

Choral Placement Auditions – 2018-2019

New Trier Choruses

Audition Dates: Feb 28, March 1, 2, 5 – Callbacks: March 13, 14

The choral placement auditions for 2018-2019 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. For upperclassmen the scale may include melodic minor. 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.** The excerpt will include a melody with simple skips and rhythms including eighth, quarter, half and whole notes. For Freshmen, it will be in a major key signature that includes up to one flat or sharp. The passage for upperclassmen will be in 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 by the playing of a chord on the piano followed by the first pitch of the piece. The student will then sing the excerpt unaccompanied using solfege or 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 (012A), Mr. Landes (W211) or any of the theatre teachers. If you decide to dance, choose a style from musical theatre, ballet, tap or modern jazz. No free style or hip hop please. If dancing, please provide recorded music. A CD player or iPod jack will be provided.

Vocal Jazz Callback – The callback will consist of: 1) a more rigorous sight singing example; 2) the singing of one-octave *chromatic and blues* scales (see back), starting on C for altos/basses and Eb for sopranos/tenors, on solfege or a neutral syllable; 3) the unaccompanied singing of 16-32 measures of a prepared jazz or swing tune (for example, George Gershwin or Cole Porter songs would work). Please see Mr. Landes in W211 for a more detailed description of the Swing Choir audition or help choosing an appropriate song.

The auditions begin Wednesday, February 28. Audition times and dates will be set by your chorus teacher. Please contact Mr. Ladd if not currently enrolled in chorus. Please dress up for the audition. Avoid blue jeans and t-shirts.

For more information, please contact Mr. Ladd at laddD@nth.net or 847-784-6696.