

SOUTH JERSEY CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

Director Packet Junior and Senior High Chorus Auditions

- This year's guest conductors will be:
 - 61st Annual Senior High Chorus – Romel McInnis (Clearview Regional High School)
 - 57th Annual Junior High Chorus – Hope Knight (William Allen Middle School)
- Information regarding auditions, requirements, and regulations for students and their sponsoring teachers can be found in this packet. Please make sure that you, your students, and their parents understand and can comply with the regulations set forth by SJCD. Failure to do so may result in student dismissal from the chorus and ineligibility to audition the following year. If either you or your student(s) knowingly cannot fulfill all of the requirements, do not have your student(s) audition.
- Under **no** circumstances should students, their parents, or administrators contact the SJCD Managers, Festival Coordinator or Executive Board members. Should a student or parent have any questions, it is your responsibility to contact the appropriate manager.
- Singer registration must be completed online. Although the registration process is online, please note that signed applications, student estimate forms and fees must still be mailed to the appropriate auditions manager. The contact for each manager is listed below.
- **Additional information:**
 - Pitches are given from pre-recorded pitch tracks, not from a pitch pipe.
 - Directors are asked to bring a laptop, tablet or smartphone to the auditions. SJCD provides Bluetooth speakers.
 - SJCD offers two scholarships to graduating seniors. Details about the scholarships are available on our website.
 - The Founders Scholarship (\$3,000)
 - The Richard M. Smith Scholarship for Music Education (\$3,000)
 - Each student participant will receive a professionally-recorded CD of the concert.
 - Group photos of the choirs are not provided by SJCD but will be available for purchase.

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PLEASE NOTE: This is the **Director Version** of the audition packet. **Do not distribute to students.**
There is a separate student version available on the audition pages at www.sjcda.net.

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. You (or a pre-approved, qualified NAfME proxy) must be present to assist at the Region III SJCDA Choral Auditions on Saturday, November 17 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm at Woodstown High School.

- Failure to fulfill any of your duties the previous year risks your eligibility to sponsor students this year.
- If you sent a proxy to auditions last year, you are required to fulfill your audition day obligation in person this year. Failure to do so may result in the exclusion of your sponsored students from the choir this year.

2. Any teacher whose name appears as a sponsor for a student must fulfill the required duties should that student be accepted.

- Directors must assist at least one rehearsal or concert. Director assistance forms will be emailed and managers will do their best to honor your first choice. Please understand that some dates are more popular than others but all dates must be adequately covered.
- Directors with students involved in both ensembles must assist at at least one rehearsal or concert for EACH choir.
- Should an emergency arise that precludes you from attending your assigned date, please contact the rehearsal manager immediately so that alternate plans can be made.
- Failure to show for your assigned date this year risks your eligibility to sponsor students next year.

3. Should there be any cancellation or postponement of rehearsals and/or concerts due to inclement weather, the rehearsal managers will notify all participating choir directors. Choral directors are then responsible for contacting their students. Under no circumstances should students or their parents contact the SJCDA managers, festival coordinator or board members.

4. When a student is dropped from the chorus for any reason, the sponsoring director is requested to provide to the SJCDA Board of Directors a statement as to the reason for the student’s failure to fulfill their obligation. Please see the Reciprocity section in Student Responsibilities.

STAY CONNECTED

- Sign up for our Remind alerts for directors. Text @sjcda to 81010.
 - Please note that this is **NOT** for students and parents.
- Join our closed Facebook group. This is for directors only, **not** for students and parents.
 - Simply search for **SJCDA** in the Facebook app or visit www.facebook.com/groups/sjcda
- “Like” our public Facebook page. You may also share this page with students and parents.
 - Search for **South Jersey Chorus – SJCDA** in the app or visit www.facebook.com/southjerseychorus

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REGISTRATION

1. **The student audition cap is 24 students per building, per Festival Chorus.**
2. **All registrations are to be completed through AuditionForms.com.**
Once completed, directors should follow instructions for submission of signature pages and fees.
3. Students may audition for only one voice part in either the Junior or Senior High Chorus.
4. **No voice part changes will be made after the voice part change deadline** as indicated on SJCD A calendar. It is the choral director’s responsibility to ensure application accuracy.
5. **A photocopy of your current NAfME membership card must be included** in your completed application submission packet. Should you have students auditioning for both ensembles, you must include a copy of your NAfME card in both audition submission packets. Should you need to obtain or renew your membership, please go to www.NAfME.org.
6. **Submit one check from the school or choral director for EACH chorus. Make checks payable to SJCD A.**
The audition fee is \$10 per student. Checks returned for insufficient funds will incur an additional fee.
7. **Send all student application forms, the Student Estimate Form, a copy of your current NAfME card, and registration fees together in one envelope** to the appropriate Audition Manager by the deadline indicated on the attached calendar. If you are sending students to both choruses, this procedure must be done for each choral group.

NOTE: Students are not registered until fees are paid and materials received, nor will students be registered if the teacher has not officially registered with the SJCD A Secretary for the current school year. The postmark deadline for all audition materials is listed on the enclosed calendar; materials postmarked after this date will be returned and your students will be unable to audition.

AUDITION FEE IS \$10 PER STUDENT and is NON-REFUNDABLE.

DO NOT SEND CASH, PURCHASE ORDERS, or INDIVIDUAL \$10 CHECKS

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2018-2019 SCHEDULE

SOUTH JERSEY JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS & SENIOR HIGH CHORUS

Updates to the calendar will be posted on the SJCDA website, sjcda.net
and on the South Jersey Chorus Facebook page, facebook.com/southjerseychorus

Friday, October 19	Deadline for completion of all online forms. Link & instructions at sjcda.net
Friday, October 26	Postmark deadline for directors to submit all fees & forms to managers
Wednesday, October 31	Voice part change deadline (must be made in writing by the sponsoring director and submitted to the appropriate Audition Manager)
Saturday, November 17	Auditions at Woodstown High School Directors meeting at 8:00 am Auditions begin at 9:00 am; registration closes at 2:00 pm Teacher day ends at conclusion of all auditions Audition results will be available to participating directors through auditionforms.com .
Saturday, December 1	Jr./Sr. Chorus Rehearsal, 1:30 – 5:30 pm at Lenape High School Music must be purchased at this rehearsal (cash or check only)
Saturday, December 15	Snow Date Jr./Sr. Chorus Rehearsal, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm at Lenape High School
Saturday, January 5	Jr./Sr. Chorus Rehearsal, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm at Lenape High School
Thursday, January 10	Jr./Sr. Chorus Rehearsal, 9:00 am – 1:30 pm at Rowan University Scholarship Auditions Students must bring lunch; food will not be available for purchase
Saturday, January 12	Snow Date Jr./Sr. Chorus Rehearsal, 9:00 am – 1:30 pm at Lenape High School
Friday, January 18	Jr./Sr. Chorus Rehearsal, 5:30 – 9:30 pm at Lenape High School
Friday, January 25	Jr./Sr. Chorus Rehearsal, 5:30 – 9:30 pm at Washington Township High School Students absent for any reason from this rehearsal will not perform in the concerts
Saturday, January 26	61st Annual SJCDA Choral Festival Concert at Washington Township HS 8:00 pm concert; 7:00 pm call time; students must bring choir robes
Sunday, January 27	61st Annual SJCDA Choral Festival Concert at Washington Township HS 4:00 pm concert; 3:00 pm call time; students must bring choir robes
Monday, January 28	Concert Snow Date at Washington Township HS; 7:00 pm call, 8:00 pm concert

Rehearsal and Concert Venue Locations

Woodstown High School

140 East Avenue, Woodstown, NJ 08079

Rowan University (Wilson Hall)

201 Mullica Hill Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028

Lenape High School

235 Hartford Road, Medford NJ 08055-4000

Washington Township High School

529 Hurffville-Crosskeys Road, Sewell, NJ 08080

POLICIES FOR ACCEPTED MEMBERS

Attendance Policy

Students are allowed one absence from rehearsals; they may not miss the final rehearsal or either of the performances. Please note that missing part of a rehearsal is considered an absence. No additional rehearsals may be missed for any length of time or for any reason (save one, see below) so please plan accordingly. A second rehearsal absence will result in immediate dismissal from the chorus.

There is only one instance in which a student may miss two rehearsals and maintain eligibility following testing. That is when both missed rehearsals are due to involvement in two of the following activities: SJ Band rehearsal, SJ Orchestra rehearsal, or All-State Band auditions. Should we need to use a snow date, students that are auditioning for either SJ Orchestra or SJ Band are excused. These absences are acceptable only when the sponsoring teacher informs the chorus Rehearsal Manager in advance of the conflicts.

Students should schedule college tests, SATs, family activities, and non-NJMEA musical events to avoid conflicts with SJCDA rehearsals. Students submit the application/fees with full knowledge of the Festival Chorus schedule and accept the responsibility to learn all music as indicated by the conductor.

Please keep snow dates available.

Lateness/Leaving Early

A student who arrives at a rehearsal after the conductor has completed warm-ups is considered late. That lateness counts as their one excused absence. The same goes for leaving rehearsal early. Students who are late to the final rehearsal or leave early will be dropped from the chorus.

Testing

Should a student be absent from a rehearsal, they will be tested at the next rehearsal on any material they missed during the previous rehearsal. Students may be tested alone or in small groups. Students may be removed from the chorus if a jury of choral directors (selected by the Coordinator) determines the student cannot capably perform their music. Members may be tested at any time to evaluate their knowledge of the concert repertoire. This includes testing by the conductor during rehearsal - students may be tested in quartets, octets or larger groupings, at the conductor's discretion.

Reciprocity

A student accepted into the chorus who then drops out takes this experience away from another student who would have gladly fulfilled the requirements if given the opportunity. Students who drop out between the audition and the first rehearsal are therefore not eligible to audition the following year.

Any student who is dismissed from the chorus due to two absences will not be permitted to audition for either the Junior or Senior High Chorus the following year. Members may not miss the final rehearsal prior to the concerts, under any circumstances (see above).

To receive the South Jersey Choir pin (Senior High), the certificate (Junior High), and be eligible to audition the following year, the student must be present at both concerts. **Please note: Students who are dismissed from the chorus due to failed testing are eligible to audition the following year.**

Participation

A student's grade level in school determines for which choir they will be eligible. Students in grades 7 - 9 must audition for the Junior High Chorus; grades 10 - 12 audition for the Senior High Chorus.

All participants must be members in good standing of their school choruses and remain so for the duration of their South Jersey Choral experience. Any actions by the student deemed disruptive or inappropriate by the SJCDA Board may result in immediate expulsion from the group. **Students must comply with the instructions of the SJCDA Executive Board and all choral directors assisting with rehearsals and performances.** Failure to comply with the musical and behavioral requests of the conductors and managers will be considered reason for immediate dismissal from the chorus.

Student members who also wish to audition for SJBODA and All-State instrumental ensembles should consult their music directors to coordinate schedules. Students audition for South Jersey Chorus prior to auditioning for these ensembles. A student may be a member of two SJBODA ensembles, or one SJBODA ensemble and one All-State Instrumental Ensemble and still fulfill their South Jersey Chorus obligation. This schedule must be coordinated with the SJCDA Coordinator.

Music

Music Packets will be sold prior to the start of the first rehearsal for \$30. Cash or check (made out to SJCDA) will be accepted. The cost covers the music, rehearsal CD, participation fee, and concert recording. Should a student have to miss the first rehearsal, they must make arrangements with their director or fellow chorister to pick up their packet and rehearsal CD. Each student must have a pencil and a copy of all music at every rehearsal.

Miscellaneous

Under no circumstances should students, their parents, or administrators contact the SJCDA Managers, Festival Coordinator, or Executive Board members. Any problems or concerns on the part of parents or students should be managed by the participating choral director who has sponsored that student.

Should the instance arise that a student remains at the rehearsal or performance site longer than 30 minutes after the scheduled completion and the student is unable to arrange immediate transportation from the site, the local law enforcement agency will be contacted and the parents/guardians held responsible for contacting the police to claim their child.

JUNIOR HIGH AUDITION INFORMATION – PAGE 1 OF 3

- All audition materials must be performed from memory.
 - The judges will face away from auditionees. Judges will not see the students, only hear them.
 - Audition pitch and quartet tracks are available at www.sjcda.net. The audition tracks available for practice are the same tracks that will be used in the auditions.
 - Restarts
 - The student must ask for the restart. The judges may not request it.
 - The student may restart any item one time.
 - Students may ask for a restart on a scale or solo before finishing it, not after completing it.
 - Students may ask for a restart on the quartet before completing “among us with thy love”
-

Low and High Diatonic Scales:

- Students will sing the vowel “ah” as in “father”, taking a breath between the ascending and descending scales.
- Pitches will be played from a recorded track.

	Low	High		Low	High
Soprano 1	E	A	Alto 2	G *	C
Soprano 2	C	G	Tenor	E *	G
Alto 1	A	E	Bass	A *	D

(*) This scale must descend first and then ascend.

Solo:

- Students will sing “America the Beautiful”.
- The pitch will be played from a recorded track.
- See the solo page for appropriate starting pitches.

Quartet:

- Students will sing their voice part with a track in *music-minus-one* style for the Junior High quartet “Abide With Richest Blessings”.
- The **tonic** pitch will be given on the track and students must find their starting pitch.

JUNIOR HIGH AUDITION INFORMATION – PAGE 2 OF 3

Solo: America The Beautiful

Starting pitches: Soprano: **G** (key of C)
Alto: **C** (key of F)
Tenor: **G** (key of C)
Bass: **D** (key of G)

Soprano and Tenor - starting pitch: G

Quarter=92

A - mer - ic - a A - mer - ic - a God shed his grace on thee. And
crown thy good with bro - ther hood from sea to shi - ning sea

The image shows two staves of musical notation for Soprano and Tenor. The first staff contains the first line of music with lyrics: "A - mer - ic - a A - mer - ic - a God shed his grace on thee. And". The second staff contains the second line of music with lyrics: "crown thy good with bro - ther hood from sea to shi - ning sea". The music is in 4/4 time with a tempo marking of Quarter=92.

Alto - starting pitch: C

Quarter=92

A - mer - ic - a A - mer - ic - a God shed his grace on thee. And
crown thy good with bro - ther hood from sea to shi - ning sea

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Alto part. The first staff contains the first line of music with lyrics: "A - mer - ic - a A - mer - ic - a God shed his grace on thee. And". The second staff contains the second line of music with lyrics: "crown thy good with bro - ther hood from sea to shi - ning sea". The music is in 4/4 time with a tempo marking of Quarter=92.

Bass - starting pitch: D

Quarter=92

A - mer - ic - a A - mer - ic - a God shed his grace on thee. And
crown thy good with bro - ther hood from sea to shi - ning sea

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Bass part. The first staff contains the first line of music with lyrics: "A - mer - ic - a A - mer - ic - a God shed his grace on thee. And". The second staff contains the second line of music with lyrics: "crown thy good with bro - ther hood from sea to shi - ning sea". The music is in 4/4 time with a tempo marking of Quarter=92.

JUNIOR HIGH AUDITION INFORMATION - PAGE 3 OF 3

Quartet: Abide With Richest Blessings

Students will sing their part along with a recording of the other three parts. The student's part will not be present on the recording. The tonic pitch will be given on the track, and students must find their starting pitch.

mm=84 J. S. Bach

S / A
A- bide with rich- est bless- ings A- mong us with thy love Grant

T / B
stead- fast- ness and help us To reach our home a- bove

SENIOR HIGH AUDITION INFORMATION - PAGE 1 OF 4

- All audition materials must be performed from memory.
- The judges will face away from auditionees. Judges will not see the students, only hear them.
- Audition pitch and quartet tracks are available at www.sjcda.net. The audition tracks available for practice are the same tracks that will be used in the auditions.
- Restarts
 - The student must ask for the restart. The judges may not request it.
 - The student may restart any item one time.
 - Students may ask for a restart on a scale or solo before finishing it, not after completing it.
 - Students may ask for a restart on the quartet before completing “and usher in the morning”

Low and High Diatonic Scales:

- Students will sing the vowel “ah” as in “father”, taking a breath between the ascending and descending scales.
- Pitches will be played from a recorded track.

	Low	High		Low	High
Soprano 1	E	B \flat	Tenor 1	E **	A \flat
Soprano 2	C	G	Tenor 2	C	F \sharp
Alto 1	A	E	Bass 1	A	E
Alto 2	G *	C	Bass 2	F *	C

(*) Alto 2 and Bass 2: This scale must descend first and then ascend.

(**) Tenor 1 Low Scale: Students have the option of beginning this scale either ascending or descending.

Chromatic Scale:

- Students will sing an ascending and descending eight-tone chromatic scale.
- Students will sing the vowel “ah” as in “father”.
- Pitches will be played from a recorded track.

Sopranos & Tenors	F - C (breath) then C - F
Altos & Basses	C - G (breath) then G - C

Solo:

- Students will sing *The Ash Grove* or *The Turtle Dove*, depending on the audition year.
- The pitch will be played from a recorded track.
- See the solo page for appropriate starting pitches.

Quartet:

- Students will sing their voice part with a track in *music-minus-one* style for the Senior High quartet: *Break forth, O beauteous, heavenly light*.
- The **tonic** pitch will be given on the track and students must find their starting pitch.

SENIOR HIGH AUDITION INFORMATION - PAGE 2 OF 4

Solo: The Ash Grove

For auditions held in even-number years November of 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024, 2026, 2028, 2030 ...

Starting pitches: Soprano 1 and Tenor 1: **F** Soprano 2 and Tenor 2: **E_b**
Alto 1 and Bass 1: **C** Alto 2 and Bass 2: **A**

Soprano 1 and Tenor 1 - starting pitch: F

$\bullet = 92$

The ash grove, how grace-ful, how plain-ly ___ 'tis speak-ing. The wind thro' it ___

6
play - ing has lan - guage for me. The ___ friends of ___ my ___ child - hood a -

11
gain are be - fore me. Fond mem - o - ries wa - ken, as free - ly I roam.

Soprano 2 and Tenor 2 - starting pitch: E_b

$\bullet = 92$

The ash grove, how grace-ful, how plain-ly ___ 'tis speak-ing. The wind thro' it ___

6
play - ing has lan - guage for me. The friends of ___ my ___ child - hood a -

11
gain are be - fore me. Fond mem - o - ries wa - ken, as free - ly I roam.

SENIOR HIGH AUDITION INFORMATION - PAGE 3 OF 4

Alto 1 and Bass 1 - starting pitch: C

♩ = 92

The ash grove, how grace-ful, how plain-ly ___ 'tis speak-ing. The wind thro' it ___

6

play - ing has lan - guage for me. The ___ friends of ___ my ___ child - hood a -

11

gain are be - fore me. Fond mem - o - ries wa - ken, as free - ly I roam.

Alto 2 and Bass 2 - starting pitch: A

♩ = 92

The ash grove, how grace-ful, how plain-ly ___ 'tis speak-ing. The wind thro' it ___

6

play - ing has lan - guage for me. The ___ friends of ___ my ___ child - hood a -

11

gain are be - fore me. Fond mem - o - ries wa - ken, as free - ly I roam.

SENIOR HIGH AUDITION INFORMATION - PAGE 4 OF 4

Quartet: Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light

Students will sing their part along with a recording of the other three parts. The student's part will not be present on the recording. The tonic pitch will be given on the track, and students must find their starting pitch.

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

Adagio

f

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

Break forth, O beau - teous heav'n - ly light, And ush - er in the

morn - ing; Ye shep - herds, shrink not with af - fright, But

hear the an - gel's warn - ing. This Child, now weak in

in - fan - cy, Our *cresc.* con - fi - dence and joy shall be, *ff* The

pow'r of Sa - tan break - ing, Our *p* peace e - ter - nal mak - ing.