



BLUFF CITY CHORAL FESTIVAL

Performance

Team Building

Community Service

Festival Information Guide

Performance:

Choirs will bring 2 prepared pieces to the festival to be adjudicated for competition. Each choir may elect to bring a third piece for the clinic that will have no impact on the scoring. Directors will prepare three judges packets, the contents of which are explained on the adjudication form. Each choir will be given 30 minutes for their performance and clinic. Choirs will receive written or oral comments from each of the 3 adjudicators on their 2 prepared pieces. After the performance, at least one of the adjudicators will clinic the group for the remainder of their time. The optional third piece may be performed during the clinic portion at the judges' discretion but will have no impact on the scoring. This year's performances will take place in the Heindl Center on the campus of Northwest Community College in Senatobia, MS.

Team Building:

Choirs will participate in a team building session consisting of various activities in which they will be scored. At the conclusion of the event, each ensemble will be given a final total score that will be used for competition. In the case of a school with multiple ensembles with overlapping students, the director will work with the festival coordinator to determine if the ensembles will compete separately or as a school.

Community Service (Optional):

Each choir will be given a 15 minute time slot to present a community service project to a panel of three judges (not the clinic adjudicators). Choirs should prepare three adjudication forms and select four representatives to present the project. Community service projects should be completed by participating choirs prior to arrival at the festival during their 2023-2024 school year (Aug. 1, 2023-April 11, 2024); the 15 minute time slot is for the participating choir to present the results of the project and answer any questions the judges may have about the project.

Community service projects can be completed by all participating choirs from a school or by individual ensembles; in the case of multiple ensembles participating in the same community service project, the director will indicate the total number of students in each ensemble and the total number of

students who participated on the adjudication form. *NOTE: The total number of students who participated should include the students who participated in the project, not just the four students who present the project.* Projects and presentations can be as creative as the students wish. A projector and Bluetooth speaker will be available for the students to use; directors are asked to contact the festival coordinator by April 5th if additional equipment will be brought or needed for the presentation.

NOTE: Although the community service aspect of the festival is optional, only ensembles that choose to complete this portion of the festival will be considered for the Grand Champion Award.

Awards:

Choirs will be separated into middle and high school divisions and will compete on separate days. First, Second, and Third place trophies will be given in each division for each category: Performance, Team Building, and Community Service. The Grand Champion Award will be given to the choir in each division with the highest combined Performance, Team Building, and Community Service score. Awards generally take place around 5:30-6:30 pm, depending on the number of choirs participating.

Registration:

Ensembles with 15-30 members will pay a \$40/person registration fee. Ensembles with 31 members or more will pay a \$35/person registration fee. The fee includes a 30-minute performance/clinic slot, team building session, trampoline park admission, community service adjudication, and t-shirt for each singer.

Clarification on additional ensembles:

Every singer attending must pay a registration fee, which covers one performance in one ensemble. If you wish to bring multiple ensembles in which singers overlap, the following guidelines apply:

- 1. If the additional ensemble has 15 or more singers that were not registered with the first ensemble, the per person registration fee applies for only those singers that do not overlap choirs. There is no additional charge for the singers already registered with another group.** (For example, you want the 12 women from your Mixed Chamber Choir of 24 to sing with your Women's Choir of 30 other singers. You would register your Mixed Chamber Choir of 24 at \$40/person registration fee. You then register your Women's Choir of 42 and pay \$40/person registration fee for only the 30 singers who were not already registered with the Mixed Chamber Choir.)
- 2. If the additional ensemble has less than 15 singers that were not registered with the first ensemble, the per person registration fee applies only for those singers who do not overlap choirs, in addition to the \$400 additional ensemble fee.** (For example, you register your mixed choir of 60 but also want to split them into men's and women's choirs for adjudication. You have eight women from your intermediate choir that you want to sing with your women's choir. You would register your Mixed Choir of 60 at \$35/person and receive a time slot for the mixed choir performance. Then you register the additional eight women at \$40/person and pay a flat rate of \$400 each for your men's and women's choirs to receive a performance/clinic slot.
- 3. If the additional ensemble is completely made up of singers from an already registered ensemble, there is no additional per person registration fees, only the \$400 additional**

ensemble fee. (For example, you register your 60 voice mixed choir at \$35/person registration fee, and wish to pull 16 students from this choir for a mixed chamber ensemble. All these singers are already registered, so you would just need to enter them as an additional ensemble for \$400 to receive the performance/clinic slot.)

Dress:

Choirs will wear their BCCF t-shirts for the entire festival, performance included. Sizes will be due to the coordinator by **March 8, 2024**.

Other Festival Activities:

Each choir will be given time at Whippersnaps, a local trampoline park. Links to release forms will be sent to registered choirs. Directors are responsible for sending those links out to their parents for completion prior to arrival at Whippersnaps.

Choirs are encouraged to sit in the auditorium to observe at least one other choir performance/clinic at the festival.

Choirs are welcome to eat at the NWCC Cafeteria (details to be sent to registered choirs - be aware that Saturday lunch prices are different than weekday lunch prices, but still dry affordable). It will be a full day of activities, so choirs should plan to be in Senatobia for the entire day of the festival.

Please contact Amy Touchstone at 601-209-7669 or cororio@gmail.com with any questions.