

*Nashville Notes Handbook  
2024-25*



NASHVILLE  
NOTES

*2024-25 Handbook*

Student Motto:

*“Be a Blessing Everywhere You Go!”*

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## **Section 1. History, Mission, & Vision**

*Welcome to Nashville Notes!*

### **HISTORY**

Nashville Notes is a fine arts program dedicated to the education of students in middle Tennessee and neighboring communities. What began in 1995 with one concert band is now a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, offering multiple ensembles and academic classes.

### **MISSION**

Our mission is to train students in a Christ-centered atmosphere, equipping them to glorify God through music and the arts. We are committed to excellence and perfecting fine art skills while fully living in the joy of the Lord.

### **VISION**

Our vision is to be a full arts education program for home educated students, expanding to include the visual and theater arts, as well as the technological and production elements. Our goal is to have a campus, designed for optimum education; including rehearsal spaces, class rooms & music practice rooms, all suitable for rehearsals and studies in the arts – music, visual, theatre, drama, and dance. We envision not only teaching the arts, but also the production side, such as sound engineering, stage management, costume design, etc.

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**Section 2. General Information**

**Rehearsals and Classes are in session every Wednesday at:**

Crievewood Baptist Church  
480 Hogan Rd.  
Nashville, TN 37220

**Fall Semester: 8/14/24 – 11/20/24 Every Wednesday  
11/21/24 CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**(9 week break)**

**Spring Semester: 1/22/25 – 4/30/25 Every Wednesday  
5/1/25 SPRING CONCERT**

**Mailing address:**

Nashville Notes  
P.O. Box 680102  
Franklin, TN 37068

Phone Number: 615-478-0850

Website: [www.nashvillenotes.org](http://www.nashvillenotes.org)

**Email:** [director@nashvillenotes.org](mailto:director@nashvillenotes.org) - Sholeen Wuest  
[admin@nashvillenotes.org](mailto:admin@nashvillenotes.org) - Amy VanAuken

All Instructors' email addresses can be found in the [Course Catalog](#) in their course description, or on the [Staff and Faculty](#) page on the website: [nashvillenotes.org](http://nashvillenotes.org) with their picture and bio.

**BOARD of DIRECTORS**

Jim Cowan, President  
Jodie Parker, Secretary  
Meagan Roberts, Treasurer

Roland Barber  
Jean Miller  
Sholeen Wuest

## **Section 3. Safety and Security**

### **UPON ARRIVAL**

#### **♪ Parking Lot Safety**

From Hogan Road, there are 2 entrances into Crievewood. Use the west entrance and find your way around to the back of the building, turning to your right, where the Fellowship Hall is. That's where Music Happiness begins every Wednesday!

There are only 2 rules to remember:

- 1. Do not park in the front or enter the front lobby of the building.**
- 2. To minimize stress and heart attacks, please drive SLOOOOOWLY in the parking lot!**

#### **♪ Check in / Check out**

All students are to check in upon arrival and check out when gone for the day. Everyone will be easily identified as part of the NN community while on campus, or a guest for the day. The details of how that looks will be explained at Orientation before we begin the year.

### **Drop off / Pick up**

- ♪ Younger Students (Music Play, Grace Notes, & Praise Station) should be dropped off and picked up at the door of their rehearsal/class room.** Parents are welcome to come in their robe and slippers, but please don't leave your youngster to wander and wonder where they should be. (*"I Wonder as I Wander...."*) Crievewood Baptist Church is a large building and easy to get lost in.
- ♪ These younger students must be picked up on time.** Directors have a very tight schedule with no room to child sit while waiting on parents. If a child is enrolled on a seamless track, with no break in between classes, parents may drop off at the beginning of the first class and pick up at the end of the last class. **If a parent is habitually late picking up their child at the end of their child's track, a fine of \$1/minute will be applied.**

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**Hang out Spaces for People & Belongings**

- ♪ Upon arrival, instruments and lunch bags may be dropped off in the designated area in the Fellowship Hall noted as “The Holding Tank”, before heading to class or to **the morning hang out space on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.**
- ♪ The Fellowship Hall will be used for rehearsal space until **11:15** at which time it will be open for families to eat lunch, play games, fellowship, etc. Until that time, room 216 is available as a hang out space.
- ♪ **Studying** – Room 220 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor is the designated Family Quiet Study Space.
- ♪ **All children under 12 must have parental supervision when not in class.**

Parents are always welcome to stay and enjoy fellowship with other parents, observe classes, etc.

**Section 4. Expected Behavior and Conduct**  
**(a.k.a. “Safety Continued”)**

**Behavior Expectations**

As a Christian organization, committed to glorifying God in everything we do, all students and siblings are expected to show respect and honor to each other, walking in love towards each other, as brothers and sisters in Christ.

*“Be kind to one another.” Eph 4:32*

*“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.” Phil 2:3*

We are also committed to being careful of what comes out of our mouths when enjoying fellowship with other NN families.

*“And never let ugly or hateful words come from your mouth, but instead let your words become beautiful gifts that encourage others; do this by speaking words of grace to help them.” Eph 4:29 TPT*

Knowing that our thoughts will eventually leak out of our mouths, consider adding this to your Wednesday drive to NN:

*“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” Phil 4:8*

Obviously bullying will not be tolerated, but even behavior considered less serious, but nevertheless disrespectful and dishonoring, will also not be tolerated. Nashville Notes students have established a long standing tradition of friendliness and helping each other whenever needed and that will continue.

Courtship, dating, and “public displays of affection” (PDA) are not activities conducive to the mission of

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Nashville Notes. Regardless of each family's rules and standards, anything even hinting at a "relationship" (Facebook definition) must be saved for times outside of Nashville Notes. Violation of this policy will not be tolerated.

In order to maintain safety and integrity, students are not to be in a room with the door closed unless the door has a window. The only exception is when with their parent.

### **The Bullet Point Version:**

- Disrespectful and bad attitudes of students will not be tolerated.
- Public Displays of Affection (PDA) on Wednesdays or at any NN event will not be tolerated.
- No bullying of any kind.
- Students are not permitted to wander halls or be in rooms where their presence is not required. They should be in their classroom, the hang out space, restroom, or on their way to one of these places.
- Church property that we have permission to use (such as tables and chairs) is to be handled carefully and with respect.
- No weapons, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco including E-cigarettes are allowed on campus.
- Cell phones should only be used for communication with parents, with the exception of metronome or tuner apps.
- No screens of any kind (computers, tablets, etc.) are to be used without director consent. (see section 5 for further explanation)
- Foul language is not allowed.
- Skateboard and rollerblades, including shoes with wheels are not allowed on campus.
- Parents and students are not to be in undesignated places on campus such as the front lobby of the church. The ONLY NN personnel in the front lobby is our Lobby Monitor, who's primary job is to keep that area quiet, and will remind anyone else to return to the Fellowship Hall.

Violations of these rules could result in suspension or expulsion from the program with a forfeit of tuition.

### **Specific Conduct Expectations for the YOUNGER musician:**

- Attendance is expected at weekly rehearsals and all concerts.
- Drop off on time! Learning begins when class begins; late arrivals are disruptive.
- Pick up on time! Please remember that directors have other responsibilities after class.
- Use the restroom *before* class.
- Come to classes and rehearsals with empty hands and empty mouths. Leave toys, jackets and accessories with parents. No food or drink of any kind, in any rehearsal.

### **Specific Conduct Expectations for the OLDER musician (choirs 12+, and all instrumental ensembles):**

- Be present. Ensembles are performance-oriented; attendance at all concerts and rehearsals is expected.

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- Be prompt. Remember, "Early is on time, on time is late, late is unacceptable."
- Be prepared. **Choristers** - Come to rehearsal with your music binder and pencil; **Instrumentalists** – Come to rehearsal with your music binder, method book, instrument, music stand, and pencil. You are expected to have completed the week's assignment and are ready to learn. (Hint: If you gather everything Tuesday night and put it in the *correct* vehicle, you'll have it Wednesday morning! Do NOT put your instrument in a car overnight. Most instruments cannot handle the climate changes.)
- Be polite. Show respect for your director and fellow musicians --do not talk when the director is teaching and interfere with the learning of others. Show respect for our rehearsal space--no food, gum, or candy. Choristers are encouraged to bring a water bottle *with their name on it*.
- Be involved. Listen attentively, stay focused, and always give your best effort.

## **Section 5. Electronic Devices** - cell phones, tablets, computers, etc.

Wednesdays at Nashville Notes are very interactive whether making music together in ensembles, discovering exciting music concepts in class, or enjoying friendships in the Fellowship Hall. Please leave all electronic devices at home for 2 reasons:

1. So that we may focus on the NN mission.
2. So that we may honor each family's boundaries regarding what their children are exposed to.

### **Cell Phones**

If a cell phone must come with a student (i.e. student drivers), their devices should be left in their car or in their back packs.

- \* Phones vibrating in pockets are a distraction and sabotage rehearsals and classes.
- \* Phones coming out in the Fellowship Hall, even while on a break, violates #2 above.

**Parents** – if you need to get in touch with your son/daughter, please call the NN number: 615-478-0850. With hall monitors stationed throughout CBC and armed with walkie-talkies, it doesn't take long to get you connected to your blessing. If a student is not in a rehearsal and finds that they need to retrieve their phone from their backpack and make a call, they should station themselves near Amy or another instructor to avoid any appearance of violating this policy. **If a student violates this policy, their electronic device will be confiscated and must be retrieved by their parent at the end of day.**



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### **Computers/Tablets/Phones**

We realize that some students need electronic devices in order to complete their academic work. This can be accomplished 1 of 2 ways:

1. Use the study space in the Fellowship Hall located directly behind the check-in table.
2. With direct parental supervision.

Thank you in advance for being attentive to this very important policy so that we can keep our students safe and focused on the Wednesday mission!

## **Section 6. Attendance Policy**

With only one weekly rehearsal, attendance is critical to the success of the ensembles and classes. When a student misses, everyone is affected.

Should an absence be unavoidable, parents should text: 615-478-0850 *or* email: [director@nashvillenotes.org](mailto:director@nashvillenotes.org) There is a system in place to then get the message to instructors and directors so they can better plan for rehearsals.

Excused Absences include:

- Illness
- Major contest, academic, sports, music, etc. event with another organization (prior notice required on first day of semester)
- Major Family Situations
- \*Prior Commitments

\*Any prior commitments, such as a family vacation, are to be communicated to teachers on the first day of the semester. When in question whether or not an absence is excused, parents should speak to the teacher.

Students will be allowed and encouraged to represent Nashville Notes at outside events such as Mid-State, All-State, Solo/Ensemble contests, performances, field trips, long distance trips, etc., ***provided they are in good standing in all of their ensembles and classes.***

“**Good Standing**” is defined as the following:

- The student does not miss class for unexcused reasons as defined by the handbook or teacher.
- The student turns in ALL homework and assignment sheets in a timely fashion.
- The student fully participates in classes.
- The student’s behavior is above reproach.
- The student follows NN rules, classroom rules and procedures.
- The student has not missed any required rehearsals or performances for unexcused reasons.

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- The student's attitude is respectful and honoring toward teachers and peers.

**The amazing benefits reaped from participation in an ensemble demand a high level of trust amongst its members. Repeated absences are a breach of that trust and negatively impact the group in all ways musically, academically, socially, and more. Academic classes also suffer when students miss class. If a student receives more than 1 unexcused absence, they risk not being allowed to participate in any NN classes, ensembles, or events for the following year.**

## **Section 7. Disciplinary Procedure**

The seriousness of the violation will determine the consequence. The instructor or monitor witnessing the incident will write up a disciplinary form and send the student to the administration desk.

If a student is not immediately expelled,

1. The administrator will confirm the situation and the student will need to take the form home to be signed by a parent and returned by the next week.
2. If the student receives a second disciplinary form (in the same semester) for any reason, the student will be removed from the program without tuition reimbursement.
3. At the discretion of the instructor/director, the student may return the following semester but will be on probation, wherefore if student receives a single disciplinary form the following semester, he/she will be removed from the program for the remainder of the year and potentially the following year.

### **Disciplinary Appeals**

Students may submit a written appeal, signed by both student and parent, to be reviewed by the administrator and program director. They will decide if the decision still stands or if the student may receive a warning.

## **Section 8. Practice Time Outside of Rehearsals**

Because rehearsals are held only 1 day a week, it is IMPERATIVE that all Instrumental ensembles and older choral students (12+) are dedicated to practicing the minimum required hours at home each week. (The specific requirements for each ensemble can be found in the Ensembles & Class Descriptions.)

## **Section 9. Communication**

Nashville Notes is blessed to have a dedicated and esteemed faculty serving middle Tennessee homeschooled students. They are committed to partner with parents to give each student a quality music education.

Orientation is always an important time for parents to do a walk through, stopping at each instructor's classroom to hear what will be expected from students, what parents can expect from the instructors/directors, and how the instructor/director plans to communicate regularly with parents. Bring a pen and be prepared to take brief notes.

## **Section 10. Free Time and Lunches**

### **Between Ensembles**

Parents, and students ages 12 and up, are invited to enjoy time with their fellow musicians in the designated break room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor until 11:30, and in the Fellowship Hall after 11:30, while waiting on their next ensemble or class. All students are expected to either be in an ensemble, a class, with a parent, or in the hang out space while on the campus of Creevewood Baptist Church. We have a strict "Be a Blessing Everywhere You Go!" policy and insist that all students follow that. Numerous scientific studies have shown that engaging in music enhances brain activity and we have found this to be so. In this specific example, students need only ask themselves the question, "*If I \_\_\_\_\_, would my actions be a blessing?*" and their answer will lead them to make the right choice! If any student feels the need to wander and explore the building, they must first ask permission... and the answer will be "no".

### **Lunch Policy**

**The only place in the building where lunches may be eaten is in the Fellowship Hall. Dry snacks are allowed in the designated break room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor until 11:30.**

Nashville Notes is a **peanut and tree nut free** organization.

Please remember this when packing a lunch or snack for your student. All beverages should be contained with a lid. There is a microwave available to use in the Fellowship Hall. The kitchen is not available for our use.

**Please clean up after your lunch and put all trash in the trash can.**

## **Section 11. Emergency Situations (NO NUTS!), Illness, & Inclement Weather Policy**

### **Allergies or Medication**

Nashville Notes is a **peanut and tree nut free** organization. Please remember this when packing a lunch or snack for your student.

It cannot be emphasized too much the serious nut allergies some of our students have! Not only is it critical to bring **ABSOLUTELY NO NUTS OF ANY KIND** on site, but **if you've had peanut butter on your toast at breakfast, or were snacking on nuts on the way to NN, you should come in looking like a surgeon after scrubbing for surgery – elbows bent, hands up, not touching anything, and heading straight through the Fellowship Hall to the restroom to wash your hands.** Even hand sanitizer does not kill the proteins left on skin. It must be soap and water. And plenty of it! Thank you for being cognizant and considerate of ALL our blessings! We'd like to keep them all alive and out of an ambulance!!

Thank you for making the Nashville Notes' staff aware, when you registered, of any serious allergies that your student has or any medication that they need to take during the time they are at Nashville Notes. Any updated information should be emailed to: [director@nashvillenotes.org](mailto:director@nashvillenotes.org)

### **Bad Weather**

In cases of inclement weather, Nashville Notes will notify parents via text. In general, NN follows Davidson County Schools weather decisions. In the event that a day cannot be made up, there will be no refunds for classes missed.

### **Illness or Injury**

Please don't bring your child to rehearsals if they have had a fever within 48 hours, or other covid symptoms in the last few days. If a child becomes ill or is injured while on site, we will call the number entered on the registration form. A First-Aid kit will be on the premises at all times.

## **Section 12. Dress Code: General & Concert**

### **Parent & Student Dress Code**

**Parents & students must obey dress code rules while on NN campus or at NN events.**

Our goal is to be modestly dressed so we may focus on classes and not clothing. Clothing should be appropriately sized and modest. Parents should assist students in determining what is "appropriately sized" and acceptable.

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- Clothing must not be inappropriately short and must be without holes inappropriately located.
- No strapless tops, tops with large armholes, spaghetti straps, off-the-shoulder, cut-out designs, low-cut shirts, bare-back, sheer or mesh clothing that does not have an appropriate blouse or shirt underneath, no low-cut tops or tops revealing the middle section of the body.
- Undergarments, including straps, are to be covered.
- If leggings are worn, the top must be long enough to cover the entire rear-end.
- No sagging pants
- Clothing with offensive, suggestive, obscene, etc. are not permitted.
- Items of apparel, jewelry, or grooming that are considered an extreme in dress or that advertise illegal substances or alcohol or that could be associated with gang related activities will not be worn.

**The administration has the final decision about dress code of students and parents.**

### **Concert Dress Code**

#### **Grace Notes Choir, Praise Station Choir**

White top, black on bottom. Skirts must be lower than the knees when sitting down.

#### **Novice Band, Prelude Strings, Bridge Choir**

White, long sleeve top, full length black on the bottom, the hemline within 5 inches of the floor, black socks/stockings and shoes.

#### **Select Band, Jazz Band, String Ensemble, Joyful Harmony Choir**

Full length, ALL black. Hemline (either skirt or pants for the women), is to be within 5 inches of the floor, black socks and shoes, men in a button down, collared shirt.

Modesty is key! No plunging necklines or extremely tight clothing.

## **Section 13. Parent Volunteer Requirements**

Nashville Notes is very service and relationship oriented. The required parent volunteer positions are a way to accomplish both and keep the organization strong. There are a myriad of details and jobs that need to be done, and not all need to happen on Wednesdays. Thank you for your service to each other, the students, Creeview Baptist Church, and the directors!

A few committees made up of parents is the backbone to keeping this community strong! However, we realize that not all parents are able to assist for various reasons. Therefore there are 2 options:

1. Sign up for a committee.
2. Opt out by paying a one time \$200 fee to cover the cost of paying someone else to cover those positions.

## **Section 14. Fee Structure, Discounts, Tuition**

Information about Registration, Fee Structure, Fee Schedules, Available Discounts, Refund Policy and the Tuition Table can be found on pages 3,4, and 8 in the Course Catalog.

## **Section 15. Registration**

Registering early is strongly encouraged for 2 reasons.

First, some classes have very limited space and will close early. If a class you've chosen is closed when you register, your name (dated and time stamped) will be put on a waiting list.

Second, instructors are planning for the next year and NN is purchasing materials. The sooner we know how many students to expect, the better prepared we can be for your student(s).

### **Before you register**

1. To enroll in ensembles and/or classes needing instructor approval, please reach out to that instructor or contact Sholeen at [director@nashvillenotes.org](mailto:director@nashvillenotes.org) or at 615-478-0850.
2. The online enrollment forms are not long, but be sure you have time to complete them. These forms will not save info to come back to at a later time.
3. Both students AND parents need to know what's expected at Nashville Notes. Reading the Handbook will remove all mysteries as to why you have to come in and retrieve a confiscated cell phone!

### **Process for registering online**

1. Fill out the Family Registration Form:  
NOTE: You will choose your Volunteer position through Sign-Up Genius. There will be a link on the registration page. Be sure to do this while you are on the registration page! These slots are first come/first serve.
2. Fill out a Student Registration Form – **Please fill one out for EACH student.** (The link is at the end of the Family Registration form.
3. Within 5 days you will receive an email with your invoice and schedule. There will be 4 payment options listed as described on pages 3-4 in the Course Catalog. Deposit (and postdated checks) are due upon receipt of the invoice. (You are not completely registered until we have your volunteer position and payment.)

If you do not receive an email within a week letting you know we've received your payment(s), please let us know!

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## **Section 16. Calendar**

Wednesday, Aug. 14            First Day of rehearsals and classes

Wednesday, Nov. 20            Last Day of Fall semester

**Nov. 21 6:30            Christmas Concert at Crieveewood**

Wednesday, Jan. 22            First Day of second semester

Wednesday, Apr. 30            Last day of rehearsals & classes

**May 1 6:30            Spring Concert at Crieveewood**

Because many students are enrolled in tutorials which take a fall and spring break at various times, Nashville Notes does not observe a Fall or Spring break. It is impossible to coordinate a break to suit all families with varied schedules. While we respect and encourage family vacations, we also encourage them to take place Thursday through Tuesday if at all possible and come to rehearsals on Wednesday! Rehearsals are a team effort and absences affect everyone.

## **Section 17. Fundraising Opportunities**

Nashville Notes desires for all students, at every skill level, and from every walk of life, to experience the joy and grace God has given us through the gift of music. Fundraising is a necessary part of realizing that goal as tuition alone does not cover the operating expenses. Thank you in advance for considering ways in which you can invest in the lives of young people! Even better, ask your family and friends to partner with us too!

### **Kroger Community Rewards & Publix Partners**

Kroger and Publix give to non-profit organizations every day. By creating an account and choosing Nashville Notes as the recipient, you are contributing to NN every time you shop at either of these stores.

Please note that you must choose NN every year or nothing is happening! Thank you in advance for taking a few moments to set this up!

**Kroger:** Click [here](#) to **sign in** to your Kroger account or **create an account**. Hover over *Savings and Rewards* and click on *Kroger Community Rewards*. From there, follow the prompts.

**Publix:** Click [here](#) to register with Publix. Then scroll down to “Locate a School” and fill in Nashville Notes in the field provided. Nashville Notes is now your chosen Publix Partner! Thank you!

Please tell friends and family about this!

## **Section 18. Band Opportunities outside of NN**

### **MTSBOA BAND INFORMATION**

Nashville Notes is a member of the Middle Tennessee State Band & Orchestra Association (MTSBOA), the Tennessee Music Educators Association (TNMEA), and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). The purpose of these groups is to provide activities that enhance the quality and scope of instruction in area school music programs by providing appropriate opportunities of enrichment and achievement through competition and clinics/concerts.

These events are optional and available to any student that wishes to advance their musical training and experience. Each event requires a high level of commitment and study.

The dates for all events are not available until late August. We will send those on as soon as we receive them.

### **Midstate Ensemble Auditions** - Select Band, Jazz Band, String Ensemble

#### **7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> grade divisions**

**Eligibility:** 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Cost:** Registration fee – \$10.00; if accepted, Participation fee: \$40  
Staying at a nearby hotel is optional.

**Dates:** TBD

Clinic/Concert - a Thursday evening-Saturday in January.

**Description:** Auditions consist of 3 parts: a prepared excerpt chosen by MTSBOA, sight-reading, and scales. The requirements vary depending on the grade level. Students play for a judge behind a screen to ensure non-bias. If chosen, they will rehearse for a weekend in January, ending with an morning or afternoon concert on Saturday. Any student interested in participating in this event should see their director.

If students achieve a high enough score, they will be accepted into the All-State Band. All-State clinic/concert is typically in April.

Fees: Audition \$10  
Midstate Clinic and Concert \$35  
All-State \$60

### **SEPA** - Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment

Cost: \$10/student per entry

Students may prepare a solo and/or an ensemble with other students to be played for a judge who will give them written feedback and a score. A “Superior” or an “Excellent” will result in a medal. SEPA is offered in the fall and in the spring. Students should see their director for details.



## **Section 19. Choir Opportunities Outside of NN**

### **MTVA HONOR CHOIRS INFORMATION**

Nashville Notes choirs are members of the Middle Tennessee Vocal Association (MTVA) and the Tennessee Music Educators Association (TNMEA). The purpose of these groups is to provide activities that enhance the quality and scope of instruction in area school music programs by providing appropriate opportunities of enrichment and achievement through competition and clinics/concerts.

These events are optional and available to any student that wishes to advance their musical training and experience. Each event requires a high level of commitment and study.

The dates for all events are not available until August. We will send those on as soon as we receive them.

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR CHOIR**

**Eligibility:** 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade

**Cost:** Registration fee - \$6.00

Music – \$20.00

**Dates:** Audition - October; Clinic/Concert – January

**Description:** For audition, students prepare a choral piece, learning their vocal part. Music and learning tracks will be provided. Students will sing their part to be recorded by Mrs. O'Dell. A panel of Middle TN directors will listen to the recordings and select students from across Middle TN for the Honor Choir. Selected students will learn approximately 5 pieces (learning tracks will be provided) then come together in late January for a day-long rehearsal under the direction of a well-known conductor, followed by an evening concert. This clinic/concert day takes place at the same time and location as the Elementary Honor Choir.

### **FRESHMAN HONOR CHOIR**

**Eligibility:** 9<sup>th</sup> grade

**Cost:** Registration fee - \$10.00; if accepted, Participation fee: \$15.00

Music – \$20.00

**Dates:** Audition - October; Clinic/Concert – November

**Description:** To audition, students prepare their vocal part of a selected choral piece. The auditions for Freshman Honor Choir occur at the same time as Mid-State Honor Choir auditions. There will be a panel of five Middle TN directors to judge each voice part and select students from across Middle TN for the Honor Choir. These auditions are live, but “blind,” meaning students will stand behind a curtain when they sing so that they are not seen by the judges. Students may use their music during the audition. Music and learning tracks will be provided. In addition, students will sight sing a short (6-8 measures) exercise. Selected students will learn approximately 5 pieces (learning tracks will be provided) then come together in late November for a Monday evening and Tuesday rehearsal under the direction of a well-known conductor, followed by a Tuesday evening concert. This clinic/concert takes place at the same time and location as the Mid-State Honor Choir.

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**Mid-State Honor Choir**

**Eligibility:** 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Cost:** Registration fee - \$10.00; if accepted, Participation fee: \$15.00

Music – \$20.00

**Dates:** Audition - October; Clinic/Concert – November

**Description:** To audition, students prepare their vocal part of a selected choral piece. There will be a panel of five Middle TN directors to judge each voice part and select students from across Middle TN for the Honor Choir. These auditions are live, but “blind,” meaning students will stand behind a curtain when they sing so that they are not seen by the judges. Students may use their music during the audition. Music and learning tracks will be provided. In addition, students will sight sing a short (6-8 measures) exercise. Selected students will learn approximately 5 pieces (learning tracks will be provided) then come together in late November for a Monday evening and Tuesday rehearsal under the direction of a well-known conductor, followed by a Tuesday evening concert. This clinic/concert takes place at the same time and location as the Freshman Honor Choir.

**ALL-STATE HONOR CHOIR**

**Eligibility:** 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Cost:** Convention Registration fee - \$60.00

Hotel & Food – varies

Music – \$20.00

**Dates:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tier Audition – January; Clinic/Concert – April

**Description:** This honor choir is made up of students from East, Middle and West TN. The audition for Mid-State Honor Choir serves as the initial All-State audition. Students accepted into All-State Honor Choir will learn all All-State music (approximately seven pieces) before the 2<sup>nd</sup> tier audition, where they will sing, in an octet, a portion of each piece for a panel of Middle TN directors. Learning tracks will be provided, and students may use their music during the audition. Selected students will come together in April for Wednesday evening, Thursday, and Friday rehearsals and a concert on Friday evening under the direction of a well-known conductor. The All-State clinic/concert happens concurrently with the TN Music Educators Association annual conference.