



Omaha, NE February 7-10, 2024

2024 Middle School Honor Choir (SATB, gr. 6-9)

CONDUCTOR: Dr. Brandon Boyd - Assistant Director of Choral Activities, University of Missouri

PARTICIPATION FEE (if accepted): \$225

This includes: sheet music, choral practice tracks, t-shirt, two breakfasts, one lunch, and one dinner.

DEADLINES:

AUGUST 30, 2023:	Auditions Open
SEPTEMBER 27, 2023:	Audition Deadline (recorded tracks, student information)
NOVEMBER 1, 2023:	Notification of selection
NOVEMBER 15, 2023:	Participation confirmation (forms/participation fees due)
FEBRUARY 7-10, 2024:	REHEARSALS
FEBRUARY 10, 2024:	CONCERT PERFORMANCE

AUDITION ELIGIBILITY:

- Singers who will be in grades 6, 7, 8, or 9 in February 2024 may apply.
- Application (through Submittable) deadline is September 27, 2023 at 6PM CDT.
- Singers must be members in good standing of their sponsoring musical organizations.
- Singers must be sponsored by a current ACDA member.
- Application fee of \$30

HOUSING AND MEALS: Parents or legal guardians are responsible for making housing reservations for their singers in the MWACDA designated hotels. Hotel contact information will be included in acceptance letters. Accepted participants **MUST** stay in one of these designated hotels. The cost of some meals and other expenses is the responsibility of each singer/family. Commuting will not be permitted. Singers are responsible for travel to and from Omaha.

CHAPERONES/SECURITY: MWACDA Honor Choir policy requires an ACDA sponsor, or their designee, to be responsible for singers when they are not in rehearsal. All chaperones must be staying at a MWACDA designated hotel and must provide MWACDA with a working cell phone number.

EXPECTATIONS OF SELECTED SINGERS:

- Accepted singers must be in attendance at all scheduled rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and performances.
- Singers must be well-prepared on all music prior to arrival. Singers who are not prepared will not be allowed to participate in the honor choir.
- Singers are expected to abide by all MWACDA Honor Choir policies. If rules are broken, singers will be sent home at their personal expense.

COMMUNICATION:

- All information regarding the Honor Choir experience will be communicated through the ACDA Sponsor. Singers should check regularly with their sponsor and on the MWACDA Honor Choir Announcement webpage (www.midwesternacda.org) for updated information. Singers must have an ACDA sponsor (or a representative named by the sponsor) staying at a conference hotel who can provide ACDA with a working cell phone number.
- Any questions can be addressed to Stephen Dean (sdean@cps.k12.in.us) or Jordan Dollins (jordan.dollins@portage.k12.in.us), MWACDA Honor Choir Coordinators.

AUDITION WINDOW: August 30, 2023 through September 27, 2023 at 6 p.m. CDT

AUDITION DIRECTIONS AND SUBMISSION: On August 30, a link in the Honor Choir portion of the midwesternacda.org site will go live. This link will direct you to a step-by-step process and you will be able to submit the audition via Submittable. Please see below for specific instructions.

DIGITAL ETHICS AGREEMENT:

Sponsoring teachers and students are responsible for adhering to the following digital ethics agreement.

1) Sound files **may not be manipulated or enhanced** in any way. Record in a traditional rehearsal space. The space should not be too “live” (like a cathedral) or too “dead” (like a carpeted room with a low ceiling) to avoid the impression of an enhanced recording. If the recording is determined to have been altered, the student will be ineligible for participation. The ACDA Executive Committee decision will be final.

2) The **sponsoring teacher must be in the room** when the audition is recorded. If there are multiple teachers in a school/program, this may be delegated to a member of the team.

CONCERT REPERTOIRE:

- *Winter Wind* (Brandon Williams), Hal Leonard 00254646, SATB
- *Hold Fast to Dreams* (Susan LaBarr), Santa Barbara 1136, SATB
- *See Me* (Raymond Wise), Hinshaw Music 2663, SATB
- *Hands are Knockin'* (Kyle Pederson), Santa Barbara 1551, SATB
- *Celebrate This Life!* (Sherry Blevins), Hinshaw Music 2695, 3-part mixed
- *Until I Reach My Home* (traditional, arr. Boyd), Hinshaw Music 2537, SATB

AUDITION ELEMENTS:

1. Scale - Sing a scale, UNACCOMPANIED, in the key corresponding with your voice type. You may use numbers, solfège, or a neutral syllable. Humming is not permitted. Your teacher may provide the starting pitch.

Soprano: A, second space on treble clef, ascending then descending

Alto: E, first line on treble clef, ascending then descending

Tenor: F, fourth line of bass clef, ascending then descending

Bass: A, fifth line of bass clef, descending then ascending

2. Prepared Solo - Sing 30 seconds of a range-appropriate folk song, or a song taught in voice lessons, class or in chorus, accompanied or unaccompanied. It is important that the piece chosen best demonstrates the tone quality and musicality required of a choral singer. If accompaniment is used, please limit the introduction to 5 seconds at the most. Clearly state the title of the prepared solo and the name of the composer/arranger at the beginning of this part of the recording.

3. Repertoire Excerpt - *Hold Fast to Dreams* (LaBarr) -mm. 43-59. Sing your voice part, UNACCOMPANIED or ACCOMPANIED. Tempo at quarter note = 90. If using accompaniment, make sure vocals are dominant in the recording.

Score Excerpt: Coming Soon

Practice Tracks: Coming Soon

STUDENT AUDITION FORM: This link will be live on August 30, 2023.