



# 2026 North Carolina Elementary Honors Chorus *Information*

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# Honors Chorus Dates and Venue

**Audition Submission Deadline: Friday, September 18th**

Results Notification: Tuesday, September 30th (*subject to change*)

**Rehearsals: November 7-8, 2026**

*Benton Convention Center*

*Winston Salem, NC*

**Performance: Sunday, November 8th, 2026 @ 12:00**

*Benton Convention Center*

*Winston Salem, NC*

# *Audition Piece 2026*

## **“Et Exultavit” Vivaldi/arr Leck**

JW Pepper #10048532

Audition Section: Measures 8-18

\***Required** accompaniment track is provided on NCMEA website

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**For Future Planning...**

2027: Sing for Joy



# Audition Guidelines

- Each school may audition up to **8 students**
- There is a **\$15 fee per audition** to cover the cost of adjudicators and use of the Festival Scores program
- If you teach at more than one school, please make a separate Festival Scores entry per school
- K-5 schools may audition 4th & 5th graders
- K-6 & K-8 schools may audition 4th, 5th, and 6th graders



# Audition Checklist

1. Create Festival Scores entry for each school
2. Upload mp3 Auditions to Festival Scores (**Event Tag:**)

3. TO PAY:

Google Forms will be live

a. Pay with a credit card in Festival Scores!

on August 1st!

b. Complete the NCEHC Audition Google Form (one per school)

**OR**

a. Complete the NCEHC Audition Google Form (one per school) **AND**

b. Mail Google Form confirmation email (one per school) along with a **school-issued check** for audition fees (\$15 per audition)

*Mail checks and forms to:*

Kelly Nelson

195 Harris Farm Rd

Mooresville, NC 28115

**\*Checks must be school-issued and made out to NCMEA.**



# Recording Auditions



- Rehearsal and accompaniment tracks will be available on the NCMEA website
- You **MUST** use the provided accompaniment track, **unaltered**, for the recorded audition
- Teachers are not allowed to play pitches, sing along, or make any sound in the audition.
- Make sure students voices can be heard over the accompaniment track
- The recording may not be altered in any way (added reverb, pitch correction, etc.)
- Students should **not** say their name or school name on the recording.

**\*Failure to follow these guidelines could result in an audition disqualification\***

# Submitting Auditions



*Auditions may be submitted from **September 1 - September 18, 2026***


1. Go to Festival Scores
2. Login as a director or set-up a new account
  - a. [Youtube Tutorial](#)
3. “Students Tab” > Add Student
  - a. *Required Info: Name, T-Shirt size, & indicate 2nd or 3rd year participant*
4. “Audition Event” > Activate New Event
  - a. Event Tag:
5. Upload MP3 files
  - a. “Entries” tab > “Manage Entries”
  - b. Select school
  - c. Select student
  - d. Assign student “Soprano”
  - e. Use MP3 upload files button




# Scoring

Students are scored in a blind audition process. Adjudicators are randomly assigned entry numbers and are not able to see school, teacher, or student names. Each audition is scored by multiple judges and scores are averaged together.

Adjudicators use this following rubric to give a maximum score of 50.



Category Name	Low Value	High Value
Tone Quality	1	10
Pitch Accuracy/Intonation	1	10
Rhythmic Accuracy	1	10
Diction	1	10
Musicality/Interpretation	1	10
	<b>5</b>	<b>50</b>

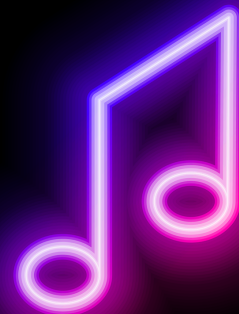


*Roughly 180 of the highest scores (including ties) are selected for the choir.*

# Next Steps!



- All announcements and information will be sent via email. PLEASE be sure to add **ncelemonhorschorse@gmail.com** to your contacts list so you don't miss any vital information!
- Teachers will receive an email announcing the selected students! Be sure to celebrate this accomplishment with students as well as your administration!
- **Purchase music packets from JW Pepper. (Other pieces will be provided for you)**  
<https://www.jwpepper.com/2025-ncmea-elementary-honor-chorus-11625685-2547134/p>
- Book a hotel room! The Marriott and Embassy Suites hotels offer a NCMEA discount on rooms. These rooms are available on a first come, first served basis and they go QUICKLY!
- Teachers will need to pay through Cheddar Up or mail a school check to for per selected student. Teachers may purchase a t-shirt in addition to that if they would like.



# Next Steps!

- You will be responsible for ordering music. The packets are pre-assembled and can be purchased at any time. Each student will need their own folders of **original music** for rehearsals.
- Parts will be assigned by school and will be sent in a director's email ASAP.
- Rehearsal tracks by part will be made available on the NCMEA website. Teachers should spend adequate time with selected students to ensure their knowledge and comfortability with the music.
- Students should go into Honors Chorus weekend ready to perform the music from memory.

# Need Help?

Check the website: [NC Elementary Honors Chorus](#)

Contact the Honors Chorus team at [ncelemhonorschorus@gmail.com](mailto:ncelemhonorschorus@gmail.com)

*We have teachers who are very familiar with the process who are ready and excited to help you navigate all things Honors Chorus! Please reach out if you could use some additional information, guidance, or even vocal help with your students!*

