

MTVA Elementary Honors Choir 2019

Event Chair: Miranda Burnett
Email: burnettm@rcschools.net

Guest Clinician: Dr. Lesley Maxwell Mann, Belmont University

Important Dates:

Deadline to register students online: Friday, October 12th, 2018

Deadline to have fees postmarked: Friday, October 12th, 2018

Deadline to upload auditions: Friday, October 26th, 2018

Event: January 22nd, 2019

January 29th, 2019 (Snow Date)

Location To Be Determined

Audition Fees:

\$6.00 per student auditioning

Please mail ALL audition fees to the MTVA Treasurer.

Alexis Derryberry

212 Braley Court

Murfreesboro, TN 37129

(615) 519-1392

General Information:

- The Middle Tennessee Vocal Association (MTVA) Elementary Honors choir is an auditioned group of Middle Tennessee area schools that prepare and present a concert each year.
- Teachers who are a member of MTVA may select their students in grades 4-6 to audition for the group.
- Registration forms for this event can be found at www.mtva.org.
- All applications are to be completed online.
- Applications and fees must be postmarked by **Friday, October 12th, 2018**. Otherwise, late fees will be incurred. See handbook for late fee policy.
- Auditions will be held online this year. Directors will still record their students, but instead of creating a CD, all audio files will be emailed to Alexis Derryberry at derryberry@rcschools.net or ayatuzisderryberry@mac.com.

- Students must be enrolled in their school’s choral program to be eligible to audition.
- Directors from schools participating in this event will be selected to judge auditions.
- Auditions will be judged by the same standards as all-state.

Recording Your Auditions:

- Use the best recording equipment you can find. Make sure the student can be clearly heard, as well as the pitches. It is a good idea to play back your recordings on a different device to be sure it is clear and plays at the correct speed.
- Be sure to use a recording device that easily allows for audio files to be saved on a computer.
- Students will sing the first verse of “America” (My Country, ‘Tis of Thee) a cappella. There may be no other sounds on the recording other than student speaking their number followed by the starting pitch, “G,” which should be played, NOT sung.
- TEMPO: sing the song at a moderate tempo.
- KEY: all students sing “America” (My Country ‘tis of Thee” in the key of GM.
Audition Steps:
 1. Press “record” on your recording device.
 2. Student says “Number One” (or whatever number is assigned to them when you submit the application form)
 3. Give “G” (above middle C) pitch. (piano, recorder, pitch pipe, etc.) --this should be clearly heard on the recording. This pitch MUST be tuned to A(440).
 4. Student sings “America” (My Country ‘Tis of Thee) a cappella in the key of GM.
 5. Press “stop” on your recording device. You are now ready for student “Number Two.”
- It is VERY important that the student speaks the number that corresponds to the list given to you on the printed list at the time of application. Be sure no names, schools, etc. are included on the recording. It should be totally anonymous.
- DO NOT enhance the students’ voices in any way.

- ALL auditions must be emailed to Alexis Derryberry (see address above) **NO LATER THAN Friday, October 26th, 2018.**

Pre-Screening Your Auditions:

- As directors, you are expected to pre-screen the auditions. You MAY make cuts prior to sending in your auditions. There will be no change in registration fees if cuts are made, If you do make cuts, please do not assign another student the number that you cut. You will just skip that number and let Alexis know when you send her your files that you have made a cut.
- If you have students that you know will not be able to attend, or who are not of honor choir caliber, please do not send their auditions.
- If you have a student who you know will not be selected (major pitch issues, doesn't know the audition piece, etc.) please do not send their audition. This will save the judges' time.

***If you have an audition that should be omitted, please be sure that you DO NOT re-number your students. Again, it is imperative that the number that the child speaks on his/her recording matches the number they were given at the time of application.

Naming Your Files:

- Please make sure ALL audition files are named in this format before emailing them to Alexis.

SchoolName StudentName Number
(ex. DavidYoureeElem MirandaBurnett 7)

***Variations from the outlined procedures could result in disqualification. Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask—
we are here to help!

Miranda Burnett
MTVA Elementary Honors Chairperson
(615) 944-5061 (cell)
burnettm@rcschools.net

