



Your child has been identified by their music teacher as a potential participant in the **OAKE National Conference Choirs** in **Portland, Oregon!** Many families have found this choral endeavor to be life-changing for their young singers.

Student singers will participate in a rigorous 4-day rehearsal schedule **March 4 - 7, 2020** (Wed-Sat), culminating in a final performance at **Trinity Episcopal Cathedral** the evening of Saturday March 7, 2020. The typical audience size for this concert is 1500 – 1800 people.

*2020 NOTE: The concert venue in Portland is wonderful, yet small. We are prioritizing families and teachers of singers to attend. Each family will be initially limited to **five audience seats** (up to two are complimentary). This is in addition to the singer and their teacher. If possible, further audience tickets may open later, but not guaranteed. A video stream of the concert will be hosted at the conference hotel for conference attendees and anyone else wishing to view.*

We look forward to receiving your singer's audition application! While your child's teacher will complete the application and audition process, it is important for you to be aware of some of the key dates and financial obligations involved with this program.

**Visit [www.oake.org/choirs](http://www.oake.org/choirs) to learn about your commitments in this musical opportunity.**

### What is the OAKE National Conference and the National Conference Choirs?

The **Organization of American Kodály Educators** has a mission to support music education of the highest quality, promote universal music literacy and lifelong music making, and preserve the musical heritage of the people of the United States of America through education, artistic performance, advocacy and research.

**The OAKE National Conference** occurs in a different city each year, bringing together music educators and clinicians over the course of four days and culminating in the performance of singers selected to participate in the National Choirs. Audition-based **OAKE National Conference Choirs** are each led by a nationally renowned conductor. Accepted singers will learn and memorize the music at home with their own teachers before going to the conference city.

- **Children's Choir** - (SSA) - Treble singers in grades 4 - 5
- **Youth Choir** - (SSAA) - Singers in grades 6 - 8 with unchanged voices\*
- **Concert Women's Choir** - (SSAA) – Sopranos and Altos in grades 9 - 12
- **Chamber Ensemble** - (SATB) – Soprano and Alto singers selected from the "Concert Women's Choir" auditions and Tenors and Basses, all in grades 9 - 12.
- **\*Middle school changed voices:** We currently do not accept applications for tenor or bass parts for the Youth Choir. That will change next year for the Jacksonville, FL conference.

## How does the audition work and what happens if my child is accepted?

Review the calendar and financial commitments listed at [www.oake.org/choirs](http://www.oake.org/choirs). Carefully consider the choir dates, cost of registration, spring travel, and hotel expenses. Please be mindful that if your singer is accepted but then your family cannot meet commitments, another deserving singer loses out. If you are comfortable with the obligations, clearly fill out the Student Information Form and return it to your teacher. Pay the \$26 Audition/Application fee.

Many audition for this artistic experience and acceptance into the choirs is not guaranteed. Your child's teacher will conduct the audition and submit the application on their behalf. Once submitted, you will receive a confirmation email—please note however, that **your child's application will not be complete until the application fee of \$26 has been received and processed**. Visit [oake.org](http://oake.org) to view travel, lodging, and other information to help prepare for the OAKE National Choirs. Should your singer be accepted, emails will include further details.

On the trip, your child must be chaperoned by either a parent, grandparent, relative over the age of 21, teacher, or other designated chaperone at all times while not in a scheduled rehearsal. OAKE requires all choir members and chaperones residing outside of the conference city to stay in the designated conference hotel. Costs of rehearsal space are defrayed by your overnight room stay. You and your family will have free time to explore the host city and there will even be a handful of conference sessions choir families will be invited to attend.

| Audition Steps                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Deadlines/<br>Dates                                                                                                                                                              | Fee                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Responsibility of                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Audition Applications Open Online</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Mid-August                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Teacher educates families and singer about opportunity to participate                                            |
| <b>Application and Fee Deadline</b><br><i>*Avoid mail issues - Pay online!</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | October 15                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>\$26</b><br>USD <i>Non-refundable</i>                                                                                                                                                                                      | Family completes student info form.<br>Family pays online or by check to teacher.<br>Teacher submits all checks. |
| <b>Audition Results emailed</b><br><i>*Accepted or declined, all will be emailed</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | by<br>November 15                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | OAKE National Office                                                                                             |
| <b>If Accepted</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Student Registration &amp; Fee* Deadline</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | December 2                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>\$250</b><br>USD <i>Non-refundable</i>                                                                                                                                                                                     | Family pays and submits registration (unless the school covers the fee).                                         |
| <b>Choir Packets Mailed to Teachers</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Mid-December                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | OAKE National Office                                                                                             |
| <b>Teacher Conference Registration Deadline</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | December 10                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Teacher pays                                                                                                     |
| <b>Choir "Extras" Order Deadline</b><br><i>*2020: limit five total audience seats per singer</i><br><b>Deadline to Invite Your Principal</b>                                                                                                                                                                           | January 10                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Family or Teachers are welcome to submit both items due Jan 10 ( <b>BOTH OPTIONAL</b> )                          |
| Event Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Details/Cost                                                                                                                                                                     | Responsibility of                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>Dates for Accepted Singers:</b> MARCH 4 - 7, 2020 (Wednesday through Saturday) Portland, OR<br/> <i>*Teachers may arrive later than Wednesday, however, conference attendance and registration are required.</i><br/> <b>Final Performance Date &amp; Venue:</b> March 7, 2020   Trinity Episcopal Cathedral</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Rehearsal Locations &amp; Hotel Lodgings</b><br><i>(if accepted)</i><br>Choirs will rehearse in the Hilton.<br>Women's Choir will rehearse just across the street at the Duniway Hotel.                                                                                                                             | <b>Hilton Portland Downtown</b> or <b>The Duniway Portland</b><br>Nightly Room Costs: <b>\$199</b> for single or double bed rooms.<br>If you drive, there is also a parking fee. | Parent arranges for student/family.<br>Teacher arranges for themselves.<br><br><b>RESERVATION ALERT:</b> The OAKE Conference Rate expires <b>FEB 20, 2020</b> OR when the OAKE room block is sold out, whichever comes first. |                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Flight/Travel to Portland, OR</b><br><i>(if accepted)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Costs Vary                                                                                                                                                                       | All arrange for self / family                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |

# OAKE NATIONAL CONFERENCE CHOIRS

## STUDENT INFORMATION FORM – Application Deadline: October 15

\*\* We recommend payment by credit card at [oake.formstack.com/forms/choir\\_audition\\_fee](https://oake.formstack.com/forms/choir_audition_fee) \*\*  
Be sure there are no typos in your Teacher name and email.

**Teacher Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this pdf on your computer and email to your child’s teacher. **Notifications of acceptance or decline will arrive via email** and this will be OAKE’s primary mode of communication with you. **If you must complete by hand, it is very important to write legibly for your teacher.**

**TEACHER USE ONLY:**  
Choir & Voice Part \_\_\_\_\_

Singer’s First name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

*Enter the student’s name **\*\*exactly\*\*** as you would like it to be printed in publicity materials, if selected.*

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Height (in inches) \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size\* \_\_\_\_\_

**Sizes:** S, M, L, XL, XXL

\*Children’s Choir (4 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade) orders fulfilled in Youth sizes;

\*Youth Choir, Concert Women’s & Chamber Ensemble (6 - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade) orders fulfilled in Adult sizes

Singer’s Address \_\_\_\_\_

Singer’s Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent #1 Full name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent #1 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parent #1 Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent #2 Full name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent #2 Phone Number (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent #2 Email address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Commitment:** If selected, I will learn and memorize the music prior to the OAKE National Conference, and will proudly represent my institution to the best of my ability by exhibiting outstanding character, commitment, and musicianship.  
Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Commitment:** If accepted, the cost to participate in the OAKE National Conference Choirs is \$250 plus travel and hotel expenses. In addition, I am responsible for clearing the family calendar of all potential conflicts, and making travel arrangements. I understand these obligations and will support my child in accepting this national honor if he/she is chosen to participate in the OAKE National Conference Choirs.  
Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Info:** Applications will be considered once the \$26 payment is complete. To streamline the audition process, we recommend paying online with a credit card at [https://oake.formstack.com/forms/choir\\_audition\\_fee](https://oake.formstack.com/forms/choir_audition_fee) (no processing fee). You may also write a check (to Organization of American Kodály Educators) and give to the teacher who’ll send all checks. **Please include your child’s name, written legibly on the check memo line.** One check or charge per audition.



**TEACHERS: DO NOT** mail this form to the OAKE National Office. Only mail the check, making sure that the student’s name is written legibly onto the memo line. If your school is paying audition fees for multiple students via one check, please make sure you mail the check along with a complete list of the students for whom the check applies. Keep this parent and student commitment for your records.