

MTVA Elementary & Middle School Honor Choir

2027 Audition Packet

Event Chair Beth Delk	Audition Chair Tyler Shaw	Questions? tyler.shaw@montgomerybell.edu
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The 2027 MTVA Elementary & Middle School Honor Choirs will be one to remember! Please read the details below carefully and follow every instruction precisely to keep your students eligible.

IMPORTANT DATES & TIMELINE	
Date	Event
October 2	Registration Deadline – submit the Jotform on the website and mail your check with invoice to Mary Davis. Payment must be postmarked by October 9 . Failure to complete this step results in disqualification.
October 12	SNAP Audition Registration opens – directors bulk-upload all student auditions to the SNAP Platform.
October 23	SNAP Audition Registration closes.
October 24	Judging window opens.
November 11	Judging window closes.
November 13	Results released.
February 12	Honor Choir Event Date @ First United Methodist Church — 265 W Thompson Ln, Murfreesboro, TN 37129
February 18	Event snow date.

PAYMENT INFORMATION	AUDITION RECORDING GUIDELINES
Audition Fee: \$7 per student Mail all invoices and payments to: MTVA P.O. Box 332454 Murfreesboro, TN 37133 Postmark deadline: October 9	• Recording must begin with the starting pitch of the unaccompanied exercise, played on an instrument only (not sung). • The student then sings the unaccompanied exercise and the accompanied piece using the provided track. • Recording should include only the starting pitch and the student's singing — no additional sounds or commentary. • Audition tracks are available on the MTVA website. Deviation from these instructions may result in disqualification.

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Submit all student auditions together through the SNAP Audition Platform. **Tutorial:** [How to Bulk Register Students on SNAP](#)
- Pre-screen all recordings before submission — as a professional, review each audition and make cuts as needed.
- Remove students with major pitch issues or who do not know the audition piece.
- Remove students who cannot attend the event.
- *Note: Registration fees remain unchanged even if cuts are made after registration.*

Judge Selection: Judges are chosen based on experience; how recently a director has judged this event will be considered when selecting judges. Selected judges will use the SNAP Platform and the online rubric to evaluate auditions.

QUICK REFERENCE — BOTH CHOIRS

Choir	Clinician	Audition Song(s)	Starting Pitch
Elementary Honor Choir	Mr. Michael Chandler Assoc. Professor of Music, Austin Peay State University	"My Country, 'Tis of Thee" — 1st verse	G4
Middle School Honor Choir	Mrs. Rose Hellmers Doctoral Candidate, Florida State University	1. "Resonet in Laudibus" (unaccompanied) 2. "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" – J.S. Bach (accompanied)	—

Follow all directions precisely to ensure eligibility · Submit all materials by the stated deadlines · Encourage students to prepare thoroughly and represent their schools with pride.

For questions or clarifications, contact Tyler Shaw or Beth Delk. Together, let's make this year's Honor Choir an inspiring celebration of young voices!

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

Text by Samuel Francis Smith

Arr. Samuel Stokes

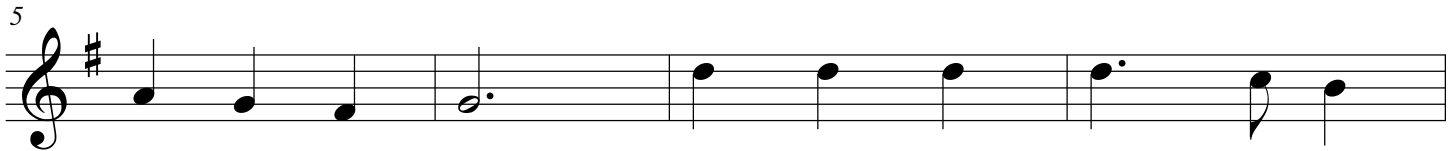
Maestoso

G Em Am/C D Em D/F# G Em Am/C G/D D#dim7 Em



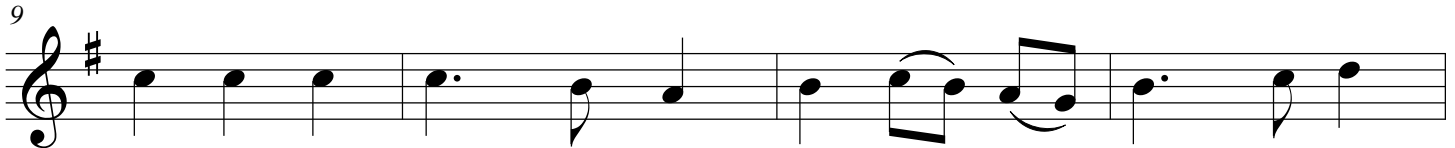
My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of lib - er - ty,

Am/C G/D D7 G G G/B G/D G D7/G G



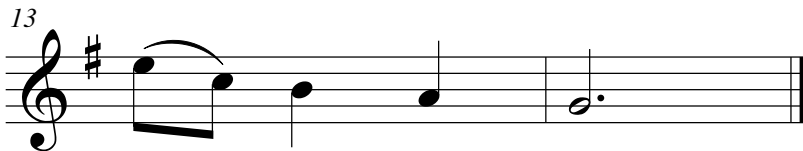
Of thee I sing; Land where my fa - thers died,

D7 D7/F# D7/A D7 G/D D G C G/B D7/A G



Land of the pil - grims' pride, From ev - 'ry moun - tain side,

Am/C G/D D7 G



Let free - doom ring!

Samuel Stokes

<http://www.samuelstokesmusic.com>

Elementary Honor Choir Audition						
Name:						
		Superior	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
	20%, Pitch Accuracy	20 Points Sings the first verse with consistently clear pitch in the correct key; notes are secure and centered throughout; no scooping, sharpening, or flattening is heard.	15 Points Sings mostly in tune in the correct key; only very small pitch slips occur and do not distract from the performance; scooping, sharpening, or flattening is rare.	10 Points Sings in the correct key with some accurate pitches, but several notes drift sharp, flat, or slide into pitch; tuning is uneven in a few spots.	5 Points Maintains pitch only part of the time; several notes are noticeably sharp, flat, or scooped; the correct key is sometimes unclear.	0 Points Maintains pitch only part of the time; several notes are noticeably sharp, flat, or scooped; the correct key is sometimes unclear.
	20%, Head Register	20 Points Uses head register with ease and confidence; moves between registers smoothly and naturally with no breaks or strain.	15 Points Uses head register well; register changes are mostly smooth, with only minor tension or a small break heard once or twice.	10 Points Uses head register in some places, but register changes are noticeable and not always smooth; some tension appears.	5 Points Uses head register inconsistently; changes between registers are often awkward, strained, or uneven.	0 Points Does not use head register appropriately, or singing is too limited to show register control.
	20%, Tone Quality	20 Points Produces an open, clear, confident tone throughout; sound is free, supported, and pleasant from start to finish.	15 Points Produces a clear and mostly open tone; confidence is heard, with only slight tightness or weakness in a few places.	10 Points Tone is understandable and mostly clear, but it is sometimes thin, tight, or uncertain; confidence varies.	5 Points Tone is often weak, breathy, closed, or tense; the sound lacks steadiness and confidence.	0 Points Tone quality prevents effective singing; the voice sounds very strained, unclear, or unsupported.
	20%, Diction	20 Points Consonants are crisp and easy to hear; vowels are pure and well-shaped; words are pronounced clearly and correctly throughout.	15 Points Consonants and vowels are mostly clear; pronunciation is correct in most words, with only minor lapses that do not affect understanding.	10 Points Diction is understandable, but some consonants are soft or some vowels are not fully formed; a few words are mispronounced.	5 Points Diction is often unclear; consonants are weak, vowels are inaccurate, and several words are hard to understand.	0 Points Diction is very unclear; words are frequently mispronounced or cannot be understood.
	20%, Phrasing & Rhythm	20 Points Phrases stay fully connected and musical; breaths are well placed; rhythm is accurate and steady throughout the verse.	15 Points Phrases are mostly unbroken and musical; rhythm is accurate with only a few small slips; breaths are placed well most of the time.	10 Points Phrasing and rhythm are mostly correct, but a few breaths interrupt the line or a few rhythm errors occur.	5 Points Phrasing is often broken by breaths or hesitations; rhythm errors appear often and disrupt the flow.	0 Points Phrasing and rhythm are not maintained; the verse is frequently interrupted and difficult to keep together.

MTVA Audition Vocalise - Cycle 3 - Rough Draft

Soprano

Resonet in Laudibus

(Resound in Praises)

Traditional Latin Text
Arr. Neumeyer

1 Joyfully ♩ = 120

Re - so-net in lau - di-bus. Re - so - net in lau - di-bus.

5

Re - so - net, Re - so - net, Re - so - net in lau - di - bus!

Alto

Resonet in Laudibus

(Resound in Praises)

Traditional Latin Text
Arr. Neumeyer

1 Joyfully ♩ = 120

Re - so-net in lau - di-bus. Re - so - net in lau - di-bus.

5

Re - so - net, Re - so - net, Re - so - net in lau - di - bus!

Tenor

Resonet in Laudibus

(Resound in Praises)

Traditional Latin Text
Arr. Neumeyer

1 Joyfully ♩ = 120

Re - so-net in lau - di-bus. Re - so - net in lau - di-bus.

5

Re - so - net, Re - so - net, Re - so - net in lau - di - bus!

Bass

Resonet in Laudibus

(Resound in Praises)

Traditional Latin Text
Arr. Neumeyer

1 Joyfully ♩ = 120

Re - so-net in lau - di-bus. Re - so - net in lau - di-bus.

5

Re - so - net, Re - so - net, Re - so - net in lau - di - bus!

Jesu Joy Of Man's Desiring

J. S. Bach

AUDITION CUT VERSION

$\text{♩} = 70$

Soprano
Je - su joy of man's de - sir-ing, Ho - ly wis - dom Love most bright,

Alto
Je - su joy of man's de - sir-ing, Ho - ly wis - dom Love most bright,

Tenor
Je - su joy of man's de - sir-ing, Ho - ly wis - dom Love most bright,

Bass
Je - su joy of man's de - sir-ing, Ho - ly wis - dom, Love most bright,

⁹

S
Drawn by Thee, our souls as - pir-ing, soar to un - cre - at - ed light.

A
Drawn by Thee, our souls as - pir-ing, soar to un - cre - at - ed light.

T
Drawn by Thee, our souls as - pir-ing, soar to un - cre - at - ed light.

B
Drawn by Thee, our souls as - pir-ing, soar to un - cre - at - ed light.

Jesu Joy Of Man's Desiring

17

S Word of God, our flesh that fash-ion'd, With the fire of life im-pas-sion'd,

A Word of God, our flesh that fash-ion'd, With the fire of life im-pas-sion'd,

T Word of God, our flesh that fash-ion'd, With the fire of life im-pas-sion'd,

B Word of God, our flesh that fash-ion'd, With the fire of life im-pas-sion'd,

25

S Striv-ing still to Truth un - known, Soar - ing dy - ing, round Thy throne.

A Striv-ing still to Truth un - known, Soar - ing dy - ing, round Thy throne.

T Striv-ing still to Truth un - known, Soar - ing dy - ing, round Thy throne.

B Striv-ing still to Truth un - known, Soar - ing dy - ing, round Thy throne.

Middle School Honor Choir — Audition Rubric

Name: _____

Judge: _____

Final Score (0–300): _____

Instructions: Select a box for each aspect below. This audition combines an unaccompanied selection (25% of total score) and a four-part accompanied selection (75% of total score).

Unaccompanied Selection 25% of total	Superior	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Pitch Accuracy 16.667%	12.5 pts Clear, consistent intonation; no scooping, sharpening, or flattening; maintains correct key throughout.	9.375 pts Generally accurate pitch with minimal issues; mostly maintains key; occasional minor intonation concerns.	6.25 pts Adequate pitch accuracy; noticeable intonation issues but generally stays in key.	3.125 pts Pitch issues present; frequent sharpening, flattening, or scooping; inconsistent key placement.	1.25 pts Significant pitch accuracy problems; consistently sharp, flat, or scooped; key inconsistency.
Head Register 16.667%	12.5 pts Demonstrates proper head register use; transitions between registers smoothly and seamlessly.	9.375 pts Mostly uses head register appropriately; generally smooth transitions between registers.	6.25 pts Attempts head register use; some difficulty with register transitions.	3.125 pts Limited head register use; noticeable difficulty transitioning between registers.	1.25 pts Little to no head register use; poor register transitions.
Tone Quality 16.667%	12.5 pts Open, clear, and confident sound; resonant and well-supported.	9.375 pts Good tone quality; mostly open and clear; minor tension or inconsistency.	6.25 pts Adequate tone; some tension or inconsistency; adequate support.	3.125 pts Thin or tense tone; inconsistent support; some breathiness or strain.	1.25 pts Poor tone quality; thin, strained, or unfocused sound.
Diction 16.667%	12.5 pts Clear consonants; correct vowel production; proper pronunciation of all text.	9.375 pts Mostly clear articulation; generally correct vowels and pronunciation; minor diction issues.	6.25 pts Adequate diction; some unclear consonants or vowel issues; minor pronunciation errors.	3.125 pts Unclear articulation; vowel or pronunciation errors affect clarity.	1.25 pts Unclear diction; significant vowel or pronunciation errors.
Phrasing 16.667%	12.5 pts Unbroken phrases; maintains rhythmic accuracy; natural phrase shaping.	9.375 pts Generally maintains phrases; mostly accurate rhythm; some phrase shaping evident.	6.25 pts Some broken phrases; occasional rhythmic inconsistencies; limited phrase shaping.	3.125 pts Frequently broken phrases; noticeable rhythmic issues; minimal phrase shaping.	1.25 pts Frequently interrupted phrases; significant rhythmic problems; no phrase shaping.
Musicality 16.667%	12.5 pts Expressive interpretation; demonstrates understanding of style and emotional content.	9.375 pts Shows musicality with minor lapses; generally demonstrates style awareness.	6.25 pts Basic musicality; inconsistent style interpretation; somewhat mechanical at times.	3.125 pts Limited musicality; minimal style awareness; primarily technical focus.	1.25 pts Minimal to no musicality; little awareness of style; primarily note-reading focus.

Middle School Honor Choir — Audition Rubric

Name: _____

Judge: _____

Final Score (0–300): _____

Four-Part Accompanied Selection 75% of total	Superior	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Pitch Accuracy 16.667%	37.5 pts Clear, consistent intonation; no scooping, sharpening, or flattening; maintains correct key throughout.	28.125 pts Generally accurate pitch with minimal issues; mostly maintains key; occasional minor intonation concerns.	18.75 pts Adequate pitch accuracy; noticeable intonation issues but generally stays in key.	9.375 pts Pitch issues present; frequent sharpening, flattening, or scooping; inconsistent key placement.	3.75 pts Significant pitch accuracy problems; consistently sharp, flat, or scooped; key inconsistency.
Head Register 16.667%	37.5 pts Demonstrates proper head register use; transitions between registers smoothly and seamlessly.	28.125 pts Mostly uses head register appropriately; generally smooth transitions between registers.	18.75 pts Attempts head register use; some difficulty with register transitions.	9.375 pts Limited head register use; noticeable difficulty transitioning between registers.	3.75 pts Little to no head register use; poor register transitions.
Tone Quality 16.667%	37.5 pts Open, clear, and confident sound; resonant and well-supported.	28.125 pts Good tone quality; mostly open and clear; minor tension or inconsistency.	18.75 pts Adequate tone; some tension or inconsistency; adequate support.	9.375 pts Thin or tense tone; inconsistent support; some breathiness or strain.	3.75 pts Poor tone quality; thin, strained, or unfocused sound.
Diction 16.667%	37.5 pts Clear consonants; correct vowel production; proper pronunciation of all text.	28.125 pts Mostly clear articulation; generally correct vowels and pronunciation; minor diction issues.	18.75 pts Adequate diction; some unclear consonants or vowel issues; minor pronunciation errors.	9.375 pts Unclear articulation; vowel or pronunciation errors affect clarity.	3.75 pts Unclear diction; significant vowel or pronunciation errors.
Phrasing 16.667%	37.5 pts Unbroken phrases; maintains rhythmic accuracy; natural phrase shaping.	28.125 pts Generally maintains phrases; mostly accurate rhythm; some phrase shaping evident.	18.75 pts Some broken phrases; occasional rhythmic inconsistencies; limited phrase shaping.	9.375 pts Frequently broken phrases; noticeable rhythmic issues; minimal phrase shaping.	3.75 pts Frequently interrupted phrases; significant rhythmic problems; no phrase shaping.
Musicality 16.667%	37.5 pts Expressive interpretation; demonstrates understanding of style and emotional content.	28.125 pts Shows musicality with minor lapses; generally demonstrates style awareness.	18.75 pts Basic musicality; inconsistent style interpretation; somewhat mechanical at times.	9.375 pts Limited musicality; minimal style awareness; primarily technical focus.	3.75 pts Minimal to no musicality; little awareness of style; primarily note-reading focus.