



# NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE CHORUS

## General STUDENT Information

### Eligibility:

To be eligible, students must be in grades 9, 10 or 11 and must be a member of their school Choral program.

- Singers may only audition for one voice part.
- If a public/private school does not have an established and recognized Choral Program, the student may qualify for the NJMEA organization with the endorsement of a music teacher who is a member of NAFME. [NJMEA Handbook].
- Home School students are only eligible to 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 the proper signatures. If the Director agrees to allow another NAFME qualified music teacher to sign for the student, the student’s Director and administrator must still sign, acknowledging and supporting the applicant.

### Fees:

- There is \$30 application fee per student to submit an MP3 audition recording.
  - NJMEA does not accept parent checks. Please speak with your director as to how they wish to handle application fees.

### 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. Students may audition for the voice part best suited for healthy vocal production, endorsed by signatures on your application.
- With Recording (MP3) auditions, there is no voice part change date. Once the Recording (MP3) is **APPROVED** and **SUBMITTED by the Director**, the voice part is locked in and cannot be changed.
- The Voice Part in the MP3 must match the voice part on the Signed Student Application. The Signed Application is the Final Word.

*\*Please do not submit an MP3 audition recording if you cannot commit to each and every part of this information! \**

*\*\*Any questions regarding the NJ All-State Chorus audition process should be directed to your Choral Director. \*\**

*\*\*\*We will only return phone calls and email messages to Choral Directors. \*\*\**

### How are the choirs chosen?

Selection into the Mixed Chorus and the Treble Chorus for Soprano and Alto will be made as follows: *Alternating* acceptance into the Treble Chorus first (2024) and the Mixed Chorus second. By alternating acceptance, two equal ensembles of high quality and integrity are created.

### Attendance Policy:

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

### REHEARSALS:

- |   |              |                         |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|
| • MIXED – Saturday, October 12, 2024                                    | 8:30-12 noon | Location: TBA           |
| • MIXED – Saturday, October 26, 2024                                    | 8:30-12 noon | Location: TBA           |
| • MIXED – Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 7p to Friday, November 8, 2024 |              | Location: Atlantic City |
| • TREBLE – Sunday, February 2, 2025                                     | 1-5p         | Location: TBA           |
| • TREBLE - Saturday, February 15, 2025                                  | 8:30-noon    | Location: TBA           |
| • TREBLE – Thursday, February 20, 2025 to Saturday, February 22, 2025   |              | Location: Atlantic City |



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## CONCERTS:

- |                                      |    |                         |
|--------------------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| • MIXED – Friday November 8, 2024    | 8p | Location: Atlantic City |
| • MIXED – Sunday, November 17, 2024  | 3p | Location: NJPAC         |
| • TREBLE – Sunday, February 23, 2025 | 3p | Location: NJPAC         |
| •                                    |    |                         |

## Fees: Acceptance and Housing (Subject to change):

- Application Fee = \$30.
- There is an acceptance/music and rehearsal track fee - TBD
- Bus transportation for North students 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.

## Housing:

- Students must stay in designated All-State Housing.
- Students are not permitted to drive to Atlantic City.
- Rehearsals will be scheduled on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, starting at 7pm, all day Thursday, November 7th, and Friday, November 8th for Mixed Choir.
- Rehearsals will be scheduled on Thursday, February 20, 2025 starting at 7pm, all day Friday, February 21st, and Saturday, February 22nd for Treble Chorus.

## COVID DISCLAIMER:

By registering for/attending/participating in 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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## STUDENT AUDITION REQUIREMENTS - THREE MP3 Recordings

Here is the information you need for a successful NJ All-State Chorus audition. All pre-recorded pitch files for scales and the solo and the minus-voice-part track for the Silver Swan must be clearly heard on your MP3 recordings. You can obtain these files on <https://studentfolder.info>

### 1. MP3 RECORDING – Low Scale, High Scale, Chromatic Scale

The first MP3 Recording is SCALES and all three must be recorded in order – no stopping, editing or splicing. 1). Play the NJMEA-approved pitch file for the LOW SCALE on one device and record your MP3 Recording on a second device. 2). Repeat for the HIGH SCALE and the CHROMATIC SCALE- in order, no stopping.

**The MP3 Recording of your three scales may not exceed 1:25 in length.**

#### DISQUALIFIERS:

- You must use the NJMEA-approved pitch files for your starting pitches. You may not use a piano, keyboard, pitch pipe, phone app, etc. If you do not use the NJMEA-approved sound files, your MP3 Recording will be disqualified (Scoring = 9’s).
- **The starting pitches from the NJMEA-approved pitch files must be clearly heard on your MP3 recording.**
- **Your scales must be MP3 recorded in order**–Low Scale, High Scale, Chromatic Scale. If you do not MP3 record your scales in order, your MP3 Recording will be disqualified. (Scoring = 9’s)
- Your MP3 Recording may not be edited or spliced together in any way. If your MP3 appears to be edited or spliced, your MP3 Recording will be disqualified. (Scoring = 9’s)
- Your scales may **not** be sung on Solfege. They must be sung on the vowel “ah”. If you sing your scales on Solfege, your MP3 Recording will be disqualified. (Scoring = 9’s)
- Your MP3 Recording may not exceed 1:25 minute in length. If your MP3 Recording exceeds 1:25 minute in length, your MP3 Recording will be disqualified. (Scoring = 9’s)

#### 1. \*Low Scale – Diatonic

- Begin on the lower note and ascend one octave.

Take a breath, then descend back to the starting pitch.

#### 2. \*High Scale – Diatonic

- Begin on the lower note and ascend one octave.

Take a breath, then descend back to the starting pitch.

*\*All scales will be sung on the vowel “AH” as in father.*

	Low	High
Soprano I	E	Bb
Soprano II	C	G
Alto I	A	E
Alto II	G**	C

	Low	High
Tenor I	E	Ab
Tenor II	C***	F#
Bass I	A	E
Bass II	E**	C

\*\*Alto II and Bass II’s –Sing your low scale descending, pause for a breath and complete your scale, ascending.

\*\*\* Tenor II Low Scale –You have the option of beginning this scale either ascending or descending.



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### 3. Chromatic Scale

- The 8-step Chromatic scale is sung in half steps ascending; pause for a breath and in half steps, descending.
- The 8-step Chromatic scale is sung on the vowel “AH” as in father.

Sopranos and Tenors	F to C	Altos and Basses	C to G
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\*\*\*Judging for low & high scales is based on one score for **quality** and one for **intonation**. \*\*\*

\*\*\* Judging for the chromatic scale is based on one score for **intonation**. \*\*\*

## 2. MP3 RECORDING – The Solo

### \*Solo – Aloha Oe

Play the NJMEA-approved pitch file for your voice part for the solo **Aloha Oe** and MP3 record your solo.

**Your MP3 Recording may not exceed 1:25 in length.**

*Judging for the Solo is based on Quality, Intonation and Musicianship.*

## 3. MP3 RECORDING – The Silver Swan

### \*Quintet – “The Silver Swan” by Orlando Gibbons – the first 14 measures

- Play the NJMEA-approved file for The Silver Swan minus your voice part.
- The recording will sound the tonic pitch of Gb, will pause briefly to enable you to establish your starting pitch, and will begin by saying “3, 4, Sing...”
- **The backing track recording must be clearly heard on your MP3 recording. DO NOT sing the Silver Swan unaccompanied.**
- MP3 record The Silver Swan.

**Your MP3 Recording may not exceed 1:25 in length.**

### DISQUALIFIER:

- You must sing The Silver Swan minus your voice part.
- **Do not sing along with the “All Voices” track.**

*\*Judging for the Quintet is based on Quality, Intonation and Musicianship.*

*The point scores are as follows:*

- 1-2 Highly Superior
- 3-4 Excellent
- 5-6 Good
- 7-8 Fair
- 9 Poor



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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.
- 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, Symphonic Band or Modern Honors Band as all rehearsal and performance schedules conflict. Students in the All-State Treble Chorus 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.

### **Fees: Acceptance and Housing (subject to change):**

- The application fee is \$30.
- There is an acceptance fee for music and rehearsal tracks \$TBD (*subject to change*)
- Bus transportation for North students to Atlantic City is \$TBD (*subject to change*)
- HOUSING (Mixed/Treble) = \$TBD (*subject to change*)
  - 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.*

*Please do not submit an MP3 audition RECORDING if you are unable to commit to the rehearsal and concert dates.*

***Thank you!***