



2022 TCDA MS/JH All-State Choir



We are pleased to announce the 2023 All-State MS/JH Choir, under the direction of Dr. Charlotte Botha. Charlotte Botha is an Assistant Professor of Music and the Director of Choral Activities at Hamilton College in Clinton, NY, where conducts the College Choir and the Hamilton Voices choral theater ensemble. She teaches courses in Music

Theory and Musicology. While at the University of North Texas, she served as conductor of the Women's Chorus, assistant conductor of the University Singers, and assistant conductor of the Dallas Symphony Chorus. Charlotte's tenure as conductor of the Drakensberg Boys Choir solidified her passion for making music with and composing for young singers. She has performed and presented workshops around the globe, most notably as a member of the World Youth Choir alumni group TIME Ensemble. Her research interests include phonetics, choral text-painting, and equitable practices for including the music of and by marginalized members of the music community in choral programs. Charlotte earned a DMA in Choral Conducting with Music Theory as related field at the University of North Texas. Her MMus from Nelson Mandela University and her BMus is from the University of Pretoria.

COST/EXPENSES

Choir members will be responsible for all expenses associated with the All-State Choir. This includes the **audition fee (\$20), and if selected, registration fee (\$100)**, transportation, hotel & meals while in San Antonio. The \$20 audition fee is **non-refundable, no exceptions**. If selected, it is understood the student is expected to commit to the event. In addition, chaperones will be expected to be near the rehearsal site at all times and are expected to meet their children for lunch and at the end of the final rehearsal each day. Chaperones are welcome to observe; however, they should not supervise other children during rehearsals. **The non-refundable registration fee of \$100 is due on or before February 15, 2023.** This fee covers organizational expenses, an official TCDA All-State Choir t-shirt, water bottle, patch, music packet, a backpack and rehearsal recordings.

NOTIFICATION

The primary form of communication will be email. The names of the students selected for the choir will be announced by February 1 on the TCDA website, www.tcda.net. More information regarding deadlines will be sent via email. Music packets, rehearsal tracks and a more detailed schedule will be sent in late February/early March.

SCHEDULE

Thursday, July 20, 2023 - Registration & section rehearsals

Friday, July 21, 2023- Morning/afternoon rehearsals

Saturday, July 22, 2023- Morning rehearsals & late afternoon concert performance. Registration and rehearsals will be held in or near the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. Students will be released to parents and chaperones immediately following the concert on Saturday.

AUDITION & APPLICATION

Current TCDA members may submit as many students as they'd like into this process. Each singer, **through their teacher**, must submit an audio audition and payment through our website. **Online auditions will open on October 1.** All auditions will be mp3 files and submitted on-line. If you wish to pay by check or money order, you may separately submit the non-refundable \$20 application fee, per student, to the address below. **Checks should be made payable to TCDA with the student's full name in the memo line.**

Texas Choral Directors Association
MS/JH All-State Choir 2023
PO Box 50250 | Austin, Texas 78763

AUDITION MATERIAL & NEW INFO

Students will sing "My Country tis of Thee." This is located in the audition material portion of this packet. There is no limit to the number of students a director may submit to the All-State Choir. This choir is for students who are currently enrolled in 7th and 8th grade.

*****NEW*****

- The MS/JH All-State Choir will be auditioned in **six parts**, Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto, Tenor 1, Tenor 2 and Bass.
- **6th graders tenors/basses, whose voices have changed, will be able to audition for the MS/JH All-State Choir. They can only audition for one choir; either the MS/JH All-State Choir or the Elementary Honor Choir if their voices have not changed. 6th grade boys whose voices have not changed can audition for the Elementary Honor Choir.**

IMPORTANT DATES

Online Auditions Open.....October 1, 2022
**All forms of payment MUST BE RECEIVED
by.....January 8, 2023**
Online Auditions Close..... January 8, 2023
Notification of Acceptance February 1, 2023

Participation/Registration Fee Due ... February 15, 2023
Music Sent.....late February/early March
Check-In in San Antonio / Rehearsals Begin
.....July 20, 2023
MS/JH All-State Choir Concert July 22, 2023

For questions: 512-474-2801 tcdaallstate@tcda.net

MS/JH ALL-STATE CHOIR AUDITION PROCEDURE

READ AUDITION DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY

*Part A and Part B below will be recorded and uploaded into the audition website as **three** separate audio files.

PART A

1. The student will sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee" without accompaniment.
2. The student will **NOT** state their name, age, school, or any identifying factor at the beginning or at any time during the recording. Stating this information will result in a disqualification of scoring.
3. The starting pitch must be played in the recording, but once it has been played the student will sing the song unaccompanied.
4. Soprano 1s will sing in the key of A (A4 starting pitch); Soprano 2s will sing in the key of G (G4 starting pitch); Altos will sing in the key of D (D4 starting pitch); Tenor 1s will sing in the key of A (A3 starting pitch), Tenor 2s will sing in the key of F (F3) and Basses will sing in the key of D (D3 starting pitch).

Samuel F. Smith

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

The image shows a musical score for the song "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" by Samuel F. Smith. It is written for voice in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score is divided into three systems, each labeled "Voice" on the left. The lyrics are: "My coun - try, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of lib - er - ty, Of thee I sing: Land where my fa - thers died, Land of the pil - grims' pride, From ev - 'ry moun - tain-side Let free - dom ring!". The first system ends at measure 5, the second at measure 10, and the third at the end of the piece.

PART B (recorded as **two separate** audio files from Part A)

1. The student will sing the following ascending and descending patterns.
2. The ascending pattern will be recorded as one file, and the descending pattern will be recorded as a separate, second file.
3. Students must sing the correct ascending and descending scales. They cannot choose which they sing. Soprano 1s must sing the ones assigned to Soprano 1s, etc. Scoring will be based on tone, phrasing and intonation.
4. The student will sing the following unaccompanied vocalise alone. The teacher must play only the starting pitch at the beginning of each vocalise. The pitch must be heard in the audio recording, but once it has been played the student should sing the vocalise pattern unaccompanied.
5. Observe tempo as indicated. They should sing on either solfege or a neutral syllable.

Soprano 1 Ascending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Soprano 1 Descending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Soprano 2 Ascending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Soprano 2 Descending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Alto Ascending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Alto Descending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Tenor 1 Ascending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Tenor 1 Descending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Tenor 2 Ascending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Tenor 2 Descending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Bass Ascending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



Bass Descending Vocalise

♩ = c. 60



File Uploading Order:

1. File one - "My Country 'tis of Thee."
2. File two - "Ascending vocalise."
3. File three - "Descending vocalise."

All singing is acapella. Any audition that is accompanied will be disqualified from the scoring process. Any audition that indicated who the student is or where they're from will also be disqualified from scoring

To submit auditions, you will need an account established with OpusEvent using an email address and password. You may already have an account if you submitted auditions for TCDA last year or if you submit auditions for ACDA or NfAME.

Submit the audio files online through the TCDA website (<https://audition.opusevent.com/Default.aspx?n=2939>) with the **\$20 audition fee** by the deadline (**January 8, 2023**). You will have the option to pay with a credit card online at the time of your audition submission or send a check to the TCDA office. **All forms of payment must be received in the TCDA office by January 8, 2023** and checks must include the student(s) name in the memo line.

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Austin, TX 78763
tcdaallstate@tcda.net
512-474-2801

Audition Application Form:

- Below is an audition application form that you can print to help you collect information you'll need from your student to submit their audition.

TCDA MS/JH All-State Choir Audition Application Form

(this form is for teachers to collect information needed for each audition they wish to enter)

Student First & Last Name

Height in inches

Current Grade **Voice Part:**
Soprano 1 Soprano 2 Alto Tenor 1 Tenor 2 Bass

Student's School Name

School Name

School District Name

Student Home Mailing Address

City, Zip Code

Name of Chaperone

Chaperone Cell Phone Number

Name of Sponsoring TCDA Member

If selected to participate in the TCDA MS/JH All-State Choir and you agree to participate, my child will learn the music, participate in all rehearsals, and perform in the TCDA ALL-STATE CHOIR in San Antonio, TX, July 20-22, 2023. I understand I am responsible for all expenses associated with this event. I also understand the **audition fee (\$20, enclosed) and Participation/Registration Fee (if selected, \$100, due February 15) are non-refundable, no exceptions.**

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Primary E-mail

Parent/Guardian Secondary E-mail