

August 15, 2011

Dear Colleagues:

I hope that your school year is off to a great start and that many of your students are anticipating auditioning for the *St. Louis Metro 8 All-District Honors Choir*.

Once again, students will register online for the auditions via the district website at [stlmetrodistrict8.org](http://stlmetrodistrict8.org). (Please note that the website address has changed!) However, the procedures are slightly different (no login will be required, and students can complete their own registration forms.) Please remember that you will still need to *mail or FAX the enclosed forms with payment*. There is one very important change this year – **the student fee is \$10.00 per student**. Be sure to follow the procedures provided in this mailing to register and **observe all deadlines**.

This year's clinician is **Dr. Trent Patterson**, who is currently the director of choirs at **Webster University**. His program has yet to be determined.

Copies of the program will be sent to American Music, M-R Music, and Shattinger Music ASAP.

Our performance venue is yet to be determined. I will also give you that information ASAP.

The auditions will take place on **October 8<sup>th</sup>** at **De Smet High School**. As in previous years, we will have two rehearsals (November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>) and the final all-day clinic and concert on November 12<sup>th</sup>. The first rehearsal and All-State Auditions will be at **MICDS** on **November 3<sup>rd</sup>**, The second rehearsal will be at **St. Joseph's Academy** on **November 10<sup>th</sup>**. The clinic and performance will be at **First Baptist Church St. Charles**.

Here are a few reminders regarding procedures for the auditions and rehearsals:

- A certified staff member from each **school** (not district) must be present for a student to participate in all auditions and rehearsals.
- The time limit for all solo auditions will be **90 seconds** from the **beginning of the piece** (*including the introduction*.)
- A reminder that last year's (and the previous year's) sight reading information is available for anyone to use on the MCDA website ([www.moacda.org](http://www.moacda.org))

Remember that due to the prevalent use of camera phones and text messaging, **CELLULAR PHONES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE SIGHT-READING ROOMS**. An adult room monitor will hold the student's phone while they are auditioning and it will be returned to them upon the completion of the audition. *Please inform all students of this policy prior to the auditions to avoid problems.*

The use of students as room monitors during solo auditions continues to be a concern. It has been suggested that teachers would be a better resource. I completely agree and would love to use teachers as monitors, if an adequate number volunteer to do so. I know that many teachers must ride buses to supervise students, but if it is possible, please volunteer your time to be a room monitor. Please understand that students will be room monitors for the solo rooms unless enough teachers volunteer.

Please review the information and forms for both All-District and All-State auditions. Thanks to Dana Self for managing the All-State auditions this year!

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at school (636-379-2902 ext. 49), cell (314-629-2685), by FAX (636-272-6124), or by e-mail ([my\\_music4u@yahoo.com](mailto:my_music4u@yahoo.com) or [astegeman@fz.k12.mo.us](mailto:astegeman@fz.k12.mo.us)).

Best wishes for a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,

Amanda Stegeman

ST. LOUIS METRO DISTRICT EIGHT  
**DISTRICT HONORS CHOIR**

Dr. Trent Patterson, Clinician  
*Missouri Music Educators' Association*  
*Missouri Choral Directors' Association*

**Auditions**

Saturday, October 8, 2011, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
De Smet Jesuit High School  
233 N. New Ballas Road

**Three Audition Sessions**

**Session I** - 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.  
**Session II** - 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
**Session III** - 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Schools may only enter eight students for each voice part. Students will be assigned numbers in the order received from the registration forms on a "first come, first served" basis. If you do not have homecoming or another morning performance on this date, please consider requesting Sessions II or III.

Each student must be a member of his or her school's performing ensemble to be eligible. MCDA and All-State rules state that each student must **ATTEND ALL REHEARSALS** unless excused for extraordinary circumstances. Teachers must also be present during their students' audition times.

**REHEARSALS**

**Thursday, November 3, 2011 (6:00 to 9:30 p.m.)**  
(Includes All-State Audition and rehearsal)  
**Thursday, November 10, 2011 (7:00 to 9:30 p.m.)**  
**Saturday, November 12, 2011 (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)**

**CONCERT - November 12, 2011, 4:00 p.m.**

**IN THIS MAILING:**

- All-District Choir **online registration procedures**  
(Please note: There is no on-site registration)
- All-District School Registration Form
- Student Audition Agreement Form
- Teacher Volunteer Form
- Concert Calendar Form
- All-State Audition Information

Please make sure that the registration fee of \$10.00 (*checks made payable to St. Louis Metro*) is included for each student.

Return forms and payment to:

Amanda Stegeman  
Fort Zumwalt North High School  
1230 Tom Ginnever Ave.  
O'Fallon, MO 63366  
by **September 15, 2011.**

(More on back)

## Audition Literature

We will still be using the following books and CD accompaniments for auditions. Students may only sing from these books. Selections need not be memorized but students may not use a Xeroxed copy. **Students must sing in the correct voicing for the section for which they are auditioning.**

- Soprano
  - The First Book of Soprano Solos (G. Schirmer)
  - The First Book of Soprano Solos (Part II) (G. Schirmer)
  - 26 Italian Art Songs and Arias, Med. High Voice (Alfred)
  - 15 American Songs - (High Voice) (G. Schirmer)
- Alto
  - The First Book of Alto Solos (G. Schirmer)
  - The First Book of Alto Solos (Part II) (G. Schirmer)
  - 26 Italian Art Songs and Arias, Med. Low Voice (Alfred)
  - 15 American Songs - (Low Voice) (G. Schirmer)
- Tenor
  - The First Book of Tenor Solos (G. Schirmer)
  - The First Book of Tenor Solos (Part II) (G. Schirmer)
  - 26 Italian Art Songs and Arias, Med. High Voice (Alfred)
  - 15 American Songs - (High Voice) (G. Schirmer)
- Bass
  - The First Book of Bass Solos (G. Schirmer)
  - The First Book of Bass Solos (Part II) (G. Schirmer)
  - 26 Italian Art Songs and Arias, Med. Low Voice (Alfred)
  - 15 American Songs - (Low Voice) (G. Schirmer)

Since CD accompaniments will be used, please have students start from the beginning of the song (It might be better to choose a song with a brief introduction if at all possible.). Regardless of the length of any introduction, each student will be given **90 seconds** from the **beginning of the selection (including the introduction,)** and they must sing until the **entire 90 seconds has elapsed unless they sing the entire song.** They should be encouraged to choose a song with a brief introduction.

Students will also sight read and identify key signatures. Procedures and forms for the scoring of auditions have been copied from the MCDA Handbook and included in this packet. Sight reading and key signature identification examples are also included. **Cellular phones will NOT be allowed in the sight-reading rooms.**

Reminders re: sight reading and key signatures – students will:

- **Identify two different key signatures** (in mixed order) within five seconds each;
- **Melodic sight reading:** Scale is played; twenty seconds to study the line; I-IV-V-I progression is played, beginning pitch is given, and then, “one, two, ready, sing.”
- **Part specific sight reading** is the same as the melodic.

## Audition Results

Auditions results will be available by the next day. Please indicate on your form whether you would prefer to receive your results via phone or e-mail (e-mail would be greatly appreciated!).