

# Middle Tennessee Vocal Association

Dear Directors,

Congratulations on surviving another year of auditions!! Let me take this opportunity to say a **BIG “THANK YOU!!!”** to all those involved for the time and effort given. The auditions seem to have run very smoothly this year with only a minor skirmish here and there. To those that waited for your reports, another “THANK YOU!” is in order. I know it seemed like forever, but it does require some time to assemble everyone’s information appropriately. Thank you for your patience and understanding. I understand your concern and will continue to work toward improving the process. As the first phase of auditions is now complete, it is time to both look ahead and reflect on the process.

Looking ahead, we must remember two “BIG” things. The first is the second tier of All-State auditions, scheduled for **Monday, January 13, 2004**. All students listed as all-state OR all-state alternates are required to attend this audition. At this audition, students will sing in mixed octets a portion of ALL pieces in the All-State repertoire. All directors with students in this audition are required to attend, and work during the audition. It will be held at Riverdale High School in Murfreesboro, TN. *Please* encourage your alternates to attend; last year we were unable to fill several spots because we ran out of qualified alternates.

All-State repertoire lists are included in this mailing, as well as some music. We are supplying some music from TMEA; some pieces were out of print, or composed especially for TMEA, so those copies are supplied through us. You will be asked to pay the cost of these items accordingly. Payment for this music should be made at the time you pay All-State fees. All other music is *your* responsibility. You are also receiving a part-learning CD for each student placing in the All-State choir. These CDs are provided at no direct cost to you; MTVA absorbs the cost on these.

Please note that the fee structure for All-State has changed. The “group fee” has been eliminated. The director fee is \$40. Each director with students in All-State is required to submit this fee. This serves as your TMEA Conference registration fee, so you should NOT register separately for the conference, or pay through other registration outlets. A fee of \$40 per student is also due, regardless of which group your students are participating in. **ALTERNATES SHOULD NOT SUBMIT ANY MONIES UNTIL THEY ARE DEFINITELY PLACED.** I will notify you ASAP of alternate placements. This placement *can* come as late as the day before All-State. However, no alternates will be placed after 24 hours before the first rehearsal. If you have not received notification by that time, those students should not attend the conference. These fees will be due on Thursday, February 5, 2004 at the Mid-State event, along with the forms included (copy as you need). Additional copies of forms will be available on the website.

As you prepare your students for All-State, **DO NOT** neglect our own **Mid-State event**, scheduled for **Thursday, February 5, 2004**. Mid-State suffered somewhat last year due to a lack of preparedness. We owe better to our students as well as the clinicians conducting them. To those with students in the Freshmen Honors SATB Chorus, please pay special attention to this music; it is more difficult than in years past. Please make every effort to get your students their music before the holidays. Repertoire lists are included in this mailing; again, remember this is your responsibility. Order early!!

Jj Ebelhar will be overseeing the Mid-State event, held at David Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN, with Jeremy Jones in charge of the freshman choirs. Thank you all in advance for your professionalism and conscientiousness. Also, thank you for working very hard with your choral singers and being a role model for them.

Have a restful and happy holiday season!!

I remain humbly yours,

Lewis Walling  
All-State Chair  
Middle Tennessee Vocal Association

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