

Southwest Washington Music Educators Association

Dear Music Educator,

We are pleased to inform you that SWWMEA is again arranging an Elementary Honor Chorus. The date is **Saturday, March 18, 2017**, at Kessler Elementary School in Longview, Washington. Participating students will be involved in a one-day workshop and concert directed by **Karen Fulmer**, Kelso native and Past President of American Choral Directors Association.

Approximately 125 students, currently in the fifth or sixth grade, will be selected from elementary and middle schools from the Southwest Washington Region. Students selected for the chorus will receive their music in advance and will be expected to learn their parts and memorize the words. **Rehearsals will be held at Kessler Elementary School, January 28, 2017, February 25, 2017, and March 11, 2017 from 9 to 11 AM.** Students are expected to attend all three rehearsals. The teachers of those students selected for the chorus are also encouraged to attend the rehearsals.

We will need enrollment figures for the student population of the grade level of the applicants in order to determine your school's quota based on the formula we are using. All schools are **guaranteed 5 students** regardless of enrollment. The remaining numbers are assigned to the larger schools based on enrollment. The following deadlines must be met if you and your students are planning to participate.

1. Monday, Oct. 10, 2016 – send Ginger Walworth at dgwalworth@comcast.net your regrets or the grade level enrollment figures for **all** 5th and/or 6th grades for your school. Do not include both grades if you only teach one of them. NOTE: You can get this info from your school secretary. No student names are necessary at this time. **Quotas for each school are created and eventually parts will be assigned with the expectation that your school will be represented.**
2. Monday, Oct. 17, 2016 – Ginger will send each participating teacher the quota of students for their school. **If you anticipate a need for a larger quota for your school, immediately reply to Ginger with the number of additional spots needed. These spots will be allotted on a first come, first served basis on November 15.**
3. **Monday, Nov. 14, 2016 – Billing Deadline. You must let us know via email by this date if you are NOT using your entire quota of participating students, or your school will be invoiced for the number of students represented by the quota number sent to you in October.**
4. Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016 – unused quota numbers will be re-assigned to schools requesting larger participation than their original quota.
5. Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2016 – all completed applications must be sent to Ron Joslin. This includes all required signatures. Upon receipt of your applications, Ron will generate an invoice and send it to you for processing. If parents are charged for this event they must submit the money to your district or parent organization.

MP3 practice recordings and part assignments for each school will be uploaded to the SWWMEA website in December at swwmea.weebly.com.

Music will be delivered to the schools no later than the first week of January

The SWWMEA Elementary Honor Chorus is a wonderful opportunity for talented young singers to share their vocal abilities and grow as musicians. The day also presents an unparalleled opportunity for elementary music educators to observe an outstanding teacher help our students experience choral excellence. We invite you to take advantage by nominating your students for this Elementary Honor Chorus. You do not have to be a WMEA member this year but of course we encourage you to join. Thank you in advance for supporting this outstanding program.

As an added incentive, WMEA will provide you an opportunity to earn Clock Hour Credits. One clock hour is available for each hour of inservice provided. The minimum is three hours and you can earn as many as twelve.

Sincerely yours,

Ron Joslin, Co-chair

Ginger Walworth, Co-chair

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

1. Students must attend the school represented and be a current participant in the music program.
2. Students must be recommended by their music teacher.
3. Students are expected to attend all 3 of the 2 hour rehearsals prior to the festival day.
4. Students must participate all day **Saturday, March 18, 2017**. No one will be allowed to attend only part time. Students are expected to perform in the final concert.
5. All selections will be performed from memory.
6. Students' families must be willing to pay the participation cost (**\$25**) or receive sponsorship from their child's school for the event. This cost will include music, a music folder, and free admission to the concert for family and friends. A limited amount of scholarship money is available through a grant from the Columbia Children's Chorale. A form is attached.

TEACHER GUIDELINES

1. The nominating teacher is encouraged to be a member of WMEA.
2. Each school may submit as many applications as their quota defines. **Teachers who teach at more than one school are required to submit a separate list for each school.**
3. Every singer nomination form must be completely filled out and signed.
4. Mail nomination materials as soon as possible. Transportation will be the responsibility of the school and/or the student's family.
5. Teach the music to the singers selected for the chorus. Although practice MP3 files will be on the SWWMEA website (swwmea.weebly.com) in December, our experience is that **students need guided practice with you.**
6. You are encouraged to observe your students at rehearsals and the concert.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Send applications to:

Ron Joslin

503 N. 20th Ave.

Kelso, WA 98626

360-425-6456

rdjoslin@comcast.net

The cost is \$25.00 per student. For insurance purposes, this must be paid by a SCHOOL check, or a parent organization check, not a parent check. Scholarships are available.

Participation Packets will be delivered to all registered participants and will include:

Music and folders

Event information

CONCERT and REHEARSAL LOCATION

Kessler Elementary Auditorium

1902 E. Kessler Blvd.

Longview, Washington 98632

Additional Information:

- Failure to adhere to these specific instructions may result in disqualification of the student.
- Care should be taken to only submit names of motivated quality singers. Student behavior should not interfere with the rehearsal process. Read the teacher guidelines carefully. In the past some teachers have sent students who did not meet the qualifications because they wanted them to have an experience of this kind. This lessens the experience for the qualified participants.
- **On concert day, we ask that each student bring a sack lunch. SWWMEA will provide bottled water and an afternoon snack.**

APPLICATION FORM

Duplicate as needed. Complete thoroughly and legibly. Form must have student, parent/guardian, music teacher and principal signatures.

Teacher Checklist

- 1. Fill out a form for each student you nominate. Consider the following criteria.**
 - A. Can the student sing without accompaniment and maintain the key?**
 - B. Does the student have an adequate range to sing parts? (A below middle C to G above the staff.)**
 - C. Boys' voices must be unchanged.**
 - D. Students submitted should be able to hold their own part in partner songs, rounds and 2 part pieces.**

Elementary Honor Chorus 2017

Student Application Form

Student Information

Name: _____
Grade (circle): 5 6
Home address: _____
Home city/state/zip: _____
Home phone: (_____) _____
E-mail _____

School Information

School District _____
School Name _____
School address: _____
School city/state/zip: _____
School phone: (_____) _____

Teacher Information

School music teacher: _____
Teacher home phone: (_____) _____
E-mail _____

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

We are aware of this student and teacher's responsibility and will do all possible to ensure that the student arrives at the SWWMEA Elementary Honor Chorus on time and prepared. We know that there will be a **\$25** participation fee if this student is accepted which must be paid with a school check or purchase order or a parent organization check or he/she may be removed from the chorus. The student is currently a member of this school's music program and must remain in the program at this school through the honor chorus, if accepted. If he/she leaves this school, he/she forfeits his/her position in the honor chorus and fees paid will not be refunded. We understand that participation on March 18, 2017 begins at 8:45 AM, and continues through 5:00 PM. (Registration is from 8:45 to 9:00 AM). The concert is scheduled for 4:00 PM at Kessler Auditorium, 1902 E. Kessler Blvd. in Longview, Washington.) We will guarantee his/her presence for the entire day, including the concert.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Music Teacher Signature _____ Date _____

Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

Application for Financial Assistance

Student's name _____

School _____

What can the School or Parent Organization provide? \$ _____

What can the Parents provide? \$ _____

Teachers, briefly describe the need for assistance.

Teacher's Signature _____

Principal's Signature _____