

Choral Placement Auditions - 2007-2008

New Trier Choruses

Audition Dates: April 2-5, 2007

The choral placement auditions for 2006-2007 school year will consist of the following (in the order that you see):

- **A vocal warm-up** that will also serve to establish the current range of the singer. The warm-up will be on a neutral syllable.
- **A major scale** sung a cappella (no accompaniment). A pitch will be given (D for basses and altos, F for tenors and sopranos) and then the student must sing the scale first ascending and then descending. The scale can be sung using solfege or on a neutral syllable.
- **A minor scale**, either a natural or harmonic, sung a cappella. The student will find the starting pitch of the relative minor on his or her own and then sing the scale first ascending and then descending. The scale can be sung using solfege or on a neutral syllable.
- **A short sight singing piece.** For freshmen the excerpt will include a melody with step-wise motion, rhythm which includes quarter, half and whole notes, and a major key signature that includes up to one flat or sharp. For upperclassmen the excerpt will include a melody with simple skips, rhythm which includes eighth, quarter, half and whole notes, and a major key signature that includes up to two flats or sharps. The student will have a moment to study the excerpt. The key of the excerpt will be established with a chord on the piano and then the first pitch of the piece will be given. The student will then sing the excerpt a cappella using solfege or on a neutral syllable.
- **An excerpt of a piece set in the classical or American folk genre** of your choice. You may also use an excerpt of a piece from your chorus class. If choosing the latter please sing the voice part with which you are most familiar. An accompanist will be provided. Please sing between 16 and 32 bars of the excerpt.

After the preliminary auditions, current sophomores and juniors that indicated an interest in Choir Opera and/or Swing Choir (depending on their initial assessment) may be called back for further evaluation.

Choir Opera Callback – The call back will consist of either a monologue or dance of your choice. If you need assistance finding a monologue please see either Mr. Ladd (M282), Mr. Estberg (M288) or any of the theatre teachers. If you decide to dance, choose a style from musical theatre, ballet, tap or modern jazz. No hip hop please. If dancing, please provide recorded music. Cassette and CD players will be provided.

Swing Choir Callback – The callback will consist of: 1) a more rigorous sight singing example; 2) the singing of one-octave *chromatic and blues* scales, starting on C for altos/basses and Eb for sopranos/tenors, on solfege or a neutral syllable; 3) the singing of 16-32 measures of a prepared jazz or swing tune; you should be prepared to sing your song without accompaniment. Please see Mr. Landes in M288 for a more detailed description of the Swing Choir audition or help choosing an appropriate song.

The auditions begin Monday, April 2. Sometime in March you will have the opportunity to sign up for a time. Time slots will be in five-minute increments. It is preferable to dress up for the audition. Avoid blue jeans and t-shirts.

For more information, please see Mr. Ladd on the Winnetka Campus (M282) or Mr. Estberg on the Northfield Campus (E125).