

## **Audition**

- Each Director **MUST** belong to TMEA (Texas Music Educators Association) by Thursday, October 1, 2009 in order for his/her students to participate. A copy of this card is to be attached to your entry form.
- **Directors from each school are required to attend ALL of the Region Choir activities, including the audition and Region Clinic/Concert weekend.** Directors not attending the audition are required to hire and compensate their own replacement. The rate paid shall be the same as those paid by the region. If any director fails to perform his/her duties, a letter), an official letter of grievance will be sent to the TMEA Region 24 Vocal Chair as well as the TMEA Vocal Division Vice-President which will begin the grievance process as outlined on the TMEA website: [http://www.tmea.org/015\\_Guidelines/penalties\\_r.html](http://www.tmea.org/015_Guidelines/penalties_r.html).
- Directors are encouraged to enter student names correctly online. Please re-check entries for spelling and proper voice placement. A verification list will be sent out approximately one week after the audition for directors to confirm spelling of student and school names.
- Students entered in each section will be randomly placed in audition rooms by the computer.
- If a student is placed in the wrong section by director error, that student will be allowed to compete in the correct section and a verbal warning will be given to the director (1<sup>st</sup> offense). If a director repeats the error (2<sup>nd</sup> offense), an official letter of grievance will be sent to the TMEA Region 24 Vocal Chair as well as the TMEA Vocal Division Vice-President which will begin the grievance process as outlined on the TMEA website: [http://www.tmea.org/015\\_Guidelines/penalties\\_r.html](http://www.tmea.org/015_Guidelines/penalties_r.html).
- **Boys will be allowed to switch voice parts up to one week before auditions for changing voice reasons only. The Region Chair must be notified via e-mail no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.**
- Directors should check in advance with the students for time conflicts on the day of the audition. If a special time request is needed, directors should note it on the entry form. Special requests made later than the entry deadline will be worked out if possible by the Region Chair. **Any special requests made after Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> will not be honored.**
- Music does not have to be memorized for the Region Choir audition. Remember that each student must have his/her own original copies of the music on the stand in the audition room. If a student uses a photocopy with highlighting, etc., an original octavo must also be in his/her possession as well.

- Each student will be given an audition number. Upon entering the audition room, a monitor will announce the audition number only. Students will be screened from the view of the judges.
- Students will sing their assigned part of the audition songs with the accompaniment CD. A music stand will be provided for the student's use.
- If a student arrives late for his/her audition, he/she will be worked in if it is possible. Any student arriving 15 minutes after the last scheduled person in their room has auditioned for his/her section will not be allowed to audition.
- In the event that any judging panel in any room at the audition is unable to certify the designated number of singers to the Region Choir, that panel will be responsible to meet with the Region Chair and decide how many singers will be selected from that room. At that point, it will be the decision of the Region Chair to adjust the number of singers from other rooms to maintain the balance of the choir.
- The Chair-Elect will hold a short training session on the morning of the audition. **All Directors and Guest Judges are required to be in attendance at this meeting.**
- A five judge panel, per TMEA guidelines, will be used to audition the students.
- Upon finishing their audition, students are to return to the cafeteria or leave the building. Directors are responsible for posting their own results, as results will not be posted at the audition site. Results will be posted on [www.tmearegion24.org](http://www.tmearegion24.org) within 24 hours of the audition.
- Listening devices (including cell phones with music capabilities) of any kind are prohibited at the audition site. Students may be disqualified for listening to, or practicing audition pieces onsite. In addition, students may be disqualified for any of the following reasons: being in the audition hallway unless escorted by a runner, loud or disruptive behavior, rude/disrespectful behavior to students and adults, or any other behavior deemed inappropriate by the Region Chair.
- Students chosen for the choir will receive a packet containing music and directions for the clinic/concert. It is the director's responsibility to pay any costs associated with the packet on the audition day. Directors are responsible for sharing all pertinent information with their students.
- Students will be selected as follows:

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Treble Chorus**

Soprano 1 = 30

Soprano 2 = 30

Alto = 30

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Treble Chorus**

Soprano 1 = 30

Soprano 2 = 30

Alto = 30

**Tenor/Bass Chorus**

Tenor 1 = 22

Tenor 2 = 22

Bass = 22

- Two alternates per part will be selected. If the judging panel is unable to certify 2 alternates, then one or zero will be selected at the discretion of the panel and the Region Chair.
- If a student makes the Region Choir, but moves *within the region* before the concert, he/she will be allowed to participate in the clinic/concert.

### **Sight-Reading at the Auditions**

- Students will be required to sight-read an eight-measure selection at the audition. After singing the audition piece, the CD will announce sight-reading and continue with sight-reading instructions as follows:

**“On the stand in front of you is the sight-reading example. You will have 30 seconds to study it, using your preferred sight-reading method. Here is the tonic pitch (*tonic pitch sounded*), the tonic triad (*tonic triad sounded*), and the starting pitch (*starting pitch sounded*). You may begin.”**

- The following statement will be sent to directors (with the rest of the audition instructions) to be distributed to students auditioning prior to the audition:

*“You will be instructed by a voice on the CD to look at the sight-reading exercise. The CD will play the tonic triad in broken fashion (do-mi-sol-mi-do-sol-do), followed by the starting pitch. At that time, a 30-second study period shall follow. You will be allowed to tap, chant, or sing during this study period. You will not be allowed to use any tuning device or any additional materials as aid during the study period or in singing the exercise. **You may not write on the exercise for any reason.***

*At the end of the 30-second study period, the CD will play the tonic triad again in broken fashion (do-mi-sol-mi-do-sol-do), followed by the starting pitch. You will begin immediately to sing the exercise using your preferred method of sight-reading (syllables, numbers, neutral syllables, or any combination). No additional study time is allowed.*

*If you begin singing, stop and then start again, the judges will judge you on what was your first attempt through the point where you stopped. The judges will resume judging with any new material you attempt for the first time. You will have only one chance to sing the exercise unless there is a mechanical failure with the CD player.”*

- Directors should make sure the students understand the process, particularly the fact that they can sing with the tonic chord, may sing aloud during the 30-second practice time, and that the actual sight-reading must be sung after the second triad and starting pitch.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** Tenor I and Tenor II will sight-read on **TREBLE CLEF**. Basses will sight-read on **BASS CLEF**.

- All sections will sight-read primarily between Do and Sol.
- All sections will sight-read the same line in their appropriate key.
- The sight-reading passage may include any of the following: eighth, quarter, half, dotted half, and whole notes. Only quarter rests will be used.
- Skips will be in the tonic chord only.

**SIGHT-READING KEYS**

Soprano I & Soprano II – G Major (Treble Clef)

Alto – C Major (Treble Clef)

Tenor I & II – Read in G Major (Treble Clef) but sounds in A Major

Bass – C Major (Bass Clef)