GRAND VOICES! Information

***Please visit GrandAvenueSings.weebly.com for a recording of the Star Spangled Banner in the correct key with lyrics provided***

GRAND VOICES! is a group of 7th and 8th grade students that LOVE to sing. An audition is required to be a member of the group and not every student that auditions is accepted. Acceptance is based on strong vocal tone quality, ability to match pitch, and the ability to sing in 2 and 3 part harmony. Additionally, students must exemplify all components of our philosophy of “GRAND C.A.R.E.S”.

GRAND VOICES! meets on Tuesday and/or Thursday mornings in the Vocal Room from 7-7:45AM (usually once a week, twice if a performance is approaching. Schedule is given in advance). Morning meetings allow students to participate in sports and other after school activities while still being GV members. However, attendance at all rehearsals is mandatory so it is important students understand the high level of commitment required to join this ensemble. There is no bus for early morning rehearsals, so you must provide your own transportation.

Audition information can be found below. Please feel free to email me at **acantwell@bmchsd.org** with any questions.

AUDITION Dates:

YOU MUST BRING YOUR COMPLETED INFORMATION SHEET TO YOUR AUDITION! ALL AUDITIONS WILL BE IN THE VOCAL ROOM.

**Thurs, 9/23 2:41 PM** 8th Grade Auditions

**Fri, 9/24 2:41 PM** 7th Grade Auditions

If you cannot make your assigned audition day, you may come to the audition day not assigned to your grade! I listen to students as they come in/want to go. If you have a sport you need to get to, just let me know and you can go towards the beginning. If you want to wait for the room to “empty out”, you can certainly try! The only people allowed in the Vocal Room are those auditioning or waiting to audition. No “audience members”!

MAKE-UPS

If you are unable to attend auditions on either day due to an absence from school, please see Mrs. Cantwell ASAP or email [acantwell@bmchsd.org](mailto:acantwell@bmchsd.org) to schedule a makeup.

CALLBACK Date/Times:

**Callback list will be posted on Mon, 9/27 at 4pm on my website. If you are on the list, you have made it to the second round of auditions.**

**Thurs, 9/30 7am Callbacks for all students on list**

STUDENTS MUST ATTEND CALLBACK IN ITS ENTIRETY!

Attendance and PUNCTUALITY are a major factor in our callback. I cannot accept students as GV members if they are unable to make a 7AM rehearsal.

AUDITION Procedures: Don’t forget to bring your completed info sheet!

Individually, students will begin with about 16 bars (a verse and a chorus/about 30 seconds of music) of a song of their choice (I recommend something classical/musical theatre style), **and then sing The Star Spangled Banner**. This is sung a cappella (no music accompaniment), starting on the pitch E-flat (above middle C). Lyrics may be used (visit **GrandAvenueSings.weebly.com** for recording and lyrics). Finally, they will sing a short tonal exercise to test their ability to sing in harmony. A few vocal warm ups may also be done to test range if necessary.

Boys with changed or changing voices may be allowed to start on a different pitch. This will be at the discretion of Mrs. Cantwell. All girls will start on E-flat. Please remember that this audition is about vocal quality and intonation, NOT the ability to hit all high or low pitches. Do not panic if you cannot hit the highest or lowest notes in The Star Spangled Banner! :)

*\*Singing a classical/musical theatre piece before the Star Spangled Banner is not mandatory. I added that step because many students wanted to opportunity to “show off” a song they were comfortable with. Any student who wishes may choose to ONLY sing the Star Spangled Banner if they feel that best showcases their voice.*

Final Roster

The Final Roster will be posted on Friday, 10/1 at 4pm on my website. The first rehearsal for all students on the final roster will be Thursday, 10/7 at 7AM in the Vocal Room.