



PACIFIC

World renowned, Bay Area based

BOYCHOIR

Where achieving the extraordinary becomes a way of life

ACADEMY



Imagine
a school
where...



Boychoir members
accomplish
extraordinary
results through
teamwork

Strong curriculum
interests boys and
is taught in a
best-for-boys
manner



Musical training
enhances brain
development
and academic
curriculum



Students
experience and
study cultures first
hand as they
travel the world



Exciting technology
and sports
programs mesh
well with
musical activities

The PBA Middle School seeks to develop confident, engaged young men who are capable of achieving extraordinary outcomes through personal discipline and teamwork. We provide an unmatched educational, musical, and personal development experience for boys grade 4-8. We'd like to share our story with you.

We believe that boys are hungry for accomplishment, more than is assumed for their age. We provide a lofty but achievable goal – the creation of a world-class boychoir. The boys' response is life changing. Middle School years turn into a period of high purpose. Boys achieve inspiring milestones together. They pursue academics seriously. They mature personally.

Into this high motivation context we offer a strong academic curriculum with a best-for-boys learning approach. The results speak for themselves. The PBA's graduating classes have been filled with sterling young men who had the privilege of choosing among highly regarded high schools.



Kevin Fox conducts the boychoir at Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, France (2005 tour).

Transformatio



The Pacific Boychoir is the flagship accomplishment of PBA Middle School boys. The Boychoir’s reputation for excellence has earned performances with the San Francisco Symphony and Opera, the UC Berkeley and Davis Symphonies, and American Bach Soloists. Our performances

span Britten’s *War Requiem*, Orff’s *Carmina Burana*, Bizet’s *Carmen*, and Mozart’s *The Magic Flute*.

The choir has won a Grammy with the San Francisco Symphony.

We aim to match the world’s best boychoirs* (Vienna Boys, Austria; Drakensberg, South Africa; American Boychoir, Princeton). Critical reviews imply that the boys are succeeding! Extraordinary accomplishment teaches life-long lessons. Hard work leads to mastery. Personal responsibility and teamwork go hand in hand. The challenge of improvement leads to the joy of art well performed.

**Note to prospective parents: don’t be intimidated—if your son enjoys music, we can train his voice!*

Extraordinary

Innovative

This year we will pilot two additional ways for PBA middle school boys to achieve the extraordinary: PBA Applied Technology Program: we will support (via curriculum) the “Technology Benefiting Humanity” program of the San Jose Tech Museum. Twenty-five technologies from around the world are awarded annually for their promise to improve mankind’s health, environment, education, economic development, and equality. Boys will meet award-winning entrepreneurs, explore their innovations in small group projects, and provide school-wide support for one technology’s commercialization.



PBA Swim Team: Time in the water will alternate between swim technique/laps

and team water sports. Boys will periodically record and try to beat their best times. Boys’ lap totals will trigger funds to be

given to non-profit organizations researched and chosen by the Swim Team.



Built for Boys

Boys excel academically at PBA Middle School, not just because of what we teach but how we teach it.

Most boys learn differently than girls. As the East Bay's only school for boys, PBA staff uniquely dedicate full attention to boys' learning styles. Teachers incorporate Levine's "One Mind at a Time," and Gurian's "Mind of Boys" into classroom approaches.

The PBA also designs curriculum to be of interest to boys. Baseball records and stock market simulations facilitate the study of statistics. A historical murder mystery set in the

Roman Empire triggers debate about democracy, power, and human rights. Boys feel "School is just right for me!" like never before.

Finally, we know how to channel boys' high energy. We alternate order and hierarchy with opportunities to blow off steam – boys respond best to the mix. Parents call our approach uniquely effective.



Medical research, enhanced in recent years by brain imaging, shows that music is incredible "brain food." It stimulates left and right brain connections, accelerating and extending brain development. It also enhances focus. A mind conditioned by music is a mind prepared to learn. As a result, daily music enriches the PBA's academic effectiveness while furthering its musical goals.

The PBA Middle School offers an hour of daily choir instruction. Vocal and choral training will make the student one of the best singers for his age in the world. The PBA also offers an additional hour of classes in music theory, music history, sight singing, and ear training. Our Music Staff is noted for its ability to present complex topics in a youth-friendly way. Students receive a musical education comparable to college-level coursework.



Music enriched



Boys in all grades study math, science, social studies, language arts, foreign languages, physical education, and art. Small PBA class sizes enables individualized learning support.

Our reading and writing programs respond to a boy's natural hunger to be an "expert" on a given topic. By

providing high interest, developmentally appropriate subject matter, boys are drawn into reading and into writing practice to discover information that they crave. Hands-on activities are essential in math programs. Integration of boy-friendly activities with math practice ensures that boys learn how to manipulate numbers and think critically about an answer's appropriateness. If a boy is exceptionally strong in math, we allow use of online teaching programs from Johns Hopkins or Stanford to enable exceptional progress.

Strong

Hands on

The science program trains boys to hypothesize and follow instructions while discovering how the world works. We make wide use of hands-on science experiments. Social studies focus on the local community in the lower grades and the larger world in the upper grades. Interactive programs help boys imagine other times and places. Lower school boys study Spanish, upper school boys German. Latin is offered to 7th and 8th graders. Physical education, held in our gymnasium or a nearby park, starts our day Monday and Wednesday, and ends the week Friday.

Two unique learning experiences further distinguish the PBA. One is traveling the world! In three years the choir has toured France, Italy, Denmark, Brazil, Hawaii, and the Eastern US. By interacting intensely with local people and linking social studies focus, PBA boys learn in-depth about other cultures. Another unique learning area, "Gentlemanly Arts," teaches social and interpersonal skills that help on stage and in adolescent life.



“The sound that these boys produce is of a quality that I have not heard in any group of young singers performing in the States at present. This is combined with secure intonation, sensitive blend, strong musicianship, and a rigid discipline which never inhibits the pure joy that these boys invest in their singing. I am sure that over the next few years, the Boychoir and their Music Director Kevin Fox will become even more in demand as performers throughout the world.”

– *Maestro Donald Palumbo, Chorus Master, Lyric Opera of Chicago*

“The group boasts youngsters who have been carefully trained both physically and vocally in the art of singing. They’re not just gathering to sing and have fun; they really are serious about music making.”

– *Maestro Vance George, Director, San Francisco Symphony Chorus*

“This is an impressive young ensemble — poised and well-trained, with riveted focus on their director and the music.”

– *Bruce Lamott, Director, Philharmonia Baroque Chorale*



“We are thrilled to have welcomed...terrific students from the relatively new Pacific Boychoir Academy... who not only bring their wonderful musical abilities, but their excellent spirits and academic preparedness to College Prep. We look forward to a lasting connection with this jewel of a program!”

– *Nettie Anthony-Haris, Director of Admissions, College Preparatory School*

With great joy I learned that you are starting a school with music at its core. . . If parents and children would know how

much easier it is to educate children who are disciplined through music making the whole world would be full of children’s choirs.” – *Maestro Kurt Masur, Music Director Emeritus, New York Philharmonic*

The transformation in our son is incredible! He is so confident and mature all of the sudden. He is a different boy! – *Evelyn Swiatko, Parent*

“After I saw how well my son thrived within the after-school program it was practically a no-brainer to enroll him in the school. It is the best school decision I’ve ever made.” – *Nancy Singer, Parent*

Life Changing



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Does your son enjoy music?

Is he motivated by opportunities for accomplishment?

Call us at 510.652.4722

Check us out on the web: www.pacificboychoiracademy.org

Boy spoken here

Member of East Bay Independent Schools Association