



2018-2019 IHHS PREMIERES AUDITION INFORMATION

Tuesday-Thursday, February 27-March 1, 2018

Thank you for your interest in the IHHS Premieres! Congratulations on taking the first step to becoming a member of our top ensemble. We look forward to continuing our tradition of excellence next year!

The audition is a very simple process. You will need to 1) complete the online application, 2) complete the signature page enclosed, and 3) meet with us for a blind vocal audition for choir placement.

THE ONLINE APPLICATION is available at http://hs.indianhillschools.org/arts_athletics/fine_arts

- 1- This must be completed **BEFORE** your audition, so be sure to take care of it as soon as possible. Be sure to SUBMIT at the end so that you receive the "thank you for your submission" response!
- 2- **COMPLETE THE SIGNATURE PAGE (last page)** with you and your parent/guardians' signatures and required information.
- 3- **PREPARE AND COMPLETE A BLIND AUDITION** What is a blind audition? All auditions will be held in a practice room where students will be asked to perform the national anthem (*Star Spangled Banner*) as a solo a cappella (without accompaniment) and attempt a sight-reading example. The audition will be recorded as you perform and will be evaluated by three Arts educators in real time with the attached scoring rubric. We may also check your range and tonal memory. Following the audition, each singer will receive a raw score based on their performance from each adjudicator, who have based the score ***solely on the sound produced***. As each student leaves, they will give their signed and numbered signature page (top right corner) to the person operating the door. The process takes less than five minutes. That's it!

Results will be posted at the end of the day **Friday, March 2** on the choir room board outside room 255 as well as at the middle school choir room. The completed rubrics will be available as well for each singer if you would like to see what areas you can continue to refine. Remember: membership into the top choir is competitive. Plan ahead to be at your best!

Questions? E-mail Mr. Clark Jeff.Clark@indianhillschools.org



NEXT: Frequently Asked Questions →

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: I'm not sure about doing choir with all my AP classes, why should I take it?

A: Taking part in IHHS choirs gives you a required Fine Arts credit, and is a great way to escape the stress of difficult academic classes. Plus, campusexplorer.com notes:

“You’ve probably heard it a hundred times: admissions officers are looking for well-rounded applicants with plenty of extracurricular activities. Misinformed people will tell you the arts aren’t important in college preparation, but that’s not true. While all extracurricular activities look great on college applications, high school arts and music are just as important as math and science to admission boards. Also, many students find they need a brain break from their rigorous class schedules... singing in particular has been proven to be a natural stress reliever and way to release tension by means of self-expression, relaxation, and building confidence.”

Q: How do I prepare the national anthem? How do I prepare sight-reading?

A: Be sure to find a starting pitch (note) that is low enough in your voice so that you don’t get extremely high on the upper end of your range (“and the rockets red glare”). Lower voices may wish to start somewhere around an “Eb” and upper voices may wish to start around a “G.” Be sure to memorize the text and don’t breathe between words, just at phrase endings. Rehearse with someone listening for feedback! There are many online websites and apps to assist in sight-reading. We do not expect students to be amazing readers but do want to check your capability- give it a shot!

Q: Do you share with sports and other activities? What kind of time commitments?

A: Each choir meets as a year-long class for fine arts credit. There are very few concerts per year (usually 3-4) in which we will ask for priority in your schedule, but otherwise are very flexible should there be any conflicts with another sport or activity. Open communication and early notification are the key to avoiding any conflicts! IHHS Premieres has a few select other rehearsals for their Cabaret night in the Fall, but all rehearsals will be announced with plenty of advanced notice.

Q: Are we traveling anywhere next year?

A: Currently we do not have plans to travel in 2019. We do have options for students who wish to be an Ambassador of Music with Mr. Clark for a Europe tour in Summer of 2019, however! All students involved in choirs next year will be able to vote on our next big choir trip, which will be in Spring of 2020!

NEXT: Signature Page to be completed →

Indian Hill Vocal Music Dept. Audition Rubric

AUDITION NUMBER: _____ DATE/TIME OF AUDITION: _____ Score: _____/50

Rating	Superior	Excellent	Average	Needs Attention
Point Value	10-8 Points	7-6 Points	5-4 Points	3-1 Points
Vocal Instrument	A healthy, vibrant, resonant, and free tone is produced and well-supported using proper breathing techniques of intake and low breath support	An energized tone that often displays focus and resonance in extreme registers. Breathing techniques are normal but do not engage core to fullest potential	A generally good tone but excessive vibrato, tension, and or breathiness is present. Breathing techniques are not incorporated.	Tone seldom possesses space, resonance, and focus. Freedom and support, and/or beauty of tone are seldom achieved.
Tone/register adjustment	Singer always uses appropriate tone quality/color for the style of the music and maintains proper control and placement throughout his/her range	Singer often uses appropriate tone quality/color for style of music but does not always maintain control and proper placement throughout his/her range	Singer occasionally uses appropriate tone quality/color for the style but register shifts are clearly apparent.	Singer does not use appropriate tone quality/color for the style of the music and does not exert proper control and/or placement within his/her range
Technical Preparation	Pitch accuracy, rhythmic precision, and pulse awareness confirm a well-prepared performance	Control of pulse is evident with a few minor problems. Recovery from any problems is immediate.	Accuracy of pitch and rhythm, steady pulse, releases/entrances are at times accurate, indicating average preparation of music	Rhythmic and/or pitch accuracy is seldom achieved. Major pitch problems and/or pulse is dragging/rushing
Musicality	The composer's intent regarding tempo, style, and markings are consistently followed. Dynamics, phrasing, articulations/diction, and interpretive nuances are artistically executed.	A musical performance that often exhibits proper tempo and style. Markings are often followed. Dynamic contrast, artistically shaped musical line, and appropriate articulations/diction are present.	Tempo, style, and phrasing sometimes follow intent. Uses of dynamics, articulations/diction, and nuances are sometimes correct and/or contrived.	Performance seldom exhibits proper tempo and style or does not follow musical markings. Phrasing is mechanical or contrived. Dynamic range is limited and/or excessive contrast is used.
Sight Reading	An exceptional reading with few errors in rhythm and/or pitch. Recovery from any problems was immediate.	A good reading with errors in pitch and rhythm. Pulse was compromised but a complete read was successful.	Many errors in pitch and rhythm and lost pulse. Sight reading was not completed and/or had a major breakdown in tonal center or rhythm	Sight reading was not attempted and/or was lacking any identifiable pitch center

Comments to the Student/Areas of Improvement:

Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____

EXAMPLE OF SCORING RUBRIC