

Live Oak Academy Choral Ensemble

The Choral Ensemble is a small, elite group of students who are serious about choral music. Students will receive individualized, hands-on instruction on vocal technique, musical expression, and other issues relevant to choral singing.

Purpose:

- To offer advanced students more individualized instruction in order to gain a better understanding of how to be a good chorister.
- To teach students the finer mechanics of blending, vowel formation, breath support, etc. as it benefits a choir.
- To expose students to the vast wealth of superior sacred choral music, especially classical choral music.
- To inculcate in students an appreciation for making beautiful music.

Requirements:

Students are responsible for learning their music independently and *outside of class time*. Since the goal of the Ensemble is to work on the musicianship of the group, it is crucial that students be intrinsically motivated. They are expected to commit as much time as is necessary to learning notes, rhythms, and words on their own. The minimum requirement for practice is two hours per week.

It is expected that every student will arrive at practice on time and ready to positively contribute to a productive session. Students should bring their music, a pencil, and a water bottle to each practice. A recording device is highly recommended, for the purpose of recording practices or section rehearsals.

Uniform:

Participation in an elite ensemble requires a professional appearance. Students are responsible for buying the correct uniform. Ladies must purchase the long skirt and top from ConcertDress.com. They will also need black stockings—no lace, pattern stockings, or fishnet. Men need to wear black slacks, and a long, white, button-down shirt with the appropriate undergarments. They will also need black dress shoes and black socks. Both ladies and gentlemen will wear black dress shoes.

Attendance Policies:

Students must inform the instructor **IN ADVANCE** of any absences. If the student misses several practices due to illness or extracurricular activities, it is recommended that he or she set a time to meet with the instructor to make up the work done in their absence.

Procedures for admission:

Auditions are conducted in the fall, before the start of the semester. To be considered for admission, a student or his parents must complete the Enrichment Enrollment Form and return it to the Live Oak Academy office *no later than August 1*. Late applications will not be considered.

Once the Enrichment form has been submitted, the family will be contacted with an audition time slot. Each audition will be 10-15 minutes in length. All auditions will take place at Foxworthy Baptist Church on **August 26**.

If the student is accepted to Ensemble, the family will be notified by the Live Oak Academy Office.

If the student is not accepted to Ensemble, he or she is welcome to enroll in Classic or Elementary choir, and to re-apply for Ensemble the following year.