

# Minutes for the Choral Section of NWNMMEA Meeting May 2025

- **Members attending:** Siromani Leath, Katie Olivas, [Kayla Mohlman](#), [Melissa Mortensen](#), Virginia Weaver, Virginia Nickels-Hircock, [Soren Robinson](#) [Paul Cranfill](#)
- Called to Order at 12:39 pm
- **Financial Report**
  - There is \$ 6853.77 in the choir account with \$1803 still outstanding.
  - **High School & Middle School Solo and Ensemble**
  - When: Oct. 1st, 2025
  - Where: **FHS**
  - Choral VP will get the judges. (Make sure the judges fill out a clinician contract and W9 form and it is given to the choir secretary.)
    - Judge suggestions: [Kaden Weinsheit](#), [Annie Bushman](#), Marletta Newman, Elaina S. Crenshaw, [Margaret Clair](#), Brenna Tubb
  - <https://www.nmmea.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Choir-Adjudication-Contract.pdf> )
  - Registration by Sept. 17th. Please register on the NMMEA website <https://www.nmmea.com/districts/northwest/entry-forms/> (Siromani will need to invoice everyone once registration is completed)
  - Fee is \$10 per student per ensemble/song (If you register the student, they need to pay regardless of showing up to the event)
  - This event is great for All-State solo practice.
  - May use a track as accompaniment.
  - Types of songs: Art, Jazz, Broadway, Folk. No Pop or Country songs.
  - It is recommended that one legal copy of the music is on hand for the judges.
  - Students, please stay true to the printed page of music.
  - Small ensembles are encouraged to sing non-unison pieces.
  - Students need to be prepared with their accompaniment track on CD, flash drive, or phone (if using an Apple phone please make sure they have a dongle/adaptor.)
  - Students must dress appropriately (Sunday best)
  - Students need to know how to introduce themselves
  - Students need to know how to cue their accompanist
  - [Melissa Mortensen](#) motions to vote on a new S&E form
  - Kayla Mohlman 2nds
  - Motion passes to vote on a new S & E form
    - Form can be found on.....[\(link goes here\)](#)
  - Teachers MUST attend with their students.
  - Schedule requests/changes need to be communicated as early as possible.
  - We will be doing a Sight-Reading component for the High School students who will be auditioning for All-State Choir. Two teachers needed to help facilitate this. Once a student finishes with their solo they will go line up for a quick 10-minute sight-reading example and clinic.
    - Recording system??
- **Honor Choir for 5th&6th Treble choir (SA) & 7th &8th Grade Treble Choir (SSA)**
- Venue: Civic Center?
- Date:Friday, Nov. 14th

- 5th & 6th grade choir will sing the all-state audition piece at this honor choir
- Students MUST be prepared. An idea to help with this is to use two of the pieces in your own fall concert so students don't have to learn as much outside of class
- Students must be eligible to participate.
- Choral VP will get the clinicians. (Make sure they fill out a clinician contract and a W9 form and given to the choir secretary  
<https://www.nmmea.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Choir-Adjudication-Contract.pdf> )

Suggestions on clinicians?

Petra Lyon

1. Mika Proctor
2. Tammy Martin
3. Marilyn Barnes
4. Rebecca Kendall
5. Virginia Nickles
6. Beth Borchart-Thomas
7. Paul Halstead

- Accompanist: (Fill out a contract & W9 form also for the choir secretary's records to be paid.)
  - Robyn Woodard
  - Paul Cranfill
  - Melissa Mortensen
  - Levi Brown

<https://www.nmmea.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Choir-Adjudication-Contract.pdf> )

- Each school may bring 5 sop 1, 5 sop 2 and 5 alto
- Each school may bring up to 5 sopranos and 5 altos for 5th & 6th grade treble choir
- Music Selection committee: Kayla Mohlman, Siromani Leath

- Music Selection for 7th-8th grade choir:

Music Selection for 5th & 6th grade choir:

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- Who will provide recordings to send out to the students? Pipes Practice Tracks?
- Siromani will order and distribute music at the Fall meeting
- Registration <https://www.nmmea.com/districts/northwest/entry-forms/> due Oct. 31st (one month before the event) (Siromani will invoice everyone once registration is completed)
- We need lots of chaperones
- Chaperone meeting
- Give audience a talk about expectations
- Choral VP will keep a spreadsheet of the names of the students who will be participating.
- Fee is **\$25?** per student. (If you register a student, they need to pay regardless of showing up to the event). Research drawstring bags, bracelets, pins, pencil, etc
- Students will wear school choir shirt and jeans with no holes
- Siromani will get the programs printed (QR code).
- Students bring a sack lunch, drink and a snack.
- Siromani will order lunch for directors and clinician/accompanist.
- Siromani will do the schedule for the day including scheduling sectionals. Schedule 20 mins for the clinicians to regroup with their students before the concert.

- Rehearsal start at 9:00am Concert begins at 6:00pm Charge \$2 at the door for parents.
- Siromani will be in charge of collecting the money at the door

### ● High School All State

Location: UNM, Albuquerque; Date: Jan 14th-17th

Auditions will be Oct. 16th-25th

- Registration deadline Sept. 1st (early registration) by 5:00pm, \_\_\_\_\_ (late registration) by 5:00pm
- Audition piece is [Choir Audition Material](#)
- Please buy an audition track for each student to help keep the fees down.
- Will there be a NW District High School All State prep day at FHS or PV? Tentatively Sept. 5th & 6th. Discuss further at Fall Meeting

### ● Jazz All-state

- Location: ENMU: Date Jan 22nd-24th
- Auditions will be Oct. 29th-Nov. 8th
- Registration deadline is \_\_\_\_\_
- Auditions piece is [JAZZ AUDITION MATERIAL](#)

### ● Youth All-State

- Date: Jan 29th-Jan 31st, 2026 Location: National Hispanic Cultural Center (1701 4th St. SW Albuquerque, NM 87102)
- Audition pieces:
  - Treble/Mixed: Hold Fast to Dream-Susan LaBarr
  - Youth audition cut: measures 43-59
  - Elementary: Follow the Drinking Gourd-Arr. Rollo Dilworth
  - \*Elementary audition cut: measures 31-47
  - For recording student states: First name, last name
- Website is <https://nmacda.com> for more information
- Audition Deadline is Sept 22nd- Oct. 15th, 2025
- Clinicians are
  - Elementary: Ben Torres
  - Youth Treble: Melissa Mortensen
  - Youth Mixed: Dr. Brandon A Boyd
- Must register as an **ACDA member** <https://acda.org> to participate.
- ? is the Farmington trip coordinator but we will all sign up for certain duties.

### \*Music Performance Assessment

- Date: March 11th and 12th 2026: March 11th: middle school, March 12th; high school.
- Registration deadline Feb. 11th, 2026. Please make sure your NAFME membership <https://nafme.org/join-renew/> is up to date so you don't have problems registering and please do not register late. (Siromani will invoice everyone once registration is completed)
- Venue: PVTC PAT Host: Melissa Mortensen
- Host will need to make sure that everything is set up for MPA; judges tables; signs

posted; risers for stage, sight reading room and warmup room. Host will get high school kids as guides for the choirs. Will also need auditorium door monitors, MP3 recording students to deliver/pickup judging packets, sight reading room monitor. On high school performance day we need to make sure that no jobs are being neglected because the high school kids are performing.

- Sightreading must be in UIL format
- Kayla Mohlman motions, Virginia Weaver 2nds to make beginning packets.
- Beginning choirs can sight-read at Level 1 & Level 2 packets (we will put these together. more discussion at the Fall meeting).
  - Make sure that you're familiar with the guidelines in the NWNMMEA Handbook
- Siromani will do the schedule
- Katie will get the judges.
  - **Virginia Nickels-Hircock**
    - Marletta Newman
    - Linda Mack
    - Susie Parker (J Golden)
    - Amy Sewell (last resort - FMS Elementary Teacher)
    - Kelly Yost (last resort - FMS Elementary Teacher)
    - Cheryl Pritchard (last resort - FMS Elementary Teacher)
    - Marla Sittton (Cortez High School)
- Judges need to fill out judges contracts  
<https://www.nmmea.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Choir-Adjudication-Contract.pdf>  
and W9 forms <https://www.nmmea.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/W-9.pdf> and send them to [nw-choralsecretarytreasurer@nmmea.com](mailto:nw-choralsecretarytreasurer@nmmea.com)
- Site Chair: Middle School Day: Katie Patton, Melissa Mortensen  
High School Day: Siromani Leath, Virginia Weaver  
Site Chair duties include: MCing (?), runners, computer/judging inputting
- \$215 Fee (this includes one photo for the director)
- Photographer: Pam Prater
  - We will pay Pam Prater a contracted amount for the two days of work.
  - Send out the Photo Form
- Siromani will provide lunches for the judges/directors/accompanists, also will need to get snacks and drinks/ice.
- Melissa Mortensen motions and Siromani Leath seconds to change to have one MPA judge stay in the sight-reading room all day and be THE sight-reading judge.

## ● State Choir Festival

- Date: April 14th-15th
- Location: V. Sue Cleveland high school, Rio Rancho, NM
- The requirement for state is to go to MPA and get a composite score of no less than a 90 (high school) and 85 (middle school). Or, get a composite score of 90 (high school) and 85 (middle school) at the previous year's state competition. Must be an NAFME member.
- Choral VP/NMAA State Representative will represent us in the State Choir Festival meetings.
- Farmington district will pay for one bus each to state.

- The cost is \$225 per choir to register for the event. Dan will pay for the registration fee.
- Must submit a completed and signed registration form (December), NMAA Verification of Eligibility form and roster (signed by a school administrator), a signed Music Director's Code of Conduct and check or PO or CCD for \$225 per choir by March? , to Zac Stevenson, Deputy Director of NMAA.

**Zac Stevenson (NMAA)**

505.923.3277 (office)

505.923.3114 (fax)

[zac@nmact.org](mailto:zac@nmact.org)

- Use <https://www.nmact.org/activities/choir/> for more information and to see who performs on each day

- **Other Business**

- ENMU Men's Choir Festival -???? (tentatively)
- Anything else?
- UNM Aug. 23rd All-state prep day
- Youth and Children's all-state prep day July 14th-16th from 9 am-11 am at PV

- **Proposed Fall Date:**

- Aug 13th at 12:00\_ at TBD
- Full District meeting Aug 13th at 2:30 at Mesa View
- Adjourn at 2:52

- Motion - Kayla Mohlman
- Second - Siromani Leath