**South Dakota Junior Honor Choir 2024**

**January 19-20, 2024**

**Sioux Falls, 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 2024 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 Women’s Choir of approximately 72 voices. For a successful experience these students must exhibit:

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| --- | --- |
| **Citizenship** -support of others -cooperation with others -ability to be self-directed -ability to be task-oriented | **Attitude** -love of music -concern for high quality work -ability to sustain prolonged rehearsals -cooperation with director at all times |
| **Work Habits** -self-management -ability to focus on task -enthusiasm -ability to apply entire musical    potential and knowledge | **Musicianship -**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 2024 SD Junior Honor Choir will be financially responsible for their own: transportation to and from Sioux Falls, and a registration fee of $170. This fee will cover quad-occupancy motel room at the Sheraton 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 say your name, grade, school or voice part.

Go to [**http://www.opusevent.com**](http://www.opusevent.com) to upload the audition recordings.

* Select Opus **Audition**
* Select the event: South Dakota Junior Honor Choir 2024
* 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 when you have successfully completed the upload.
* Pay for the audition.
* Need help? See the [Opus tutorial](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vOPVeIXzMnydLxHFE2A_IvW9K6dqs_MC/view) on the SD-ACDA Junior Honor Choir page.

Record separate tracks for each of the items listed below:

* **Scale:** Each singer will sing, **a cappella** on a neutral syllable or in solfege a one octave diatonic scale, first ascending then descending, starting on one of the pitches given below. Starting pitch MUST be heard on the audition.

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| --- | --- |
| **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**. Starting pitch MUST be heard on the audition. *Accompanied singers will be disqualified.*

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| --- | --- |
| **Soprano** | **A above middle C** |
| **Alto** | **F above middle C** |
| **Tenor** | **G below middle C** |
| **Bass** | **C below middle C** |

* **Repertoire selection:** “Hallelujah, Amen” Handel/arr. Becki Slagle Mayo, BriLee BL722 for SATB voices. Look for the PDF on the segment on the SD-ACDA Jr. Honor Choir page.
  + Alto/Bass: Sing measures 14 through the downbeat of measure 36.
  + Soprano/Tenor: Sing measures 16 through the downbeat of m. 36.
  + All voices must sing unaccompanied at a tempo of approximately 82-92 and silently mark time in any measures of rest.

**AUDITION/NOTIFICATION TIMELINE**

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| --- | --- |
| **Tuesday, September 5, 2023** | **OpusEvent online audition window opens.** |
| **Saturday, October 7, 2023** | **Audition window will close at midnight. Pay online $15 per applicant.** |
| **Friday, November 10, 2023** | **The notification will be sent to the music director by midnight and results posted on the SD-ACDA website.** |
| **Monday, November 27, 2023** | **Registration/payment deadline for all selected participants** |

**Questions?**

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

(SATB choir housing chair) Ben Van Moer, [bernard.vanmoer@k12.sd.us](mailto:bernard.vanmoer@k12.sd.us)