



MMHS Choir Auditions 2017-2018

We are so glad you are interested in being in choir at MMHS!
Choir is an enjoyable and rewarding experience and it's worth making time for.
Here is some information that will help you prepare.

When: For current choir students: During class March 27th – 30th
For students auditioning for Chamber Singers: Tuesday, April 11th from 5:00 – 8:00 pm
For all others: By appointment on March 28th and 29th from 3:30 – 6:00 pm

Where: MMHS Choir Room – B102

What Will Happen in the Audition?

The audition will last about 8 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 through the choir teacher at your school: Mrs. Lewis at Diamond Fork Junior High or Mr. Diehl at Mapleton Junior High; or email Ms. McMurray at vicki.mcmurray@nebo.edu.

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 or 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. He must, however, have a real desire to sing in a MMHS Choir. Ladies who do not commit a man to audition are not automatically eliminated for consideration. However, the more men you bring into the choir, the better chances you have of making it into your desired ensemble!

Incoming Junior Women:

If you intend to audition for Concert Choir, please understand that an audition for this ensemble also makes you eligible for consideration in Sorelle Voce. The directors will make decisions based on the audition results as well as balancing male and female voices in Concert Choir.

Preparing for Your Audition

1. Download your application from the MMHS Choir website: www.mmhschoirs.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.

- Select one song from the following list. Prepare to sing the **melody** (soprano part) for the first verse only **from memory**. This 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.
 - *America The Beautiful*, by Ward
 - *Be Still My Soul*, by Sibelius
 - *For the Beauty of the Earth*, by Kocher
 - *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*, by Tomer
 - *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*, by Willis

- Select one song from the following list. Prepare to sing the first verse of your selected 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. Prepare this song in the key listed below. This song does not need to be memorized and the music will be provided.
 - *All Creatures of our God and King*, by Vaughan Williams. Key of Eb
 - *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*, by Teschner. Key of C.
 - *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*, from *Lyra Davidica*. Key of C
 - *Guide Us, O Thou Great Jehovah*, by Hughes. Key of G
 - *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*, arr. by Bennett. Key of G

Most of these songs can be found in standard hymnals or online. For the harmony part song, you must sing from the standard 4-part hymn version by the composer listed.

Chamber Singers Auditions

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. Mendenhall (if you currently have Mr. M.). Politely ask your teacher to fill out the evaluation of you as their student and ask them to return it to Mr. M's faculty box NO LATER THAN Friday, April 14, 2017. 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.** 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.

We want you to be successful!! Please know that we would love to help everyone prepare for auditions. However, individual help and coaching for your audition from the directors is unfair to those who don't get that individual coaching. If you need help preparing for your audition, please seek help from a private vocal instructor or a friend rather than from Ms. McMurray or Mr. Mendenhall.

The audition results will be posted on the choir display cabinet in B Hall on **Friday May 5, 2017.** For incoming sophomore students from DFJHS & MJHS, the results will also be sent to Mrs. Lewis and Mr. Diehl that day.

We look forward to meeting each of you and hearing your voices at auditions. We're very excited about our choirs at MMHS!! **Just do your best, knowing that we want you to have a place in one or more of our choirs!**

~~ Ms. McMurray & Mr. Mendenhall