

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

The student, parents, principal, and teacher should read these expectations carefully. They will be strictly enforced.

STUDENT: PUT THIS INFORMATION IN YOUR MUSIC FOLDER!

Eligibility Requirements for Participation:

- 1) The student must be part of his/her school's participating/performing choir as outlined by his/her parish or school guidelines throughout the entire honor choir and/or all-state process from audition through performance. It is the teacher's obligation to inform the CDA if the student resigns from the participating choir.
- 2) If there is **no** school choral music program at the student's school, the student may be sponsored by a member of the LMEA District VII CDA (i.e. a private voice instructor or Talented in Music Instructor). If a school has a choir and the director of that choir is not a member of LMEA and District VII CDA, the students of that choir are **NOT** eligible until that director becomes a member of LMEA and the District VII CDA.

LMEA District VII Responsibility:

- ☞ Students and parents are hereby notified that the District VII Choral Directors Association's authority and responsibility extends until the students are released to return home.
- ☞ School Music Directors are responsible for communicating information regarding expectations, payments, contracts, music distribution, and rehearsals with their students.
- ☞ If a student is selected at the 2nd Round All-State Audition to represent District VII as a member of the Louisiana All-State Choir, the state will provide procedures, fee information, and contracts at that time.

Disciplinary Process:

- ☞ The principal, director, and parents will be immediately notified of any rule infraction.
- ☞ Disciplinary problems, absences, and tardies will be reviewed by the CDA Disciplinary Committee consisting of the CDA president, at least one other member of the District VII executive board, the student's director, and the appropriate chairperson (Elementary, Junior High, Senior High, etc.) before dismissal from All-State District Representation and/or District Honor Choir is recommended.
- ☞ Any student dismissed from 2nd Round All-State Participation or any District Honor Choir for disciplinary reasons or excessive absences will be prohibited from participating in the 2nd Round All-State Auditions and/or District Honor Choirs the current year and the following year. Fees will not be refunded.

Student Expectations:

- 1) Students are expected to participate in events once their participant contracts and fees are paid. **Fees are non-refundable.** Students who qualify for 2nd Round All-State Auditions are expected to participate in District VII Senior High Honor Choir.
 - *Students who are dismissed or "quit" are prohibited from participating in any LMEA All-State or District Honor Choir the current year as well as the following year. Extenuating circumstances will be considered on an individual basis.*
- 2) Students are expected to adequately know their music before the first Note Check.
 - *Any student who cannot sing his or her part with sufficient accuracy will be dismissed and prohibited from participating the following year.*
- 3) Students are expected to respect all property.
 - *Vandalism of any kind will bring immediate dismissal, and the student and school will be held responsible for any damages.*
- 4) Students are expected to be tobacco, drug and alcohol free!
 - *Possession of controlled substances without a doctor's prescription or the consumption of psychologically active substances for non-medical use will lead to immediate dismissal.*
 - *Smoking at any time while participating in the Honor Choir Event will lead to immediate dismissal.*
- 5) 2nd Round Participants and District Honor Choir members are expected to attend ALL rehearsals scheduled by the director and the District.
 - *A student may request ONE excused absence from a District Rehearsal (exempting rehearsals with the guest clinician). The request will be considered by the CDA Disciplinary Committee. **If the absence is deemed unexcused or the student misses more than one absence, it may result in dismissal from 2nd Round All-State District Representation and WILL result in dismissal from Honor Choir.** Extenuating circumstances will be considered on an individual basis at the discretion of the CDA Disciplinary Committee.*
- 6) District Honor Choir members are expected to attend all rehearsals with clinicians.
 - *Rehearsals with clinicians are of utmost importance. Students missing rehearsals on the **Honor Choir Event Day** or **Honor Choir Performance Day** will be dismissed from Honor Choir. Participation the following year will be considered on an individual basis by the CDA Disciplinary Committee in cases of extreme circumstance.*
- 7) Students are expected to wear **their choir's performance uniform** for the Honor Choir concert. Students who attend schools without performance uniforms should dress accordingly:
 - **SENIOR HIGH/TREBLE:** Black blouse and skirt or black dress. **NO PANTS.** All tops should have sleeves. Skirts and dresses must be knee length or longer. Dress shoes with backs.
 - **JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS:** White blouse and black skirt. **NO PANTS.** All tops should have sleeves. Skirts and dresses must be knee length or longer. Dress shoes with backs.
 - **SENIOR HIGH BOYS:** Dark Pants, Shirt, Tie, Dark Dress Coat, dark socks and dress shoes
 - **JUNIOR HIGH BOYS:** Pants, Shirt, Tie, dark socks and dress shoes
 - **ELEMENTARY BOYS:** Pants, Shirt, Tie, dark socks and dress shoes
 - **ELEMENTARY GIRLS:** Blouse and skirt or dress. **NO PANTS.** Skirts and dresses must be knee length or longer. Dress shoes with backs.
- 8) Students are expected to give their undivided attention at rehearsals. All cell phones should be silenced and put away. **Music listening devices (i-pod, MP3, etc.) are NOT allowed during rehearsals.**
 - *Students will be given a warning, then the cell phone or electronic device will be taken away and given to the student's chaperone until the end of the entire event. A recurring problem can result in dismissal.*
- 9) Students, parents, and administration are expected to address any questions to the student's music director (who is a member of the CDA) first and foremost.

REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

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Each member of District VII Honor Choir and 2nd Round All-State is expected to conduct himself or herself in such a way as to be a credit to his or her community, school, and choral organization. This includes having a neat appearance, being on time for rehearsals and performance, and making his or her best effort toward contributing to the success of the group.

Rehearsals

The success of the choir depends on how it rehearses and on the conduct and cooperation of the students. Rehearsals are the place to correct mistakes and develop musical expression. The director will do his or her best to help you correct mistakes, but the fewer mistakes you make the greater your contribution to the choir. So be patient, attentive, careful, and cooperative in observing these rehearsal rules.

FOR REHEARSALS, YOU ARE EXPECTED TO . . .

1. **Number your measures BEFORE** the first rehearsal and mark and observe dynamics and all expressive markings.
2. Make sure you have a **PENCIL & ALL MUSIC** in a **BLACK FOLDER** (appropriate for performance) **AT ALL TIMES.**
3. Be in your seat prepared with music at least **5 minutes before** rehearsal time. There is a 5 minute limit for tardiness at rehearsals. Any student who is late for rehearsal may be sent home.
4. **Be ready** when the conductor is ready for rehearsal. There should be **no talking.** Stay quiet when the conductor stops for instruction or when moving to another selection. **Raise your hand** for recognition if you wish to ask questions or make comments.
5. Maintain correct **posture**, holding your music up so that you can watch the conductor and music while singing.
6. **Watch** the conductor as much as possible, especially for entrances.
7. **Listen** carefully for intonation, blend, and balance.
8. Be careful with diction, breath support, and phrasing. Do your best to **follow instructions** given by the conductor.
9. **Be responsible** for your belongings. Music folders and personal belongings are the responsibility of the individual student. Return music to your folder at the end of each rehearsal session and be sure to have folder in hand at the beginning of the next session.
10. **Remain seated** at the end of each rehearsal session until you are dismissed by the conductor or a member of the District VII CDA. Important announcements may be made at this time and you will need to remain quiet and listen.
11. **Accept the consequences** of the CDA Disciplinary Committee if you choose not to abide by the rehearsal expectations. Consequences may include being dismissed from a rehearsal with an unexcused absence, being dismissed from honor choir, and/or not being permitted to audition the following year.