

January 2019

Dear 4:00 Red Chorus Member and Parent,

Congratulations on being selected to participate in the 2019 All County Music Festival as a member of the 4:00 Red Chorus! It is an honor to have the opportunity to participate in this festival and to perform at Kleinhans Music Hall! We are excited to be the chairpersons of the 4:00 Red Chorus this year, and we look forward to meeting you and hearing your beautiful music. Your conductor, Mr. James DesJardins has chosen five outstanding pieces for you to perform and we know you will enjoy working with him.

To get the most out of your experience, please follow these helpful tips:

- 1) **Be Prepared!** Attend the rehearsals that take place at your school, so you can learn your music before the festival. Read all the information in your envelope so you are also prepared with the non-musical details. **Your envelope number is also your seat number at the rehearsals.**

- 2) Rehearsals and performances are required. **You must be at all rehearsals for the entire time. You may not miss any rehearsal or part of rehearsal at Sweet Home Middle School or Kleinhans for any reason, including illness. To do so will forfeit your opportunity to perform at the concert.** This policy is strictly enforced. However, if you are ill, please stay home - do not compromise the health of the other musicians.
 *Late Policy: Any student who is late for a rehearsal for any reason will be dismissed from the ensemble.

- 3) **Keep track of your music!** It is the property of ECMEA. All music must be returned in good condition in the envelope that was given to you.

- 4) **Wear your name tag.** It will be on your chair at rehearsals, and it identifies you as an All-County musician. It must be worn at all times during the festival, both at Sweet Home Middle School and at Kleinhans. It will be passed out and collected at rehearsals at Sweet Home Middle School. Your nametag may be taken home after our Friday rehearsal at Kleinhans. Name tags will not be worn for the concert.

- 5) **Electronic devices:** ECMEA is not responsible for electronic devices, but they will be permitted during break times, as long as the sound is muted, or the device has headphones. There is no Wi-Fi access, nor access for charging of devices. **No phones** will be allowed during actual rehearsal time. Any use of electronic devices (cell phones, electronic texting, etc.) is prohibited during rehearsal time.

6) Concert dress for the performance at Kleinhans is as follows:

Girls: White blouse, **black** skirt (knee length or longer) or **black** dress pants, and comfortable dress shoes

Boys: White (collared) shirt, tie (any color), **black** dress pants, dark socks and shoes

7) **Please plan on staying for the entire performance.** The concert is only an hour long and it is courteous to stay for the remainder of the performers who have patiently waited for their turn on the stage. After Red Chorus members have performed, they will be seated with the audience to enjoy watching the orchestra portion of the concert and will be dismissed to parents at the end.

We are looking forward to meeting you at the first rehearsal in March, and to working with you and your conductor, Mr. DesJardins, to create a wonderful concert.

Sincerely,

Lauren Helper – West Seneca Schools
Kristen Hill- Ken-Ton Schools
4:00 Red Chorus Co-Chairpersons 2019