



DISTRICT 279
CHILDREN'S CHORUS

"One must sing with the sun in one's voice." - Luciano Pavoratti

The District 279 Children's Chorus has provided a high quality vocal music experience for elementary-aged students, and extraordinary performances for the community for 50 years! The chorus has approximately 120 members representing all of the elementary schools in our district. Each fall, students in grades 4 and 5 may audition to join the chorus.



Mission: The mission of the District 279 Children's Chorus is to recognize and serve gifted/talented vocal music students so that they may further develop musical competencies, contribute to community through performance and be inspired to pursue future musical interests. District 279 Chorus members, found in all the diverse cultures of our community, are those children who demonstrate high vocal music skills relative to others of their age, experience or environment.

Rehearsals: Tuesdays at Park Center Senior High School from 4:30-5:45 beginning November 14, 2017 through March 13, 2018. Bus transportation is provided from each elementary school to the rehearsals. Parents/guardians will need to pick up their student at 5:45 p.m. each Tuesday at Park Center Senior High School Activities Entrance Door G - 7501 Noble Ave N, Brooklyn Park, MN.

Concerts: We anticipate two evening concerts will be performed within our school district. Concerts will be free and open to the public. Parents are responsible for transportation to and from these concerts. The Chorus will also perform concerts during the school day on Thursday, March 1, 2018.

Fee: \$180.00. Students qualifying for Free/Reduced lunch are eligible for a full/half fee waiver. Forms and payment must be complete by November 28, or a student will be dropped from the Chorus. No refunds will be made after December 12.

Requirements: All students wishing to audition for the District 279 Children's Chorus need to return the *Request for Pre-Screening* form on the back of this page to their music teacher by **September 15**. Music teachers in all buildings will be pre-screening interested singers for the skills listed below. Students meeting all of the criteria at a mastery level (see rubric on the back of this paper) will have the opportunity for a district-level audition for the Children's Chorus.

Pre-Screening Criteria: In music class, the student...

- demonstrates an enjoyment of singing;
- sings in tune consistently and independently;
- leads harmony parts for rounds, partner songs, descants and two-part harmonies;
- sings an Eb major scale clearly and accurately; and
- demonstrates a two-octave range with clear tone.

If all of the details described above seem exciting and interesting for you and your student, return the *Request for Pre-Screening* (on the back of this page) to your school music teacher by **September 15**.

No need to keep this information.

More detailed information will be sent home with students who take part in the district-level audition.

Website Information: <http://district279.org/chorus>

Request for District 279 Children’s Chorus Pre-Screening Audition

My child and I have read the information together and my child has expressed an interest in singing in the District 279 Children's Chorus. I am requesting a pre-screening audition for my child.

Please print clearly

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Student's Name _____ | Grade _____ |
| School _____ | Classroom Teacher _____ |
| Parent/Guardian’s Signature _____ | Date _____ |
| Parent/Guardian’s email _____ | |

This form is due back to your child’s school music teacher no later than September 15.

The rest of this form (below) will be completed by the music teacher.

Pre-Screening Criteria

| Element | 1: Beginning | 2: Developing | 3: Accomplished | 4: Mastery |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| Student demonstrates enjoyment of singing in music class | Never | With encouragement | Sometimes independently without prompting | Always independently without prompting |
| Student sings in tune | Sings phrases in tune or sings songs within a limited range in tune | Sings songs in tune in comfortable range of an octave Eb major scale | Sings songs in tune with extended range beyond Eb major scale | Consistently sings songs with extended range in tune using clear, projected singing voice |
| Student sings in harmony | Participates with limited success such as does not hold tune but maintains words | Has difficulty maintaining own part within a group (part gets sucked into another part); Needs coaching and support | Maintains own part in tune within a group with supporting accompaniment | Consistently and independently shows leadership on any part assigned |
| Student sings Eb major scale ascending and descending on “la” or “loo” | Sings scale with little or no accuracy | Sings ascending scale accurately, but little or no accuracy on descending scale Needs voice or piano support | Accurately sings ascending and descending scale with supporting chords | Independently sings ascending and descending scale with complete accuracy |
| Singing range | Range is less than one octave | Range is one octave | Comes close to having a 2-octave range; sings clearly within 1-2 notes of the high and low Gs | Full 2-octave range (G to G); top and bottom of the range is clear |

Total Points

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

Recommendation for participation in district-level audition

| Student receives the score of 1 or 2 in any element or less than 15 points | 15-17 points | 18-20 points |
|--|---|---|
| Not recommended for district-level audition at this time | Possible participant in district-level audition | Yes! Highly recommended for district-level audition |

Music Teacher _____