

# Freshman Honor Choir

## Fall 2017

The current chair for Freshman Honor Choir is Brenda Williams, [williamsb@rcschools.net](mailto:williamsb@rcschools.net).

It is important to be familiar with all of the guidelines provided in the MTVA handbook: (attached).

### Important Dates and Information:

- Deadline for registration – September 14, 2017
- Audition dates – October 19-20-21, 2017 at Siegel High School (Murfreesboro) - students are given an assigned audition time; students with SCHOOL-related conflicts (i.e. football game, school play, competition, etc.) MUST request an audition date based on the conflict.
- Event Date – November 13-14, 2017 – this is an overnight event.
- Event Location – Brentwood United Methodist Church, 309 Franklin Rd, Brentwood 37027

### Step 1: Auditions – what to expect:

There are 2 parts to the audition:

- 1) Audition selection - students are required to prepare one audition piece which is provided on the MTVA web site. **This year's audition selection is "O Lord, Increase My Faith" (Gibbons)**. Here is a link to the music and rehearsal tracks (will be linked on the MTVA site soon):  
<https://1.cdn.edl.io/mNFIVLoyoK7SIgxvWxe64rWftkUwMd16H9LKfwgb2PD9ciCX.pdf>
- 2) Sightreading – after performing the audition selection, students will be given a sightreading example and will be given instructions to review it and then sing. This is done with a prepared recording. There are also several sight reading samples on the MTVA web site.
- 3) Costs - \$10.00 audition fee; if accepted, \$15.00 participation fee.

### Step 2: Register and pay the audition fee before the deadline

Registration is done online through [www.mtva.org](http://www.mtva.org), and must be completed (and payment of \$10.00 per student sent/post-marked) by the deadline.

### Step 3: Practice, Practice, Practice for the audition

The auditions for Freshman Honor Choir occur at the same time as Mid-State Honor Choir auditions (dates above). These auditions are live, but "blind," meaning students will stand behind a curtain when they sing so that they are not seen by the judges. Students may use their music during the audition.

Audition results will be posted usually within hours after the completion of the auditions.

### Step 4: Learn the Concert Music (thoroughly)

Once students are accepted, they are now responsible to learn the concert music (it will be provided to them). It is the Director's responsibility to make sure their students have thoroughly learned the music prior to the event date.

\*\*\*Students are **not** to expect to learn the music at the event; in fact, the Guest Clinicians expect the music to be learned thoroughly so that they can work with the musicality and prepare the students for an amazing performance.

### **Step 5: Prepare for the Event day**

- a. The event will be held at the Brentwood United Methodist Church (address is above). You will need to either plan to transport students to and from rehearsals on each day, or secure hotel rooms near the event (there are several hotels in the area). Keep in mind that there will be traffic issues if driving back and forth, so you'll need to allow extra time for that.
- b. Complete whatever field trip paperwork is required by your district, including overnight medical forms as required.
- c. Arrive with music (original music only—no copies are allowed), a pencil, plenty of water, and prepared to work in a wonderful setting with other talented freshmen from across the middle Tennessee area.
- d. You will need to arrange for all meals during your stay at the event. A more detailed schedule will be sent nearer the event date.
- e. Review the concert attire (see attached MTVA handbook guidelines) and plan ahead to make sure you have the appropriate outfit. It is important that the choir look as uniform as possible.
- f. Inform parents of the concert location and time so that they can attend.

Again, more specifics will be provided online as we draw closer.

If you have any questions in the meantime after reviewing this information, feel free to send me an email and I will do my best to answer your questions.

*From the MTVA handbook:*

#### **VII. FRESHMAN HONORS CHOIR AND FRESHMAN TREBLE CHORALE**

##### **A. General Information**

1. Any school having 9th grade students in a chorus class may apply to audition.
2. Auditions will be conducted exactly as the Senior High All-State, using the same scoring system and the same rules and regulations.
3. *The fee of ten dollars \$10.00 per student is to be submitted with the application form. School fee must be paid before participation. (\*\*to be updated in handbook)*
4. All directors must be members in good standing of the local, state, and national organizations.
5. Five (5) judges for each voice part will be chosen from the participating teachers. All participating teachers must be present and assist with the auditions.
6. A list of the names for Honors Choir and Treble Chorale will be posted as soon as the auditions have been completed and all grades tallied.

##### **B. Rehearsal and Concert**

1. Director shall register the student(s), indicating the names of absentees.
2. Each student shall have a pencil and a copy of all selections to be performed. Selections should be thoroughly learned.
3. No illegal photocopies of music will be permitted.
4. The concert will be held in conjunction with the All Mid-State Chorus and Women's Chorale.
5. Dress Code: Women: Long black dress OR a calf-length or longer black skirt, white blouse (elbow-length sleeves or longer), black hose, and black shoes. Men: White tux shirt or white long-sleeve dress shirt, black slacks or tux pants, black shoes, black socks, and black bow tie. (Black cummerbund optional.)

## **Freshman Honor Choir – November 2017**

### **Repertoire**

*\*\*Reminder- this music will be provided after auditions. You do not need to order ahead of time.*

#### **SSA Choir – James Wells**

Choir Chairperson – Brenda Jewell (jewellb@frapanthers.com)

*Ave Maria Gratia Plena* (Javir Burston)

*Ise Oluwa*, Nigerian Folk Song (arr. Ron Kean)

*Come to the Music* (Joseph Martin)

*Will There Really Be a Morning?* (Craig Hella Johnson)

*They're Red Hot* (Moira Smiley, Robert Johns)

#### **SATB – Dr. Rick Sowers (Anderson University, Anderson, Indiana)**

Choir Chairperson – Angela Beale (angela.beale@wcs.edu)

*O Lord, Increase My Faith* (Gibbons)

*Now Touch the Air Softly* (Susan LaBarr)

*Yanaway Heyona* – Traditional Iroquois Gathering Song (arr. Brian Tate)

*Turn the World Around* (Harry Belafonte, arr. Mark Hayes)