

Fairfax High School Choral Department



2014-15 Student Handbook

www.fhschorus.net

Major Dates for the 2014-15 School Year

(These can be accessed via Charms or www.fhschorus.net as well)

10/14- Potluck Dinner Night @ 6pm: FHS Cafeteria

10/28- Pyramid Concert @ 7pm: FHS Auditorium

12/18- Winter Concert @ 7pm: FHS Auditorium

3/18- Assessment Concert @ 7pm: FHS Auditorium

3/21 or 3/22- Assessment TBA at WT Woodson High School

4/15-19- Spring Trip (Orlando)

6/5- Spring Spotlight Concert @ 7pm: FHS Auditorium

A detailed calendar is available at www.charmsoffice.net. It will be continuously updated throughout the school year. Periodic e-mail notifications will be sent to keep you apprised of current events.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Program Objectives- From the Fairfax County Program of Studies

FHS Chorus students will...

Perform:

- ♪ Using correct posture
- ♪ Using correct breathing
- ♪ Using appropriate facial expression
- ♪ Using proper diction
- ♪ Using proper tone
- ♪ Using proper dynamics
- ♪ Using accurate intonation
- ♪ Projecting their voices
- ♪ Blending with other singers
- ♪ Singing unaccompanied music in parts
- ♪ Singing in a variety of styles
- ♪ Singing in a variety of languages
- ♪ Singing secular and sacred repertoire
- ♪ Singing from memory
- ♪ Singing with attention to stage presence
- ♪ Singing with some dance movement

Create:

- ♪ Improvising melodies
- ♪ Improvising rhythms
- ♪ Improvising movements

Investigate:

- ♪ Reading pitches and rhythms
- ♪ Notating pitches and rhythms
- ♪ Understanding key signatures
- ♪ Understanding time signatures
- ♪ Understanding solfege

Connect:

- ♪ Relating music to disciplines outside of the arts
- ♪ Understanding the relationship of music and text
- ♪ Demonstrating proper rehearsal and performance etiquette
- ♪ Contributing in a positive manner to the group
- ♪ Attending live concerts
- ♪ Participate in clinics and master classes

Conflict Notification

Like band and orchestra, chorus is a performance-based class. Scheduled performances are assessments that measure each student's progress. Unlike traditional academic classes, performance classes consist of daily rehearsals in which group concepts are built in over time. While it is possible for a student to "catch up" if a rehearsal session must be missed, consistent absences from class create a situation where work cannot necessarily be made up. If a student misses more than 30% of the class sessions leading up to a given performance, the director may remove the student from that performance at his discretion.

Chorus at the high school level is considered advanced-level. These students have a lot of music to learn and the music may be at a higher level of difficulty than the students have previously encountered. Practice outside of class time is a requirement of the choral program. The purpose of outside practice is to ensure that the music for the concert is accurately learned so that group rehearsals can proceed smoothly. Students will have their vocal parts recorded on their cell phones. Students should practice regularly at home in order to be as prepared for class "rehearsals" as possible.

Prior to each performance, the director schedules "dress rehearsals" outside of class time. The purpose of a dress rehearsal is to put all performers together at the same time and work out any logistical or performing problems that may arise in a combined performance. Dress rehearsals directly affect the outcome of the performance. Because we measure student progress in live performances, it is extremely complicated to make up an absence from a dress rehearsal or performance. Because of this, these absences are rarely excused.

A conflict notification form is posted in Charms. If you feel that your child must miss a scheduled rehearsal or performance, please print this form, fill it out and turn it in to Mr. Frels at least two weeks prior to the rehearsal or performance. Forms received after this time will not be considered for grading purposes. If no form is received, it is assumed that the parents and student understand the time requirements.

DRESS WEAR AND CARE

Remember that you are renting the dress. Please care for it appropriately. You are expected to return the dress at the end of the year in the same condition in which you got it.

HEMMING

- Before the first concert in December, you are responsible for hemming your dresses.
- Put in no more than a 3-inch hem.
- Dresses should not drag the ground nor be so short that the entire shoe shows.
- Use matching dark blue thread, not staples or tape.
- Check the integrity of the hem before each concert. (This is for your safety. A loose hem could cause a fall.)

PERFORMANCES

- Dresses should be cleaned and touched-up with an iron, as necessary.
- Girls must wear closed-toe black dress shoes with heels no higher than 2 inches. (They will be walking on stage, up stairs and risers. High heels could cause falls.)
- Girls must wear black stockings or knee-highs.
- If you have a wardrobe problem, you must arrive 15 minutes prior to call time to take care of it. The wardrobe room will close at call time.

DRESS CLEANING GUIDELINES

- Dresses can be machine washed delicate cycle Cold wash/Cold rinse (best if washed alone).
- Tumble dry on delicate.
- Hang dress up immediately to help prevent wrinkles.
- Light iron if necessary.

TUXEDO WEAR AND CARE

- Men's wardrobe consists of a jacket, pants, shirt, vest, and tie.
- Please machine wash and dry shirt before each concert.
- Hang shirt immediately after removing it from dryer to avoid the need for ironing.
- Men wear black, closed-toe shoes and black socks.

Questions: E-mail Mr. Frels (luke.frels@fcps.edu)

FHS CHORAL AWARDS

Letters, Pins and Bars

- ∞ The letter is awarded for achieving 200 points.
- ∞ The pin is awarded for achieving 300 points in addition to the letter (500 total).
- ∞ The gold bar is awarded for achieving 400 points in addition to the letter and pin (900 total).
- ∞ Points are cumulative from year to year (grades 9-12 only). Some points may be transferred from another high school – see director for instructions.
- ∞ Students will turn in point sheets each spring. Points will be recorded in Charms each year.

SERVICE

25 Points

- Choir Council

20 Points

- Section Leader
- Student Accompanist
- Librarian
- Student Tech

10 Points

- Recruit new person for choral department
- Set-up for concert
- Clean-up for concert
- Work at the Fall Festival or Craft Fair
- Work a shift at Modelers convention

5 Points

- Concessions at Tailgating(per shift)
- Participate in the Homecoming Parade
- Library service (per shift)

HONORS

30 Points

- Honors Choir
- All-State Chorus
- Attend Governor's School for chorus/music

25 Points

- District Chorus member

15 Points

- All-State Chorus alternate
- Governor's School nominee for chorus/music

PARTICIPATION

30 Points

- Participate in school musical

20 Points

- 4 year choir member
- Take private voice lessons
- Attend summer music camp
- Participate in church, community, or extra-curricular choir throughout the school year

15 Points

- 3 year choir member
- Participate in solo vocal competition

10 Points

- 2 year choir member
- Audition for District, Honors, All-State, Musical (each occurrence)
- Participate in field trip/performance in community
- Participate in singing telegrams
- Attend a live music performance and complete a concert review
- Attend the Chorus Movie Night
- Sing a solo in a concert
- Sing in a voice recital (3/year maximum)

5 Points

- 1 year choir member
- Provide transportation for a field trip
- Honor Roll (each quarter)
- Usher for a concert or performance other than chorus
- Participate in a fundraiser (5 points per item sold)
- Sing in a duet or small ensemble in a concert
- Sing solo at church (3/year maximum)

Miscellaneous

- Mr. Frels reserves the right to award points for items not listed above.

Fairfax High School Choral Patrons Association

Dear Parents/Guardians,

School Year 2014-2015

Welcome to the Fairfax High School Choral Patrons Association (FHSCPA)! You are automatically a member because your child is enrolled in one of Fairfax High School's award winning choirs. The FHSCPA helps to support the Choral Music Department in three ways:

1. We help the choral director with programs, set-up, clean-up, and publicity for concerts. We help him communicate with you through email and newsletters. We help by ordering and caring for the students' concert attire. We act as student chaperones during concerts and for field trips.
2. Through fundraisers, we provide additional financial support to the choral music department, as the funding from the school system is limited.
3. We coordinate several fundraisers to help students raise money for the annual spring trip. These fundraisers are very important as they help offset the cost to the student for the spring trip.

This promises to be an exciting year as we welcome back Mr. Frels for his sixth year as choral director at Fairfax High School. Prior to this he taught at Thomas Jefferson for six years and in Texas for three. Please help the FHSCPA support Mr. Frels and all of the choral students by donating your time and talents in whatever way you can. Please contact fhscpa1@gmail.com if you have any questions for any of the board members listed below.

This year we will hold the FHS Choral Potluck on October 14th from 6 to 8pm. Please come to learn more about how the FHSCPA works for the choral department, and to learn about the annual music department spring trip. See the enclosed flyer for more details. Also, please feel free to attend any FHSCPA meeting. See your calendar for times and locations. Please visit us: www.fhschorus.net.

I look forward to seeing you at the Choral Potluck!

Thank you,

President: Ginger [REDACTED]
Vice President: Lucille [REDACTED]
Treasurer: Jeff [REDACTED]
Secretary: Kristin [REDACTED]
Publicity: Nora [REDACTED]
Wardrobe: Lee [REDACTED]
Volunteer Coordinator: Andrea [REDACTED]
White House Ornaments: Deirdre [REDACTED]
Restaurant Fundraisers: Nancy [REDACTED]
Trip Coordinators: Chavonne [REDACTED] & Andrea [REDACTED]
Concessions: Scot & Rosemary [REDACTED]
Spirit Wear: Lynn [REDACTED]

Planned Fundraisers

All proceeds go to each individual student's Spring Trip account*
- Claire's Gourmet: September & October
- White House Ornaments: Fall (partial proceeds to FHSCPA)
- Papa John's Cards: Fall



Choir Potluck Dinner on 14 October 2014

Please complete & return the following forms at the Chorus Potluck on 14 October.

The following items are required to participate in the FHS Choral Department. Please make your check payable to Fairfax High School (or FHS) for the following items:

	FHSCPA Rep	TOTALS
Choral Department Fees (\$75/\$35/\$00)	Ginger	
A Cappella Ladies - Black Character Shoes (\$20)	Lee	
A Cappella Men – Black Oxford Shoes (\$33)	Lee	
Select Ladies – Black Character Shoes (\$20)	Lee	
Fairfax Fame—Black Character Shoes (\$20), Tan Character Shoes (\$20), Tights (\$15), Trunks (\$10), Earrings (\$5), total = \$70	Lee	
Emergency Care Information	Kristin	
Write One Check Payable to <u>FHS Choir</u>	Jeff & Nora	

The following items are sponsored by the Fairfax High School Choral Patrons Association (FHSCPA) for your consideration. Please make your check to FHSCPA for the following items:

	FHSCPA Rep	TOTALS
District Chorus Commitment (\$12)	Kristin	
Choral Department Spring Trip Intent Form	Chavonne	
Spring Trip Deposit (\$50)	Chavonne	
Choral Sponsors Program	Lucille	
Treble Clef Car Magnets (\$1.00)	Lynn	
FAIRFAX CHORUS Car Stickers (\$5.00)	Lynn	
Spirit Wear Order (Apparel)	Lynn	
White House ornaments (\$19.50)	Deirdre	
Papa John's Card (\$15)	Nancy	
<u>Write One Check Payable to FHSCPA</u>	Jeff & Nora	

Claire's Gourmet Fundraiser	FHSCPA Rep	TOTALS
Claire's Gourmet Fundraiser- Place all monies in the white envelope. Label envelope with student's name. Include yellow order sheet. Make sure all checks are payable to FHSCPA .	Andrea & Scott	

Fairfax High School Choral Department
3501 Rebel Run
Fairfax, VA 22030
(703)219-2355

Choral Department Fees- Payable to FHS Choir

The Choral Department assesses a *Consumables Fee* of \$75 for each member of the chorus. This fee pays for many aspects of the chorus program including wardrobe needs, performance folders, and paying accompanists when student performers are not available.

If a student qualifies for **reduced lunch**, then the fee is \$35. A copy of the county letter must be submitted with this form.

If a student qualifies for **free lunch**, then the fee is waived entirely. A copy of the county letter must be submitted with this form.

The Consumables Fee is due at the **Potluck Dinner** on October 14th. All checks should be made payable to **FHS Choir**.

Please Note: Students will not receive wardrobe until all fees are paid.





Student Name: _____

Amount Owed (circle one): \$75 \$35 \$00

If fee is partially or fully waived, please remember to attach a copy of your county letter.



Wardrobe Agreement

Your chorus fee includes wardrobe rental. The wardrobe rental entails the following:

-  The choir dress or tux combination for your class.
-  Costume jewelry earrings for girls.
-  Costume jewelry necklaces (distributed and collected at each concert).
-  A choir t-shirt.

Please note: Girls may choose to not wear the earrings if their ears are not pierced or if there is a skin allergy. Non-conforming jewelry may not be worn. If your student owns a comparable earring please present the earring for approval to Mr. Frels prior to each concert. The fee is the same with or without earrings.

You are asked to provide the following wardrobe items:

-  Black hose/knee highs (girls)
-  Black socks (guys)

Shoes: The following shoes will be ordered from www.liberts.com and will be available for each student to purchase.

Girls: 5316 Chorus Line Shoe (\$20)

Guys: 4320 Men's Professional Oxford Shoe (\$33)


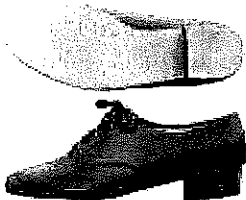
Please note: These are the recommended shoes for chorus. If your student already owns a comparable shoe, please present the shoe to Mr. Frels for approval at Poluck.

Please see the wardrobe care section for instructions on having your wardrobe neat, clean, and scent-free for each concert.

A Cappella Men -- 2014

Order Form

Name _____

Quantity	Item	Size	Cost	Total
	Black Tuxedo Ensemble (includes jacket, pants, white shirt, vest, tie)	Included in Wardrobe Fees	\$0	
				
	Black Professional Oxford	Street Shoes Size	\$33	
				
	Total		\$33	

Please make checks payable to FHS with A Cappella in the memo line. If you have any questions feel free to contact Mr. Luke Frels (luke.frels@fcps.edu).



EMERGENCY CARE INFORMATION

In case of an emergency, the school staff will contact 911.

Every attempt will be made to contact a parent, a guardian, or a designated emergency contact.

STUDENT INFORMATION					
Last:	First:	Middle:	Date of Birth:	Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	Grade:
School Name:	ID No.:	Teacher or Counselor :	Bus # (AM):	Bus # (PM):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student has medical alert information on file. See page 2 for details.					

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION

This form is to be completed by the enrolling parent. The enrolling parent is the natural or adoptive parent or legal guardian with whom the student lives the preponderance of the school week and who enrolled the student in school.

Enrolling Parent		Last:	First:	Middle:	Telephone
					Home:
Number:	Street:	Apt.#:			Work:
City:		State:	Zip:		Cell:
Relationship:		Language:		E-mail:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Guardian <input type="checkbox"/> Foster Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Self		<input type="checkbox"/> Resides with			

Other Parent		Last:	First:	Middle:	Telephone
					Home:
Number:	Street:	Apt.#:			Work:
City:		State:	Zip:		Cell:
Relationship:		Language:		E-mail:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Resides with			

Other Parent		Last:	First:	Middle:	Telephone
					Home:
Number:	Street:	Apt.#:			Work:
City:		State:	Zip:		Cell:
Relationship:		Language:		E-mail:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Resides with			

Other Parent		Last:	First:	Middle:	Telephone
					Home:
Number:	Street:	Apt.#:			Work:
City:		State:	Zip:		Cell:
Relationship:		Language:		E-mail:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Resides with			

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Please list at least two people we may call if the parent(s) or guardian(s) cannot be reached in the event of an emergency. These people also have your permission to pick your child up from school during the school day.

Name of Person	Relationship	Language	Telephone
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

* Please remember to sign page 2.

APPENDIX H

Virginia Choral Directors Association, VMEA

Please print clearly in blue or black ink.**HIGH SCHOOL ALL-DISTRICT CHORUS COMMITMENT FORM****STUDENT INFORMATION**

Student Name: _____	Grade: _____
School: _____	Height in inches: _____
Director: _____	

HEALTH & INSURANCE INFORMATION

Emergency Contact: _____	Phone: _____
Alternate Contact: _____	Phone: _____
Insurance Company: _____	ID #: _____
Individual/Group Name: _____	Group #: _____
Initial here if no insurance: _____	

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Any student enrolled in a music performance organization as recognized by the school division (performance-based ensemble within the school curriculum), and who is recommended by the director of that organization, is eligible to audition for All-District Chorus, Workshop Chorus, or any choral group selected for the event. Students must be enrolled in the choral program at the time of the auditions and at the time of the All-District Chorus event. Schools using an alternative from of scheduling may request a waiver of this requirement from the President's Committee.

This student has my recommendation and endorsement for being selected as a member of the All-District Chorus. I understand that the student's director or a chaperone, which must be designated in writing, is required to accompany him/her to this event. It is further understood that the choral director must be a member of NAFME/VMEA or pay a non-member participation fee in order for this student to participate.

Choral Director Signature_____
Principal Signature**ALL-DISTRICT CHORUS CONTRACT**

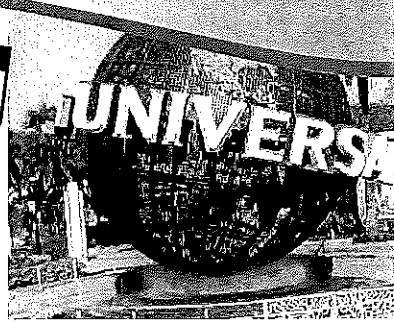
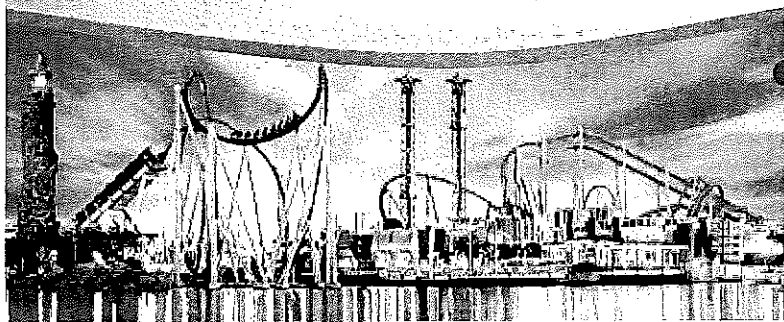
I have read and understand all Event Rules & Regulations, Rehearsal Expectations and Consequences that apply to participation in the All-District Chorus event. I further understand that this form with the required signatures must be submitted on time to the Chair of All-District Chorus before this student is permitted to participate in the All-District Chorus event to be held on the scheduled dates: _____

I authorize the choir director of my child's school or an official of All-District Chorus to take any precautions deemed necessary by a qualified physician. I understand that this would be done only in an emergency situation.

Student Signature_____
Parent Signature

*GO Travel, Learn &
Play!!*

Go Student Tours



Fairfax High School Choir

Music USA Festivals, Universal/Islands of Adventure, Orlando, Florida

April 15 - 19, 2015

5 Days - 4 Nights

Day One, Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Depart from Fairfax on our Go Student Tours arranged **deluxe motorcoach** to Orlando (approximately 16 hours). Stop for breaks and meals on own enroute.

Day Two, Thursday, April 16, 2015

Arrive in **Orlando** in the morning and meet our tour **escort**. This morning, we'll have fun at **Wet N' Wild Water Park**. Enjoy lunch on your own while at the water park. Later, depart and check in to our **hotel, Cabana Bay**. This evening, we'll visit **Fun Spot USA**. Dinner is included via vouchers while at Fun Spot USA. Return to the hotel for the night. **Private hotel security** will be available for your group while at our hotel. D

Day Three, Friday, April 17, 2015

Breakfast is included at our hotel each morning. This morning, perform at the **Music USA Festival**, followed by an **on-stage**

clinic. There are changing facilities available. Later, you'll have a choice of **Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure**. Enjoy lunch on your own while at the theme park. This afternoon attend the **awards ceremony**. Dinner is a buffet at the **NASCAR Grille** with free time after dinner at **Cabana Bay Resort**. B,D

Day Four, Saturday, April 18, 2015

After breakfast and checking out depart for another fun time at **Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure**. Enjoy lunch on your own and dinner via vouchers while at the amusement park. Tonight, bid adieu to our Orlando escort, board our deluxe motorcoach and depart for home. Stop for breaks and meals on own enroute. B,D

Day Five, Sunday, April 19, 2015

Continue home on the motorcoach. Stop for breaks and meals on own enroute. Arrive home at approximately 2:00pm.

Tour Includes: 2 nights accommodation, motorcoach, 2 hotel breakfasts, 3 dinners, Music USA Festival, on-stage-clinic, admissions and escort service as stated in the itinerary, taxes and gratuity, and gratuity for guide service is included.

GST - Fairfax High School Choir 04-15-15, Orlando

Fla. Seller of Travel Reg. No ST39040

Trip Cost with 84 participants: approximately \$685 per student: (Quad Occupancy)
Chaperone Cost with 6 chaperones: approximately \$365 per chaperone (Double Occupancy)

10-04-14	First deposit due:	\$50.00 per person
11-17-14	Second deposit due:	\$200.00 per person
01-20-15	Third deposit due:	\$200.00 per person
02-16-15	Final Payment	Balance due (minus fundraising totals)

For more information contact Mr. Frels

Choral Department Trip Intent Form

☐ My child will travel with the chorus to Orlando, Florida from April 15-19, 2015.

☐ My child will not travel with the chorus to Orlando this year.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Become a Choral Sponsor

The simplest way you can help the Choral Patrons Association is by becoming a sponsor. Your financial donation will help provide the students in the Choral Program with the best possible resources available. Sponsorship money goes directly to purchasing and replacing equipment such as pianos, risers, acoustic shells, and sound equipment. The money you contribute as a sponsor benefits your child in the chorus program every day. Please consider donating at one of the levels listed below.

Chorister Level (\$25)

♪ You and your family may sit in the sponsor section at each concert.

♪ Your name will appear in a thank you section in the concert program.

Soloist Level (\$50)

♪ All Chorister Level benefits apply.

♪ You will also receive a FHS Chorus Treble Clef Magnet.

Artist Level (\$75)

♪ All Chorister and Soloist Level benefits apply.

♪ You will also receive a Fairfax Chorus Car Sticker.

Prima Donna Level (\$100)

♪ All Chorister, Soloist and Artist Level benefits apply.

♪ You will also receive a FHS Chorus Spirit Wear T-shirt.

Regardless of the level of your contribution, thank you for your support of chorus at FHS!

Your Name: _____

Your Student's Name: _____

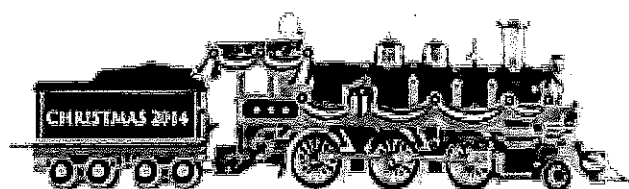
Sponsorship Level: _____

Name as you would like it to appear in the program:

Make checks payable to FHSCPA.

Fairfax High School Choral Department

2014 White House Ornaments

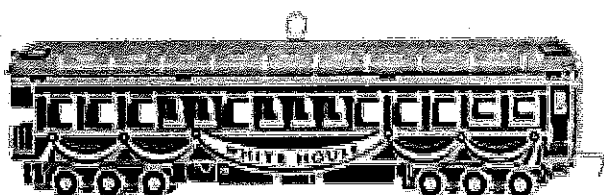


HONORING PRESIDENT WARREN G. HARDING

TWO TIMES THE CHEER

THE 2014

WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT



HONORING PRESIDENT WARREN G. HARDING The 2014 White House Christmas ornament honors the administration of Warren G. Harding, who served as the 29th president of the US from 1921 to 1923. As a young boy, Harding dreamed of being a locomotive engineer—a wish that was to come true for 51 minutes when as president, he took over the controls on the Alaskan railroad during the "Voyage of Understanding," his famous speaking and sightseeing tour. The Presidential Special, the train that carried President Harding west at the outset of his ambitious voyage and that would tragically carry his casket back east following his sudden death, just two months later, is the inspiration for our 2014 ornament

Decorated with gold tones and enamel finishes, the 33rd annual White House Christmas Ornament is the first ornament to be comprised of two pieces, which can be hung as two separate ornaments or linked together.

The 2014 ornaments are \$19.50 each. They are available from your favorite choral student or look for us at the Fairfax Fall Festival, Saturday, October 11th or the Fairfax City Craft Fair at Fairfax High School, November 15th & 16th.

Yes! I wish to order:

_____ # of 2014 ornaments at \$19.50..... \$ _____

_____ # of 2009 ornaments at \$3.00..... \$ _____

Credit the following choral student _____

Please make checks payable to FHSCPA