

American Choral Directors Association SD High School Honor Choir

Registration (Audition Fee) - \$15.00
Camp Fee - \$375.00

January 15, 2018

South Dakota High School Choral Directors:

The 45th annual South Dakota High School Honor Choir will once again provide a quality choral experience. The 150 voice choir, under the direction of Ms. Judith Herrington, will meet on the campus of University of Sioux Falls from **July 29 – August 3, 2018**.

How can your students be a part of this opportunity? Auditions for the choir will be held on:

		<u>Site Chair</u>
April 10	Rapid City	Ann Deckert/Brady Ketelsen
April 12	Huron	Molly Stueckrath
April 13	Freeman	Mindee Birnstiehl
April 20 & 21	Sioux Falls	Rogene Brown

Each school is assigned to an audition site. Please check the attached document for your site and write the audition site at the bottom of each registration form. If your students need to audition at an alternate site, I must receive a request, in writing (email is accepted), by March 1st.

An audition form is included with this letter for your use. Please feel free to duplicate additional copies to meet your needs. **Please note that these audition forms require a parent/guardian signature in order for the student to be eligible to audition. Also, it is important that your director information and signature are on each individual audition form.**

The South Dakota High School Honor Choir is sponsored the South Dakota American Choral Directors Association for high school singers presently in 10th or 11th grade. It is governed by an executive committee chosen from SD-ACDA members. Students auditioning must include their High School director's ACDA membership number on their application blank. Deadline for registration is March 1, 2018. **ANY REGISTRATION NOT POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2018 WILL BE RETURNED UNOPENED!!**

The audition has four parts including a written test on terms, sight-reading, ear-training and a prepared solo. Each student will be asked to sing a patriotic selection A Capella in their audition. This will exhibit their range and pitch control to the judge and will be a part of their points scored. The songs are as follows:

Soprano: "America" (high note 'G', key of Bb)
Alto: "America the Beautiful" (low note 'G', key of F)
Tenor: "America" (high note 'F', key of Ab)
Bass: "America the Beautiful" (low note 'G', key of F)

You can obtain the patriotic pieces, the term sheet and examples of sight singing, tonal memory and the written test online at the SD-ACDA website.

A credit-bearing conference for music teachers and church choral directors is offered during the Honor Choir week. This excellent conference is designed to meet the needs of all areas and levels of vocal music and is available to anyone. Teachers with students in the Honor Choir will receive a reduction in the cost of the conference and state convention. Additional information will be made available at a later date.

Spot checks will be held during the first morning of the camp. At the first rehearsal, the Honor Choir members will be assigned to a quartet. On Monday of camp week, 16 of these quartets will be chosen through a random drawing to be tested on sections of three of the pieces from the concert repertoire.

Preparing students to audition and participate in Honor Choir may be an added effort for you, the director. However, your student's involvement can be a real benefit to you and your program. Students return to their schools as stronger musicians and contributing leaders to your choral program.

If I can be of assistance, please contact me at:
(605)366-8517
Email: janeruud6065@gmail.com

Good luck!

Jane Ruud

Jane Ruud
Auditions Chair

SPECIAL NOTES: If you have a special request for your auditions (ex. Same accompanist for each student auditioning), please make that request on your audition form. While not all requests can be guaranteed, the site chairs make every effort to honor these special requests in order to make the auditions at their site run smoothly. The site chairs work very hard to put together the audition schedule and, while we do understand that emergencies arise, it is important that they not be expected to make last-minute changes to the schedule unless absolutely necessary. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

If you have any changes to your auditions (student voice part, audition site, etc.), you need to contact me – not the site chairs. This will help to alleviate errors and confusion with the final results. Contact your site chair with any audition schedule questions and requests and/or scratches.