

Dear Singers,

Thank you for your interest in choir! If you are interested in singing as a hobby with a relatively low performance commitment, you may sign up for Concert Choir with no audition.

You may also choose to audition for one or more of the three Davis High School auditioned choirs! Each choir is unique, but all present singers with wonderful musical opportunities as well as a fabulous group of peers who share the same passion for the performing arts.

Auditions are an outstanding educational experience for performing arts, job interviews, and many other activities in life.

Auditions for the Davis High School Choirs will be during the week of March 6th. The audition schedule is as follows:

- Mon/Tues, March 6 or 7, 10-min individual time slots - Vocal auditions (all 3 choirs)
- Wednesday, March 8, 6:30-8:30 - Dance auditions (Jazz Choir only)
- Thurs/Fri, March 9 & 10, 4-7pm - Callbacks (TBD for all 3 choirs)

To audition, you must sign up for an audition time slot here: [2023 Audition Signups](#). Or here:



You may audition for more than one choir (all three if you like!), but please sign up for only one audition slot.

For all three auditioned choirs, you will be asked to do sight singing, pitch matching, and to perform a prepared solo. In addition, for Jazz Choir, you will be asked to do a dance audition. Please arrive 10-15 minutes before your audition time to complete paperwork and warm your voice up and plan a small time buffer to allow for the delays that can occur with any audition process.

**Vocal Audition:** Your vocal audition on March 6 or 7 will begin with some questions from the panel, followed by:

- *Sight Singing:* A melody will be provided and you will have a few minutes to review the melody and sing what is written to your best ability. This component demonstrates your ability to read sheet music and perform what is written. Solfège (Do Re Mi, etc) is recommended, but not required.
- *Pitch Matching:* A series of notes will be played on the piano, and you will be asked to sing the notes in the order played. This component demonstrates your ability to hear music and repeat it with correct pitch.
- *Prepared solo:* You will be asked to perform a piece that you have prepared and memorized in advance. Although memorization is required, you will only be asked to perform a part of the piece, so it's not necessary to prepare or memorize the entire piece. This is your chance to show off your performance ability as well as your vocal abilities. Pick a piece that is familiar to you, within your current vocal range, and (if possible) lets your personality shine. In addition, please adhere to the following guidelines in your selections:
  - Those auditioning for Jazz Choir should prepare a musical theatre, pop, or jazz piece.
  - Those auditioning for Madrigals should prepare a classical piece, folk song, or "legit" musical theatre piece.
  - Those auditioning for ATC may choose anything listed above.
  - If you are auditioning for ATC and one other choir (Jazz Choir OR Madrigals), you should pick a piece appropriate for the second choir for which you are auditioning.
  - If you are auditioning for both Jazz Choir AND Madrigals, you will need to prepare two solos (one appropriate for each choir).
  - If you are auditioning for one choir, the solo should be shorter than two minutes in length.
  - If you are auditioning for Madrigals and Jazz Choir, your contrasting solos should each be shorter than a minute in length.
  - You may choose to sing unaccompanied, bring a pianist to play with you, or bring a karaoke track with no vocals.

**Dance audition (Jazz Choir only).** This portion of the audition will take place live with our resident choreographer, Jeff Teague. If you are auditioning for Jazz Choir, you must attend a workshop on March 8th from 6:30-8:30 (please plan to stay the full two hours) in the Choir Room. Here, you will learn the dance routine, and then audition by performing the routine. The dance audition is used to assess an auditionee's technique, memorization skills, and

performance ability. An interest in dance and willingness to learn are the main things required. Previous dance training is not required and students with a wide range of dance skills have become Jazz Choir members.

**Callbacks.** Any of the choirs, or all three, *may* require call-backs. If the judges decide call-backs are necessary, please make sure you are prepared with the call-back music and be available from 4-7pm on Thursday, March 9th and Friday, March 10th. Call-back music will be emailed by March 8th end of day.

Audition results will be emailed to auditioners the week of March 13th. Please be advised that while we will try to honor your preference of choirs, they may be adjusted due to numbers.

Feel free to direct any questions about the audition process or choir programs to Choir Director Amanda Bistolfo ([abistolfo@djud.net](mailto:abistolfo@djud.net)) or Assistant Director of Madrigals Alex Chaseford Snow ([alex.chaseford@gmail.com](mailto:alex.chaseford@gmail.com)).

Thank you so much for your interest in Davis Senior High School's choral program, and remember to have fun!

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## **FAQ Section:**

### **★ How do I decide which choir to audition for?**

As noted above, you may audition for more than one choir (all three if you like!), but please sign up for only one audition slot. You can find additional information on each of the audition choirs on their individual websites:

- **Madrigals** ([www.davismadrigals.org](http://www.davismadrigals.org)) is an elegantly costumed choir focusing on classical music from the 15th century to the present. The annual Madrigal Dinner in December is a highlight of the year.
- **Advanced Treble Choir** (<https://davishighatc.wixsite.com/atc>) is an all-treble choir (sopranos and altos) singing music from a variety of genres, ranging from Renaissance to Pop. The choir is the organizing force behind the popular Davis Idol which takes place in January.
- **Jazz Choir** ([www.jazzchoir.net](http://www.jazzchoir.net)) performs jazz standards and contemporary jazz selections, as well as choreographed show choir Pop and Musical Theatre selections (think: the popular TV series "Glee"). Jazz Choir's spring "Cabaret" showcases the diverse talents of this group.

Although each of the choirs offers something special and distinct, all three choirs provide an excellent choral music education.

### **★ What does being in one of the audition choirs involve?**

Much more than a high school class, these groups go on retreats and trips to places like New York City, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and even Europe. They practice in weekly after-school rehearsals, perform in public and private venues, organize fundraising and social events, and perform community service. The choirs also collaborate in various ways and perform together at annual Winter and Spring concerts. Over the course of a year, the choir becomes like a family and many choir alumni report back that some of their closest friends and most memorable experiences came from their participation in DHS choirs.

### **★ Is parental involvement required for these choirs?**

Booster clubs run by parent volunteers assist with fundraising and other organizational efforts in support of the choirs throughout the year. Parent volunteerism is encouraged and appreciated, but not required. Parents are asked to attend monthly meetings where upcoming events and fundraising efforts are planned. Parents are also asked, but not required, to contribute to annual costs of the choir, including the cost of performance attire, event registration fees, group retreats and educational trips.

### **★ What can I expect at auditions? How should I prepare?**

Auditions will be held in the Choir Room (PA-8) at Davis Senior High School in a relaxed environment. Arrive 10-15 minutes early to allow time to prepare. Signs will direct you to the Band Room next door where you will first be greeted by friendly choir members and parent volunteers who will set you at ease and help you to prepare for your audition, including completing any paperwork, doing warmups, and practicing for skills testing (sight reading and pitch matching). When it is time for your audition, you will be invited into the Choir Room where the Choir Director and Assistant Director will ask you a few questions, prompt you to do your sight reading and pitch matching exercises, and then perform your prepared solo piece.

### **★ What should I wear for auditions?**

As at any audition, you should dress respectfully and appropriately - business casual (nice, not torn or crop tops and pants/skirt/dress) is appropriate for vocal auditions; athletic or comfortable, easy to move in clothing and close toed shoes for dance auditions.

**★ What if I am not able to read music?**

If you can't read music, follow the direction of the notes, moving up and down the scale. Current choir members will help you prepare for the sight reading component. Do your best. Most new choir members are not proficient at sight reading - be patient with yourself and you will learn.

**★ What if I'm not an experienced dancer? Can I still audition for Jazz Choir?**

An interest in dance and willingness to learn are the main things required for Jazz Choir. Previous dance training is not required and students with a wide range of dance skills have become Jazz Choir members. The audition choreography is short and fairly simple and you will go over it many times before your audition - just do your best, have fun and let your personality shine!