



Show Choir Auditions

Parents and Students:

The Berry Middle School Choir Department wishes to share with you the following information regarding auditions for the *“Bravura” Show Choir* for the 2023/2024 school year. We encourage you and your student to look closely at the information and agreement, and please contact Mrs. Banks if you need clarification.

Bravura is a very dedicated group of 35-45 singers and dancers and stage crew. Show choir is a class during the school day at Berry Middle School. *Bravura* competes all across the south during the Spring semester of the school year. The students use their talents of singing, dancing, and performing to create an 15-20 minute show for competition.

Auditions for the 2022/2023 group of *Bravura* will be done **Thursday and Friday May 11-12, 2023 from 3:30-6:30pm**. All students interested in auditioning for *Bravura* may enter the GC for auditions by using the code **txxwmvj**.

Auditions are open to all rising 7th and 8th graders. Accommodations will be made for those who are unable to audition in person. Please reach out to Mrs. Banks at jbanks@hoover.k12.al.us if you need accommodations.

For the audition the students will:

1. Agree to and sign the audition information form.
2. Sing the first 10 measures of [“The Star Spangled Banner”](#) Key of G
3. Sing 30-60 seconds of a song of his/her choice (accompaniment required, SONG LIST PROVIDED VIA GC).
4. Participate in the dance audition.
5. Bring the SIGNED agreement with you to the audition.
6. Upon making the group, 1 parent/guardian must attend the show choir meeting.

Please review the following information in this audition packet, complete in the online audition form (located in Google Classroom). The students who are selected and their parents must be willing to commit to the rehearsal schedule, performance schedule, and participation payments and fees associated with *Bravura*. *Bravura* is an ensemble filled with students who are involved in athletics, theatre department, academic teams, and other activities. We try our best to work and accommodate these activities, when we know about these activities in advance. We can also accommodate payment plans under specific circumstances.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions about the audition process.

Thank you,

Jordan Hare Banks, director

AUDITION INFORMATION:

Who: Auditions for 2023/2024 Bravura Show Choir for any rising 7th & 8th Grader

When: May 11-12, 2022 3:30-6:30pm

Where: Choir Room

How: Vocal and Dance Audition, upon receipt of the form

ABOUT BRAVURA : *Bravura* is a very dedicated group of 35-45 singers and dancers and stage crew. *Bravura* competes all across the south during the Spring semester of the school year. The students use their talents of singing, dancing, and performing to create a 15-20minute show for competition. We will rehearse during the school day, with added rehearsals before Winter break and during the competition season. Competition season is January through early March (depending on competition schedules).

AUDITION PROCESS:

1. Agree to and sign the audition information form.
2. Sing the first 10 measures of [“The Star Spangled Banner”](#) Key of G
3. Sing 30-60 seconds of a song of his/her choice (accompaniment required, POP or Broadway preferred).
4. Participate in the dance audition.
5. Bring the SIGNED agreement with you to the audition.
6. Upon making the group, 1 parent/guardian must attend the show choir meeting.

****Your song may come from any genre (Pop, Broadway, etc.). However, it is important that the song showcases your range and unique vocal ability. Do not sing an original song. Sing with accompaniment, *not* a cappella. Remember to *perform* your song for the judges. Think about the lyrics you are singing. Facial communication is very important.**

AUDITION RESULTS:

The show choir auditions results will be posted at 8:30pm in the google classroom and once each student initials that they accept then the names will be posted on the choir instagram (@berrychoirs).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I didn't sign up for choir. Can I still audition for the show choir?

Yes. We can request a schedule change after the audition results have been released.

What can I do to prepare for the audition?

Choose a song that fits your voice well and showcases your unique abilities. Practice performing your song in front of a mirror. Ask a friend or family member to listen/watch your performance. View Show Choir videos on YouTube to get a good idea of the style of choreography that you will be taught. Beam with confidence. Smile. Perform. Entertain. Dress comfortably. Practice!

I can't decide what song to sing. Can you help?

Email jbanks@hooover.k12.al.us your ideas, and I will be happy to give feedback.

Who is judging the auditions?

A panel of show choir directors/judges/choreographers in our area will judge and give feedback using this [Audition Rubric](#).

PERFORMANCE

Competition show choir requires your student to be able to sing and dance on stage continuously for 15–20 minutes. Vocal requirements include singing with quality tone, breath support, articulation, projection, and with pitch and rhythmic accuracy. Dance requires accuracy, sharpness, energy, and commitment.

COMMITMENT

Show choir is both an academic and extracurricular activity with a class commitment that requires a great work ethic. We will rehearse on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:30–5:30 pm December– February (when needed). We will have a choreography retreat in August and September pending the choreographer's schedule. We will travel and compete in 6 competitions throughout the southeast. They will also participate in showcase performances, formal choir concerts, and other school or community performances.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

For after school rehearsals, they will be allowed absences. Please let me know of other conflicts a week in advance and we will determine if they are excused. We will always try to work with you on conflicts such as Berry sports practices and academic commitments (field trips, math team, scholars bowl team, etc.). Any absences or tardiness due to academic or other school-sponsored events will be considered if proper notice is given. Absences for any other reason will be discussed upon occurrence. If a student misses two rehearsals in one week, participation in the numbers learned will be considered. Attendance is essential to the success and fulfillment of the ensemble. Absence at a performance will result in performance and travel privileges being revoked, unless prior accommodations have been made. Absence at a performance will risk the student losing their spot in the following performance.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT:

Show Choir activities require additional expenses: choreography, custom-arranged music, copyright licenses, multiple costumes, backdrops/sets, accompaniment tracks, competition registration fees, food costs (for weekend events), and travel costs. These expenses result in a cost per student totaling \$550. A suggested plan of payment and optional scholarship form will be provided at the Parent Meeting in the Fall of 2022. All expenses will be required regardless of the student's participation in every event, unless written acknowledgement of financial exemption for said event is given. If finances are a concern, please contact me to make special arrangements. Student accounts that are not current on payments without prior communication will not retain performance or travel rights for the competitive season. This year we are going to require each student to acquire \$100 per student (or more if you can) in sponsorships. This will be explained at the meeting!

STUDENT CONDUCT

Bravura will enforce the rules set by Berry Middle School and school district. These rules are outlined in detail in the [Hoover City Schools Code of Student Conduct](#). Any infraction to the rules will have strikes assessed at the discretion of the director. Any student who receives disciplinary actions from the school should notify the director immediately. We adhere to the Berry Pride statements. *Bravura* acts as ambassadors for Berry Middle and we expect all students to carry themselves in a way that reflects their good character and that of the school.

PERFORMANCE & AUDIENCE ETIQUETTE

Students and parents will be expected to carry themselves in a professional manner both on and off the stage. We reflect not only our own character, but that of Berry Middle School and Hoover City Schools. Students and parents will cheer for and support other schools and singers, losses, and wins will be handled with grace. Negative comments about any group during a competition will not be tolerated. In-class opportunities will be made to critique other groups as well as our own

Contract

By signing this contract, I agree to adhere to the above policies and expectations. I understand the above instructions and will follow them in support of the Berry Middle School Choral Program and Bravura Show Choir. I understand that Bravura is a time commitment and a financial commitment. I understand the costs associated with being a member of this group. I am making a full commitment to the Berry Middle School Choral Department.

Signature of Parent/Guardian & Date

Signature of Student & Date
