

Chorus Onsite Hearing Policy & Process

Adopted December 7, 2012

Revised June 1, 2013

Purpose: To verify that all students attending the Festival Chorus are adequately prepared so as to provide for the optimum musical experience for all students collectively, and to support our member's desires to provide a quality musical experience for all students.

Process:

Who- All students will sing sections from three or more pieces in the program to demonstrate preparation.

How- The Onsite Hearing will be done in a double quartet with live keyboard accompaniment provided as needed.

What- Music selections will not necessarily represent the most difficult passages that a group of students coming together for the first time would struggle with. They should however be passages that will be able to represent an acceptable level of preparation rather than some good sight reading. These passages will be selected by the Chorus Manager and approved by at least 2 others, either Chorus Committee members or Executive Board members.

When- The Onsite Hearing process will start when students first arrive and will be completed prior to the start of the first rehearsal.

Where- The host school will work with the Chorus Manager to provide the necessary rooms for the time needed. There will be approximately 30 groups of 8 students, each needing 10 minutes. Using three rooms, that would mean taking a bit less than 2 hours to complete the process.

Who listens- The Chorus Manager will solicit the help of NEMFA members to hear the double quartets. There will be two members in each room to help assure a balanced decision.

Results- Students:

Prepared students

All students who are adequately prepared will take their places in the Festival Chorus.

Unprepared students

Unprepared students will work with their own teacher/sponsor or a NEMFA provided instructor, in spaces provided by the host school, attempting to raise their level of preparation to an acceptable minimum. Students may miss no more than 1 hour of the first rehearsal to accomplish this at which time they will join the full rehearsal. The association will at this time take in good faith the preparation level of the student to be adequate.