



2021 Girl Choir Audition FAQ

Where are auditions located?

Auditions take place in Shattuck Hall at the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music. There will be signs and Community Music School staff available to guide you to the room. Parking is available on Washington and Park streets behind the Conservatory. Students may enter via the left-hand glass doors at the top of the Washington Street steps no earlier than 10 minutes prior to their audition.

Are schedule changes possible?

Once your audition is scheduled, **no changes** will be allowed. Please refer to your calendar when selecting an audition time preference. Thank you for your understanding.

Who listens to the auditions?

Three Girl Choir teacher-conductors sit in on every audition. These include the teacher of the choir the student is auditioning for, the teacher of the choir in which the student sang (returning singers only) during the current academic year, and a third teacher who runs the audition. Girl Choir teachers make sure that each student is treated fairly and warmly.

Are parents allowed to watch or listen to the audition?

We have found that students are more natural and less nervous without their parent(s) in the room. Following our COVID-19 safety protocol, only (masked) students will be allowed into the building; parents/guardians and other family members must wait outside. Community Music School staff will be available to help guide the singer to and from the correct room.

What are the audition requirements?

Audition requirements are located on the Girl Choir audition webpage: <http://go.lawrence.edu/cms-GCauditions>

Should my daughter dress up for her audition?

Students should dress comfortably. It is not necessary to dress up for the audition.

Do singers audition individually?

Students auditioning for Primo or Allegretto sing in groups of three. Students auditioning for Capriccio or Arioso sing in pairs. Students auditioning for Cantabile or Bel Canto audition individually. Students in small groups sing together as a group and take turns singing individually.

How will we be notified of audition results?

Each student who auditions will receive a letter in the US Mail. No letters are mailed until all Girl Choir auditions are completed.

If my daughter is accepted, what do we do next?

You will receive registration information with your acceptance letter. A \$50 deposit (applied to next year's tuition – this is not an extra charge) must be received at the Lawrence Community Music School along with registration. Tuition assistance is available to families who demonstrate financial need (contact 920-993-6278 for details).

What if my daughter is not accepted?

If a student who is entering grades 3, 4, or 5 is not accepted into Primo or Allegretto, she is offered a spot in Ragazze. Sometimes a student is offered a spot in the choir in which she sang the prior year. (Each choir is designed to be a place where singers can spend multiple years.) We will always place a singer where her voice will fit best and where she will be with her age group. Please remember that vocal development, just as learning to walk, talk, or read, takes place at different paces for different children. Very rarely, a singer will be asked to sing with her school choir for a year and then re-audition the following spring.

Should I enroll my daughter in voice lessons?

Private voice instruction is not recommended until singers are in high school. The best training for young singers is to develop her gentle singing voice by singing in a choir – a Girl Choir, her school choir, or her church choir – and to sing at home. The “We Sing” series of recordings has a variety of folk songs that are pitched appropriately for young voices. Be advised that permanent vocal damage can occur if a teacher is not familiar with pre-voice-change female singers, particularly in musical theatre or popular music settings.