

Wheaton North High School *Flight* 2022-2023 Audition Information Packet

JOIN THE AUDITION REMIND: Text @wnflight to 81010

Ms. Krause Email: kassandra.krause@cusd200.org

Teacher Page: <https://www.cusd200.org/Domain/1627>

Flight Website: www.wnflight.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/wnflight

Instagram: @wnflight

Mission Statement

We, the members of Wheaton North Flight, strive to work diligently in our efforts of reaching our highest potential in the development of our SINGING, DANCING + STORYTELLING skill sets. Existing to fuel our passion for performance, we work in a demanding and safe environment that thrives on GENUINE RELATIONSHIPS between members in order to craft a successful show. Our DEDICATION TO EXCELLENCE is of utmost importance as we consistently work to become the BEST VERSIONS OF OURSELVES both on + off the stage. Our most valued goal is to INSPIRE ourselves + our audiences maintaining a proud, yet humble tradition of excellence towards that which we create.

Flight's Pillars of Excellence

INTEGRITY | COMMITMENT | COMMUNITY | PURPOSE | PRIDE

Audition Procedure

All students who will be enrolled at Wheaton North High School for the entirety of the 2022-2023 school year who are wishing to audition for show choir must prepare both a vocal and dance audition. Students will be placed into the choir based on their skill, potential, attitude, work ethic, and commitment levels.

Wednesday, August 24: Information Meeting | Learn Audition Dance

Saturday, August 27: Vocal and Dance Auditions

Monday, August 29: Callbacks (if necessary) *Callbacks will be sent in the Remind by 9PM Saturday*

Monday, August 29: Flight 2022-2023 List Posted on the website by 9PM *(or sooner if no callbacks)*

Wednesday, August 31: First Rehearsal (5:00-8:00)

Thursday, September 1: First Choreo Rehearsal (5:30-9:00)

Saturday, September 3: COLOR WARS and Team Building (3:00-6:00 Northside Park)

Tuesday, September 6: MANDATORY PARENT/GUARDIAN/STUDENT MEETING 7:30 PM

*If you are chosen for Flight, there will be a **MANDATORY student/parent meeting on Tuesday, September 6 at 7:30 PM in the Auditorium.** A \$250 deposit will be due at this meeting to secure the student's placement on the roster. Final calendars and this year's details will be discussed at this meeting. **Students and at least one parent or guardian must be present to accept their position.***

TO DO BEFORE AUDITION

- Parent signed sheet from the Audition Packet (*Back of this packet - bring to audition*)
- Complete Registration/Audition Form (*ONLINE - Sent in Remind and on www.wnflight.com*)
- Sign Up for Audition Time (*ONLINE - Sent in Remind and on www.wnflight.com*)
- Veteran Members Only - FLT application (*ONLINE - www.wnflight.com*)

We consider having all completed required materials a display of your level of responsibility during the audition process.

THE AUDITION PROCESS .

Students will sign up in groups of 4. You may audition with any mix of genders or grades. Sign up for a group you are comfortable singing and dancing with!

Your vocal audition will be first, followed by your dance audition. Vocal Auditions will be individual and dance auditions will happen as a group, though you will all be in the room for both portions of the audition.

You will sing the audition once and dance the audition twice.

Dress comfortably and in appropriate footwear!

All prospective members must audition regardless of whether or not they have previously been a singer/dancer.

The top 5 scoring soprano/altos and the top 5 scoring tenor/basses will be selected to audition for the Illinois ACDA All State Show Choir.

VOCAL AUDITION

Students will be able to choose from the provided cuts of the following song options:

TREBLE VOICES

- *Both Sides Now*, Joni Mitchell
- *Easy On Me*, Adele
- *Journey to the Past*, Anastasia the musical
- *Breathe*, In the Heights
- *What it Means to be a Friend*, 13 the musical
- *Little Bird*, Annie Lennox

BASS VOICES

- *The Other Side*, Bruno Mars
- *Pray*, Sam Smith
- *Goodbye, Yellowbrick Road*, Elton John
- *Elanor Rigby*, The Beatles

- It will be sung with provided accompaniment tracks
- Choose the song that showcases your skill and confidence the most!

Included in the folder will be:

- The sheet music for the selection cut
- A recording of a sung example
- The accompaniment recording - **this is what will be used in the audition!**

Put your best foot forward! We don't need recital singers, we need performers! Confidence is key! Have FUN! Show your personality! Practice in front of a mirror!

Your audition need not be memorized!

Yes, you need to sing it in the octave written - we need to hear what your voice can do in the ranges given, as that is what you will be singing in Flight. You are not going to be able to take a soprano line down the octave, or a bass line up.

I am not looking for perfection, I am looking for POTENTIAL.

If you are called back, you will be asked to sing a 30 second song of your choice - this should be a song that you feel best represents your best skill - gospel, pop, classical - show us what you've got!

DANCE AUDITION

The choreography portion will consist of:

- Performing the dance a few times as a group
- Videos of the dances are posted in the Google folder.
- Show us your best performance value in your dance!
- We are looking for style and performance value! Can you memorize and perform dance with a quick turnaround?

HELP SESSIONS!

These are optional and in no way mandatory - come and get additional help by veteran members!

Thursday, August 25 | 2:30-4:00 | Choir Room

Friday, August 26 | 5:00-6:15 | Choir Room

Remember you are making an impression in every aspect of the audition, look and act the part.

*Important note: We will be happy to discuss aspects of singing and dancing that your child can improve upon for next year, but we will not discuss specific audition scores.

Think calmly and rationally before you decide to make any phone calls, send emails about your child's placement in the choir, or posts on social media. Please keep in mind we always have what is best for the choirs and the students involved at the forefront of all decisions that we make. **The Flight staff will be happy to sit down with you and discuss your child's areas that may need improvement, or more importantly what went well, after September 8.**

General Guidelines

The 2022-2023 Flight season will run September - March and will require a great deal of commitment. Attendance at all performances is MANDATORY. Though we make efforts to work around student schedules, it is also mandatory for students to attend all dress rehearsals, dance rehearsals with our choreographers, and all rehearsals the week of a competition or a performance. Please schedule college visits, family vacations, and other commitments accordingly.

Flight will be your only winter commitment through the school (Unfortunately, IHSA does not allow you to compete in two competitive activities in the same season - this means no basketball, wrestling, varsity speech, competitive dance, competitive cheer, or steppers). A tentative schedule is included in the info packet linked at the end of this presentation. A final calendar will be given at the mandatory parent/student meeting on September 6.

BEYOND THE AUDITION

- team player | humble
- integrity
- trustworthy
- ability to manage time + stress
- commitment to excellence
- self-starter
- problem solver
- citizenship in classroom + beyond
- reliable

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Can I be in a sport and in Flight?

A: Of course! The only sports that Flight conflicts with are winter sports as that is our competition season. Fall and Spring sports are completely manageable! Same with marching band and fall play!

Q: Do I have to be in choir to be in Flight?

A: It is no longer a requirement or expectation that singer/dancers must be in choir!

Q: What if I have no experience?

A: No big deal! We are looking for quality human beings that are committed and willing to work hard to hone their singing and dancing skills. Think you're a good singer but not a dancer or vice versa? Good news – Ms. K, Stephen, and Connor are here to TEACH you the skills you need! Give it a shot! You have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Q: What do I do if I don't make it?

A: The first thing I would suggest: JOIN A CURRICULAR CHOIR! There is no greater tool to help you gain more musical skill than to be singing every day. Plus, you'll get to know more people in the program, gain confidence as a musician and a performer, and meet some amazing people! Talk to Ms. K about adding choir to your schedule!

Q: Do current members need to audition too?

A: Yes, all members looking to be in Flight 2022-2023 will need to audition.

Q: How many people will you take?

A: Show Choir will have a limited number of participants, typically around 40-56. The total number in the ensemble will be determined based on a variety of factors including: total number auditioning, numbers in specific vocal parts, number of tenor/bass, etc. Individual and group dynamics will also be a weighted factor in the process.

Q: Do I need a sports physical to try out for Flight?

A: No, but you will need to have a sports physical completed by October 1 if you are selected as a singer/dancer
***new this year!**

Financial Obligations

The operational cost of a competitive show choir is significant, and we are entirely self-funded: buses, equipment truck, costumes, show design, competition entry, choreography, music (etc.) are entirely covered by our organization and not the district or IHSA. EVERYTHING we use or need is self-funded.

While we receive a tremendous amount of support from our school and community, currently the only financial assistance we receive is in the form of the director and 2 assistant director/accompanist stipends (for which we are extremely grateful!)

Competitive show choirs design their shows from scratch, and that process alone is a significant cost: Music Arrangements + Copyright alone run, on average, \$10,000 - \$12,000 each year.

Due to the rising costs of operating a highly competitive show choir program, all costume, music, equipment, travel, competition, and prop expenses will be paid in full by the participants. It is VITAL that all parents and students participate in choral fundraisers so that we may continue to compete at the level that we do.

Students will be given a variety of opportunities to fundraise in order to offset their cost. Details will be given at the parent meeting for selected Flight members.

\$1,800 - Fee for show choir singer/dancer participation

Payment 1: \$250 due at the 9/6 parent meeting to pay our costume deposit

Payment 2: \$250 Due OCTOBER 15

Payment 3: \$250 Due NOVEMBER 15

Payment 4: \$250 Due DECEMBER 15

Payment 5: \$250 Due JANUARY 15

Payment 6: \$250 Due FEBRUARY 15

FINAL PAYMENT: \$300 (all money earned through fundraisers are deducted from final balance - anything beyond the final \$300 that is earned will be refunded via check)

Recognizing that this is a considerable cost to any family, we will continue to work diligently to provide fundraising opportunities for students to be able to offset the costs associated with show choir. All students are encouraged and welcomed to be a part of Flight, and no student will be turned away due to financial hardship.

Includes things like: 2 rehearsal shirts, costume rental, transportation, competition entry, clinicians, show design, set design and build, custom choreography, custom arrangements, copyright, hotels, retreat, band equipment, all travel costs, equipment trailer, Flight yard sign + swag

BREATHE!

Relax! Be YOU in the auditions! We are all rooting for you to succeed and want the process to be a positive and encouraging one—we are here to build you up, not tear you down. Deep breath. There is a lot here, but how do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time. You can do it.

This process is not meant to scare you! We are all rooting for you and WANT you to be successful! If you have any questions or need help, ask former members! They would love to help you with the dance or give you pointers on how to survive auditions. We are looking for quality humans - do not think you aren't a good enough performer to make the group! What we do is a SKILL + we will help you build it, AND we need all kinds of humans to make what we do work. Bravo to you for stepping out of your comfort zone + challenging yourself! You can do it!

As always, if you have any questions, stop in the choir room or shoot Ms. K an email!
kassandra.krause@cusd200.org

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING FORM + BRING IT TO YOUR AUDITION!

We have read the 2022-2023 Wheaton North High School Show Choir Info Packet and understand the guidelines above and our commitment to them in making the show choir experience successful and enjoyable.

_____ *has our permission to audition and will participate fully as outlined and established above.*

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

DO NOT FORGET: MANDATORY STUDENT/PARENT MEETING IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 AT 7:30 PM IN THE AUDITORIUM AT WNHS FOR ALL STUDENTS AND ONE PARENT/GUARDIAN ON THE 2022-2023 ROSTER.