air drying.

Notify Mrs. Jordan and Mama Bryan immediately if any sewing or repairs are needed. This is not uncommon. **DO NOT** cut loose threads on sequined or beaded dresses without asking for assistance of Mama Bryan.

All costume items will be returned and checked-in after the RIG Annual.

Hair and Make-up

Stage presence is very important in show choir and that includes makeup and hair. In coordination with Kevin Chase, Mrs. Jordan will determine what make-up palette will be worn. This may include lipstick, blush, eye shadow, lip liner and eyeliner. These items will be purchased prior to the first competition. The hairstyle is selected as the group attempts to achieve an overall look and how to curl (or straighten) their hair.

Competition Etiquette

- Competitions generally start between 8-9 am, with choirs performing every 30 minutes. The doors will only be open to spectators in-between the choir sets. Competition times are received in advance, but these CAN change so come early! Both RIG and ESR travel together along with the band and crew. The days are long but oh so much fun!
- Smaller schools and unisex/prep/junior varsity groups will perform earlier and larger schools and mixed/varsity groups perform later. The results from the preliminary performances will be announced before the dinner break. The top choirs will then perform THE SAME SET in the evening Finals competition. The top 6 performers in the evening finals competition are generally varsity groups, but some competitions allow the highest ranking JV group to compete in the finals.
- The first 3 rows of seats in the auditorium are reserved for parents and fans of the choir on stage. Clapping and cheering are strongly encouraged during the performance, except during ballads when appreciation is demonstrated by "jazz hands". At the end of your school's set, you are expected to vacate these rows for the next school's fans.
- ALWAYS be polite and respectful to the other choirs while in the audience, while walking around, or wherever you are. You never know who is sitting within earshot. Kennedy students and families have good rapport with other groups and we want to continue that tradition.
- Food and snacks are available at all competitions. There are usually many options to choose from and there is often an evening meal for a reasonable price. Students should be prepared to purchase food during the day as often outside food is not allowed in the building (unless someone has dietary restrictions).

