

District IV Choir Auditions Memo 2011

From: Mrs. Butcher
To: Parent and Students
Re: District Choral Audition
When: Monday, October 11, 2011 (Columbus Day- no school)
Load Bus at 7:20am (East Doors)
We should return approximately 1:30 P.M.
Where: Porta Central School, Petersburg, IL

Repertoire:

All That Have Life and Breath Praise Ye the Lord- Renee Clausen SATB
Mata Del Anima Sola- Estevez SATB
Speak to the Child of Love- Allen Koepke SSA
Down in the Valley George Mead TTBB
**Heilig Felix Mendelssohn/ed. Smith SATB/SATB
**Make Our Garden Grow Leonard Bernstein/Page SATB

** INDICATES ALL STATE REQUIRED PIECES

Please Note:

- Audition material will be chosen from any 2 of the above selections, with one audition selection being an All State required piece. You need to be prepared on all the above music for the auditions.
- Students are NOT to leave the building before or after their auditions for any reason.
- There will be food available for purchase in the cafeteria. This is where you will eat lunch. You are welcome to bring your own lunch from home.
- Dress: Please wear nice clothing for the audition. Smile and thank your judge when you have finished your audition.
- When you arrive at Porta Central, you are to immediately sign up outside of your audition room.
- We will meet in the gym (homeroom area) for all students to finish their auditions. Some rooms run quicker than others. (We are typically finished around 12:00pm.)

CHORUS SENIOR LEVEL AUDITION PROCEDURES

The audition consists of a performance test totaling 100 points, and MUST be administered with these procedures:

- *** Two prepared selections**
- *** Sight-reading**
- *** Tonal skills**
- *** Tone quality**

1) A brief vocalization is permitted, depending on the time factor of the District.

2) PREPARED SELECTIONS - 40 Points Maximum Possible:

- A) A passage from one of the required selections will be selected by the Chorus Division Vice President.**
- B) A passage from one of the District selections, or a required selection, will be selected by the District Chorus Representative.**
- C) Evaluation will be based on the following:**
 - Note Accuracy: 8 Points - 4 Points for Each Piece
 - Rhythmic Accuracy: 8 Points - 4 Points for Each Piece
 - Intonation: 8 Points - 4 Points for Each Piece
 - Diction: 8 Points - 4 Points for Each Piece
 - Musicianship: 8 Points - 4 Points for Each Piece

D) PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS

- SUPERIOR:** Performance with minor error(s), outstanding preparation, excellent musicianship demonstrated. Categorically clean and accurate with attention to musical detail.
- GOOD:** Solid performance with a few minor errors, some details overlooked. Good preparation but not as defined musically as it could be.
- FAIR:** Lacking musical definition; more frequent errors, exhibiting little attention to musical details.
- POOR:** Demonstrating little attention to musical details and probably a lack of preparation by the student; many errors.

3) SIGHT-READING - 16 Points Maximum Possible:

- A) Judges will be provided with two exercises of 4 measures each, allowing 2 Points for each measure sung correctly. Partial credit may be given, but do not use decimals or fractions.**
- B) Play ONLY a tonic chord and the starting note before asking the student to begin. A reasonable amount of time may be allowed so the student may survey the complete exercise before singing it. DO NOT PLAY any portion of the exercise.**
- C) The student may use a neutral syllable, solfeggio, numbers, or letter names, but is NOT permitted to hum.**

4) TONAL SKILLS - 16 Points Maximum Possible:

- A) Each student will sing the Major triad on E (2 Points)**
- B) Each student will sing two (2) of the other three root position triads (minor, diminished, augmented), selected by the Chorus Division Vice-President (3 Points for each triad). It is suggested that F and D are used as the root tones of these triads. PARTIAL CREDIT IS NOT ALLOWED FOR TRIADS. The student must sing the triad correctly to receive any points.**
- C) Each student will sing one major scale and one minor scale. Soprano/Tenor will sing F Major and d minor. Alto/Bass will sing Db Major and bb minor.**

The minor scale WILL BE selected from any one of the natural, harmonic or melodic forms. The student is responsible for all three minor forms though ONLY ONE will be performed for the audition. That form will be selected annually by the Chorus Division Vice-President and will be consistent throughout the State.

The scales will be sung one octave up and down with the top note sung only once. (8 Points - 4 Points per scale (2 Points per scale ascending and 2 Points per scale descending). Partial credit may be given.

D) Numbers, solfeggio, or a neutral syllable may be used. Humming is not allowed.

5) TONE QUALITY- 28 Points Maximum Possible:

This item represents a total evaluation by the judge of the vocal quality the student has presented throughout the audition.

A) PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS

SUPERIOR: Well developed tone, clear, controlled, well-supported throughout the vocal range showing consistent beauty.

EXCELLENT: Pleasant and clear tone, lacking some refinement of control; still solidly supported through most of the range but occasionally less control at the extremes of the vocal range of the music.

GOOD: Average vocal production, lacking focus of tone, clarity or support.

FAIR: Airy, harsh, or unpleasant tone quality which may be unsupported, lacking control of the range; immature.

POOR: Under-developed voice.