



SFHS Choir Auditions 2019-2020

I am so glad you are interested in being in choir at SFHS!
Choir is an enjoyable and rewarding experience and it's worth making time for.
Here is some information that will help you prepare.

When:

- For current choir students: During class March 25-28, 2019
- For incoming sophomore women: Tuesday, March 26th from 2:30 – 4:00 PM in the SFJHS Choir room
- For students asked to SFHS Singers call-backs: Monday, April 15th from 3:00-5:00 PM
- For all others: by appointment on Wednesday, March 27th from 2:45 – 4:00 PM

Where: SFHS Choir Room

What Will Happen in the Audition?

The audition will last about 5 minutes. During that time, you will do the following:

1. Short memorized song
You will sing the melody of one song from memory selected from the list below.
2. Vocal range check
The director will determine how high and low you can sing.
3. Aural memory check
You will sing back a short series of pitches that you hear on the piano.
4. Music Reading
You will be asked to sight read simple melodies and identify basic music symbols.
5. Sing a Harmony Part
You will prepare the harmony part to a song selected from the list below.

SFHS Students who are not currently in Choir

- Sign up for an audition time outside of Mrs. Heder's classroom

For incoming sophomore students

- All boys sign up for Men's Chorus and no audition is necessary. If interested, sophomore men can audition for Concert Choir if they can concurrently take Men's Chorus as well.

- Incoming sophomore girls have the option of being in Women's Chorus (non-audition), or for more experienced singers; you can audition for Mosaic, the advanced women's ensemble. If you are interested in Mosaic, please sign up through the choir teacher at your school: Mrs. Lewis at Diamond Fork JHS or Mr. Kavanaugh at Spanish Fork JHS or through the high school choir website sfchoirs.org

Do not sign up for an audition unless you fully intend on being part of this musical group!

Women Only:

If you're interested in Concert Choir or SFHS Singers, you are encouraged to recruit and commit a man to audition for choir as well. This is to help balance male and female singers in the ensemble. The man does NOT need to audition at the same time as you. He must, however, have a real desire to sing in a SFHS Choir. Ladies who do not commit a man to audition are not automatically eliminated for consideration. However, the more men you bring into the choir, the better chances you have of making it into your desired ensemble!

Incoming Junior/Senior Women:

If you intend to audition for Concert Choir, please understand that an audition for this ensemble also makes you eligible for consideration in Mosaic. The director will make decisions based on the audition results as well as balancing male and female voices in Concert Choir.

Preparing for Your Audition

1. Download your application from the SFHS Choir website: www.sfchoirs.org. Completely fill out the application, including parent initials where indicated. Bring the completed form with you to your audition.

2. You will prepare **two songs** before you come to your audition. Adequately PRACTICE your selected pieces before your audition so that you can perform with confidence. Accompaniment will be provided at the audition.

- Select **one song** from the following list. Prepare to sing the **melody** (soprano part) for the first verse only **from memory**. This can be sung in any key, but determine the starting pitch as you prepare and know what it is. You do not need to bring the music with you.

- *America The Beautiful*, by Ward
- *Be Still My Soul*, by Sibelius
- *For the Beauty of the Earth*, by Koehler
- *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*, by Tomer
- *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*, by Willis

- Select **one song** from the following list. Prepare to sing the first verse of your selected song on a part other than the melody, even if you're a soprano. Parts other than the melody would include Alto, Tenor, or Bass parts. Be certain to choose a part that will enable you to sing well in your typical vocal range. For instance, a soprano could sing the tenor part up one octave in her range. A bass could sing the alto part down one

octave in his range. Prepare this song in the key listed below. This song does not need to be memorized and the music will be provided.

- *All Creatures of our God and King*, by Vaughan Williams. Key of Eb
- *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*, by Teschner. Key of C.
- *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*, from *Lyra Davidica*. Key of C
- *Guide Us, O Thou Great Jehovah*, by Hughes. Key of G
- *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*, arr. by Bennett. Key of G

Most of these songs can be found in standard hymnals or online. For the harmony part song, you must sing from the standard 4-part hymn version by the composer listed.

Tips for Auditioning

Remember what time your audition is because you will not be reminded. Schedule your audition at a time that you can undoubtedly be available without being rushed or pressured to be somewhere else.

- **Be on time for your audition.** Arrive early, in fact, to avoid being late or running in at the last minute and making a poor impression of yourself.
- **Do your own vocal warm-up before coming to your audition.** You will be expected to sing right away. You will not have time to warm up. Be prepared!
- **Adequately PRACTICE** your selected pieces before the audition so that you can perform with confidence and focus on musical skills.
- **The online audition form must be completely filled out before the audition.** Your audition will not happen without it.

I want you to be successful!! Please know that I would love to help everyone prepare for auditions. However, individual help and coaching for your audition from the director is unfair to those who don't get that individual coaching. If you need help preparing for your audition, please seek help from a private vocal instructor or a friend rather than from Mrs. Heder.

Audition results will be posted on the bulletin board outside of the choir room on **Friday April 19th** and sent to the junior high teachers as well.

I look forward to meeting each of you and hearing your voices at auditions. I'm very excited about our choirs at SFHS!! Just do your best, knowing that I want you to have a place in one or more of our choirs!

~~Mrs. Heder