

# FLORIDA ALLSTATE CHORUS

Dear BES 4th and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Families,

There are optional music performance opportunities for BES 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who wish to sing with a large group of like-minded, hardworking, elementary student-musicians. Participation in this event is NOT required. The event is the FMEA All-State Elementary Chorus and the FMEA Regional Honor Chorus. The events take place on Wednesday and Thursday, January 11&12, 2023 (1/11/2023 AND 1/12/2023) for the All-State Chorus at Tampa Convention Center, OR Saturday, October 22 (10/22/22), for the Regional Honor Chorus at University of Central Florida (UCF). Students would be selected for only one event, not both. Students selected must attend all rehearsals, and the concert on their day. There will be other opportunities for similar events in the Spring semester, and details for those events will follow in the future.

Students who wish to audition, should practice the music found on the BES Music Website:  
(<http://www.sumter.k12.fl.us/domain/382>)

Arrangements will be made for auditions to be recorded at BES in mid-September during the school day.

In early October, selections are announced by the audition committee and music is ordered for the **selected students** by Mr. Christensen.

**Here is an explanation of the \$\$ part of the process:**

**Selected Student Registration fee \$75** – Paid by the family of the selected students. Send in after selections are announced in early October.

**Selected Student** Chaperon registration – Free for one chaperon. If another person would like to chaperon the student, that fee is \$75. Other family members and non-performing children (siblings or friends) will arrive at concert time.

**Selected Student's** Hotel costs, meals, gas, etc. – **Paid by the family.** Families will make their own arrangements regarding a hotel or .

Audition fee (\$20) and Music/Materials fee (\$25) – Paid for by a local business partner and not the family.

If you have any questions about this event after reading this, please contact me (David Christensen) at BES (793-3501) or via email at [david.christensen@sumter.k12.fl.us](mailto:david.christensen@sumter.k12.fl.us).

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(Cut on the line below and send in bottom portion ONLY IF YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE)

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Yes, I give permission for my child:

\_\_\_\_\_ (please list child's teacher) \_\_\_\_\_

to participate in the audition process at BES, with the understanding that IF my child is selected through the audition process, I will be able to pay for the conference registration costs of \$75 and we are available for **either date** of performance (10/22/2022 OR 1/11-12/23). I understand that the practice for these auditions will be at BES during the school day. The students will go home their regular ways (car/walk/bus) at 2:45pm during this process.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





Dear Parent or Guardian:

The All-State Elementary Chorus will perform at the January 2023 Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) Professional Development Conference in Tampa. Only the finest fourth and fifth grade voices in the state have been asked to audition for this chorus, and your child has been so honored.

Your child's music teacher will help to make an audio recording. The audition results will be available on the FMEA website for the music teacher by September 22, 2022. The decisions of the judges are final, and auditions will not be re-heard. If your child is selected, there will be an FMEA (Florida Elementary Music Educators Association) materials fee of \$35.00 that will cover music materials for the child. Additional FMEA Conference fees (online by Dec. 8: - \$75.00, on site - \$125; first chaperone is free, 2<sup>nd</sup> chaperone \$75) will be required. Check with your music teacher for details. Music will be mailed to the music teacher. **All fees are non-refundable.**

If your child is selected, your child's name and school will be published on the FMEA web site. You will need to travel to Tampa on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, (chorus check-in: 12:00 p.m.) and you will need to make arrangements to stay for one night, unless you are within commuting distance to the rehearsal and performance site. **It is an All-State policy that children who are not in the chorus are not allowed in the rehearsals and FMEA does not permit school age children in the Convention Center except to attend the concert.** There are rehearsals Wednesday and Thursday, January 11 and 12, and the concert will be held on Thursday afternoon. A parent or adult guardian chaperone (other than the music educator) must accompany the student during all non-rehearsal times. Housing information will be available for your music teacher in early fall.

Conductor **Sophia Papoulis** is the Associate Conductor of the Young People's Chorus of New York City and the principal conductor of YPC's Prelude division. Since 2007, she has conducted and prepared young people from 8 to 18 in all YPC divisions for performances in the city's most prestigious venues; on international tours; as well as in recording sessions and for radio and TV appearances. Sophia is also the associate director of YPC National, which supports and inspires youth choruses and choral conductors nationwide, as well as the creative director for the Foundation for Small Voices, a not-for-profit organization that brings choral, songwriting, and mentorship programs to children around the world. As a widely sought-after guest conductor and choral clinician, in addition, Sophia most recently brought her expertise to singers in Spain and the UK. Sophia is a magna cum laude graduate of the Ithaca College School of Music.

Because we want the audition process to be as fair as possible, each music teacher must adhere to the following guidelines or the auditions will be disqualified:

1. The teacher's membership in the National Association for Music Educators (NAfME), FMEA and FMEA must be renewed by September 15, 2022.
2. The paperwork must be completed with the auditions uploaded on the FMEA website and the audition fees must be attached.
3. Requisitions, purchase orders or personal checks may not be used. Only school checks or money orders made payable to FMEA will be accepted or online by credit card for the entire invoice amount-split tender not accepted.
4. The audition paperwork must be sent to FMEA; audition recordings uploaded to the FMEA website.
5. The postmark and/or online submission and payments, must not be later than September 22, 2022.
6. If your child is selected, Completed Materials Fee Form and Participant's Contract must be postmarked by Friday, October 19, 2022 or the student will not be allowed to participate.

If you would like for your child to audition for this chorus, please read all the enclosed pages. Complete the student information and the parent permission sections of the application and return the page to the music teacher.

Sincerely,