



WESTERN
COLORADO UNIVERSITY

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

September 3, 2021

Dear Director:

The Western Colorado University Department of Music would like to invite your school to participate in the 2022 Western Slope Choral Festival. The dates of this year's festival are March 3-5, 2022 (Thursday afternoon through Saturday afternoon concert). The audition information and information on guest conductors will be available soon on the "Honor Festivals" link on our web site at www.western.edu/music.

All of the following audition information is included in this packet.

- **Audition requirements that can be given to students**
- **Recorded audition procedures, information for choir directors, labeling instructions**
- **Audition form to duplicate and complete for each student**
- **Melodic sight reading, aural recall materials, and a chorale excerpt**

We would like all auditions electronically, MP4 or WAV files through email (best), Google drive (not Google docs) or a Dropbox link (please make sure the link can be shared). We have more than one adjudicator so please make sure electronic files are shareable! Dr. Beth Robison of Adams State University and I have coordinated our audition requirements and recording procedures to simplify the process for those directors who have students planning to audition for honor choirs at both universities. Please note that each school does have its own fee requirement and audition form.

Auditions and audition forms should be submitted by Friday, October 29th. Late submissions will not be accepted. Please be certain to mail the \$5 audition fee for each student. We plan to complete the evaluations and email results with repertoire information to each school by mid- December.

Please contact me at any time if you have questions. We wish you the best for a successful 2021-2022 academic year!

Sincerely,

Dr. Heather Roberson
Director of Choral Activities/Voice
Department of Music
Western Colorado University
1 Western Way
Gunnison, CO 81231
970-943-3034; 970-943-2329 (fax);
hroberson@western.edu

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

2022 Western Slope Choral Festival

(This page may be given to students to help them prepare for the recording.)

- 1. RANGE:** Please indicate the student's usable range. Do not include vocal fry, squeaked high notes, or falsetto.
- 2. MELODIC and RHYTHMIC SIGHT READING:** Sight read two (2) short melodic and rhythmic exercises using solfege syllables, numbers or "la." Piano will give a I-IV-V-I chord progression in the key and starting pitch.
Student will be allowed one try only after a few seconds (5-10) to look at the example—no "practicing."
Student will not be allowed to see or hear the example before the audition recording.
- 3. AURAL RECALL:** Three (3) short examples will be played **twice each** and the student must sing it back on a neutral syllable such as "la."
Student will not be allowed to see or hear the example before the audition and will not be allowed to see the examples during the audition recording.
- 4. CHORALE EXERCISE:** Sing the appropriate voice part of the chorale exercise using "noh." The instructor may play **one other part, either the bass line or the soprano line** while the student is recording this exercise. Play the bass line while soprano, alto, or tenor is sung. Play the soprano line while bass is sung. **Do not play the voice part the student is singing.** You may prepare this exercise ahead of time before you record it.
- 5. A CAPPELLA SINGING:** Please have the student sing "My Country Tis of Thee" without piano accompaniment. Give the student his/her starting pitch as indicated below.

Soprano/Tenor: Starting pitch G (Key of G)

Alto/Bass: Starting pitch F (Key of F)

*Students must complete all of the above in order for the audition to be accepted. PLEASE double check your recordings for all audition materials.

2022 WESTERN SLOPE CHORAL FESTIVAL
Recorded Audition Procedures and Information for Choir Directors

- (1) **Electronic Audition, MP4 or WAV files:** Email, Google Drive, or Drop Box link are acceptable for the recorded audition. Please make a sound check for placement of microphone relative to the singer and piano so that the balance allows the singer to be easily heard.
- (2) **State the student's name and voice part very clearly on the recording before each audition.**
- (3) **Submit a complete audition form for each student.** You may email these as well. Please put the audition forms **in order of performance** on each recording. This will make certain we match up the student and audition form without any errors.
- (4) **Please submit the audition fee (\$5) for each student.** Checks for audition fees should be made out to **Western Colorado University or WCU**. One check for all the fees is simplest for our accounting; however, you may do whatever works best for your situation. We cannot accept credit cards.
- (5) **Please record each student's audition without other students in the room. There should be one try only for all sight reading and aural recall—no practicing.**
- (6) Continue running the recording between sections since students should not be given time to "practice" the sight reading—just have them look it over quickly (approx. 10 sec).
- (7) **Please record audition requirements in the following order (also see "audition requirements" page):**
 - (1) **Range**
 - (2) **Melodic and rhythmic sight reading—Give I-IV-V-I in the key of the sight-reading example and starting pitch.**
 - (3) **Aural recall—Piano plays each short idea (measure) twice and student sings back immediately without looking at the sheet.**
 - (4) **Chorale Exercise**
 - (5) **"My Country Tis of Thee" a cappella (as listed on "requirements" page)**

Auditions, audition sheets and registration fees due by October 29th. Please make checks out to Western Colorado University or WCU.

Mail to:

Dr. Heather Roberson
WCU Department of Music
1 Western Way
Gunnison, CO 81231
e-mail: hroberson@western.edu;
970-943-3034; 970-943-2329 (fax)

2022 WESTERN SLOPE CHORAL FESTIVAL AUDITION FORM

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY THE INFORMATION REQUESTED ABOVE THE DOUBLE LINE. The name should be spelled as it will appear in printed program if chosen for an honor choir so please help us spell it right the first time!

If you have participated in previous Western Slope festivals please list which choir and which year.

Treble _____ Year (s) _____ Mixed _____ Year (s) _____

VOICE PART(chose one only): _____ **(S1, S2, A1, A2, T1, T2, B1, B2)**

NAME _____
(Please print your name legibly.)

STUDENT EMAIL _____

STUDENT PHONE _____

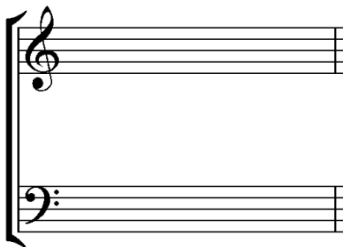
GRADE: 9 _____ 10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____

HIGH SCHOOL _____

CHOIR DIRECTOR (First and Last Name) _____

DIRECTOR EMAIL _____

RANGE



(To be completed by adjudicator)

SKILLS (75 points)

Melodic (30) _____
Aural Recall (15) _____
Chorale (20) _____
A cappella (10) _____

ADJUDICATOR'S INITIALS _____

TOTAL: _____