



Greetings from Wartburg College!

We hope your year is off to a great start and the beginning 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 25 and Monday, January 26, 2026!**

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, **Dan Forrest**, as our artist-in-residence, whose music will also be featured at the festival. Music for this festival will be released closer to nominations opening October 31.

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 the director comments, which list student's 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 the festival, it is important to note that not every nominee may be accepted.

Please check our website (www.wartburg.edu/festivals) for continuous updates, information, educator sessions 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. Nominations open on October 31, 2025. The deadline to complete the online nomination form is Tuesday, November 25 at 11:59p.m. Directors will be notified of accepted students no later than December 16, 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. Registration for those staying off campus is \$45 per singer.

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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