



DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Greetings from Wartburg College!

We hope your year is off to a great start and the beginnings of your holiday preparations are going well. We are excited to invite you to nominate your highest achieving high school singers to participate in the **Meistersinger Honor Choir Festival** on **Sunday, January 21 and Monday, January 22, 2024!**

The Meistersinger Honor Choir Festival is designed to bring together the finest singers from high schools across the region to collaborate with world-class artists and perform their music with the highest level of artistry. We are pleased to welcome composer, conductor, pianist, arranger, and Artistic Director of Conspirare, **Craig Hella Johnson** as our artist-in-residence, whose music will be featured at the festival.

This year's festival will be comprised of two festival choirs: the Meistersinger Mixed Honor Choir under the direction of Dr. Lee Nelson, and the Meistersinger Treble Honor Choir under the direction of Dr. Nicki Toliver. Due to the challenging nature of the repertoire, the nomination process is dependent upon director comments which list their accomplishments, musical abilities, and work ethic. Please carefully consider that all director comments and rankings of tone quality, intonation, rhythm, and musicianship for each nominated student, compliment each other. Each nomination will be closely reviewed to select the finest musicians from each school. Because of the competitive nature of this festival, it is important to note that not every nominee may be accepted.

We are honored to welcome **Decorah High School Choirs** and director **Jason Rausch** as our guest ensemble for 2024!

Please check our website (www.wartburg.edu/festivals) for continuous updates, information and **festival music** for the Mixed Honor Choir, Treble Honor Choir and combined Festival Chorus.

Accepted singers will have the opportunity to submit a video of a solo performance to be considered for a complimentary voice coaching with our Wartburg voice faculty and a performance of their solo for the 350+ festival participants. These students will also be recognized at the Finale Concert with a certificate of achievement.

For more information and nomination form, visit www.wartburg.edu/festivals. **The deadline to complete the online nomination form is Tuesday, November 21 at 11:59p.m.** Accepted students will be notified no later than December 15, and invited to formally register for the festival at that time. Registration for the festival is \$60 per singer. A limited number of on-campus housing will be available.

We hope you will seriously consider this event for your advanced musicians. Please contact festival coordinator, Sarah Bouska, by email at sarah.bouska@wartburg.edu or phone at 319-352-8743 with any questions. Thank you for your continuing support. We look forward to working with you and your students this year!

Warmest Regards,

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