



MMHS Choir Auditions: Concert Choir/Sorelle Voce 2018-2019

I am so excited that you are interested in joining choir!
Here is some information regarding your audition.

When: For current choir students: During class in March. Stay tuned for dates.
For all others: By appointment on March 26th through March 29th after school.

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. 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. 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).

For incoming sophomore students:

- All boys sign up for Men's Chorus and no audition is necessary.
- Incoming sophomore girls have the option of being in Women's Chorus (non-audition), or for more experienced singers, you can audition for Sorelle Voce, the advanced women's ensemble. If you are interested in Sorelle Voce, please sign up at MMHS. Sign ups can be found in the choir hallway, specifically on the choir display case. Contact Mr. Rymer at braden.rymer@nebo.edu with questions.

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 Concert Choir, 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 increase the spots available for women to be in the Concert Choir/Chamber Singers, so it is in your best interest to recruit them!

Incoming Junior/Senior Women:

If you intend to audition for Concert Choir, please understand that an audition for this ensemble also makes you eligible for other choirs. For instance, if you do not make Concert Choir, your audition will still count for 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.mmhschoirs.weebly.com. 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.

Concert Choir and Sorelle Voce Song Choices-

- *Be Still My Soul*, by Sibelius
- *For the Beauty of the Earth*, by Koehler
- *They, the Builders of the Nation*, by Durham
- *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*, by Willis
- *Arise, O God, and Shine*, by Darwall

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.

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. Arrive early, in fact, 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 on the choir display cabinet in B Hall no later than Friday May 4, 2018. For incoming sophomore students from DFJHS & MJHS, the results will also be sent to Mrs. Lewis and Mr. Diehl before that day.

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