



HONOR CHOIR | BJÖRLING MUSIC FESTIVAL | GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE

## Frequently Asked Questions

### When and where is does the honor choir festival take place?

The festival will take place on Sunday and Monday, March 12 and 13, on the beautiful campus of Gustavus Adolphus College. Gustavus is located in St. Peter, Minnesota, which is about 45 minutes south of the Twin Cities. Rehearsals will take place in the Schaefer Fine Arts Building and the culminating concert will take place in Christ Chapel, which is one of the finest spaces for choral performances in the upper Midwest!

### Who is eligible to participate in the honor choir?

The festival is open to any singer in grades 9–12.

### How are students selected for the festival?

Students must be nominated for the festival by their high school choir director or private voice teacher [using this link](#). After the nomination process is closed on Friday, February 10, Gustavus choral and vocal faculty members carefully review each nomination and select 125 students for the festival. Selection is based on teacher recommendation related to musical skills and attitude, along with the balance needs of the festival choir.

### When and how are accepted students notified?

The results of the selection process will be sent directly to the nominating teacher on Friday, February 17. All results will be sent to the email provided during the nomination process.

### What will the students be doing at the festival?

Lots! Our priority is to provide each student with a high impact educational experience. Much of our time together will be spent in full group choral rehearsals as we prepare to sing a concert on Monday evening. Additionally, students have the opportunity to interact directly with nationally renowned choral composer, Dr. Marques L.A. Garrett from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. A Gustavus voice instructor will be leading a masterclass for students to learn new vocal techniques, and during the grand finale concert the students will have the opportunity to listen to hear performances by the Chanhassen High School Concert Choir and the Gustavus Choir. Of course, it can't be all work and no play! Our dedicated team of Vocal Music Assistants and Vocal Music Education majors will organize a few opportunities for students to socialize with each other and help make some lasting friendship connections.

### Where do the students stay on Sunday night?

Students will be assigned housing with current members of the choral ensembles at Gustavus. Although a futon or bed may be available in some cases, generally students sleep on the floor in a sleeping bag. A full packing list of recommended items will be sent to selected students in late February.

### How do meals work?

Students will eat meals in Gustavus' award-winning *Market Place*. The food options available daily will cover any and all special dietary needs. For dinner on Sunday night, the Gustavus students who are hosting the honor choir students will take them to the Market Place and show them how everything works. Festival participants should plan to pay for the following meals while at the festival: Sunday dinner, Monday breakfast and dinner. Monday lunch will be provided by the festival at no additional charge.

### What is the cost of the festival?

The cost is \$35 per student. After being selected for the festival, the fee will be payable online.

### What do the students wear for the concert?

Festival participants should plan to dress as they would for their own high school performances (e.g., robes, concert tux/dress, etc.). The mixed ensemble appearance adds to the audiences' understanding of bringing students together from so many different high school music programs.

### I have more questions! Who do I contact?

Please reach out to Dr. Brandon Dean (bdean@gustavus.edu), who serves as the festival director.