



MMHS Choir Auditions: Chamber Singers 2019-2020

I am so excited that you are interested auditioning for Chamber Singers!
Here is some information regarding your audition.

When: For everyone: By appointment on Monday, March 25th (2:45-7)

Where: MMHS Choir Room – B102

What Will Happen in the Audition? The audition will last about 7 minutes. During that time, you will do the following:

1. Short Memorized Song.

You will sing the melody of one song from memory selected from the list below. 2.

2. Vocal Range Check.

The director(s) will determine how high and low you can sing.

3. Aural Memory Check.

You will sing back a short series of pitches that you hear on the piano.

4. Music Reading.

You will be asked to sight read simple melodies and identify basic music symbols. 5.

5. Sing a Harmony Part.

You will prepare the harmony part to a song selected from the list below.

MMHS students who are not currently in choir:

Sign up for an audition time on the sign-up sheet posted on the choir display cabinet in the B-Hall (near the band room). Know that priority for a spot in Chamber Singers will be given to those who have already participated in choir at MMHS, but all are welcome to audition and will still be considered for Chamber Singers.

Do not sign up for an audition unless you fully intend on being part of this musical group!

Women Only: If you're interested in Chamber Singers, you are encouraged to recruit and commit a man to audition for choir as well. This is to help balance male and female singers in the ensemble. The man does NOT need to audition at the same time as you. However, the more men who audition will then increase the spots available for women to be in Chamber Singers, so it is in your best interest to recruit them!

If you intend to audition for Chamber Singer, please understand that an audition for this ensemble also makes you eligible for other choirs. For instance, if you do not make Chamber Singers, your audition will still count for Concert Choir/Sorelle Voce. Mr. Rymer will make decisions based on the audition results as well as balancing male and female voices in the mixed choirs.

Preparing for Your Audition

1. Download your application from the MMHS Choir website: www.maplemountainchoirs.org. Completely fill out the application, including parent initials where indicated. Bring the completed form with you to your audition.

2. You will prepare two songs before you come to your audition. Adequately PRACTICE your selected pieces before your audition so that you can perform with confidence. Accompaniment will be provided at the audition.

- Prepare to sing the melody (soprano part) on the first verse from one of the songs listed below. Be ready to perform this song by memory. Your piece can be sung in any key, but determine the starting pitch as you prepare and know what it is. You do not need to bring the music with you. After singing the song you chose for the melody, you will also sing the harmony of either the song you just sang or you may pick a different song from the same list below. Prepare to sing the first verse of your selected harmony song on a part other than the melody, even if you're a soprano. Parts other than the melody would include Alto, Tenor, or Bass parts. Be certain to choose a part that will enable you to sing well in your typical vocal range. For instance, a soprano could sing the tenor part up one octave in her range. A bass could sing the alto part down one octave in his range. The harmony song does not need to be memorized and the music will be provided. Unlike the song where you will sing the melody, your harmony song must be performed in the original key.

All Creatures of our God and King, by Vaughan Williams.

On This Day of Joy and Gladness, by Robertson.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today, from Lyra Davidica.

Guide Us, O Thou Great Jehovah, by Hughes.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, arr. by Bennett.

Most of these songs can be found in standard hymnals or online. **For the harmony part song, please sing from the 4 part edition that can be found on lds.org under "music."**

Teacher Referrals If you're auditioning for MMHS Chamber Singers, please pick up 6-7 teacher evaluation forms from the table at the back of the Choir Room. Take one to all of your current Term #4 teachers, except an LDS Seminary teacher and Mr. Rymer (if you currently have Mr. R.). Politely ask your teacher to fill out the evaluation of you as their student and ask them to return it to Mr. R's faculty box NO LATER THAN Monday, March 25th, 2019. You will not be considered for Chamber Singers until each of your current teachers have returned the evaluations. NOTE: Current Chamber Singers do not need to complete this task.

Music Fundamentals Quiz Please be aware that either before or after your audition, you will be asked to complete a written music fundamentals quiz that will take approximately 30 minutes. Please schedule your time accordingly.

Tips for Auditioning

- Remember what time your audition is because you will not be reminded. Schedule your audition at a time that you can undoubtedly be available without being rushed or pressured to be somewhere else.
- Be on time for your audition WITH your audition form ready to go! Arrive early to your audition to avoid being late or running in at the last minute and making a poor impression of yourself.
- Do your own vocal warm-up before coming to your audition. You will be expected to sing right away. You will not have time to warm up. Be prepared! 😊
- Adequately PRACTICE your selected pieces before the audition so that you can perform with confidence and focus on musical skills.
- The audition form must be completely filled out before the audition. **Your audition will not happen without it. This includes parent initials in the appropriate places.**

I want you to be successful!! Please know that I would love to help everyone prepare for auditions. However, it is not my (Mr. Rymer's) responsibility to help you learn notes and walk you through the whole learning process. Seek help from your voice teacher, family, or friends instead.

The audition results will be posted online and on the choir display cabinet in B Hall no later than Thursday, March 28th.

I look forward to meeting each of you and hearing your voices at auditions. Remember that auditioning can always be a positive-learning experience (no matter the outcome) if you let it be. The most important thing you can do is adequately prepare and do your best. You got this!

- Mr. Rymer