

# South Dakota Junior Honor Choir 2026

January 23-24, 2026

Rapid City, SD

**AUDITION GUIDELINES:** Please read this audition material thoroughly. All the information included is important in successfully auditioning your singers. Follow all directions carefully.

## ELIGIBILITY

Any singer who lives in the state of South Dakota and is an active member of your choir in grades seven, eight, or nine is eligible to audition. Each singer's audition must be prepared and submitted by a sponsoring director who is a current member of the American Choral Director's Association. Please audition your best singers that will be able to attend. Only one audition from each singer will be accepted.

## SINGER EXPECTATIONS

The 2026 SD Junior Honor Choir will feature TWO CHOIRS of the most gifted and artistic singers in our state, a SATB mixed choir of approximately 98 voices and a SSA Choir of approximately 78 voices. For a successful experience these students must exhibit:

<b>Citizenship</b> -support of others -cooperation with others -ability to be self-directed -ability to be task-oriented	<b>Attitude</b> -love of music -concern for high quality work -ability to sustain prolonged rehearsals -cooperation with director at all times
<b>Work Habits</b> -self-management -ability to focus on task -enthusiasm -ability to apply entire musical potential and knowledge	<b>Musicianship</b> -outstanding voice quality and tone -excellent intonation -appropriate vocal technique -artistry (style, expressiveness) -choral skills (blend, balance, tuning)

## FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

All singers accepted for the 2026 SD Junior Honor Choir will be financially responsible for their own: transportation to and from Rapid City, and a registration fee of \$180. This fee will cover quad-occupancy motel room at the Ramkota/Best Western for Friday evening, Concert performance T-shirt, 3 meals, clinician, accompanist and other Junior Honor Choir expenses.

## AUDITION PROCESS

### Recording

- Make the recording using quality equipment in good working order.
- Make sure the recording is free of background noise.
- Listen to the audition with the singer to make sure the recording is valid.
- Only one audition from each singer will be accepted.
- To maintain a blind audition process, do not state student name, grade, school or voice part.
- Record separate tracks for each of the items listed below:

- **Scale:** On a neutral syllable or in solfege, sing an **a cappella**, one octave diatonic scale, first ascending then descending. Start on one of the pitches given below. Starting pitch **MUST** be heard on the audition recording.
  - Soprano F, G, or A above middle C
  - Alto middle C, D or E
  - Tenor F or G below middle C
  - Bass B, C, or D below middle C
- **America (My Country 'Tis of Thee):** Starting on the pitches listed below, sing the first stanza **unaccompanied**. The starting pitch **MUST** be heard on the recording. *Accompanied singers will be disqualified.*
  - Soprano A above middle C
  - Alto F above middle C
  - Tenor G below middle C
  - Bass C below middle C
- **Repertoire selection:** "Hold Fast to Dreams," Susan LaBarr, Santa Barbara Music Press, SBMP 1136, for SATB voices. All voices will sing measures 43-59, unaccompanied, at a tempo of approximately 85-95, silently marking the rests. A PDF of the audition segment can be found on the SD-ACDA Jr. Honor Choir page.

## Uploading

- Go to <http://www.opusevent.com> to upload the audition recordings.
- Select Opus **Audition**
- Select the event: South Dakota Junior Honor Choir 2026
- Login with your primary email associated with your ACDA membership # and password.
- Select Choral Director Overview.
- Add your school/location to start. Note: you will not be able to do anything else until you have selected your school/location.
- Proceed to fill out an audition form for your singer.
- Upload three individual mp3 tracks per singer following the directions below. A green check box will appear, verifying that you have successfully completed the upload.
- Pay for the audition.
- Need help? See the [Opus tutorial](#) on the SD-ACDA Junior Honor Choir page.

## AUDITION & NOTIFICATION TIMELINE

<b>Tuesday, September 2, 2025</b>	OpusEvent online audition window opens.
<b>Saturday, October 4, 2025</b>	Audition window will close at midnight. Pay online \$15 per applicant.
<b>Friday, November 7, 2025</b>	Notification will be sent to the music director by midnight and results posted on the SD-ACDA website.
<b>Monday, November 24, 2025</b>	Registration/payment deadline for all selected participants

### Questions?

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Lindsey Torgerson, [Lindsey.torgerson@k12.sd.us](mailto:Lindsey.torgerson@k12.sd.us)

(SSA choir housing chair) Emily Muirhead, [emily.muirhead@k12.sd.us](mailto:emily.muirhead@k12.sd.us)

(SATB choir housing chair) TBD