



NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE CHORUS

Director Information

The purpose of the NJ All-State Chorus is to offer a unique educational experience to the best qualified vocal students in New Jersey. NJMEA member teachers are eligible to sponsor these students. Accepted students will perform choral literature of the highest quality under the direction of an outstanding conductor. The NJ All-State Chorus is sponsored by the *New Jersey Music Educators Association*, *New Jersey Education Association* and the *National Association for Music Education*.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Choral Procedures Chairperson – Ken Bryson - kennethbryson@gmail.com

Recording (MP3) At-Home Adjudication Dates:

Thursday, April 27 (12:00:01a) – Saturday, April 29 (3:00p)

Audition Results:

- Your school's results will be available on TheDirectorsRoom.com
- Results will be posted on www.njmea.org during the week of May 1
- The Mixed Chorus is selected in order by voice part from the top-ranking students down.
- The Treble Chorus is selected after the cut is made for Mixed Chorus in sequential order by voice part.
- Sopranos and altos may not choose between the Mixed and Treble Chorus.

Registration Managers:

The 21 counties of New Jersey are divided by four Registration Managers. Please send a Teacher Estimate Form, Signed Applications, Director's Agreement, Copy of Current NAFME card and check made payable to NJMEA to your respective COUNTY Registration Manager.

Atlantic	Camden	Cape May	Bergen
Cumberland	Mercer	Gloucester	Burlington
Essex	Middlesex	Hunterdon	Ocean
Hudson	Salem	Monmouth	Sussex
Passaic & Union	Warren	Morris	
Somerset			
BARBARA RETZKO 45 Dayton Crescent Bernardsville, NJ 07924 Barbararetzko@hotmail.com	CHERYL BREITZMAN 332 N. Leipzig Avenue Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215 cherylbreitzman@gmail.com	KRISTEN MARKOWSKI MORRIS KNOLLS HS 50 Knoll Drive Rockaway, NJ 07866 Kmarkowski@mhrd.org	VIRAJ LAL NEWARK ACADEMY 91 South Orange Avenue Livingston, NJ 07039 Vlal@newarka.edu

Director Responsibilities:

- All Choral Directors submitting student audition MP3 Recordings must agree to the requirements in the *Director's Agreement*.
- **You, as Director, must agree to listen to every student's Recording (MP3) submission in its entirety.** In addition to listening for accuracy of performance, you are confirming that their Recording (MP3) is clearly audible. **You are also confirming that the Voice Part on the MP3 is the Voice Part registered on the signed Student Application.** In accordance with standard Internet Use Policy, you are confirming that there is nothing inappropriate or lewd on any Recording (MP3) submitted by your students.
- MP3 Recordings **will not be reviewed** by registration managers. If the uploaded MP3 is an incorrect MP3 Recording, it will receive a score of all 9's.
- If you have students accepted into either the MIXED CHORUS or TREBLE CHORUS, you have a **second responsibility** to assist at a rehearsal (sectionals, testing) or the concert. TWO total duties.
- Teachers failing to fulfill their responsibility to the 2023 MIXED CHORUS or 2024 TREBLE CHORUS will forfeit their student participation the following year.



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WHEN ARE MP3's READY FOR ADJUDICATION?

- When the Director has given **FULL APPROVAL – ALL BOXES CHECKED** to each MP3 recording.
- Students will only appear on the Teacher Estimate Form when The Student Application is Downloaded, Three MP3 recordings are uploaded and Three MP3 recordings are approved.

WHAT IS STUDENT STATUS?

- Students are **required** to submit Emergency Parent/Guardian contact information (Email & Cell #) online.
Eligible = Profile information is correct and student is in an eligible grade (9, 10 or 11).
Applied = Student has downloaded the application.
Registered = Three MP3's are uploaded and Director has **CHECKED ALL BOXES** and approved.

Director Registration:

- Registration for the NJ All-State Chorus will be found at TheDirectorsRoom.com
- Issues with online registration or Recording (MP3) upload – Click the CHAT BUTTON on the lower right-hand corner of the screen.

Fees:

- There is a \$25.00 application fee per student. Please make **one check payable to NJMEA**.
- Upon acceptance, there is a fee per student for rehearsal tracks and music. FEE-TBD.
- Please note: NJMEA will only accept checks from a sponsoring director or school. NJMEA does not accept cash or parent checks.
- NJMEA is not responsible for any financial obligation of the students who participate in the All-State Choruses.

Recording (MP3) Adjudicators:

- All directors must be prepared to serve as a Recording (MP3) Adjudicator every year.
- Recording (MP3) Adjudicators must be available to communicate throughout the audition weekend with the other adjudicators in their assigned voice part to settle any discrepancies between scores. The score tolerance is 5 points each for Scales and Solo and 8 points for the Quintet.
- **Exemptions** - NJMEA Board of Directors members and members of the Choral Procedures Committee, conductors, rehearsal managers, chorus and registration managers and accompanists are exempt from the list of Director Duties.

RECORDING (MP3) ADJUDICATORS:

- All Directors will be required to acknowledge their student Recordings (MP3) and adjudication responsibilities prior to proceeding with online student registration.
- The website may also indicate "[Role Name] (Exempt)" for Directors who serve as "Choral Procedures", "Conductor", "Executive Board", "NJPAC Manager", "Registration/Rehearsal Manager", "Retired" and "Audition Host or Rehearsal Host".
- The website will deny further access to the "NJ A-S Chorus" tab until you click the "I acknowledge..." checkbox and submit the form. This acknowledgement will be timestamped and stored in the system.
- Any request to be excused from serving as a Recording (MP3) Adjudicator for the 2023 Auditions must be directed via email to Choral Procedures Chairperson – Ken Bryson (kennethbryson@gmail.com)
- Ben will record the request/excuse for future reference. The request/excuse does not change the rules; you will be required to serve as an Adjudicator the following year and your record will indicate 'Excused' for 2023.
- **ALL MAILINGS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY MARCH 31, 2023**



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NafME Membership:

- All Directors must be current members of NafME to sponsor a student for auditions.
- The NafME membership card must be valid through April 30, 2023.
- For validation of membership, contact NafME at 800.336.3768 or www.nafme.org

Practice tracks for Scales, Solo (TE QUIERO) & Quintet – “The Silver Swan” by Orlando Gibbons:

- NJMEA-approved practice tracks for all pitches for scales, ***NEW***solo (TE QUIERO) and the Silver Swan Recording are available on TheDirectorsRoom.com Links to pronunciation of the text can be found in the STUDENT AUDITION PACKET. Be sure to review the rubric regarding the Solo with your singers.

Scores and Scoring Rubric:

- Please refer to the Student Audition Information for the scoring rubric which will be used to evaluate all Recording (MP3) submissions.
- Each Choral Director will access student scores at TheDirectorsRoom.com
- Reviewing these scores with your students provides an excellent teaching opportunity by reinforcing strengths and weaknesses of their audition.

Student Eligibility:

- All sponsoring teachers must be music educators and members of NafME.
- Students in grades 9, 10 and 11 are eligible to submit an MP3 Recording for the 2023 NJ All-State Mixed Chorus and the 2024 NJ All-State Treble Chorus.
- Only the best qualified students who have proven themselves to be of good character to their public/private school choral program may audition.
- Singers may audition on ONE voice part only.
- **Each school may send a maximum of 30 students to audition.**
- If a public/private school does not have an established and recognized Choral Program, the student may qualify for the NJ All-State organization with the endorsement of a music teacher who is a member of NafME. [NJMEA Handbook].
- Home School students are only eligible to submit a Recording (MP3) audition if the choral director from their hometown/homeschool or their private music teacher sponsors them. The sponsoring teacher must be a member of NafME and be able to verify the performance ability of the student.
- All applications must have FOUR signatures – Student, Parent/Guardian, Director, Principal.

Student Self Registration:

- Student Self Registration for the NJ All-State Chorus will be found at <https://StudentFolder.info>

Voice Part Choices and Changes

- Students of any gender can submit a Recording (MP3) audition for any voice part at the discretion of their Director.
- The Voice Part on the Student Application **MUST MATCH** the voice part on the MP3 recordings. The signed Student Application is the Final Word.
- With Recording (MP3) auditions, there is no longer a voice part change date. Once the Recording (MP3) is **UPLOADED, APPROVED** and **SUBMITTED by the Director**, the voice part is locked in and **will not be changed after the Postmark Deadline of Friday March 31, 2023.**



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STUDENT ACCEPTANCE INTO THE NJ ALL-STATE MIXED CHORUS OR TREBLE CHORUS

- Students who accept membership into the All-State **Mixed** Chorus cannot accept membership into the All-State Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble or Jazz Chorus as both rehearsal and performance schedules are in conflict.
- Students who accept membership into the All-State **Mixed** Chorus can accept membership into the All-State Wind Ensemble or Symphonic Band as membership in this ensemble would not conflict with rehearsal schedules.
- Students who accept membership into the All-State **Treble Chorus** cannot accept membership into the All-State Wind Ensemble or Symphonic Band as both rehearsal and performance schedules are in conflict. Students can accept membership into All-State Orchestra.
- Students who accept membership into the All-State **Mixed** or **Treble Chorus** and do not fulfill their rehearsal & performance obligations will not be permitted to audition the following year.

Attendance policy:

- Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and fulfill all performance obligations.
- One absence will result in testing at the following rehearsal.
- Two missed rehearsals will result in expulsion from the ensemble.
- Students must attend all rehearsals in their entirety.
- An absence is defined as missing any scheduled rehearsal or ANY PART THEREOF.
- Failure to fulfill performance obligations will result in the loss of the All-State pin and eligibility to audition for any NJMEA ensemble the following year.

Fees: Acceptance and Housing (subject to change):

- The application fee is \$25.
- There is an acceptance fee for music and rehearsal track TBD.
- Bus transportation for North students to Atlantic City is TBD.
- HOUSING (Mixed/Treble) = TBD
 - QUAD – 4 students, 2 beds – TBA upon acceptance
 - DOUBLE – 2 students, 2 beds – TBA upon acceptance
- NJMEA is not responsible for any financial obligation of the students who participate in the All-State Choruses.

DIRECTOR ONLINE APPLICATION:

TheDirectorsRoom.com

- CURRENT NAFME INFORMATION: Your Director Application must include a copy of your current NAFME membership card through April 30, 2023.
- Contact NAFME at 800.336.3768 or www.nafme.org for validation/renewal.
- EXPIRED NAFME MEMBERSHIP: You MUST contact NAFME and email a copy of your renewed membership to your respective Registration Manager.
- Director Online Registration will close at 5:00p on Thursday March 30, 2023.

TO BE MAILED BY THE SPONSORING DIRECTOR:

1. STUDENT APPLICATION = ENDORSEMENT/SIGNATURE PAGE(S)
One per student, complete with four authentic signatures (Student, Parent/Guardian, Director, Principal).
Please alphabetize your applications for mailing
2. TEACHER ESTIMATE FORM - Print a PDF from your account on TheDirectorsRoom.com
3. SIGNED DIRECTOR'S AGREEMENT included with the TEACHER ESTIMATE FORM.
4. A copy of the back of your current NAFME membership card (in good standing) - ATTACHED to the form, please.
5. Check payable to NJMEA for online Recording (MP3) submission fees - \$25 per student.



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REHEARSALS:

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|--|--------------|-------------------------|
| • MIXED – Saturday, October 14, 2023 | 8:30-12 noon | Location: TBA |
| • MIXED – Saturday, October 28, 2023 | 8:30-12 noon | Location: TBA |
| • MIXED – Wednesday, November 9, 2023 at 7p to Friday, November 11, 2023 | | Location: Atlantic City |
| • MIXED - Saturday November 18 - CONCERT (NEW!!!) | 3:00p | NJPAC |
| • TREBLE – Sunday, February 4, 2024 | 1-5p | Location: TBA |
| • TREBLE - Saturday, February 17, 2024 | TBA | Location: TBA |
| • TREBLE – Thursday, February 22, 2024 to Saturday, February 24, 2024 | | Location: Atlantic City |
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CONCERTS:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| • MIXED – Friday November 11, 2023 | 8p | Location: Atlantic City |
| • MIXED – Saturday, November 18, 2023 | 3p | Location: NJPAC |
| • TREBLE – Sunday, February 26, 2023 | 3p | Location: TBA |
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COVID DISCLAIMER:

By registering for/attending this event, I acknowledge that I fully understand the nature and extent of the risks presented by COVID-19 due to my in-person attendance at this event, including the risk that COVID-19 may lead to severe illness or death. I also understand and acknowledge that there are risks of exposure to COVID-19, whether resulting from travel through high-risk areas, the failure of other individuals to follow proper COVID-19 protocols, such as maintaining proper social distancing and proper hygiene measures, and other such risks. While I understand that NJMEA and the NJ All-State Chorus organization has taken reasonable steps to address the risks presented by COVID-19, I recognize that the COVID-19 protocols being utilized at the event may be insufficient to prevent my contracting COVID-19 and suffering any related injuries, and that I expressly nevertheless assume all these risks. With full knowledge of the risks involved, therefore, I hereby release, waive, and discharge NJMEA and the NJ All-State Chorus organization, its officers, directors, employees, contractors, and agents, from any and all liability, loss, damage, claims, demands, actions, and causes of action whatsoever, including reasonable attorneys' fees, directly or indirectly arising out of or related to any loss, damage, injury, or death, that may be sustained by me while participating in this event or while in, on, or around the event premises that may lead to exposure or harm due to COVID-19.



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ALL STUDENT APPLICATIONS,
THE DIRECTOR'S AGREEMENT AND
THE TEACHER ESTIMATE FORM MUST BE PRINTED FROM
TheDirectorsRoom.com

BULLETIN RELEASED and SITE OPEN TO DIRECTORS
FRIDAY February 17, 2023

TheDirectorsRoom.com **OPEN TO THE STUDENTS**
MONDAY February 27, 2023

STUDENT (MP3) SUBMISSIONS & APPLICATIONS DEADLINE
SITE CLOSES TO THE STUDENTS & REMAINS OPEN FOR DIRECTORS ONLY
FRIDAY March 24, 2023-5:00p

- This is the final date that *students* may upload MP3 recordings.
 - After the 24th, Directors may continue to upload,
 - CHECK ALL BOXES and APPROVE MP3's.
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DIRECTOR ONLINE REGISTRATION
THURSDAY March 30, 2023– 5:00p
(This is the final date to upload and
APPROVE all Applications & MP3 recordings.)

DIRECTOR POSTMARK DEADLINE
FRIDAY March 31, 2023
(This is the date where Signed Applications, Director's Agreement, Teacher Estimate Form,
Check to NJMEA and current NAFME card must be stamped with
a March 31st postmark or sooner.)

ONLINE ADJUDICATION
THURSDAY April 27 (12:00:01a) – SATURDAY April 29, 2023 (3:00p)

Thank you!