

REVISED CONCERT LETTER...PLEASE READ

September 28th, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I hope that you are anxiously awaiting our first concert on **Tuesday, October 4th at 7:00 p.m.** that has now been moved to **COFAC Recital Hall (the old Simpkins Gym) in Simpkins Hall on the campus of WIU.** Fellheimer Auditorium has had a major electrical problem which caused the house lights to permanently malfunction. We can have rehearsals in the auditorium, but use of the venue for public concerts is not possible due to the large number of audience members at our concerts. It is a matter of safety.

What has changed about the concert?

1. No hospitality reception will be held after the concert as there is not space in the foyer of COFAC. If you were to bring snacks, drinks, cups or napkins, you are free of that responsibility.
2. Your children will be "housed" in chaperoned rooms on the campus and will come on stage to sing. Please deliver your children to their holding rooms.
3. Here are the concert call times/places

6:40 p.m. Sixth Grade chorus on Stage on Cofac Recital Hall
7th grade chorus in Sallee 101
8th grade chorus in Browne 130

7:00 p.m. Concert Begins
Sixth Grade Chorus Performance
After they sing they will be escorted from the stage to a holding room.
(Sallee 201)

For this one concert, we will allow sixth graders to leave following their performance. You may also leave your child in the holding room room as they will be chaperoned by school personnel. If you choose to sign them out after they perform, you may do so. If you want to stay to enjoy the concert, a school employee will be with this sixth graders until you come to retrieve them at the conclusion of the performance.

8:00 p.m. Concert Ends
Please pick up your children from the following places after the concert.
6th grade chorus Sallee 201
7th grade Chorus Sallee 101
8th grade Chorus Browne 130

4. We will allow, for this one performance, the sixth graders to leave after their performance to ensure that there is seating for all parents to see their child's performance. Please allow them to be ushered to Sallee 201 prior to taking them home.

What has NOT changed about the concert?

1. The concert is still a required grade for 1st quarter (200 points).
2. All the performers are due the respect of an attentive audience. Usually, we ask the 6th grade to stay and enjoy the talents of all of our singers. For this instance only, sixth graders will be allowed to leave when they are done singing. Parents, you may sign out your children from Sallee 201. For safety reasons, please allow them to transfer buildings before you take them.
3. You will experience wonderful singing and talents of 250 students.
4. The sixth graders will still travel to the high school to rehearse in the morning of the concert as they need the time on the risers.
5. The concert will be one hour in length.

Uniforms Students are required to have a uniform for choral concerts. Please make sure that you have your child's uniform in plenty of time for the Tuesday, October 4th concert. The "MACOMB MUSIC" should be in the hands of 99% of the students. A big thank you goes out to LaDawna Celestine for coordinating the shirts. Your child will need black pants, socks and shoes. Students in the junior high swing choir need shoes suitable for dancing with their new accessories (boys suspenders and girls blue/white ribbons). The swing choir students got their suspenders/hair bows today if they ordered them. If your child needs help with their Macomb Music Shirts, please contact Mrs. Celestine at angelmom2twins@yahoo.com.

Sixth Grade Students Rehearsal

The sixth grade choir students will still travel to the high school to rehearse the morning of the concert (Tuesday, October 4th) so they can experience singing on the risers. St. Paul students, please arrange to have your rides pick you up at 9:05 a.m. at the outside entrance to Fellheimer auditorium the morning of the concert.

Concert Attendance

Concerning the concert, students are required to be in attendance. Each choir has a designated call time where they are to be in uniform and these call times are listed below

Concert Etiquette

Part of my job as a music educator is to teach the students excellent concert etiquette. Often times, this entails educating the audience on proper concert etiquette as well. Under normal circumstance, we require all students and parents to stay for the duration of the concert. However, due to limited seating, we are allowing the sixth grade students to be signed out from their holding room in Sallee 201 after their performance. Please help me help the students by being excellent audience members. The concert will be crowded, so please allow ample time to park and find a seat. The parking at WIU is limited, so please plan accordingly and car pool if you are able to do so. The ushers will also remind younger audience members who are causing disruptions that they should be respectful of the performers on stage. We are grateful to WIU for the use of COFAC Recital Hall and we ask that you do not reserve seats. Thank you in advance for your help in this matter. We want the concert to be enjoyable for the performers as well as the audience.

Call times for the concert, Tuesday, October 4th:

Students need to be dressed and ready to go at these call times.

6:40 p.m.	Sixth Grade chorus on Stage on COFAC Recital Hall 7 th grade chorus in Sallee 101 8 th grade chorus in Browne 130
7:00 p.m.	Concert Begins
8:00 p.m.	Concert Ends! Please put up your children from the following Places 6 th grade chorus Sallee 201 7 th grade Chorus Sallee 101 8 th grade Chorus Browne 130

District Choir Auditions, Monday, October 10th (Select 7th and 8th grade students only)

We are going to Porta Central in the Petersburg-Porta Illinois School District (by Springfield). So, we are loading at the east doors at 6:15 a.m and leaving at 6:30 a.m. Porta has a cafeteria and students are welcome to eat when they are done auditioning. Please send a few dollars for your children. Please encourage your children to bring cell phones in order to phone you with our arrival time back to Macomb. We hope that by leaving early that we return early, but there is no guarantee. The rehearsal clips for the auditions are at www.macombchoirs.org (specifically) http://www.macombchoirs.org/downloads/recordings/index.php#MJHS_district_auditions. The music for the auditions does not need to be memorized for the auditions.

Holiday Poinsettia Sale:

Your child will soon receive information regarding the Macomb Choir Booster Poinsettia Sale. The sale will run from October 25th to November 8th and they will be delivered to the high school auditorium entrance on November 29th.

I hope to see all of you at the fall concert on Tuesday, October 4th at 7:00 p.m. in COFAC Recital Hall (Simpkins Hall) on the WIU Campus.

Musically Yours,
Mrs. Erin Stegall,
Choral Director, Grades 6-8
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MJHS 833-6256.