

IMEA ALL STATE ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR CHOIR

PLEASE READ ALL INFORMATION CAREFULLY BEFORE BEGINNING AUDITIONS
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025 –Deadline for Submission of All Honor Choir Audition Entries

Since 1990, IMEA has sponsored an elementary and a middle school honor choir. Selected students who are participating in Circle the State with Song Area Festivals will have the opportunity to audition for these All-State Honor Choirs. These choirs are select groups of approximately 150 singers chosen by teacher recommendation and audition. Our goal is to choose singers from each of the 12 area CSWS Festivals to fill balanced parts. Both groups will perform at the IMEA Professional Development Conference, January 16, 2026 at the Embassy Theater in Fort Wayne, IN.

Fees/Scholarships

The 2026 fee for this choral experience will be \$200 for students in both the Elementary Choir and Middle School Choir. This fee includes four meals, Honor Choir music, on-line rehearsal recordings, and an overnight stay in Fort Wayne. A limited number of partial scholarships are available. Please make sure that any student whose teacher submits a Scholarship Form on their behalf understands that they are responsible for the balance of the cost, and that *the full fee is to be sent pending approval of scholarship*. If the scholarship is approved, a reimbursement to the paying entity will be provided from IMEA.

Teacher Requirements

All directors who submit auditions ***MUST be members of NafME/IMEA*** for an audition to be considered. Students of non-member teachers who submit auditions for consideration will be rejected. A student may be enrolled by a private studio or community choir director ONLY if the student's school does not participate in the Circle the State with Song festivals. The name of the school where the student is enrolled **MUST** be identified during the registration process.

Teachers may submit **NO MORE THAN EIGHT** auditions per school, per level. (Elementary: Grades 4, 5, and 6. Middle School: Grades 6, 7, and 8.) Please be selective. ***Students auditioning for Honor Choir MUST participate in Circle the State with Song in order to be eligible for Honor Choir.*** The application must be filled out and auditions uploaded online by **Wednesday, October 8, 2025**. (Link available at circlethestate.imeamusic.org under "Honor Choir".) Teachers are asked to confirm that the auditioning student(s) will be available on January 15-16, 2026, before submitting the application and audition.

Once the Honor Choir students are selected, all registrations will be completed by the teacher in order to alleviate confusion regarding rooming, payment, and submission of Medical and Fee Tally Forms. Registration will be completed online (web link will be provided in the information letter to the teacher.)

Teachers will need to teach and monitor the progress of honor choir singers from their school.

Final Honor Choir Selections

Final selection will be made by the CSWS Committee by mid-November. Students and teachers will be notified of the decision. Rehearsal recordings for honor choir will be available on the website for each participating singer along with the honor choir repertoire.

It is our pleasure to offer your students this quality opportunity to learn and grow musically. Thank you for your continued interest in and support of IMEA and its programs. If you have any questions regarding information or procedures, please contact the CSWS State Chair whose information is listed on the IMEA website, or your CSWS Area Coordinator.

2026 IMEA Honor Choir Audition Information

Audition Procedures: Please read carefully and follow the instructions.

- Use the audition link on the website that matches the voice part of the student audition. Link can be found at circlethestate.imeamusic.org. Select “Honor Choir” at the top of the page. Then select “Honor Choir General Information”. The audition tracks are labeled for elementary and middle school. Find the correct audition track under the level that your student is auditioning for.
- Students should be recorded singing with the accompaniment recording provided on the audition website.
- The accompaniment recording may not be stopped/restarted at any point during the audition recording.
- The accompaniment recording may not be adjusted in tempo and/or pitch before the student completes the audition recording.
- The student’s audition recording may not be edited or spliced together in any way.
- The audition segments can be rehearsed ahead of time, but a single “take” submitted in mp3 or M4A format should be uploaded for the audition recording submission.
- Auditions should meet all deadlines as stated above.
- Student name, school, or area should NOT be disclosed during audition recording.
- **FAILURE TO FOLLOW EACH PROCEDURE WILL DISQUALIFY THE AUDITION.**
- Audition results will be emailed to each teacher from their area coordinator following the fall coordinator meeting, usually held the first Saturday in November.

Timeline after the auditions results are posted (mid-November)

- Teachers will need to teach and monitor the progress of selected honor choir students from their school.
- Teachers will complete the online registration for selected honor choir student(s). This will ensure Room Assignments are accurate and Medical Forms, Fee Tally Sheets, and Payments are received by the deadline. A web link will be provided in the mailing you will receive if your student is selected to participate, as well as emailed to the teacher.
- **Selected students who have not properly registered and paid their Honor Choir fees by December 10, 2025 will be replaced with an alternate Honor Choir singer.**

AUDITION RULES & PROCEDURES:

FAILURE TO FOLLOW EACH PROCEDURE WILL DISQUALIFY THE AUDITION.

- Use only the audition accompaniment provided on the website (no teacher-produced accompaniments).
- **DO NOT** disclose/speak student name, school, or area during audition recording. This information will be attached to the audition via registration.
- **DO NOT** sing, hum, snap/clap, or vocally coach student in any way during audition recording. Teacher should not be heard AT ALL during audition recording.
- **DO NOT stop/restart/splice/edit the audition or accompaniment.** Only one take will be accepted.
- **DO NOT** adjust the accompaniment recording tempo and/or pitch.
- You are encouraged to rehearse audition materials with students prior to audition recording.
- Submit only mp3 or M4A format.
- Auditions submitted after the deadline **WILL NOT** be considered.

ALL AUDITIONS WILL BE SUBMITTED ONLINE ONLY

Access registration and audition link at [EL/MS Honor Choir Information](#)
FROM THIS POINT ON, FOLLOW THE APPROPRIATE AUDITION PROCESS.

ELEMENTARY HONOR CHOIR AUDITION

PLEASE NOTE: Student name, school, or area should NOT be disclosed during audition.

1. **PREPARED SONG:** Students will use the accompaniment link found at the above web address, so all audition accompaniments are equal. **DO NOT STOP AUDITION RECORDING.**
 - a. *Circle 'Round The Moon.* Reprinted by permission of Colla Voce, Inc. For exclusive use of IMEA, Fall 2025.
 - b. **Student should sing the vocal line with accompaniment as written**, starting at the first measure and continuing through the last measure on the next page.

Circle 'Round The Moon
(from "Reflections of Youth")
for Two-Part Treble Voices with Piano Accompaniment

Words & Music by
Mark Hierholzer

Moderato

Piano

The musical score is for a song titled 'Circle 'Round The Moon' from 'Reflections of Youth' by Mark Hierholzer. It is for two-part treble voices and piano accompaniment. The tempo is Moderato. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of 13 measures. The piano part features a steady accompaniment of eighth notes in the right hand and chords in the left hand. The vocal parts enter at measure 5 with the lyrics 'Cir-cle 'round the moon in - vites me to stay out in the win - ter time.' The melody is simple and melodic. The score ends at measure 13 with the lyrics 'High a - bove the trees you will make me see that with such a sight'.

5 *p unis.*
Cir-cle 'round the moon in - vites me to stay out in the win - ter time.

9
Crys-tals in the air sug - gest that I pre-pare for the cold night air.

13
High a - bove the trees you will make me see that with such a sight

16

sheer de - light is hid - den ev' - ry - where for those who

19

care to see. _____

2. **MELODIC ECHO:** Student will sing Melodic Echo Patterns while playing accompaniment file found at above web address. DO NOT STOP AUDITION RECORDING.

a. Student echoes each pattern (*a cappella*) using the syllable “loo.”



3. **HARMONIC SINGING:** Students will use the accompaniment link found at the above web address, so all audition accompaniments are equal. **DO NOT STOP AUDITION RECORDING.**

- a. Student will sing Harmonic Pattern while the accompaniment recording continues to play.
- b. Student will listen to the Soprano line. Then student echoes a cappella on “loo” /lu/.
- c. Student listens to both parts played together. Then student sings the SOPRANO part a cappella while hearing only the Alto line. Starting pitch (C) will be given with a 4 beat count off.
- d. Student will listen to the Alto line. Then student echoes a cappella on “loo” /lu/.
- e. Student listens to both parts played together. Then student sings the ALTO part a cappella while hearing only the Soprano line. Starting pitch (A) will be given with a 4 beat count off.
- f. Student should maintain tempo, pitch, and intonation in this exercise.



THIS CONCLUDES THE 2026 ELEMENTARY HONOR CHOIR AUDITION

MIDDLE SCHOOL/JR. HIGH HONOR CHOIR AUDITION

PLEASE NOTE: Student name, school, or area should NOT be disclosed during audition.

1. **PREPARED SONG:** Students will use the accompaniment link found at the above web address, so all audition accompaniments are equal. **DO NOT STOP AUDITION RECORDING.**
 - a. *A Song of Night*. Published by Carl L. Fischer - reprinted under U.S. Copyright Law / Fair Use Doctrine and MPA/NAfME guidelines. For exclusive use of IMEA, Fall 2025.
 - b. Student should sing the appropriate vocal line with recording.

For the Texas Music Educators' Association Region 14 Combined Region Honor Choirs

3

A Song of Night

Based on a poem by
Hildegard Hawthorne

for SATB Voices with Keyboard

LAURA FARNELL

Keyboard

$\text{♩} = 92$

p

5 *p*

Sing to me a gen - tle song of night Be - fore the

9 *p*

moon has reached its lof - ty height Sing to me

p

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13

a song of star's de - light, Re - leased to shine a - bove,

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

17

END

— free from the day so bright.

2. **HARMONIC SINGING:** Students will use the accompaniment link found at the above web address, so all audition accompaniments are equal. DO NOT STOP AUDITION RECORDING.
- Student will sing the Harmonic Singing example while the accompaniment recording continues to play.
 - Student will listen to both parts played together. Then, the student should sing their voice part a cappella. Starting pitch will be given with a 4 beat count off.
 - Student will listen to both parts played together. Then, the student should sing their voice part while hearing the other notated part. Starting pitch will be given with a 4 beat count off. (♩=75)
 - The student may sing using solfege or on the neutral syllable “loo” /lu/.
 - Student should maintain tempo, pitch, and intonation in this exercise.

3. **PREPARED A CAPPELLA PIECE:** This file can be found at the above web address, so all audition accompaniment introductions are equal. DO NOT STOP AUDITION RECORDING.
- Danny Boy** - Student sings appropriate voice part, a cappella at approximate tempo ♩ = 78.
 - Student will sing an a cappella verse (1st verse) and chorus for “Danny Boy” while using recorded accompaniment introduction file.

Danny Boy (Soprano/Tenor)

SOPRANO



TENOR



Oh, Dan-ny

Oh, Dan-ny

4




Boy, the pipes, the pipes are call - ing, from glen to glen, and down the moun-tain




Boy, the pipes, the pipes are call - ing, from glen to glen, and down the moun-tain

7



side, The sum - mer's gone, and all the ro - ses



side, The sum - mer's gone, and all the ro - ses

9



fall - ing. It's you, it's you must go and I must bide.



fall - ing. It's you, it's you must go and I must bide.

Danny Boy (Alto/Bass)

ALTO



Oh, Dan-ny

BASS

Oh, Dan-ny

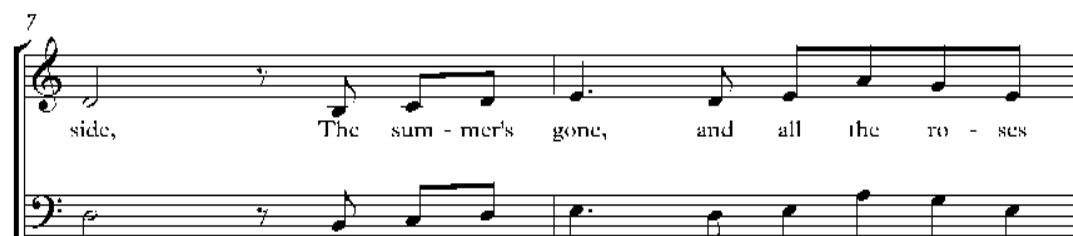
4



Boy, the pipes, the pipes are call - ing, from glen to glen, and down the moun-tain

Boy, the pipes, the pipes are call - ing, from glen to glen, and down the moun-tain

7



side, The sum - mer's gone, and all the ro - ses

side, The sum - mer's gone, and all the ro - ses

9



fall - ing. It's you, it's you must go and I must bide.

fall - ing. It's you, it's you must go and I must bide.

4. **VOCALIZATION EXERCISE:** Student will sing the Vocalization Exercise while hearing the accompaniment file found at above web address. DO NOT STOP AUDITION RECORDING.

- Student sings a cappella at tempo ♩ = 100.
- Starting pitch will be given.
- Student should sing exercise on 'loo' or solfege (a cappella).
- We are listening for range, tone quality, and pitch.

Soprano



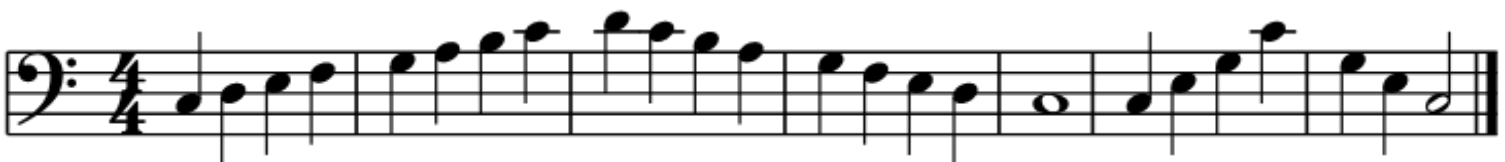
Alto



Tenor



Bass



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