Audition Guidelines for Fall 2025 Prospective Students

At the Harrison County Campus, we have two vocal performance ensembles, Cside and Concert Choir. Please read the ensemble biographies on the next page for more information.

If you are auditioning for Cside AND Concert Choir, and would like to be considered for a scholarship, please read the following information:

- 1. Register for auditions by filling out our online form Audition Form Link
- 2. Once you fill out the form, Mr. Griswold will contact you via email to confirm your audition information.
- 3. Auditions are scheduled for **Monday**, **April 21**st **from 3:30PM-5:00PM** in the HC Choir Room. You will be expected to stay the entire time.
- 4. For consideration in Cside, <u>you must audition in person</u>. If there is a conflict with the April 21st date and time, please contact Mr. Griswold as soon as possible to set up an alternative time for you to come to campus.
- 5. Your Cside audition will serve as your Concert Choir audition. All Cside students are also automatically enrolled in Concert Choir and expected to participate in both to receive scholarship funds.

What should I prepare for Cside auditions?

- 1. Please prepare 60 seconds of any contemporary song (pop, rock, country, R&B, etc.)
 - a. You must sing the song a cappella and from memory
 - b. Everyone will sing their solos in front of one another for the audition
- 2. Please learn the following excerpt from an arrangement of "Thinking Out Loud" arr. By Deke Sharon
 - a. We will rehearse this for a few minutes together after going through your solo auditions
 - b. After rehearsing, I will begin to call up **groups of 5 to sing** through the excerpt with only one person on each part
 - c. You will get numerous chances to sing through your part and demonstrate your ability to learn new music as well as sing with style, confidence, and energy
- 3. The following is a link to a folder that contains the excerpt and part tracks for the song
 - a. Google Drive Folder Link Google Drive Audition Folder
 - b. SATB PDF of the Excerpt SATB PDF of Excerpt
 - c. Full SATB Performance Track Thinking Out Loud (SATB Choir) Arr. by Deke Sharon
 - d. Vocal Demo Track Excerpt Vocal Demo
 - e. Please select a voice part that is most appropriate for you (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass)
 - f. Soprano Practice Track Soprano Practice Track
 - g. Alto Practice Track Alto Practice Track
 - h. Tenor Practice Track Tenor Practice Track
 - i. Bass Practice Track Bass Practice Track

If you are ONLY auditioning for Concert Choir and would like to be considered for a scholarship, please read the following information:

- 1. Register for auditions by filling out our online form Audition Form Link
- 2. Once you fill out the form, Mr. Griswold will contact you via email about coordinating a time for auditions
- 3. Auditions are currently scheduled for **Monday, April 21**st **from 2:00PM-3:30PM** and will take place in Mr. Griswold's office, D21 in the HC Music Building.
- 4. If you cannot attend in person, a Zoom audition can be scheduled.

What should I prepare for Concert Choir auditions?

- 1. Please prepare 60 seconds of a song from any genre, classical or contemporary
 - a. You can bring sheet music or sing a cappella
 - b. Please no karaoke tracks
- 2. You will also be expected to demonstrate some tonal memory
 - a. Ex: I play four notes on the piano and you sing them back to me

Concert Choir

Concert Choir is a mixed ensemble open to all students on the Harrison County campus. The choir meets Monday-Thursday from 1:00-1:53 and performs mostly traditional repertoire at the major choir concerts throughout the year (Fall, Winter, Spring). This year Concert Choir performed alongside the Gulf Coast Symphony Orchestra, the Hattiesburg Choral Union, and the Gulf Coast Civic Chorale in a monumental performance of Carmina Burana by Carl Orff. Next year, Concert Choir will produce a Winter Concert, a Spring Showcase featuring a variety of popular music genres, and a Spring Concert. Concert Choir also travels to local area high schools for recruitment visits.

Cside

Cside is the Contemporary A Cappella ensemble on the Harrison County campus that meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00-12:20. This ensemble is a smaller group (10-12 students) that performs a variety of contemporary repertoire including pop, rock, R&B, and more. The group frequently performs on campus for events like Bulldog Day and Veterans Day, and off campus at a variety of places in the community, including retirement homes, parades, corporate parties, festivals, and other showcase events. This ensemble also plans to travel to regional events at USM in Hattiesburg and beyond.