



Dear Principal:

Your music teacher recently received an invitation from the Florida Elementary Music Educators Association (FEMEA) to participate in a unique music education opportunity for elementary students and teachers. FEMEA is a component organization of FMEA (Florida Music Educators Association). FEMEA will be hosting the FMEA All-State Elementary Chorus in Tampa, Florida, January 11-12, 2023. This very prestigious Elementary Chorus for fourth and fifth graders will perform during the annual professional development conference of the FMEA. Your music teacher is required to follow the official FEMEA procedures and has these materials available for your review.

FMEA/FEMEA strives to provide relevant and energizing professional development opportunities for music teachers and their students. This All-State Elementary Chorus is the shining example of one such service to membership. There are some expenses involved and we hope that you will assist your parents and your music teacher in securing funding for deserving young musicians from your school.

Conductor **Sophia Papoulis** is the Associate Conductor of the Young People's Chorus of New York City and the principal conductor of YPC's Prelude division. Since 2007, she has conducted and prepared young people from 8 to 18 in all YPC divisions for performances in the city's most prestigious venues; on international tours; as well as in recording sessions and for radio and TV appearances. Sophia is also the associate director of YPC National, which supports and inspires youth choruses and choral conductors nationwide, as well as the creative director for the Foundation for Small Voices, a not-for-profit organization that brings choral, songwriting, and mentorship programs to children around the world. As a widely sought-after guest conductor and choral clinician, in addition, Sophia most recently brought her expertise to singers in Spain and the UK. Sophia is a magna cum laude graduate of the Ithaca College School of Music.

In order for your music teacher and students to participate in the All-State Elementary Chorus, your enthusiastic support will be necessary. Because we want the audition process to be as fair as possible, each participating music teacher must adhere to the following guidelines or the audition recordings will be disqualified:

1. Membership dues for the National Association for Music Educators (NAfME), FMEA and FEMEA must be paid by September 15, 2022.
2. The paperwork must be complete and the audition fees must be attached (\$20 per student).
3. Requisitions, purchase orders, or personal checks cannot be used. Only school checks or money orders made payable to FEMEA will be accepted or online by credit card for the entire invoice amount-split tender not accepted.
4. The audition paperwork should be sent to FEMEA and the recordings uploaded to the FEMEA website.
5. The postmark and/or online submission and payments, must not be later than September 22, 2022.
6. If you have a student or students who are selected, the materials fee of \$35.00 per student and \$25 per teacher must be postmarked by October 19, 2022 or the student will not be allowed to participate.

Please contact us if you have questions or if we can assist you or your music teacher in any way.

Sincerely,
Ruthie Antmann, All-State Coordinator
1901 Johns Lake Road, Clermont, FL 34711
(850)228-9220 allstatechorus@femea.flmusiced.org

Alex Gartner, All State Coordinator
46 E. Chase St., Pensacola, FL 32502
(850) 434-7760 ext. 5 allstatechorus@femea.flmusiced.org



Dear Parent or Guardian:

The All-State Elementary Chorus will perform at the January 2023 Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) Professional Development Conference in Tampa. Only the finest fourth and fifth grade voices in the state have been asked to audition for this chorus, and your child has been so honored.

Your child's music teacher will help to make an audio recording. There is a \$20.00 processing fee that must be sent with the paperwork by September 22, 2022. The audition results will be available on the FMEA website for the music teacher by password by October 5, 2022. The decisions of the judges are final, and auditions will not be re-heard. If your child is selected, there will be an FMEA (Florida Elementary Music Educators Association) materials fee of \$35.00 that will cover music and clinician's fees. Additional FMEA Conference fees (online by Dec. 8: - \$75.00, *on site* - \$125; first chaperone is free, 2nd chaperone \$75) will be required. Check with your music teacher for details. Music will be mailed to the music teacher. **All fees are non-refundable.**

If your child is selected, your child's name and school will be published on the FMEA web site. You will need to travel to Tampa on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, (chorus check-in: 12:00 p.m.) and you will need to make arrangements to stay for one night, unless you are within commuting distance to the rehearsal and performance site. **It is an All-State policy that children who are not in the chorus are not allowed in the rehearsals and FMEA does not permit school age children in the Convention Center except to attend the concert.** There are rehearsals Wednesday and Thursday, January 11 and 12, and the concert will be held on Thursday afternoon. A parent or adult guardian chaperone (other than the music educator) must accompany the student during all non-rehearsal times. Housing information will be available for your music teacher in early fall.

Conductor **Sophia Papoulis** is the Associate Conductor of the Young People's Chorus of New York City and the principal conductor of YPC's Prelude division. Since 2007, she has conducted and prepared young people from 8 to 18 in all YPC divisions for performances in the city's most prestigious venues; on international tours; as well as in recording sessions and for radio and TV appearances. Sophia is also the associate director of YPC National, which supports and inspires youth choruses and choral conductors nationwide, as well as the creative director for the Foundation for Small Voices, a not-for-profit organization that brings choral, songwriting, and mentorship programs to children around the world. As a widely sought-after guest conductor and choral clinician, in addition, Sophia most recently brought her expertise to singers in Spain and the UK. Sophia is a magna cum laude graduate of the Ithaca College School of Music.

Because we want the audition process to be as fair as possible, each music teacher must adhere to the following guidelines or the auditions will be disqualified:

1. The teacher's membership in the National Association for Music Educators (NAfME), FMEA and FEMEA must be renewed by September 15, 2022.
2. The paperwork must be completed with the auditions uploaded on the FEMEA website and the audition fees must be attached.
3. Requisitions, purchase orders or personal checks may not be used. Only school checks or money orders made payable to FEMEA will be accepted or online by credit card for the entire invoice amount-split tender not accepted.
4. The audition paperwork must be sent to FEMEA; audition recordings uploaded to the FEMEA website.
5. The postmark and/or online submission and payments, must not be later than September 22, 2022.
6. If your child is selected, the materials fee of \$35.00 per student, Completed Materials Fee Form and Participant's Contract must be postmarked by Friday, October 19, 2022 or the student will not be allowed to participate.

If you would like for your child to audition for this chorus, please read all the enclosed pages. Complete the student information and the parent permission sections of the application and return both pages and the \$20.00 processing fee to the music teacher.

Sincerely, Music Teacher