



# Alabama Vocal Association

**Honor Choir** is a venue at the AMEA Conference during even-numbered years (i.e., January 2010, 2012, etc.). Choral directors choose one or two quartets (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) from their best students in grades 10-12. Candidates are screened in each district on the Honor Choir music and, if selected for Honor Choir, rehearse and perform during the AMEA Conference.

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## *Parent Information for* **Honor Choir Festival**

### **1** Eligibility

1. Directors may nominate up to eight students in balanced quartets to be screened for admission into Honor Choir. Directors may combine with other schools to create balanced quartets.
2. Tenth, eleventh, and twelfth graders are eligible for Honor Choir.
3. Because All-State Show Choir and Honor Choir are concurrent festivals, students who are in All-State Show Choir cannot also participate in Honor Choir. However, All-State Show Choir results will be sent soon enough for directors to be able to nominate students not accepted into ASSC as Honor Choir candidates.

### **2** Ordering Music and Preparing Students for the Screening

1. Each student must have an original copy of each piece of music for the screening. Photocopied music may not be used during auditions.
2. Students are responsible for knowing their entire voice part in all of the selections. Students will sing every piece in its entirety during the screening, with adjudicators walking around checking to see that students know their music. A student who doesn't know the music will not make All-State, regardless of vocal and musical ability.
3. Music does not have to be memorized; students will use their music in the screening.
4. Honor Choir Practice CDs are available for students to learn their all-state music. They are optional, and are not officially endorsed by AVA, but can serve as a rehearsal aid to supplement the time the director spends teaching the music.
5. Students will sing the part split they are most comfortable on at the screening, and the clinician will balance the choir at the festival. It is helpful if each student learns both part splits.

### **3** The Screening

1. Students must not wear any school insignia to the screening.
2. Each student must bring the following to auditions:
  - a. **Honor Choir Screening Adjudication Form F7.2**, signed by PARENT and STUDENT, after reading Parent Information for Honor Choir
  - b. **complete set of Honor Choir music** (NO PHOTOCOPIES)

#### **Honor Choir Screening Procedure:**

Each student will sit where assigned, and will be given a tag with a voice part and number (for example, A35 which means the 35<sup>th</sup> alto). For each piece of Honor Choir music, pitches will be given or the accompaniment will begin. All students will sing the piece as a choir, using their music, conducted by the District Chair or another director. All of the other directors will move through the choir listening to students sing, and checking for deficiencies in music preparation, tone quality and rehearsal etiquette.

3. When all pieces have been sung, directors will mark "pass" or "fail" for each student.
4. The District Chairman who will consult with directors in the cases of students marked "fail" by any directors before the students are dismissed.
5. The District Chair will compile a list of all the students who have passed the screening and send it to both directors and to the Honor Choir Coordinator.

## **4 Honor Choir Festival**

1. Directors must accompany students to Honor Choir, and must register for the AMEA Conference.
2. Directors must ONLY bring students who passed the Honor Choir screening and were originally registered. ABSOLUTELY NO SUBSTITUTIONS will be allowed.
3. Each student MUST BRING A COMPLETE ORIGINAL SET OF MUSIC AND A PENCIL TO EACH REHEARSAL. Photocopied music in rehearsals is not allowed.
4. Students need to bring a black folder for the Honor Choir concert.
5. Students must wear nametags to each rehearsal. Roll is taken at each rehearsal and names of students who are absent are reported to the AVA Board. If a student is late for two rehearsals he/she will be removed from the choir. Absence from a rehearsal or performance or removal due to disciplinary actions will result in disqualification from this and the following year's Honor Choir festivals.
6. Students are required to participate in the Honor Choir festival and concert in its entirety.
7. Students should wear their school choral uniform (formal attire or choir robe) for the Honor Choir Concert. If the school choral uniform is not formal, students must dress in formal concert attire that meets the minimum dress code (tea length or floor length dress for girls with appropriate dress shoes, and a shirt, tie and dress slacks with dress shoes for boys). Show choir uniforms or prom-style dresses (sequins, spaghetti straps, etc.) are not acceptable. Any revealing attire is inappropriate for this occasion.