

1. What are the requirements for Concert Choir – such as time - outside of school...

Fairly minimal - we have 3 concerts per year with one 2-hour rehearsal the day before each one, plus one Saturday contest in April

2. Will being in athletics interfere with the choral program?

We work with athletic conflicts in both concert and show choir. We have a good rapport with the coaches and have worked out a "give and take" system over the years.

3. Is there a certain genre of music for the audition?

(What do you prefer?)

We have no style preference. We just encourage students to pick a song they enjoy and can perform well and which shows their vocal range. We encourage them not to try to learn something at the last minute.

4. Does everyone sing the same piece when auditioning?

Not necessarily - they can bring their own piece (which we encourage) or Ms. Kinney will teach a song excerpt at the Monday audition clinic for those who aren't able to prepare with a voice teacher or on their own - * SELECTION SHOULD BE LIMITED TO AN EXCERPT OF 30-45 SECONDS IN LENGTH DUE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AUDITIONING - THIS WILL PREVENT US FROM HAVING TO CUT STUDENTS OFF DUE TO TIME LIMITATIONS. BRIEFER IS BETTER!

5. Does a student need to audition for BOTH Concert Choir AND Show Choir?

It depends on which group they want to be in. If they are interested in concert choir only, they need not audition as the class is offered with open enrollment. If they are interested in show choir, they need to complete a vocal AND dance audition.

6. What can be expected TIME WISE throughout the school year – evenings/weekends – re: Show Choir?

The groups typically rehearse much less in the off season with the exception of early fall when the shows are being taught. The time

commitment ramps up greatly during competition season (January through March). We encourage students to visit the show choir website (www.castleshowchoirs.com) and click on the Information and individual group tabs to find out more.

7. Who will be judging the auditions?

Ms. Kinney (Assistant Director) and Mr. Adcock (Director) as well as Rob DiComandrea (Choreographer)

8. How many audition at one time?

1 at a time for vocal auditions (privately for only the directors) and groups of 3 at a time (also privately) for the dance auditions

9. Do you prefer piano or recorded accompaniment for the audition?

Whichever the student is most comfortable with - sometimes the recorded accompaniment works best just because that is what they have rehearsed with

10. CAN a student audition a cappella?

Only as a last resort but it is STRONGLY discouraged as we have a difficult time judging certain factors in that scenario - we will provide an accompanist or the student may bring one with them if they are comfortable with that person

11. How soon after auditions will we know who made it?

Results will be e-mailed to you by March 22nd.

12. How many students are you needing in Show Choir?

Ideally we hope for approximately 50 students per group but this will vary greatly based on the available talent pool.

13. Generally, how much will being in Show Choir cost me?

There is an annual individual student fairshare of approximately \$1,500-\$1,800 as determined by the annual budget of the Castle High School Show Choir Booster Club. Part or all required funds may be raised or garnered through sponsorships if the student and family work with the myriad of fundraising programs available.

14. Is it possible to NOT audition as a freshman and wait until my sophomore year?

It is possible but we encourage students to audition as a freshman to gain valuable performance and musical experience even if they don't feel they're ready – the directors will determine that. Concert Choir is also a place to gain valuable experience with good vocal technique.

15. Does Show Choir interfere with Band or Theatre Arts?

The 8-period day at C.H.S. allows for many elective choices so a student is only limited by what (s)he is required to take to graduate on the given diploma track (s)he is on.

16. Can you do BOTH Show Choir and Concert Choir?

Not until the student is an upperclassman (junior or senior) and it is clear they will have more than enough credits in their required classes to graduate on time.