

Dear All-State Choral Directors,

As you finalize your plans for All-State 2011, I wanted to provide you with some final details that I hope you will find helpful. Dozens of people are working around the clock to help make this a successful and efficient event, so thank you in advance for reading and sharing this information with your students!

PARKING

As you are probably aware by now, parking at the Opryland hotel complex is costly (approximately \$18 per vehicle per day). It would be advantageous for you and your students to carpool to minimize expense. You can find a map of available parking areas on the All-State page of the TMEA website (tnmea.org).

REGISTRATION

The procedure for choral registration is the same as last year:

STUDENTS will register from 10:00 to 10:30 AM in their respective rehearsal venues (SATB in Hermitage CD, Women in Hermitage AB, and Men in Magnolia Ballroom). It would be wise for you to arrive EARLY in order to locate the various rehearsal areas. All rehearsal rooms are in close proximity to each other. Once registered, students will receive a packet that contains a name badge, All-state patch, rehearsal schedule, Opryland facilities map, Opryland food options, CD recording order form, and a rules/regulations sheet that includes the concert dress code. Please note that director materials (badges, etc) will NOT be available at the rehearsal venues.

DIRECTORS should register outside the Tennessee Ballroom from 7:30 AM to 12:00 PM. All directors are encouraged to attend the TMEA Opening Session at 9:45 in the Tennessee Ballroom.

IMPORTANT: Directors should NOT bring alternate students to All-State registration unless officially contacted by the All-State chairperson for your region.

FOOD

With the closing of Opry Mills mall, options for fast food in close proximity to the hotel/convention center are sparse. I encourage you to have your students bring snack food (fruit, water, coolers with sandwich meats, etc) to keep on hand during the week. We have arranged to have a lunch buffet set up near the All-State choral rehearsal rooms to provide a simple lunch option on Thursday and Friday. It will be located in Cheekwood ABC on the mezzanine level. The hours are 1:00-3:00 PM on Thursday and 10:30 AM-2:30 PM on Friday.

REHEARSALS

Please remind your students that they are to be present at their rehearsal venue for roll-check 10 minutes prior to the rehearsal start time. Also, remind them that cell phones are to be OFF for the duration of all rehearsals. Due to the size of the Opryland complex, several directors have been assigned to guide students between their normal rehearsal venue and the college fair on Thursday, and to the concert venue for a sound check rehearsal on Friday morning. The areas of the facility that we will be using will be well-marked, both with digital marquees and poster board signs.

CONCERT RECORDINGS

The concert recordings will be in CD form this year (no DVD's). Order forms will be available at the Saturday concert, and will also be included in the student registration packets.

Menu:

Salad @ \$5.50

Sandwich @ \$5.50

Combo Lunch (sandwich/salad, soft drink/water, chips/candy bar) @ \$8.00

Pre-packaged Snacks @ \$2.00

Assorted Candy Bars @ \$2.00

Assorted Chips @ \$2.00

Assorted Soft Drinks @ \$2.25

Bottled Water @ \$2.25

Assorted Whole Fruit @ \$2.00