

HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT CHOIR

COMPETITION GUIDELINES



Registration and Eligibility

- Open to accredited high school concert choirs (grades 9–12).
- A minimum of 12 singers is required. There is no maximum number of singers.
- Registration forms and payment must be submitted on time to secure a performance time.
- Divisions can be split by voicing and/or classification. This depends on how many concert choirs are registered for the event.

Performance Requirements

- Each choir should prepare 2–3 contrasting selections.
- At least one selection should be drawn from traditional or classical concert choir literature (a cappella performance is encouraged but not required).
- Please have your selections reflect a diverse nature of eras and genres throughout the world.
- Total performance time may not exceed 20 minutes, including pauses between selections, entrance and exit following the performance.
- Directors must provide three printed copies of each piece with all measures numbered for the adjudicators. Copies will be given to the stage manager or host guide following or prior to the groups allotted warm up time.

Stage Setup and Equipment

- Stage Dimensions: Performance stage is approximately 40' wide x 30' deep with wing and backstage access.
- Risers: We offer a standard configuration of platform risers: Four platforms across by four platforms deep. The total platform width is 32 feet. Platform heights are 8", 16", 24" and 32". These are StageRight brand performance risers with poly-coating on both sides. As mentioned before, we provide steps to the platforms for the highest (rear) two levels of platforms.
- Stage Crew: HOA staff and volunteers will assist with piano placement and riser adjustments. Directors and choirs should be prepared for efficient transitions.
- Piano: Groups can utilize our digital piano. We use this to prevent tuning loss and guarantee sound quality. It is wired to our sound system to allow for balance and volume.
- Other Instruments: Any required instruments must be provided by the choir. Amplification is not available except for the piano if required.
- Tuning or Sound Check: We are happy to accommodate the need for proper tuning or piano sound check of all instruments before the performance. This brief time includes stopping any music for our spectators to allow you to tune instruments. You MUST request this from our stage manager, who communicates with our A/V Techs.
- Microphones: We have wireless microphones available for solos. Please let our stage manager know if you require these.
- Lighting: Standard white stage wash will be used for all choirs. No special lighting effects are available.

Adjudication

- Written or typed comments will be provided to directors following the performance.
- For all scoring rubrics and categories, please visit the following pages:
 - <https://www.hoachoir.com/downloads/2025-scoring-information.pdf>
 - <https://www.hoachoir.com/downloads/2025-scoring-ballot-rubrics.pdf>

Director and Ensemble Responsibilities

- Directors are responsible for the supervision and conduct of their students throughout the event.
- Choirs must remain in assigned holding areas until called to warm-up or stage.
- Food, drink and gum are not permitted on stage.
- Event staff will guide choirs through warm-up, stage performance and exit procedures.