

Utah Music Educators Association
a state association of
NAfME: National Association for Music Education

The Utah Music Educators Association will sponsor the annual **UMEA State Choral Festival**. The following is important information about the festival:

As a quick synopsis to what you will read below: You qualify for the State Choir Festival by receiving a score of three 1's or two 1's and a 1- at your State Qualifying Region Festival (see your Region Music Chair or contact me if there are questions about this). After you qualify, go to <https://umea.us/festivals/state-choir/> to begin your registration. This will give you access to the page containing the festival information, online payment option, and entry form. Please be prompt in getting your registration submitted once you have qualified. I know that some of you have region festivals right up to the deadline so your turn-around time will need to be quick!

SANCTION: The festival is sanctioned by the Utah High School Activities Association.

DATES: Thursday May 8, 2025– Saturday, May 10, 2025

PLACE: Libby Gardner Hall, University of Utah; 1375 Presidents Circle, Salt Lake City, UT.

UMEA sincerely thanks the University of Utah, who has generously made this stunning venue available to us once again for State this year!

QUALIFICATIONS: Eligible choirs must earn superior ratings at their respective region qualifying festivals. If your region uses three adjudicators for your region festival, your choir may qualify for state by earning two straight superior (I) ratings and one superior minus (I-) rating. If your region uses two adjudicators, choirs must earn straight superiors (no I- ratings.)

HOW TO APPLY: Once you have qualified at a Region Qualifying Festival, go to umea.us, click on “Festivals” and then on “State Choir”. **The application or “entry form” is entirely online.** You will need to pay for the festival **before** filling out an application, as the application asks for you to attach a picture of your receipt. If you are needing to pay with a check (see more details under “ENTRY FEE”), you will be asked to verify that your check has been mailed prior to applying.

ENTRY FEE: \$250 per qualifying choir, **if the director is a current member of UMEA.** **\$350 per qualifying choir if the director does not possess current membership.** You can pay online under the same “State Choir” tab on the UMEA website. If you need to pay by check, make check(s) payable to Utah Music Educators Association and mail them to John Miller. Be sure to note that they are for State High School Choir on the memo of the check. John Miller – 140 N 800 E American Fork, Utah, 84003 (be sure to include on memo line: State High School Choir)

ABOUT THE APPLICATION OR ENTRY FORM: Your entry form can be accessed on UMEA’s website, umea.us. Click on “Entry Form for State Large Choir”. Note that your entry form will ask for a verification serving as the signature of approval to attend from your **Principal**.

ENTRY DEADLINE: Entry Forms must be submitted online and payments made by **Friday, April 25th, 2025 at 5:00 PM**. If your region festival is after this date, please simply email Becca before the deadline, and alternative arrangements for late entry submissions will be made.

FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: Once your entry form and payment are received, begin watching for emails with a subject line of: “State Choir—!”. That is how all information for the festival will be sent once you have registered. On the entry form, there is a “preferred performance time frame and date” section for you to make note of your request for a desired performance time. This is the **only** way to make such a request. **Please do not call, text or email Becca with these requests.** Please know that everything possible will be done to honor your scheduling request, but requests are NOT guaranteed. Having a time preference option is a luxury, not a mandate. By applying for the festival, you are subject to being scheduled at any time during its duration.

The schedule is SUBJECT TO CHANGE until Monday, April 28th, at 5:00 PM. After that time, if the schedule needs to change for your school, you may contact other participating schools and work out scheduling changes with another director. However, **it is imperative that both directors notify Becca via email of these necessary changes. Your schedule change is not considered official until you have received a response to your email from Becca. No changes to the festival schedule will be made after Friday, May 2nd. No changes will be made without approval of the festival coordinator.**

STATE CHORAL REPERTOIRE: Each choir is expected to perform three festival appropriate selections that demonstrate variety in style and genre. The repertoire must be of a difficulty level appropriate for the choir. The same scoring rubric that is used for Region Large Choir Festivals is used for this event, it can be found at uhsaa.org, and is the Large Choir Rubric.

ON-STAGE PERFORMANCE TIME: Each choir will be allowed a maximum of 15 minutes on stage. This time includes entry, introduction, performance, and exit. PLEASE ADHERE TO THIS EXPECTATION, **those who do not, may receive a “No Score”** at the discretion of the adjudicators or festival management. Keep music to **12 minutes or less** to ensure enough time.

CLINIC/GROUP PHOTO: While on stage, your choir will have a brief moment right before you begin singing where your group photo will be taken. You will be given instructions right before going on stage as to how this will work, as well as in final prep detail emails shortly before coming to the festival. You will receive a complimentary digital copy of this photo, but it will be up to you to print your photo if desired. After you perform, you and your choir will continue to a separate space where you will take part in a brief clinic with one of the adjudicators.

PERFORMANCE RECORDING: A digital recording of each choir's performance will be provided to the director. In addition, and if possible, there will be a live stream link provided for those unable to attend that can be viewed the day of.

REQUIRED MATERIALS - MUSICAL SCORES & FESTIVAL PREPARATION: Upon arrival at the festival, please be prepared to submit three packets to the check in desk which includes the following:

1. 3 State Adjudication Forms (two-sided & green-colored.) Download at www.uhsaa.org
Typed adjudication forms required—no hand-written forms, please. Please print the adjudication forms two-sided (not stapled.)
2. 3 Scores/Octavos of each piece (clearly labeled with your school's name.) Please be sure all measures are numbered. **Octavos must meet the provisions of the copyright law:** original copies are required, unless you have specific permission from the composer and/or publisher, which is clearly notated on your score, or such notation is included within your packet.

NOTE: A good suggestion for timely and effective processing of your materials: Place three sets of the above materials in 3 large mailing envelopes, (one for each adjudicator) with the name of your school printed neatly on the front side of each envelope, along with your name as the director of the choir. If you bring multiple choirs from your school, use additional sets of envelopes. **REMINDER:** You will need 3 packets, one for each of the 3 adjudicators for each choir.

AWARDS:

- *Each Choir earning a I rating will receive a gold plaque
- *Each Choir earning a II rating will receive a silver plaque.
- *Each Choir earning a III rating will receive a bronze plaque.
- *Ratings of all adjudicators will be averaged to determine final rating for awarding of plaques.

Observation Requirement: There is much for choral students and their directors to gain when they observe and listen to other state-qualifying choirs at the state festival, even though the school year is nearly complete. In order to qualify for an award (plaque,) each Choir must attend and respectfully observe the performances of at least two other choirs before departing the festival. Please schedule enough time into your travel plans to allow your school to accomplish this important expectation.

COMMUNICATIONS: Please check your email regularly. If I need something from you, watch for a subject line of: "UMEA State Choir". Additionally, please check the UMEA website (<https://umea.us/festivals/state-choir/>) for regular updates regarding the festival. You will be notified via email to check this website when the festival schedule is complete, and will receive final important instructions regarding the festival.

QUESTIONS: Contact the Choir Festival Manager: Becca Rhodes at Farmington High School - brhodes@dmail.net

Thanks everyone, and good luck at your Region Festivals!

Becca Rhodes
UMEA State High School Large Choir Festival Manager
Director of Choral Activities, Farmington High School