Choral Music auditions for the 2020 North Carolina Governor’s School are on Sunday, February 9, 2020, at Meredith College in Raleigh. Only students whose public school system, charter school, special school or private school submitted their nomination to the Office of the North Carolina Governor’s School may audition. Each nominee will receive an official invitation in December or January with specific times, locations, etc.

The audition in Choral Music has two parts: Solo Performance and Sight-Singing.

The judge may open with comments to help the nominee feel at ease and perhaps ask questions during the audition that are performance-related. Nominees will be asked to perform vocal exercises (warmups) to determine vocal range. Nominees will be asked to audition in a different vocal part if their vocal range warrants. However, judges will not make comments, provide feedback, offer instruction or make suggestions for improvement. Ratings will not be shared with the nominee, their family, or their school.

**Solo Performance**

- Nominees will select a formal repertoire piece for solo performance from a 20th-century or 21st-century composer. They should not select a piece from genres of pop/rock, Broadway, film, or gospel, or voice parts from choral repertoire.
- Suggested composers are Samuel Barber, Abbie Betinis, Benjamin Britten, Aaron Copland, Jocelyn Hagen, Ned Rorem, Ralph Vaughan Williams and Gwyneth Walker. Other modern classical composers are acceptable. Nominees should consult with a music teacher for a piece that is suitable for their voice. In addition to local music stores, sheet music is available for legal download at a nominal fee at [www.musicnotes.com](http://www.musicnotes.com) and other sites.
- The solo performance must be between 90 seconds and two minutes in length.
- The nominee does not have to start at the beginning of the selection; an excerpt is acceptable.
- Nominees must bring a sufficient number of copyright-compliant scores of their selection for use by the judge, nominee and, when applicable, accompanist. Nominees arriving with only one copyright-compliant score must be prepared to sing their selection from memory. Illegal photocopies are not acceptable.

Nominees may present their solo performance *a cappella* or with accompaniment. If the solo performance requires accompaniment, then the nominee must bring their own accompanist. Parents may not accompany their own child. A keyboard instrument will be in the audition room. Students using a recorded accompaniment must provide the recording and the playing equipment. *No equipment or internet access will be provided; electrical outlet access cannot be guaranteed. Judges will not assist with accompaniment.* If the nominee chooses to sing their solo performance a cappella, the judge will play the beginning and ending pitch on the piano to ascertain that the nominee has sung in the key in which the solo is composed. If the nominee is transposing the solo (singing in a different key from what is written), the judge must be clearly informed of this transposition before the performance.

**Sight-Singing**

- The sight-singing task will be performed *a cappella*, without accompaniment.
- The nominee will be given a brief period to read and study the sight-singing excerpt(s). The judge will then supply a starting pitch and tempo and the nominee will sing the passage without accompaniment, including dynamics and text.