

# SCMEA Choral Division Handbook

## 2017-2018

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Information accurate as of  
Monday, December 4, 2017.

Registration forms and additional information are  
available at the Choral Division's website:

<http://choraldivision.org>



### CHORAL DIVISION OFFICERS 2017-2018

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#### Parliamentarian

### NOTICE

Federal copyright law strictly prohibits the recording of copyrighted material. Federal student privacy law strictly prohibits the dissemination of student data to unauthorized persons. In order to comply with these two federal laws,

**NO SCMEA CHORAL DIVISION EVENT MAY  
BE RECORDED IN ANY FORM.**

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### All-State Chorus

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## ALL-STATE CHORUS COMMITTEE

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## HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

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## MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

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*Names in italics are listed provisionally and will be voted on at the Choral Division business meeting September 9, 2017.*

**CHORAL DIVISION SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES  
2017-2018**

<b>Sept. 8-9</b>	<b>Choral Arts Seminar</b>
<b>Sept. 9</b>	<b>Tom Shelton, Clinician</b>
<b>Sept. 11</b>	<b>Fall Business Meeting</b>
	All-State Chorus online registration opens at 12:00 noon
<b>Sept. 29</b>	Registration deadline for Middle School TTB and SSA Clinics
<b>Sept. 29</b>	All-State Chorus online registration closes at 12:00 noon, registration materials must be postmarked
<b>Oct. 24</b>	Middle School TTB Clinic, Lexington H.S. PAC
<b>Nov. 6-9</b>	All-State Chorus Auditions
<b>Nov. 17</b>	Middle School SSA Clinic, Aynor H.S.
<b>Dec. 8</b>	Registration deadline for Middle School Mixed and 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Clinics
<b>Jan. 11</b>	Registration deadline for High School Region Choirs
<b>Jan. 18-19</b>	Region 1 (Upstate) Region Choir
<b>Jan. 19</b>	Region 3 (Northern) Region Choir
<b>Jan. 19</b>	Solo & Ensemble Festival registration deadline
<b>Jan. 19</b>	High School Choral Performance Assessment online registration deadline
<b>Jan. 25-26</b>	Region 2 (Midlands) Region Choir
<b>Jan. 31</b>	Registration deadline for Middle School Choral Performance Assessment
<b>Feb. 9</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Chorus Clinics, Cane Bay H.S.
<b>Feb. 10</b>	Solo and Ensemble Festival, Regions 2 and 3
<b>Feb. 15-17</b>	<b>SCMEA Professional Development Conference, Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center</b>
<b>Feb. 23</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Chorus Clinics, White Knoll M.S. and Newberry College
<b>Mar. 1-3</b>	All-State Chorus Weekend, Winthrop University
<b>Mar. 2</b>	Middle School 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Clinics, Mount Pleasant First Baptist Church, Beaufort M.S., and Loris M.S.
<b>Mar. 2</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Chorus Clinic, Anderson University
<b>Mar. 9</b>	Middle School 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Clinics, Pleasant Hill M.S.
<b>Mar. 17</b>	Middle School Clinic Committee Planning Meeting
<b>Mar. 26 and 27</b>	High School Choral Performance Assessment
<b>Apr. 11-13</b>	Middle School Choral Performance Assessment
<b>Apr. 14</b>	Solo and Ensemble Festival, Regions 1 and 4
<b>Apr. 28</b>	Choral Division Officers/Chairpersons Planning Meeting

## MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORAL CLINICS

### A. Purpose

Choral clinics give students from different choral backgrounds throughout the state an opportunity to rehearse and perform together under the direction of a professional conductor. Participation in these clinics will:

1. Unify large and small choruses in the common goal of performing challenging choral repertoire.
2. Allow students to hear other groups perform in a positive, non-competitive atmosphere
3. Give teachers an unparalleled opportunity to share ideas, music, and "tricks of the trade" and to benefit from first-hand observation of other choruses and conductors.
4. Offer students opportunities to be taught by other choral directors.

### B. Registration

1. Registration materials must meet the postmark deadline and be accurate and complete in order for choruses to participate.
2. Participants in the clinics must be sixth, seventh, eighth, or ninth grade students attending a middle or junior high school and enrolled in the choral program of the school. Teachers must be current NAFME members. **Sixth grade students may only attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Clinic.**
3. Registration fee is **\$3.00** per student. Teachers may bring only the number of students preregistered. Teachers may wish to pay for a few extra students.
4. Payment must be made by checks, money orders, or credit card. *No purchase orders.*
5. A second location choice must be indicated on the registration form and directors should prepare to attend either their first or second choice. Schools are assigned to clinics on a first come, first served basis.
6. Directors will receive **confirmation via email** of their clinic assignments within 10 days of the registration deadline and should read this information carefully in case changes have been made to the original clinic date or location. Clinic chairpersons will send detailed information (schedule, directions, lunch arrangements, etc.) to clinic participants.
7. *NO refunds will be made after the registration deadline date.*
8. If a school is unable to attend a clinic for which it is registered, the teacher should contact the chairperson as soon as possible.
9. School or districts are not to (1) send checks separate from the registration form or (2) send a combined check for more than one clinic or more than one school.
10. **Some districts will require Tax ID information in order to send a check for clinic registration.** Teachers should request this information from the Choral Division Treasurer in advance of the registration deadline so all registration materials can be postmarked on or before the deadline.

11. South Carolina State Ethics Law states that Clinicians or Accompanists who bring their own students **will not receive payment.**

### C. Schedule/Rehearsal Session

1. Clinics must take place during school hours. The local chairman will determine the schedule for his/her clinic based on site restrictions, the number of schools participating, the clinician's schedule, etc. The clinic schedule generally includes a morning rehearsal session, optional inclusion of a short lunch break at the clinic site, individual school performances and a final "performance" of clinic music.
2. If the clinic schedule includes a lunch break, students and chaperones should bring a bagged lunch and drink.
3. All schools participating must be prompt. Schools may need to find an alternative to school bus transportation should this pose a problem. If you are traveling out of town, do not expect to return by the end of your school day!
4. If district transportation is unable to meet the clinic arrival and departure time, the school is to use alternative transportation. Clinics will not be held up for tardy groups. Late groups will be seated at the discretion of the site chairperson. **Schools that arrive late or leave early may receive a Notification of Rules Violations form.**
5. Each choral director is responsible for the advanced preparation of all the clinic pieces. Music must be memorized and students must have copies of the music available as the clinician desires. *EXCEPTION: SSA and TTB students are NOT required to have the music memorized but must have the music in hand at the clinic.* **PHOTOCOPIED MUSIC AND WORD SHEETS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**

### D. Behavior

1. Each school **MUST** bring at least one chaperone per 15 students. *The choral director can serve as a chaperone for 10 or fewer students.* Chaperones may include parents and teachers, but the choral director should not be counted as a chaperone (unless there are 10 or fewer students).
2. Teachers and chaperones will constantly supervise their students at the clinic and during the rehearsal and individual school performances. Teachers who fail to provide adequate supervision for their students will be notified by the committee chairperson and appropriate action will be taken by the Middle School Clinic committee.
3. Teachers will prepare their students concerning appropriate behavior for the entire clinic day:
  - a. Students should exhibit correct posture during the rehearsal and during the individual performances.
  - b. A positive attitude and a spirit of unity should be encouraged.
  - c. No talking or disruptive behavior.

- d. No "boosing" or other negative responses for any reason!
  - e. Standing ovations are inappropriate.
  - f. No hats are to be worn.
  - g. No gum or candy is allowed
  - h. Students must remain in the designated areas only and must be accompanied by a teacher or chaperone at all times.
  - i. No electronic devices or cell phones are allowed.
  - j. Restroom breaks are at the discretion of the local chairman and clinician.
4. Teachers with large groups are asked to bring their manageable, disciplined, best behaved students as well as adequate chaperones that assist in monitoring.

**E. Individual School Performances (SSA, SATB, and Sixth Grade Clinics Only)**

1. Each school will be encouraged to perform ONE selection, not to exceed eight minutes (including entering and exiting the stage area).
2. The director will choose the individual performance piece.
3. The individual performance piece cannot be one of the clinic selections.
4. Choreography (including snapping, stomping, etc.) should not be included during the individual performance unless it is part of the written score.
5. Groups may perform a cappella or with piano accompaniment only (taped/CD accompaniment not allowed). Other accompanying instruments such as flutes, tambourines, guitars, etc. are allowed if it is a part of the written score.  
**Directors who do not bring an accompanist for their individual performance are encouraged to send a copy of their performance piece in advance to the clinic's accompanist.**
6. The director will receive comments only from the clinician. No ratings will be available.
7. Teachers must provide one copy of their performance piece with the measures numbered for the clinician. **PHOTOCOPIES ARE ILLEGAL AND MAY NOT BE USED.** Turn in clinician's music to the clinic chairperson.
8. Each INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PERFORMING GROUP will receive a certificate of performance or may purchase a PLAQUE. (Use the PLAQUE ORDER FORM.)
9. Each participating school that does not perform will receive a certificate of participation.

*All above guidelines must be followed or the director and/or school risks being placed on probation and/or barred from participation in future clinics.*

**TTB Clinic**

**October 24, 2017, Lexington 1 PAC**

**Postmark Deadline: September 29, 2017**

Repertoire:

- "Rise Up, My Love, My Fair One," James McCray, TBB, National Music Publishers 08762295
- "Colorado Trail," arr. Donald Moore, TTB, BriLee Music Publishing BL162
- "Fergus an' Molly," Vijay Singh, TTBB, Alfred Publishing Company OCT9605

**SSA Clinic**

**November 17, 2017, Aynor High School**

**Postmark Deadline: September 29, 2017**

Repertoire:

- "Cantate Hodie!," Mary Lynn Lightfoot, SSA, Heritage Music Press 15/2090H
- "She Sings," Amy F. Bernon, SSA, Heritage Music Press 15/1863H
- "Los Cristales Turbios," J. Reese Norris, SA, Santa Barbara Music Publishing SBMP 1256

**7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Clinics**

**February 9, 2018, Cane Bay High School**

**February 23, 2018, White Knoll Middle School**

**February 23, 2018, Newberry College**

**March 2, 2018, Anderson University**

**Postmark Deadline: December 8, 2017**

Repertoire:

- "Jordan's Angels," Rollo A. Dilworth, SATB, Hal Leonard Corp. 8744628
- "Cool Moon," Richard A. Williamson, SATB, Heritage Music Press 15/3282H
- "Chili Caliente," David Giardiniere, 3-part mixed with optional baritone, Hal Leonard Corp. 35027083

**6<sup>th</sup> Mixed Grade Clinics**

**March 2, 2018, First Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant**

**March 2, 2018, Lorris Middle School**

**March 9, 2018, Pleasant Hill Middle School**

**Postmark Deadline: December 8, 2017**

Repertoire:

- "Goliath," Joseph M. Martin, 2-part, Fred Bock Music BG2192
- "Sing to Me," Andrea Ramsey, SA, Santa Barbara Music Publishing SBMP 1003
- "Laudamus Te," W. A. Mozart, arr. Malvar-Keylock and Friedersdorf, Unison Treble, Hal Leonard Corp. 08750095

## MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

### A. REGISTRATION

The registration can be found on the SCMEA Choral Division website. Registration is not complete until the director completes all online forms, submits the Principal Authorization Form, and payment has been received.

The following forms must be submitted:

ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM

PRINCIPAL AUTHORIZATION FORM

PAYMENT OR ONLINE PAYMENT CONFIRMATION

**Eligibility**—Participating choral directors must be members of SCMEA. A photocopy of your current NAFME ID card must accompany the registration form. You will also be required to show your membership at the time of the performance. (If a student teacher is conducting, they will also need to present their membership card). Additional choir registration requests may be submitted with initial registration and will be considered if schedule permits. Choirs must have at least 16 members in order to participate.

**Cost**—The registration fee is \$180.00 per choir and must be remitted with the registration form by January 31, 2018. No money will be refunded due to cancellation after February 15, 2018. Checks should be made payable to SCMEA Choral Division. Repertoire changes cannot be made for choirs after March 1st. Changes should be made by contacting the Middle School Choral Performance Assessment chairperson.

**Dates**—Middle school choirs will be scheduled for April 11-13, 2017. Requested performance dates and times will be considered in the order applications are received. Late registrations or fees will not be accepted.

**Dressing Rooms**—If dressing rooms are desired, they may be requested on the registration form. Please be prepared in the event that dressing rooms will not be available.

**Schedule**—The schedule for the festival will be communicated with the directors within two weeks of the close of registration. Verification of registration, posting of schedule, and performance site instructions will be communicated through email and posted on the Choral Division website.

**Repertoire**—Choirs will be adjudicated on TWO pieces. Each choir has the option of performing a warm-up piece first that will not be adjudicated. Choirs should perform appropriate choral literature. Choreography can only be used if it is written into the music or approved by the committee. Standard, high quality choral repertoire should be selected. Use choral clinic and state, regional, and national ACDA or NAFME honor choir repertoire lists as a guide. One piece must come from the state clinic/honor choir list, found on the SCMEA Choral Division website. No pop or show choir repertoire will be allowed. Any exception from this rule must be approved by the festival chairperson. All pieces must be approved

prior to the event and one piece should be from the repertoire list. Any repertoire changes made after the March 1st deadline will result in the ensemble being removed from any rankings.

### B. DAY OF THE EVENT RULES - BEHAVIOR

1. Teachers must accompany their choirs to the festival and remain with them during the festival day. Please ensure that students are supervised at all times. Students are must be accompanied to the restroom by an adult.
2. No cell phones, pagers, hats, sunglasses, gum or any item that would interfere with the aural, visual and appreciation of the festival will be allowed in the performance area.
3. Students are not to wander in and out of the performance area, especially during the adjudication of another group.
4. There is to be absolutely no loud talking.
5. If a student displays unbecoming or illegal behavior or damages property, he/she will be put on probation for the next year. In addition, unbecoming behavior may jeopardize the school's participation for the next year.
6. No food or drink of any kind is allowed in the performing area.
7. No smoking anywhere on the premises.
8. Choirs are encouraged to observe other choirs respectfully during the performance and Awards Ceremony. No performers or attendees are allowed to enter the performing area once a choir has begun their performance.
9. Each performing group should have at least one chaperone for every 10 students performing.

### C. DAY OF THE EVENT RULES - PERFORMANCE

1. Choirs are provided a warm-up room for twenty minutes. If your choir is late, you may forfeit that time.
2. Choirs will be adjudicated on TWO pieces. Each choir has the option of performing a warm-up piece first that will not be adjudicated. Maximum total time on stage will be fifteen minutes. Points may be deducted if time is exceeded.
3. Standard, high quality choral repertoire should be selected. Use choral clinic and state, regional, and national ACDA or NAFME honor choir repertoire lists as a guide. One piece must come from the state clinic/honor choir list, found on this website. No pop or show choir repertoire will

be allowed. Any exception from this rule must be approved by the festival chairperson.

4. There will be no taped background accompaniment unless the tape is part of the composition. No accompanists will be provided.
5. Directors are to furnish three scores with numbered measures of each selection performed. Copied music will not be allowed without a letter of permission from the publisher.
6. Three judges will provide written and taped comments.
7. Separate ratings/scores will be given for performance and sight-reading. In the Middle School Division, the sight-reading score will count as 10% of the overall score/rating. In the Advanced Division, the sight-reading score will count as 20% of the overall score/rating. Sight-reading will be available from unison to four parts, depending upon the ability level of the choir. Students who perform in more than one choir may not sight sing the same sight-singing example more than once. Choirs must perform the same classification or one less classification than the literature performed on stage.
8. Choirs may sing for comments only and will not be required to sight sing.
9. Only the choral director of the participating group may assist students in the sight-reading procedures. College students/student teachers, parents or accompanists may not provide additional assistance to students during the sight-reading.
10. Directors are not to have contact with the judges until the end of the Division Awards Ceremony unless permission is granted by the Choral Performance Assessment Committee.
11. Directors are to follow instructions given by the Choral Performance Assessment Committee on the day of the festival.
12. Directors are responsible for all students and their behavior while at the performance site.
13. Groups need to be dressed in proper concert attire: NO JEANS.
14. Photos and videos of groups will be taken at the Choral Performance Assessment. Any group that does not want their photo or video used on the Choral Division website must submit the request in writing to the Choral Performance Assessment Committee chairperson at least one week prior to the event.

#### **D. DAY OF THE EVENT RULES – SIGHT-SINGING**

1. All students must participate in both the choral performance and sight-reading.
2. Appropriate music will be available for each choir, based on their stage performance classification. Choirs must perform the same classification or one classification down from the literature performed on stage. (ex. choirs who perform SATB literature on stage may sight-read SAB materials.)
3. The sight-reading music will not have lyrics. The conductor will specify the syllable(s) to be used by the singers (i.e. "loo, solfège, counting syllables, etc.).
4. Conductors and choirs will have five minutes of preparation time before the evaluated sight-reading performance. The evaluator will signal the conductor when one minute of preparation remains. Conductors must stop their preparation promptly when the evaluator indicates that the preparation time has expired.
5. The piano may be used only to arpeggiate the first (or tonic) chord and to sound individual reference pitches during the period of preparation. Two notes may not be played simultaneously on the piano. Two or more consecutive pitches from a particular voice part may not be sounded on the piano. The conductor may use his/her voice in any manner he/she wishes during the preparation period.
6. After sounding the beginning pitches, the piano may not be used during the evaluated sight-reading performance. The conductor is prohibited from singing with the ensemble during the evaluated sight-reading performance.
7. Conductors and singers should heed any tempo indications, phrase markings, and/or dynamic indications in the sight-reading materials.

#### **E. AWARDS**

1. Ratings will be: Superior with Distinction, Superior, Excellent and Good. Awards will be given for Superior and Excellent ratings.
2. Ratings will be given for sight-singing. Sight-reading will count for 10% of the overall rating/score in the Middle School Division and for 20% of the overall rating/score in the Advanced Division.
3. Ratings and score sheets may be picked up by the director by the end of the Choral Performance Assessment.



## **F. CONSEQUENCES OF RULES VIOLATIONS - LEVELS OF NOTIFICATION**

1. One Rule Violation occurs. The choral director will receive a written letter from the committee stating exactly which standing rule was violated and that all guidelines must be followed or the director and/or school risks being placed on probation and/or barred from participation in future SCMEA Choral Division events if rules violations recur. The Principal will also receive a copy of the same letter if the violation compromised student safety at the event. Students involved in the violation will be barred from attending the same event the following school year for a period of one school year.
2. The same choral director (even if transferred to another school in S.C.) again fails to adhere to the rules or commits two or more Committee Rules violations during the same event. Choral director and school will be put on probationary status. The school choral director, school principal, and Choral Division President will receive written letters from the committee stating that the school may still participate, but the SCMEA By-Laws and Committee Rules serve a real and valuable purpose and it is the Choral Director's responsibility to adhere to them. The letter will contain the event, date, and quote the exact committee rule(s) that were violated. The letters will also direct committee members who teach in the same region of South Carolina to serve as a mentor during this probationary period and submit written documentation to the committee chairperson. Lastly, the letters will state that a recurrence of future violations will result in the students involved, or the Choral Director and the school choral program being barred from attending SCMEA events for one year.
3. (a.) If the Choral Director continues to commit Committee Rules violations after #1 and #2 are issued, either the students involved, or the Choral Director and the school choral program will be barred from participation of all SCMEA Choral Division events for one year. (b.) If the evidence of violations is the direct result of the Choral Director's repeated negligence to review and adhere to the guidelines, the Choral Director (same or different school) and the choral program will be barred from participating in all Choral Division events for one year. The letters (a. and b.) will be mailed to the Choral Director, Principal, District Music Consultant, and Choral Division President containing the documented history of rules violations, dates, and quote the most recent committee rule(s) that were violated. Committee members who teach in the same region of South Carolina will continue to serve as a mentor during this period and submit written documentation to the committee chairperson.

## **HIGH SCHOOL REGION CHOIR**

### **A. DATES**

#### **Jan. 19, 2018**

Region 3 (Northern), Winthrop University;  
Kathy Kinsey, clinician

#### **Jan. 18-19, 2018**

Region 1 (Upstate), Southern Wesleyan University,  
Central, SC; Dr. Don Campbell, clinician

#### **Jan. 25-26, 2018**

Region 2 (Midlands), Newberry College, Newberry,  
SC; Dr. Chris Sheppard, clinician

### **B. REGISTRATION**

Registration fee is \$10 per student. Directors may select eight students in balanced numbers (SATB).  
Registration Deadline: Friday, January 12.

### **C. DRESS CODE**

NO DENIM. Schools should wear their performance attire of concert black.

### **D. REPERTOIRE**

"Jubilate Deo," Peter Anglea, SATB, Hinshaw Music  
HMC2409

"Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel," arr. Greg Gilpin,  
SATB, Hal Leonard Corp. 30529202

"Bonse Aba," Victor C. Johnson, SATB, Heritage  
Press 15/2829H

"Stars I Shall Find," Victor C. Johnson, SATB,  
Heritage Press 15/2453H

"Ubi Caritas," Richard A. Williamson, SATB, Heritage  
Press 15/3455H

"Praise His Holy Name," Keith Hampton, SATB,  
earthsongs S-85

## ALL-STATE CHORUS

The All-State Chorus program was organized to provide an opportunity for superior choral students in South Carolina to sing together and to represent the state in statewide events. Students who participate in All-State have an opportunity to further utilize the skills obtained and developed in their local school programs. The South Carolina All-State Chorus program provides an intensive and demanding vocal experience which fosters self-discipline and personal growth as well as musicianship.

### A. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the All-State Mixed Chorus, All-State Women's Chorus and All-State Men's Chorus is on the basis of total points received in the audition. Students in the 10th, 11th, 12th grades must be enrolled for credit for both semesters in a school choral program directed by a member in good standing of SCMEA and NAFME. Home-schooled students who are enrolled in a school choral program must provide documentation which qualifies them as 10th, 11th, or 12th grade student at the time of registration. A copy of the director/member's current membership card should be sent with the registration form. A director may not sponsor students who are enrolled in a school other than his/her own. Failure to comply with these rules will result in the involved student(s) not being able to participate in the All-State weekend and their school being suspended from participating in auditions for the next academic year.

2. If your membership card expires between October and November, and you do not receive your new registration card before your November audition date, please take the time to call NAFME and have documentation that NAFME is currently processing your membership. This will prevent slowing your audition process down while waiting for verification from NAFME National Headquarters.

### B. REGISTRATION FOR AUDITIONS

1. **Choral directors should limit registration only to students who possess superior musical skills. Audition registration information can be found at [www.scmea.net/divisions/choral-division](http://www.scmea.net/divisions/choral-division).**

2. Teachers must submit All-State Audition Registration through the process designated by the All-State Chairman. The registration process is completed online, then followed by a hardcopy mailing.

3. Audition Request Forms must be signed by the sponsoring choral director and the principal of each participating school.

4. The audition fee is fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per student and must be remitted to the All-State Chairman along with a hard copy of the Audition Request Form. Please send only **one** school check, personal check, or money order payable to SCMEA Choral Division.

5. Registration forms and appropriate fees must be postmarked by Friday, September 29, 2017 (LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE RETURNED). It is recommended that this application be sent by certified mail. Please send Registration to: Lizzi Elliott, Andrew Jackson High School, 6925 Kershaw Camden Hwy, Kershaw, SC 29067.

6. Once the audition request form has been submitted to the All-State Chairperson, no refunds will be made, no substitutions of names will be allowed, and no changes can be made. The audition schedule will be e-mailed and posted on the website by Wednesday, October 11, 2017.

### C. REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

ALL REGISTRATION MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE

Go to [www.scmea.net/divisions/choral-division](http://www.scmea.net/divisions/choral-division) and follow links to All-State. Follow all directions precisely and accurately. **All registering directors MUST have a working e-mail address that they check frequently. Please carefully check your e-mail address as you type it on the registration form.** Questions about eligibility and the online registration process should be directed to Lizzi Elliott at [lizzi.elliott@lcsdmail.net](mailto:lizzi.elliott@lcsdmail.net).

### D. AUDITIONS

1. Auditions will be held on November 6-9, 2017 at Cayce United Methodist Church, 1600 12th St Cayce, SC 29033.

2. Auditions will be divided into two phases:  
a) Prepared audition selection: SSATB "Honor and Glory" by Bach  
b) Sight-Singing

3. The prepared audition selection portion of the South Carolina All-State Chorus auditions will be blind auditions. Students will be placed behind a curtain, screen, or partition. If this is not possible, judges will sit with their backs to the students.

4. Each student will be given a number of points on each phase of the audition. Individual singers will be selected according to their overall performance at the audition based on the total number of points received in the two phases listed above.

5. Basic techniques and sight-singing will be judged individually. The ensemble will audition in quintets before six judges. Three judges will adjudicate the Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto voice parts simultaneously, and three judges will adjudicate the Tenor and Bass voice parts simultaneously. Each student will receive scores from three judges for the prepared piece. Individual student scores for the prepared piece will be determined immediately. **The score range will be 0 – 50 from each judge. Each judge will award up to ten points in each of the following categories: Pitch and Rhythmic Accuracy, Intonation, Diction, Tone**

**Quality, Musicality.** Scores from all three judges will be combined for a total score for the prepared piece. The maximum score possible for the prepared piece will be 150 (50 points from three judges).

6. Sight-singing material will be selected by the All-State Committee Chairperson and the Audition Coordinator. After successfully completing the prepared selection, all students will sight-sing individually for one judge in a separate audition room. After completing the sight-singing portion of the audition process, students will leave the building and have no contact with students who are waiting to go into the sight-singing room.

7. Sight-Singing Process: All directions will be given from a recorded prompt. Students will be given the tonic triad and the beginning pitch. They will have 60 seconds to practice the 4 measure piece. After 60 seconds, the students will hear the tonic triad and the beginning pitch again. The students will have 30 seconds to sing through the piece. The student must set his own tempo. Count off tempo will NOT be given. The student may sing on solfège, numbers, la, ta, count-singing, etc. **The score range will be 0 – 10.** Students will receive 1 point for completing each half measure perfectly as written, one point for retaining tonic, and one point for maintaining a steady tempo with no hesitations or restarts. This portion of the audition will not be blind. If you have students that need special accommodations due to disabilities, please contact the audition coordinator.

#### **Sight-reading Parameters:**

1. The piece will be in any major key.
2. It will start on Do and end on Do.
3. The most difficult rhythm will be a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note.
4. Skips will come from the I, IV, and V7 triads. (Do, Mi, Sol; Fa, La, Do ; Sol, Ti, Re, Fa)
5. There will be no rests.

**8. ALL STUDENTS MUST AUDITION COLLECTIVELY AT THEIR SCHOOL'S ASSIGNED TIME.** Although students may have previously been members of the All-State program, they will be required to audition again.

9. Absolutely no tape players, tape recorders, CD players, CD recorders, iPods, MP3 players, video/DVD recorders, radios, or text messaging devices will be allowed in or near the audition site. Cell phones and beepers are to be turned off and left outside the building. If a student is found using any device listed above within the audition site building, the device will be confiscated immediately. That student's teacher must pick up the device for the student before leaving the premises.

10. No changing of clothes on site.

11. Students must sing the prepared piece in complete quintets. Fill-in parts to complete the quintets will not be provided. **IT IS THE TEACHER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ANOTHER SCHOOL'S**

**SINGERS TO COMPLETE QUINTETS BEFORE REGISTERING ON LINE. YOU WILL THEN REQUEST TO BE SCHEDULED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SCHOOL FROM WHICH YOU ARE BORROWING STUDENTS.** Teachers should notify the All-State Audition Coordinator in this circumstance. No students who are ineligible to audition will be allowed to complete quintets. No teacher may fill in quintets. You may not borrow singers from another school if you have at least one complete quintet.

12. The number of quintets per school must not exceed the largest number of students registered in a vocal part. If you have cancellations at audition time, you must adjust your quintets to comply with this rule.

13. Students who act as fill-in voices with another school must postpone their personal sight-singing portion of the audition process until they have completed acting as a fill-in voice. This is to prevent the passing of sight-reading information from student to student prior to their entering the sight-singing audition room.

14. Teachers must be present with their students at the auditions. Students not accompanied by their own teacher will not be allowed to audition.

15. No photocopied music will be allowed.

**16. All incidents or exceptions pertaining to the All-State rules and regulations will be subject to review by the All-State Committee and could result in consequences to the school and/or student(s) involved.**

#### **E. SELECTED PARTICIPANTS**

1. The All-State Chorus will be comprised of three ensembles (SATB, SSAA, TTBB) chosen at random from the highest scoring students. No alternate All-State Chorus members will be selected nor may any teacher make any substitutions. Failure to comply with the substitution rule will result in the substituted students not being allowed to participate in the All-State weekend and their school being suspended for the next academic year.

2. Selected participants and score sheets will be posted on the scfas.net website. Cut-off scores, and other information will be emailed to each director after auditions have been completed. **It is the responsibility of the director to double-check the scores and notify students of their acceptance into the All-State Choirs.** If you do not receive an email, or have questions about scores, please contact Lizzi Elliott, Audition Coordinator.

3. **Teachers are responsible for the preparation of the music by their students prior to the All-State weekend.** In the event an unbalanced group is chosen from any one school, cooperative learning rehearsals may be conducted by combining two or more schools. Teachers should not expect students to learn the music

entirely independently. Rehearsal tracks will be provided for each student along with the registration.

4. **Attendance:** All students that have been selected for the All-State Choirs must attend 100% of the All-State Weekend. **All absences will be reviewed by the All-State Committee and could result in consequences to the school and/or student involved. All written documentation pertaining to absences must be submitted to the All-State Weekend Coordinator two weeks prior to the All-State weekend.**

**F. ALL-STATE CHORUS WEEKEND RULES**  
**TEACHERS AND STUDENTS MUST BE PRESENT AT ALL ALL-STATE ACTIVITIES,** i.e., general auditions, rehearsals, special auditions, performances, etc.  
**TEACHERS MUST STAY AT THE SAME HOTEL AS THEIR STUDENTS.**

1. In addition to the names of students selected for each choir, the following will be posted on the website: Registration, Parent Permission/Rules, Meals, T-Shirts, Schedule.

2. **In addition to the audition fee,** an All-State weekend registration fee of **forty dollars (\$40.00)** will be required of each student participating in the All-State choirs. **This registration fee must be remitted prior to All-State Weekend.** Please send only one school check, personal check, or money order payable to SCMEA Choral Division. You may pay for registration and meals (if you choose to eat in the cafeteria) in one check as long as you submit the checks with the appropriate information. **If your school district is submitting a check, please make sure that your school information is indicated and mailed with the check.**

3. T-shirts and pins will also be available for purchase ahead of time on the registration form. T-shirts **will not** be available for purchase at All-State Weekend.

4. The following items will be available for purchase at All-State Weekend;

- A. Pins
- B. CDs and DVDs of the concert performance
- C. Plaques with individual student names, voice part, and choir.

5. Rehearsal Guidelines:

- A. Dress for rehearsals will be informal-regular school clothes. (Hats, sunglasses, or any other item that would interfere with rehearsal are prohibited. Only knee-length shorts are permitted.)
- B. No gum, no talking, no tobacco products!
- C. Each student is expected to devote his/her full attention to the director at all times in all rehearsals and performances.
- D. Each student must bring a pencil and his/her music to ALL rehearsals, even if the music is memorized.

E. Each student will need a black folder for use at the concert.

6. General Guidelines:

- A. Students will be dismissed from All-State participation on the following grounds:
  - 1. Vandalism of any kind- the student's school will be held responsible for damages.
  - 2. Possession of drugs without a doctor's prescription.
  - 3. Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- B. Disciplinary action, *not* excluding dismissal, will be taken on the following grounds:
  - 1. Failure to adhere to attendance, housing, and rehearsal regulations.
  - 2. Violation of curfew.
  - 3. Any behavior found to be unbecoming by the All-State chairperson or his/her representative.
  - 4. Cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, personal tape players, CD players, or radios with headphones are not to be present during rehearsals. If a student is found to be in possession of these items during the rehearsal, the student's name will be taken and the director will be notified. If the same student is found to be in possession of the items for a 2<sup>nd</sup> time, they will be removed from participation in the All-State Choirs, and will be turned over to the director as an "Auditing Singer"
  - 5. Teachers are responsible for the conduct and behavior of their students throughout the entire All-State Weekend.
- C. Any dismissed student may cause his/her school to be suspended from participation for one year. An explanatory letter will be sent to the student's parents, choral director, school principal and district administration.
- D. Members of the All-State Chorus will adhere to the following concert dress. All attire will be checked for compliance prior to the concert. Students not in compliance with the dress code **WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM SINGING IN THE CONCERT** and will put the school in jeopardy of suspension from All-State participation for one year.
  - 1. Men: Tuxedo consisting of a white tuxedo shirt, black tie, black tuxedo pants, black tuxedo jacket, black socks, black and dress shoes. Tails and a WHITE or BLACK vest/tie/cummerbund are acceptable. Alternately, men may wear a black sports coat with black slacks accompanied by a white dress shirt and solid black tie with black socks and black dress shoes.
  - 2. Women: **Black ankle-length** concert dress or an ankle length black skirt with a black top of similar or complementary fabric. (No cocktail or formal [prom] dresses allowed, no denim, no sequins); medium- to low-heeled black shoes no more than 2 inches in height. No spaghetti straps on blouses or dresses

allowed. No bare midriffs, no bare backs. Necklines should be modest and appropriate for a concert. No slits in dresses or skirts above the bottom of the knee cap. Alternately, women may wear black dress slacks with a black dressy blouse, black pantsuit/skirt suit (skirt must be ankle length) with medium- to low-heeled black shoes no more than 2 inches in height.

- E. The All-State Choruses will present a public concert at *Byrnes Auditorium, Winthrop University* on **March 3rd, 2018, at 3:00 p.m.** Only participants will be allowed to attend any activities of the All-State Chorus Weekend. No one other than All-State members, official chaperones, and teachers may be present at hotels, rehearsals or facilities connected with the All-State events. No children, even those whose parents are choral directors, will be allowed at any All-State rehearsal. All chaperones must be at least 21 years of age – preferably older. All SCMEA members are welcome to attend any part of the All-State weekend even if that member does not have students participating in these events.

- F. All incidents or exceptions pertaining to the All-State rules and regulations will be subject to review by the All-State Committee and could result in consequences to the school and/or student(s) involved. Requests for exceptions due to extenuating circumstances must be submitted in writing to the All-State Committee Chairperson two weeks prior to the All-State weekend.**

## SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL

The Solo and Ensemble Festival provides students the opportunity to perform before an adjudicator. The adjudicator provides a written and verbal critique of the performance and awards a rating based on defined criteria. There is also a chance for high school students to participate in a scholarship competition during their senior year.

### Solo and Ensemble Rules and Regulations

#### A. INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

1. Registration forms located on the Solo and Ensemble page of the SCMEA Choral Division website must be mailed by January 20, 2017.
2. The fees should be included with the registration forms. Late registration or registrations without fees will not be accepted.
3. Teachers must be members of SCMEA and NAFME. A copy of your current membership card must accompany the registration.
4. Only students that are enrolled in your choral program or private instruction should be brought to the festival.
5. Ratings for each performance are as follows: I-Superior, II-Excellent, III-Good, IV-Below Average, V-Poor. Plus or minus may be added to the score.
6. Standard vocal literature is required. It is suggested that teachers choose good repertoire and avoid pop songs, show tunes, hymns, or contemporary Christian selections.
7. A Certificate of Achievement will be given for each performance. Pins are available for purchase for \$4.00 for those performers scoring I, I+, or I-.
8. If you register over 15 solos or ensembles you may be asked to bring an additional accompanist.

#### B. INFORMATION FOR ALL CATEGORIES

1. Solo and Ensemble events are available for students in the age range of the sixth grade through the twelfth grade.
2. All singers must perform memorized music.
3. All soloists and ensembles must furnish an original copy of the music for the adjudicator and accompanist. PHOTOCOPIES ARE ILLEGAL AND MAY NOT BE USED. Schools attempting to use photocopied music will be disqualified.
4. If performing literature that is out of print, the director must provide a letter from the publisher stating the music is out of print and they are given permission to copy and perform the music. If you print music from the Choral Public Domain Library, also print the cover page provided by CPDL.
5. All music presented to the adjudicator must have numbered measures.
6. Singers must have their own accompanist – accompaniment tracks are not acceptable.

7. Schools should arrive 45 minutes prior to their judging time. A 15-minute warm-up will be given for each school.
8. Festival performances with the exception of the scholarship division are closed performances.

#### C. ENSEMBLES

1. Small ensembles (2-6 performers) must prepare one memorized piece of standard choral literature. Large ensembles (7-17 performers) must prepare two memorized octavos of music in contrasting styles.
2. Ensemble performances may be a cappella or accompanied. Each performing group will furnish an original copy of the music for the adjudicator and accompanist.

#### D. SOLOISTS

1. Students are encouraged to sing age-appropriate literature. (No pop songs, show tunes, hymns, or contemporary Christian selections.)
2. All students will sing one piece, by memory, for the judge. The judge and the accompanist must have original copies of the music.
3. Students are eligible to compete in the Advanced Division in their JUNIOR or SENIOR year after receiving a Superior rating in the High School Division in a previous year. Singing in the Advanced Division means the student will perform 2 pieces.

#### E. SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Soloists must have received a I+, I, or I- in the Advanced Division to qualify for the vocal scholarship.
2. Seniors who have received a Superior performing in the Advanced Division in their Junior year will not need to sing in the Advanced Division their Senior year. This student should sign up for the Scholarship Division only their senior year.
3. Seniors who have not previously received a superior rating in the Advanced Division should register as a soloist and mark that they are intending to compete for the scholarship. The scholarship fee will be paid on site if the student receives a Superior in their Advanced Division solo.
4. Each student entering the scholarship division should submit a Scholarship Division Resume Form. This resume should be mailed along with the school's registration form and meet the postmark deadline.
5. All soloists will prepare two memorized pieces in varying styles. One of the pieces should be in a foreign language.
6. Scholarship auditions will begin following the adjudication of the other divisions. Students and parents are invited to listen to the auditions. Each student will sing one song of their choosing. After all singers have sung one piece, the judges have the opportunity to ask the singers to sing their other selection. The number of students asked to sing a second piece is at the discretion

of the judges. A second runner up, first runner up, and scholarship winner may be recognized.

7. The soloist receiving the scholarship must be planning to be a music major at an institution of higher education in the State of South Carolina. Should the student change their major, or move out of state, the scholarship will be given to the first runner up.
8. The scholarship will be distributed in the following manner:
  - a. The sum of \$400 will be paid to the student after he/she submits transcripts of a successful completion of the first year of a music degree. Subsequently, another \$400 will be sent after the second and third years. The official school transcripts should be sent to the SCMEA Choral Division Treasurer. Contact information is located on the SCMEA Choral Division website.
  - b. One scholarship will be awarded at each festival site at the discretion of the judges.

## HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

### A. REGISTRATION

1. Dates: **March 26 and 27, 2018**
2. Participating choral directors must be members of SCMEA and present your membership card or proof of current membership. It is the director's responsibility to provide this information on online registration and to ensure that it is valid and current. If membership proof is not provided, performance will be denied. No refunds will be issued. Scans of your Principal Authorization form must accompany the Online Registration Form through the online submission link provided. Registration Forms, Principal Authorization Forms, Repertoire Forms, and materials must be completely filled out when submitted. Any Registration forms that are not completely filled out and turned in by the dates below will constitute a rules violation in which the appropriate steps will be followed as outlined by the choral division. These steps can be found at the end of the rules and handbook. It will be at the discretion of the committee if the choir performs. If the choir does not perform, there will be no penalty.
3. The registration fee is **\$180.00** per choir and must be submitted with the Cover Sheet postmarked by **January 19, 2018**. Online registrations must be completed by 11:59 PM on January 19, 2018. No money will be refunded due to cancellation after **February 16, 2018**. Any cancellations must be sent in writing/email to the Committee Chair dated no later than **February 16, 2018, at 11:59 PM**. Checks should be made payable to **SCMEA Choral Division**. Schools registering two or more choirs may submit 1 check for their school; however, checks (or any registration material) from middle schools will not be accepted by the high school choral festival committee and visa versa. **\*\*Please, remember your Cover Sheet.**  
**Note: Late registrations and/or fees will not be accepted.**

**Mail to: Lisa Cunningham  
852 Thackston Dr.  
Spartanburg, SC 29307**

4. The following classifications will be used for registration of choirs based on South Carolina High School League classifications:  
AAAAA (Big 16 High School)  
AAAA High School  
AAA High School  
A-AA High School

In addition, choral directors will classify their choir for one of two choices:

- a) Comments Only;
  - b) Ratings.
5. An individual school may not register more than 3 (three) choirs without a special request registration form. Note: Choirs must have at least 16 members in order to participate. Additional choir registration requests may be submitted for consideration if the schedule permits. Registration for Special Requests (additional ensembles) must be submitted and fees paid with the initial registration. If special requests are denied, the registration fee for those ensembles will be refunded. All registration and classification requirements apply. Use the Special Request Choir Registration Forms when registering these ensembles.
  6. Choirs from the same division will perform consecutively within the parameters of the schedule template. Choirs must perform on the scheduled day and time in which they are assigned. Any exceptions will be made by the committee due to logistics and time constraints of the festival. These decisions are determined by the number of registrations received.
  7. Ensemble performance times will be assigned using a predetermined template based on the number of registrations per division, size of choirs, facility availability, number of ensembles per school, etc. The template will be created to allow choir assignments for logistical purposes of the festival (size, type, division, warm-up rooms, etc.). Commute times will be researched on MapQuest prior. Choirs with a commute of 2 hours 30 minutes or more will not be scheduled before 9:00 am unless otherwise arranged with the choral director from the affected school. Choirs with the same director may be scheduled less than 1 hour apart. Choirs with the same director and from the same school will not be scheduled on separate days. Choirs from different schools who share one director may be scheduled on separate days.
  8. The schedule of the festival will be EMAILED to registered choral directors. Verification of registration, posting of schedule, and performance site instructions will be communicated through email and posted on the Choral Division website. Directors need to provide 2 working email addresses that are checked daily and prevent festival emails from being blocked. It is the director's responsibility to make sure s/he has working emails that are checked and emails are being received. Directors are responsible for keeping up with deadlines, paperwork, and information that is distributed by email.

9. Festival day procedures will be sent out by email to registered directors prior to festival. Follow these procedures precisely.

## B. PERFORMANCE PROCEDURES/RULES

1. Choirs are provided a warm-up room for *twenty minutes*. Choirs must be ready to be collected by festival workers at least 3 choirs ahead of performance in the location that was reported to the Registration Desk.
2. If your choir is late, the warm-up time will be forfeited. The festival must stay on schedule (as much as possible) for all choirs involved. If your choir arrives past their assigned performance time, the choir will not perform.
3. Choirs will be adjudicated on TWO pieces. Each choir has the option of performing a warm-up piece first that will not be adjudicated. All repertoire, including the warm-up, piece must not exceed 10 minutes of performance time. Travel time on stage and off will **not** count as part of the 10-minute performance time. For performances that exceed the 10-minute performance time, the choir will drop one rating.
4. Repertoire Requirements (including the warm-up): Repertoire must be quality choral literature that is both festival appropriate and appropriate for each individual ensemble (voicing, genre of ensemble, etc...). Judges have the discretion to take choice of repertoire into account for scoring using the performance rubric provided. Directors must site credible literature sources from which their repertoire was chosen. Acceptable sources may include but are not limited to SC All-State Chorus Concert Repertoire, ACDA repertoire lists, High School Honor Choral Clinic lists, graded literature lists, etc... If an ensemble's repertoire is not sited, directors must submit a request in writing by email to the festival chairman for approval of literature to be performed at festival. This request must ALSO be indicated in a different color font (or highlighted) on the Repertoire Form. Repertoire approval needs to be submitted before the Repertoire due date, which is **11:59 PM (by email) on February 16, 2018**. Even with cited repertoire and/or repertoire approved by the chairman, judges still have the ability to take off points for choice of repertoire if they feel that the music chosen does not fit the voices within the ensemble. Any repertoire information that is not received by the deadline will result in the ensemble's omission from the program.
5. There will be no taped background accompaniment unless the tape is part of the composition.
6. Directors are to furnish three scores with numbered measures of each adjudicated selection performed. Copied music will not be allowed without a letter of permission from the publisher included with each judge's copy and a copy for the Festival Chairman to be provided at

Registration. If copied music is used without publisher permission, the choir will be able to perform for comments only.

7. **Choral Public Domain Library Procedure:**  
\*Print off the "Title" page of your piece that CPDL provides as a "cover" for your music, the judges' copies, and your accompanist (if applicable) and any other copies that you may bring with you. (For example: [http://www1.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/Missa\\_Hodie\\_Christus\\_natus\\_\(Josef\\_Cainer\)](http://www1.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/Missa_Hodie_Christus_natus_(Josef_Cainer))) Contact the chairman if problems arise with this procedure.
8. All performance judges will provide recorded digital comments.
9. Separate ratings will be given for performance and sight-reading.
10. **All choirs will be required to sight-read.** If a choir performed for "comments only" on stage, then "comments only" will be allowed in the sight-reading room.
11. Student teachers that are allowed by their mentor teacher to conduct at Festival may only conduct 1 of the 2 adjudicated pieces, must be a current NAFME member, and must provide their membership card at the Registration Desk with the Director. This information must be provided on the Registration Form of the ensemble. If it is omitted, the student teacher will not be able to conduct the choir.
12. Names of the festival judges will be posted on the Choral Division website and announced at Choral Arts in September as well as at the SCMEA Professional Development Conference in February. Directors must not discuss the Choral Performance Assessment with the judges or use any of the judges as a clinician during that school year.
13. Directors, students, chaperones, and guests are to follow instructions given by the Choral Festival Committee on the day of the festival.
14. Directors are responsible for all students and chaperones and their behavior while at the festival site. Electronic devices are strictly prohibited in the performance venue. This rule covers everyone in attendance, including students, teachers, chaperones, and parents.
15. If a problem occurs, schools may incur a rating deduction, dismissal from the festival, and/or probation and suspension with accompanying letters to the director and principals notifying them of the infraction or inappropriate conduct.
16. All site procedures must be followed.

## C. SIGHT-SINGING PROCEDURES/RULES

1. Appropriate music will be available for each choir based on their stage performance classifications (female, male, mixed). Choirs are not required to sight-read in the same classification that they perform on stage (ex. choirs who perform SATB literature on stage may sight-read SAB materials). Please indicate your sight-reading preference on the registration form so we may



know how many copies to order for each classification.

2. The sight-reading music will have lyrics. However, the director may specify the syllable(s) to be used by the singers (*i.e.*, "loo", solfège, counting syllables, etc.). Sight-reading the text is not recommended.
3. Directors and choirs will have six (6) minutes of preparation time before the evaluated sight-reading performance. The evaluator will signal the conductor when one (1) minute of preparation remains. Directors must stop their preparation promptly when the evaluator indicates that the preparation time has expired.
4. The piano may be used only to arpeggiate the first (or tonic) chord and to sound individual reference pitches during the period of preparation. Two notes may not be played simultaneously on the piano. Two or more consecutive pitches from a particular voice part may not be sounded on the piano. The director may use his/her voice in any manner he/she wishes during the preparation period.
5. After sounding the beginning pitches, the piano may not be used during the evaluated sight-reading performance. Likewise, **the director is prohibited from talking or singing with the ensemble during the evaluated sight-reading performance. In addition, students and directors are prohibited from producing any audible sound that assists in keeping a beat.**
6. Directors and singers should heed any tempo indications, phrase markings, and/or dynamic indications in the sight-reading materials.
7. Choirs from the same school must sight-read different sight-reading examples in the adjudication room. Voicing information on the registration form indicates how many sight-reading examples per voicing are needed for the festival.
8. The following lists should be used when aligning your choir for the sight-reading procedure. If you combine students to sing in two separate ensembles, then you need to indicate that on your registration form.

#### **Varsity Choirs—Top Performing Group**

Jr./Sr. Advanced Mixed Choirs

10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Choirs

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Choirs

Jr./Sr. Advanced Women's Choirs

10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Women's Choirs

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Women's Choirs

Jr./Sr. Advanced Men's Choirs

10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Men's Choirs

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Men's Choirs

**Non-Varsity Choirs** (A Varsity Choir from the same school must be present to qualify as Non-Varsity)

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Choirs

9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Choirs

9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Choirs (if the school is represented by a Varsity Mixed Choir )

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Women's Choirs

9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Women's Choirs

9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Women's Choirs (if a Varsity Women's Choir is represented)

10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Women's Choirs (if a Varsity Women's Choir is represented)

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Men's Choirs

9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Men's Choirs

9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Men's Choirs (if a Varsity Men's Choir is represented)

#### **D. BEHAVIOR**

1. Teachers must accompany their choirs to the festival and remain with them during the day.
2. All mobile phones, pagers, iPads or other electronic devices, hats, sunglasses, and gum are prohibited. Any item that would interfere with performances, aurally or visually, or the appreciation of the festival will not be allowed.
3. Students are not to wander in and out of the performance area, especially during the adjudication of another group.
4. There is to be absolutely no loud talking, laughing, loud disrespectful noises, or other performance disruptions.
5. If a student, chaperone, parent, or director displays unbecoming or illegal behavior or damages property, he/she will be put on probation for the next year. In addition, unbecoming behavior may jeopardize the school's participation for the next year.
6. No food or drink of any kind is allowed in the performing area.
7. **No smoking** anywhere on or around the premises.
8. Choirs are encouraged to observe other choirs *respectfully* during the performance.
9. If any interference occurs during a group's performance, those responsible will have to leave the performance site immediately with their directors, chaperones, etc., and will not be allowed to stay. A disciplinary note will follow and may result in probation or suspension of the school from future Choral Performance Assessment participation.
10. All choirs, directors, chaperones, bus drivers, etc., must remain in the designated "choral performance assessment areas." Instructional areas and wings on campus not designated for festival use are prohibited. Any campus visitor found in prohibited areas will be dismissed from campus. A letter will be sent to the school director and principal informing them of the disciplinary action. Disciplinary action could result in probation or suspension.

## E. AWARDS

### 1. Ratings will be:

Superior (I), Excellent (II), Good (III), Fair (IV), and Poor (V). Award trophies will be given for Superior and Excellent ratings in performance. In addition, if a choir earns straight Superiors in performance and sight-reading, the rating will become Superior with Distinction. Performance ratings are determined by the rating opinion of 2 out of 3 of the judges. For example, Judge 1 awards a II, Judge 2 awards a I, Judge 3 awards a II. The Overall Performance Rating would be a II. In the event the judges award three different ratings, the Overall Performance Rating will be the middle rating. For example, Judge 1 awards a I, Judge 2 awards a II, Judge 3 awards a III. The Overall Performance Rating: would be a II.

### 2. Ratings, score sheets, and awards may be picked up by the **director only**.

(b.) If the evidence of violations is the direct result of the Choral Director's repeated negligence to review and adhere to the guidelines, the Choral Director (same or different school) and the choral program will be barred from participating in all Choral Division events for a period up to two consecutive years contingent upon the severity of the violations. The letters (a. and b.) will be mailed to the Choral Director, Principal, District Music Consultant, and Choral Division President containing the documented history of rules violations, dates, and quote the most recent standing rule(s) that were violated. Committee members who teach in the same region of South Carolina will continue to serve as a mentor during this period

## PERFORMANCE SITE:

### Consequences of Rules Violations Levels of Notification

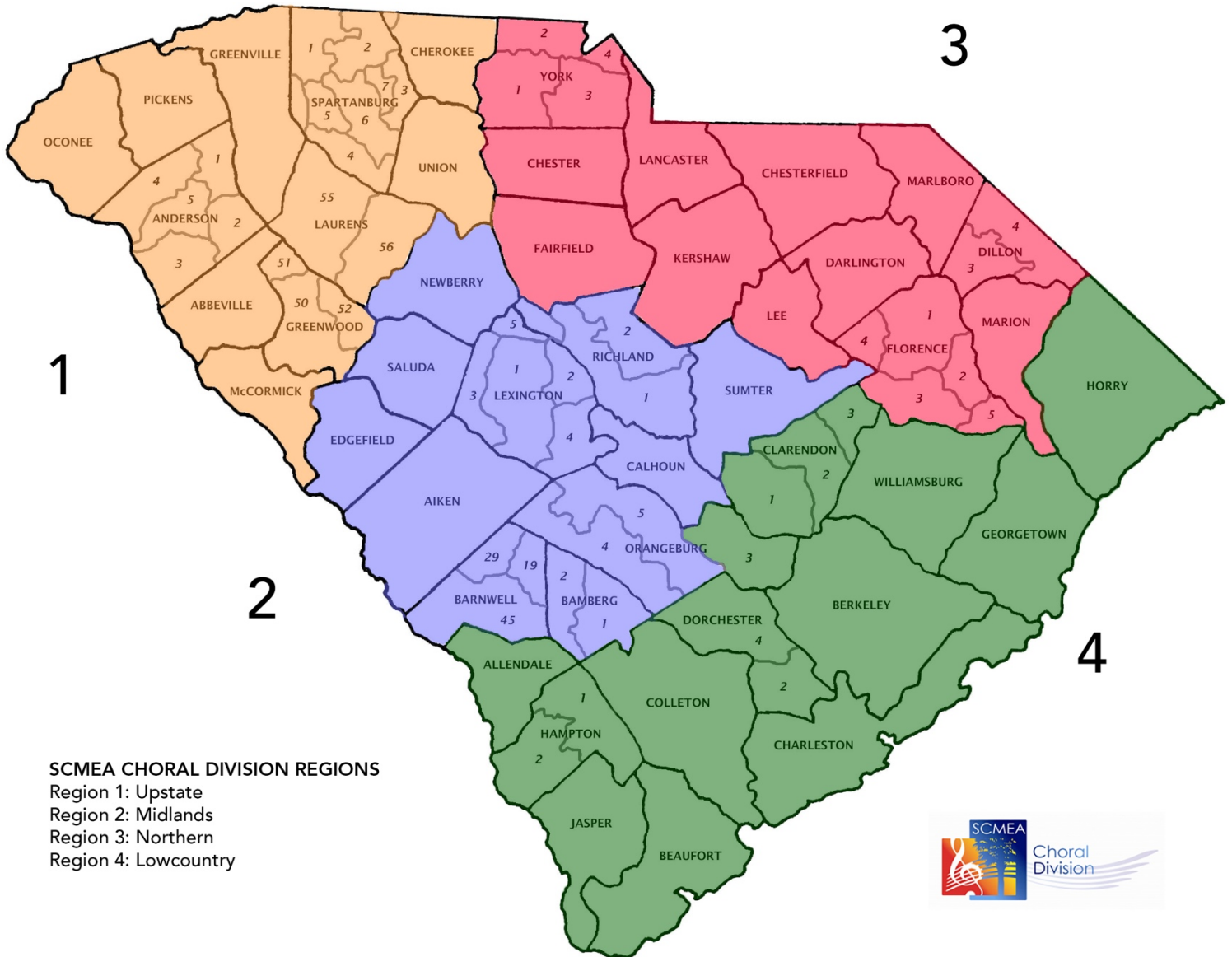
1. One rule violation occurs: The choral director will receive a written letter from the committee stating exactly which standing rule was violated and that *all guidelines must be followed or the director and/or school risks being placed on probation and/or barred from participation in future SCMEA Choral Division events* if rules violations recur. The Principal will also receive a copy of the same letter **if** the violation compromised student safety at the event.

2. Two rule violations occur: the same choral director (even if transferred to another school in S.C.) again fails to adhere to the rules **or** commits two or more Rules Violations during the **same** event. Choral director and school will be put on probationary status. The school choral director, school principal, and Choral Division President will receive written letters from the committee stating that the school may still participate, but the SCMEA By-Laws and Standing Rules serve a real and valuable purpose and it is the Choral Director's responsibility to adhere to them. The letter will contain the event, date, and quote the exact standing rule(s) that were violated. The letters will also direct committee members who teach in the same region of South Carolina to serve as a mentor during this probationary period. Lastly, the letters will state that a recurrence of future violations will result in the students involved, **or** the Choral Director and the school choral program being barred from attending SCMEA events for a period of up to two years.

3. (a.) If the Choral Director continues to commit Rules Violations after #1 and #2 are issued, either the students involved, or the Choral Director and the school choral program will be barred from participation at all SCMEA Choral Division events for up to two consecutive years contingent upon the severity of the violations.

## CHORAL DIVISION REGIONS

The SCMEA Choral Division divides the state into regions to make sure all demographics are represented on Division committees. Regional events are not exclusive for the Choral Division as they are for other divisions; schools may attend events in any region in the state.



**SCMEA CHORAL DIVISION REGIONS**  
 Region 1: Upstate  
 Region 2: Midlands  
 Region 3: Northern  
 Region 4: Lowcountry

