

## 2024 AJHS Choirs Screening Audition Info

All upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will need a screening audition for placement in 1 of the 3 choirs at AJHS. Please read the “AJHS Choir and Music Program Info” for details on each choir. All students that audition will be placed in the choir that is deemed the best fit for them and the choir program. Students currently at AJHS will audition during the week of **March 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>** during choir class or during advisory (for students not currently in choir). Students currently at ESS will audition during the school day in the choir room on **April 8<sup>th</sup> for Vocals & April 10<sup>th</sup> for Choreography.**

**Part 1: Student Information.** Students will fill out the top part of the audition form with their name, grade, any previous experience (not required), and their preference for choir placement. Please know that being in this choir program is all about being a team player and doing what is best for the team, so if you will only do choir if you get placed in the one choir that you want to be in, then being a part of any choral group at AJHS might not be the best fit for you. If the student prefers to be in one of the competitive show choirs (Adrenaline or Audacity) then they will need to have a current teacher fill out this recommendation form for them—this is only needed if the student has not been in one of Mr. Holt’s classes before: <https://forms.gle/su5Fg7hauETtqAvaA>.

**Part 2: Vocal Selection.** Students will need to prepare 30-60 seconds of any song they think shows off their voice to sing by themselves (a cappella- no backing music tracks or instruments). This will be scored for tone quality (vocal technique and vocal maturity), projection (energy and strength of sound), intonation (singing the correct notes in tune), and diction (clear pronunciation of lyrics) as well as confidence and expression while singing. It is best for the lyrics to be memorized to show confidence.

**Part 3: Sight Reading.** Students will also sing a short sight reading to show the student’s experience with reading music. The excerpt can be sung on solfege (Do, Re, Mi...), numbers, or on a neutral syllable like “dah” if the student is not familiar with solfege/numbers yet. If a student is not familiar with sight reading, then they can just sing the excerpt to the best of their ability. The goal of sight reading is not to sing it perfectly, but to keep going to the end. You can go at your own speed and in whatever vocal range works best for you (doesn’t have to be in the written pitch). Make sure the notes are sung and not spoken—the singing of the pitches and rhythms are the most important part. Students will have 60 seconds to look at the sight reading and to state the major key of the key signature if they know it. There are sample sight-reading excerpts included below.

**Part 4: Choreography.** This section is only required if the student is interested in auditioning for one of the show choirs (Adrenaline/ Audacity). There will be a short dance to learn from videos that will be assessed for accuracy of choreography, sharpness of moves, and energy while dancing (including confidence and facial expression as well). If a student only wants to be in Anthem concert choir, then they do not have to do the choreography portion of the audition since that choir does a lot less choreography and doesn’t compete with it.

If you have any questions about the AJHS choir program or auditions, please email Mr. Holt at [mtholt@auburnschools.org](mailto:mtholt@auburnschools.org).

Here are two sample sight-readings that both start on “Do.” You can read either line- top (Soprano/Alto) or bottom (Tenor/Bass)- they are the same notes. Make sure you start in a comfortable range for your voice and sing it slowly and steadily following the correct pitches and rhythms.

#### Key of D Major



Musical notation for Key of D Major (4/4 time). The notation is presented in two staves: S/A (Soprano/Alto) and T/B (Tenor/Bass). The melody starts on D4 (Do) and follows a sequence of notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C#4, B3, A3, G3, F#3, E3, D3. The lyrics below the staves are: Do\_ re mi mi\_ fa sol fa mi re\_ do\_ do\_ re\_ mi\_ fa\_ sol sol fa mi re do do\_\_.

#### Key of Bb Major



Musical notation for Key of Bb Major (4/4 time). The notation is presented in two staves: S/A (Soprano/Alto) and T/B (Tenor/Bass). The melody starts on Bb3 (Do) and follows a sequence of notes: Bb3, C4, D4, Eb4, F4, G4, Ab4, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, Eb4, D4, C4, Bb3, Ab3, G3, F3, Eb3, D3, C3. The lyrics below the staves are: Do\_ do re mi fa sol\_ sol fa mi re do re re\_ mi fa sol\_ fa mi mi re re\_ do\_ do\_\_.