



California Music Educators Association Central Coast Section

www.ccsmusic.org



September 9, 2018

Dear Middle School Choir Directors,

Here is the information for this year's CMEA-CCS Honor Choir Event. The FestivalScores audition procedure is the same as last year (details below), but we have updated the audition requirements to match that of CCDA. Please read the audition requirements on page 2 carefully.

Our Middle School conductor this year is **Ken Rawdon**, recently retired High School Choral Director from Mt. Eden High School in Hayward, CA, where he taught since 1990. He has received numerous awards as Teacher of the Year and Educator of the Year from various groups, and was highly recommended to me by Alice Hughes at Pacific Collegiate School. He is very excited to work with our group.

Important Dates

- Monday, September 24, 2018 Digital online audition recordings open
- Friday, October 12, 2018 Audition fee and forms postmark deadline
- Friday, October 19, 2018 Digital online audition recordings close
- Sunday, October 21 through Sunday, October 28, 2018 Online adjudication by all participating teachers
- Thurs., Jan 24 – Sat. Jan 26, 2019 Honor Choir Event, Salinas High School, Salinas, CA

Event Schedule and Location

Thursday, January 24, 2019	1:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Rehearsal at Salinas High School
Friday, January 25, 2019	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Rehearsal at Salinas High School
Saturday, January 26, 2019	8:30 am – Noon	Rehearsal at Salinas High School
Saturday, January 26, 2019	2:00 pm	Concert at Salinas High School
Event Location:	Salinas High School	726 S Main St, Salinas, CA

Audition Procedure:

- Each director must make an director account at <http://www.festivalscores.com>
 - Please watch this instructional video: <https://youtu.be/5BTaSiXdLR8>
 - Make your account now, so you are ready to upload recordings later.
 - Add CCS MS Honor Choir event to your account with this event tag: **2JDLTJX**
 - Add students – include their name, HS graduation year, and **adult** T-shirt size
 - Upload ALL THREE recordings for each student before: **10 pm, October 19, 2018**
- Each participating director will be required to judge a specific set of auditions online.
 - Each student will be judged by a minimum of three judges

Audition Requirements – NEW INFO!

Three recordings are now required per student. They must be uploaded separately. Any student with files missing cannot be judged. Please check endings and beginnings of your recordings before uploading them, and make sure they are complete and comply.

1. Unaccompanied ascending major scale sung on a neutral syllable or on solfege.

- Determine the student's highest note that has good tone; this pitch will be their high Do.
- Have them sing an one-octave scale ascending from the Do below up to their high Do.
- The scale should be sung in one breath at the tempo of 90 – 100 bpm
- Include the name of the starting pitch in the title of the file along with voice part.
- There should be no speaking on the recording.
- Starting pitch must be audible on the CD.
- **Sample File Title:** SchoolNameMS-BaritoneSamSinger-AscScaleE.mp3

2. Unaccompanied descending major scale sung on a neutral syllable or on solfege.

- Determine the student's lowest note that has good tone; this pitch will be their low Do.
- Have them sing a one-octave scale descending from the Do above down to their low Do.
- The scale should be sung in one breath at the tempo of 90 – 100 bpm
- Include the name of the starting pitch in the title of the file along with voice part.
- There should be no speaking on the recording.
- Starting pitch must be audible on the CD.
- **Sample File Title:** SchoolNameMS-BaritoneSamSinger-DescScaleBb.mp3

3. My Country 'Tis of Thee (America) – first verse, unaccompanied, in the appropriate key:

- a. **Soprano** G above middle C
 - b. **Alto** Db above middle C
 - c. **Baritone** – Choose a starting pitch that best represents the students voice:
 - Tenor G below middle C
 - Baritone E below middle C
 - Bass C below middle C
- Starting pitch must be audible on the CD
 - Tempo should be 80 – 90 bpm
 - Breaths should be taken at appropriate places (not in the middle of a word)
 - There should be no embellishments or liberties taken with pitch or rhythm
 - Enunciation should be clear.
 - **Sample File Title:** SchoolNameMS-BaritoneSamSinger-MyCountryC.mp3

continued...

Forms & Fees

- **Forms and fees need to be postmarked by Friday, October 12**
- Include school form, all student forms, and one check for all fees.
 - Include **all** signatures on all forms (attached and also available at <http://www.ccsmusic.org>)
 - CCS requires that only one check per school be submitted for audition fees.
 - No parent checks will be accepted; only a school check, a director's check, or cash.
 - Audition fee is \$5.00 per student.
 - **Checks must be made payable to CMEA-CCS.**
 - Send to **Anne Schoepp, St. Lawrence Academy, 6184 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018**
- Participation fee is an additional \$40.00 per accepted student. This fee will be due by the beginning of the event. There will be no refunds.

Audition results will be available November 5, 2018

Music distribution. Every effort will be made to distribute music by December 3.

Membership

CCS policy requires that directors sponsoring students must be current NAFME members at the time of the event. If you are not a current member, visit <http://www.nafme.org> to acquire a membership. You will need a membership number to upload files at FestivalScores.com.

We are looking forward to providing an excellent experience for our CCS Honor Choir Students. If you have any questions or suggestions, especially with the new audition requirements, judging or the online applications, please do not hesitate to contact me. Properly recorded and uploaded files will make the audition procedure go more smoothly. I will send out judging assignments and information once the audition window has closed. Please schedule a few hours (3?) during the judging window to judge your assigned group.

Sincerely, *Anne Schoepp*

CMEA-CCS MS Honor Choir Chair

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