

HONORS MUSIC FESTIVAL POLICIES 2021-2022

CHAIRPERSONS: HS Band – Tony McKrimmon
HS Choir – Emily Crandall
Jr. High Band – Adam Porter

AUDITIONS FOR INCLUSION IN HONORS BAND AND/OR CHOIR:

Choir auditions will be held on **Sunday, January 23, 2022** from **2:00pm to 4:00pm** at **Clay High School**. (Snow date: **Sunday, January 30** from **2:00pm to 4:00pm** at **Clay High School**.)

HS Band auditions will be held on **Saturday, January 22, 2022** from **9:00am to 11:30am** at **South Webster High School**. (Snow date: **Monday, January 24** from **5:00 to 7:30pm** at **South Webster High School**.)

Jr. High Band will be selected from students who are nominated by their directors this year only.

Due to issues related to balancing instrumentation, the band may replace a student with another student who has already auditioned if it becomes necessary for the originally chosen student to drop. The band directors will work together to determine who the replacement will be and will choose from those students who have already auditioned.

Once choir students are chosen during the audition process they will not be replaced.

All students must be present at auditions in order to be considered for inclusion into the band or choir AND they will audition in the order in which they arrive. The only exception is in the event of a collegiate audition held the same day as the Music Festival audition, in which case the student may submit a video audition. The video must be recorded by the Honors Music Festival appointed tech person **and** the student's current director must be present during filming. The video will be done in ONE TAKE – with no cuts or editing. The video must be given to the chairperson prior to the start of scheduled auditions for the Music Festival and the chairperson will present the video to the appropriate judge for scoring. Scoring and chair placement will be at the discretion of the judge.

Band and Choir students **must submit a completed application form** as part of the Audition/Application process. The form will include the following information:

- Signed photo and recording release (signed by both parent and student)
- Attendance policy for all rehearsals and performance – including consequences for missing a rehearsal (removal from group). Students and parents will sign off that they understand the policy.
- Required concert dress
- T-shirt size for student and CORRECT SPELLING of name (please print)
- Dates and times of rehearsals will be clearly stated (including snow dates) on the application and **students should not audition if they know they will not be able to attend all rehearsals.**
- If there are any legal actions or court orders now or at any time before the performance that involve potential participants in the honors program and that would preclude the student's participation in this program, the student should notify his/her band or choir director immediately. Failure to do so will result in the student's removal from the program.

ATTENDANCE POLICY AND EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS:

Students are expected to be in attendance for **all rehearsals**. Directors will take attendance at each rehearsal. Any student who fails to attend all rehearsals may be excluded from participation in future rehearsals and/or the final performance. In order for the student to remain a member of the Honors Band or Choir, he/she is responsible for contacting the building principal upon awareness of inability to attend a rehearsal. The only acceptable reason for missing a rehearsal is for extraordinary circumstances beyond the student's control, in which case **the building principal and music teacher must excuse the absence and give the Gifted Services Coordinator a written excuse signed by the principal no later than one day after the absence.**

*Should students be "honored" to be chosen to participate, they are expected to be cooperative with *all* participating members and directors. Students should behave in a professional manner. This is an "HONORS" MUSIC FESTIVAL, and students are expected to act in accordance.

AUDITIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

- **Auditions for scholarship** awards will take place **on Feb. 21, 2022**. This may be arranged to take place before, during, or after the scheduled rehearsal time. Two scholarship awards of \$1,000 each (one for band and one for choir) are being offered. If there are no applicants for the band or the choir scholarship then that scholarship may be transferred to the other entity.

EXPECTATIONS OF DIRECTORS AT AUDITIONS AND REHEARSALS:

- **In order for students from any school district to participate in the Honors Music Festival, directors (or a suitable substitute) must be present for the entirety of all auditions, rehearsals and performances. If a director is unable to attend an audition, rehearsal or performance, it is his/her responsibility to notify his/her principal so that a suitable substitute (school employee) may be found. (As adopted by the Superintendents in April 2009).**
- The director (or substitute) is responsible for bringing Emergency Medical Forms with him/her for all participating students to all rehearsals and performances.
- Directors will assist the chairpersons with running auditions, rehearsals, and Scholarship auditions.
- **Directors are responsible for taking attendance of his/her own students at each rehearsal and notifying the chairperson of any absences.** The chairperson will keep ESC Gifted Coordinator updated on all absences. Directors will keep a record of their own students' attendance at all rehearsals. If a student misses a rehearsal, his/her own director will inform the student of their expulsion from the honors band or choir.
- Directors will help run rehearsals as if it were their own choir or band – everyone needs to help.
- Band teachers may participate by bringing in their own instruments and playing along with students, choir teachers by singing along with students. Directors will divide up the responsibilities related to running the rehearsals (such as working with students individually, in sectionals, or in small groups).
- All directors will participate in the Scholarship Audition process (other than the student's own director). Directors of students who are auditioning may be asked to supervise the rest of the group and/or conduct rehearsals while his/her students are auditioning.

LIST OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHAIRPERSONS:

- Assist and communicate with Gifted Services Coordinator (GSC) to coordinate all aspects of the event
- Generate list of possible Guest Conductors and contact information for them (GSC will invite).
- Chair will collect all registration forms and give them to GSC
- Choir Chair will communicate with all directors pertaining to music selections they need to purchase.
- Band Chair will generate a list of music selection purchasing needs as well as choice of vendor to GSC. GSC will order and pay for music through ESC office (please give plenty of time for all paperwork to be done)
- Provide a list to the GSC of necessary equipment, stage set up, lighting instructions, rehearsal times, rehearsal rooms, and any other information that might be needed for SSU
- Record student attendance at all rehearsals and make GSC aware of all absences (and then give the GSC a written copy (or email to GSC) of the excuse if they are excused by director AND principal)
- Organize teachers for Scholarship Auditions and Rehearsals give clear directions about what each director is expected to do. Directors should be actively participating or observing while guest conductors are working with students (in the room with students or assisting GSC with requested tasks).
- Give GSC scholarship recipient's name and contact information as well as some biographical information no later than **February 23, 2022**.

Revised 12/8/21