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ABOUT OUR CAMP

The Texas State Choir Camp is the longest running choir camp in the state. It is perfectly designed and meticulously planned to ensure that every camper is thoroughly prepared on their competition music through a series of dynamic rehearsals from some of the top choral educators in the state and the most diverse and dedicated team of choral conductors that make up the Texas State University Choral Department. It is only at the Texas State Choir Camp where students can receive instruction from four highly distinguished and award-winning directors, the largest collegiate choral faculty in the state. Sectionals are led by select choir directors with decades of success in the All-State process. Students will enjoy performing in the brand new multi-million dollar Texas State Performing Arts Center and be able to preview the collegiate atmosphere by eating, rooming, and experiencing Bobcat life on the beautiful, newly renovated Texas State University campus. Students are supervised by highly trained and extremely committed Texas State camp counselors and staff. The Texas State Choir Camp prides itself on the quality of instruction that the campers receive while being entertained, encouraged, and inspired by the esteemed team of educators and musicians working together to create memories and skills that will last a lifetime.

Texas State Choir Camp July 27 - 30, 2021

Registration deadline for all camps is July 13, 2021.

Fees

Commuter Campers: \$240

Includes: Camp Tuition, Parking Pass, Camp Electives, Talent Show, Social Events, Final Concert, and T-Shirt

2021 All-Stater Discount: \$100

Verification by TSCC staff will be required

2021 Group Discount: \$50

Can be applied if there are 10 or more commuter or virtual students coming to camp from the same school. Verification by TSCC staff will be required

Music Packet: \$25

Students can purchase their music locally, check out a set from their high school choir program, or purchase one from camp. All campers are required to have their own 2021-2022 TMEA approved All-State music packet for the duration of camp. Students will have to select either an SSAA or TTBB packet.

Lunches: \$30

Lunches will be optional. Students can either pack their own lunch or purchase a 4 lunch bundle with the camp. Lunches will be provided by the Texas State University dining hall company Chartwells.

Payment

A non-refundable deposit of **\$50** is due at the time of registration in order to reserve a place at camp.

Credit Cards are accepted using our online payment system. Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover are all accepted

The Online Payment Link can be accessed below:

<https://tim.txstate.edu/choircamp/>

You can make multiple payments with a credit card online.

Checks can be written for:

Texas State University School of Music – Choir Camp

Checks can be sent to:

Texas State University School of Music – Choir Camp
C/O Synthia Shurtleff
601 University Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666

Payment Plan

If you choose to pay in installments, the payment deadline to ensure your place in the camp is secure are as follows:

July 13, 2021: All payments must be received by this date

Inability to keep up to date with payments could result in the forfeiture of your reservation for the camp. Newly opened spots will be assigned on a first come first serve basis or to the next in line on the waiting list.

REFUND POLICY

The \$50 deposit is non-refundable.

We can accept refund requests through email correspondence through the following deadlines:

July 13, 2021: No refunds after this date

Please allow 4-6 weeks for the processing of refund requests following the completion of the camp.

Typical Day

Classes, which are 75-90 minutes in length, begin promptly at 10:00am. These classes alternate between sectional rehearsals where students will be separated by voice part in an effort to solidify their accuracy with pitch, rhythm, and musicality and paired with full rehearsals with Texas State choral directors to understand the full scope and philosophy of each piece of music. Students will be trained on proper word stress, dynamic contrast, phrasing, style, and articulation while also improving their fundamental vocal technique through improved breath support, vowel modification, and placement.

In between some of these classes are “Camp Chats” – a fun time where the camp counselors and staff perform a host of hilarious skits and songs, as well as inspiring messages of positivity and perseverance. Evenings include rehearsals and social time. One of the most popular events is the annual Texas State Choir Camp Talent Show.

Our meals will be prepared by the Chartwell’s catering service. **If your camper has dietary restrictions (vegan, vegetarian, gluten free, etc.), please notify Chartwell’s catering service on campus at 512-245-9930.** Our first meal together will be lunch on Tuesday, July 27. Our final meal will be lunch on Friday, July 30.

This is a typical schedule of what a day at camp looks like:

10:00 am to 11:30 am	Sectional 4 – 90 min (<i>Begin Refining Dynamics/Word Stress/Breath Marks</i>)
11:30 am to 12:30 pm	Full Camp Rehearsal 1 – 60 min (Babcock) (<i>Section Leaders mark notes for future sectionals and assist with singing during full rehearsal</i>)
12:30 pm to 1:15 pm	Lunch - 45 min
1:15 pm to 2:15 pm	Electives 2 - 60 min
2:15 pm to 3:45 pm	Sectional 5 – 90 min (<i>Spot Check from Babcock Full Run and Refine music for Martin Full Run</i>)
3:45 pm to 4:15 pm	Camp Chat 3 - 30 min
4:15 pm to 5:15 pm	TTBB Choir Rehearsal 1 – 60 min (Babcock) (<i>Section Leaders mark notes for future sectionals and assist with singing during full rehearsal</i>)
	SSAA Choir Rehearsal 1 – 60 min (Brinckmeyer) (<i>Section Leaders mark notes for future sectionals and assist with singing during full rehearsal</i>)
5:15 pm to 6:00 pm	Camp Chat 4/ Texas State Choir Camp Talent Show - 45 min

ELECTIVES

Electives are hour long classes that are included in the camp tuition. They are designed as supplemental instruction to the concepts that they are currently learning in their rehearsals as well as providing a much needed hour of vocal rest after hours and hours of non-stop singing. Some classes also provide college preparatory advice, and every course is taught by college professors and camp staff. Every camper must select 1 elective from a “A” sessions and 1 elective from the “B” sessions. Students who do not select an elective will be assigned one at random. If an elective becomes full, spots will be awarded on a first come first serve basis. Students may not switch their electives after registration.

1A) Score Study: The Musical Markings of an All-Stater – Offers an inside look at different techniques and philosophies in marking your all-state music. Learn common practices utilized by successful past all-state choir members on how to use certain symbols and characters to ensure the most consistent performance and to maximize each coaching and rehearsal. Taught by a current distinguished Texas Music Educator and past first chair all-stater.

1B) Nuances of All-State Sight-reading – Presents time tested strategies for success in the sight-reading room. Learn about the complex intricacies of the sight-reading component to the all-state process and find the tools best suited to give yourself the greatest chance at attaining the perfect score. Taught by acclaimed Texas high-school choir directors that have successfully implemented and utilized these techniques each year in the TMEA competition process.

2A) Vocal Technique, A Guide to the Vocal Mechanism – Provides a crash course into vocal pedagogy and healthy vocal production. Learn how the human vocal mechanism works and how to produce healthy and beautiful tone with longevity. Taught by members of the award winning TxState Voice Faculty.

2B) Collegiate Success, Q&A for College – Provides a panel of current college students to present advice on everything from college admissions and scholarships all the way to dorm life and registering for classes. Have questions prepared and they will try to answer and demystify the unknowns about college life.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Student-to-Counselor Ratio

We maintain an approximate 10:1 student-to-counselor ratio, one that significantly surpasses industry standards. Counselors are assigned to the same students throughout the camp, so that they can better know their assigned campers. Students are supervised during all activities, they are required to check-in at regular intervals, and attendance is taken at all classes/rehearsals. Bed checks are performed each evening, and hall monitors will patrol the dormitories during the night. We make every possible effort to ensure your child's safety.

TxState University Police Department

In the unlikely event that an emergency occurs, all counselors and faculty will have access to the [Texas State University Police Department](#). They typically respond within two minutes of a call.

Updated Covid-19 Regulations from Texas State University President - (May 19, 2021)

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

On May 18, 2021, Texas Governor Greg Abbott signed [Executive Order No. GA-36](#) stating: “No governmental entity, including a county, city, school district, and public health authority, and no government official may **require** any person to wear a face covering or to mandate that another person wear a face covering.” As a state-funded institution, this Executive Order applies to Texas State University.

Pursuant to the Executive Order, effective immediately, masks are no longer required for students, faculty, staff, and visitors at any university facility or event, indoors or outdoors, at Texas State. We have requested clarification from the Governor's Office if this applies to non-hospital settings where we provide healthcare services, including the Student Health Center and healthcare clinics on our Round Rock Campus.

Mask-wearing is still strongly encouraged, especially for those who are not vaccinated. Numerous scientific studies have proven that wearing a face mask can significantly reduce the transmission of COVID-19. For over a year, our university community has embraced mask-wearing as one of the ways we show one another respect and protect each other. Thank you for your diligence in incorporating this simple and effective precaution into your daily routines for the past year.

Vaccination for COVID-19 is the best way to bring this pandemic to an end. To date, we have distributed 10,380 vaccine doses to students, faculty, and staff, and partnered with Hays County to administer another 4,796 doses of vaccine to Texas State and other community members. We plan to host additional mass vaccine events in the summer and fall. Beginning May 24, the Student Health Center will provide vaccines to students, faculty, and staff through scheduled appointments Monday through Friday.

We intend to keep our classroom capacity limits and in-person large event limits in place through the end of the summer, as previously announced. Our other on-campus health and safety measures remain in place. We continue to promote regular testing for COVID-19, with free testing available on our San Marcos Campus, and weekly random testing of our university community. We will continue to implement the on-campus cleaning and disinfecting protocols and will use the Bobcat Trace reporting system to initiate contact tracing to break the chain of COVID-19 transmission.

As the COVID-19 situation improves, and as vaccines become more readily available, it is still important to remain vigilant in practicing the prevention measures that have protected us throughout this pandemic. We still recommend face coverings, social distancing, and good hand hygiene. Stay healthy and safe, Bobcats.

Sincerely,

Denise M. Trauth
President

MEALS

Meals are provided and offer a wide array of food choices for each meal of the day. All meals will be scheduled at regular times throughout the day. On occasion, students will participate in extra meals such as pizza parties or cookouts. Vending machines are available in most buildings outside of scheduled meals.

Please schedule your arrivals and departures to coordinate with camp start and end times. We are unable to host students prior to and following the scheduled camp dates. For more information about dormitory housing during the Summer Music Camps, contact any of our Camp Administrators below.

STAFF

The Texas State Choir Camp staff is comprised of some of the most enthusiastic and passionate professional musicians from across the state. Section Leaders are invited based on their well-known successes in the classroom. Counselors are interviewed and meticulously hired to ensure that the very best and brightest music majors at Texas State are awarded the teaching experience and team building opportunities that come with the job. Directors are among the top choral professors in the nation, providing a diverse and rich background of music, teaching, and leadership.

Camp Director: Dr. Jonathan Babcock, Texas State University

Music Directors: Dr. Jonathan Babcock, Texas State University
Dr. Lynn Brinckmeyer, Texas State University

Camp Administrators: Audrey De la Cruz
Christian De la Cruz
Bonnie Wolfe

Camp Mom: Sara Trammell, Lopez Middle School
Camp Dad: Mario Contreras, Miller Middle School

Entertainment Director: Abraham Villareal, Music Major, Texas State University
Entertainment Director: Gianna Eason, Music Major, Texas State University

Section Leaders: Seth Lafler, Tivy High School
Nicholas Likos, Cy-Fair High School
Christin Reinartz, Tompkins High School
Dawn Sheridan-Reinhuber, San Marcos High School

Collaborative Pianists: Karla Cruz, Canyon High School
Dr. Joachim Reinhuber, Texas A & M Kingsville
Dr. Eric Thompson, Texas State University
Shareen Vader, Texas Lutheran University

FIRST DAY OF CAMP

Commuter campers (campers that are in person) should check-in at the lobby area of the Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, July 27, 2021. The **Texas State University Performing Arts Center** is located at 430 Moon St, San Marcos, TX 78666

Parking –

All parents should park in the **Edward Gary Parking Garage** and then walk to the Performing Arts Center. This is for Registration AS WELL AS the final concert on July 11th. Students who are driving can also request a commuter parking pass through a google form in an informational email being sent out on July 1st.

The **Edward Gary Street Parking Garage** is on the northwest corner of Edward Gary Street and University Drive. Directions to the garage can be found on this website: http://www.maps.txstate.edu/driving_maps/egsg_driving.html

The Cost of the Parking garage is listed in the table below.

Hours	Cost
0 min - 1 hr	\$3.00
1 hr - 2 hrs	\$6.00
2 hrs - 3 hrs	\$8.00
3 hrs - 4 hrs	\$10.00
4 hrs- 5 hrs	\$12.00
5 hrs- 6 hrs	\$14.00

You will need to take a ticket at the entrance to the garage. You will use that ticket to pay at one of the kiosks on the first floor of the garage by the elevators and stairs. The kiosks accept credit cards and cash. The kiosk will then give you your ticket back, and you will need to insert the paid ticket as you exit the garage.

REGISTRATION

Camp registration will take place on Tuesday July 27th, 2021 from 9:00am until 9:50am. The Performing Arts Center is immediately east of the Edward Gary Parking Garage. Counselors will be outside guiding you to your next location.

You may want to visit the University website for a map of the campus by clicking on the following link: [Texas State University Maps](#).

The amount of time you will spend in the registration line depends upon your prompt attention to the camp registration checklist. **Please be sure to complete and email the medical form to us, if it has not already been done.** Medical forms are available for download by clicking on the following link: [Medical Release Form](#)

Immediately after you register, the first session begins at **10:00am** in the **Performing Arts Center – Patti Strickel Harrison Theatre**. If you must register late on Tuesday, July 27th or leave camp earlier than 6:00pm on Friday, July 30th please contact the Choir Camp Office **(832) 598-1827** to make the required arrangements.

Registration will take anywhere between 15 minutes to 45 minutes depending on the traffic volume. Once you have completed registration which includes checking in, paying any outstanding balances or fees, turning in any remaining forms, signing up for a talent show audition (optional), receiving your t-shirt, music packet (if you purchased one), and meeting our counseling staff, you will need to head to the Patti Strickel Harrison Theatre located on the 2nd floor of the Performing Arts Center.

REGISTRATION CHECK-LIST / FORMS

1. Read through all of the information in the camp handbook.
2. Complete and return camp registration form located on page 17 of the camp handbook complete with parent and camper signatures.
3. Complete payments by the July 13th deadline. Late additions will result in a \$25 processing fee.
4. Fill out, sign, and return the medical form and participation release two weeks before camp begins. Make sure the required parent signature is present on the back of the form for minor students.
 - a. [Medical Release Form](#)
 - b. [Participation Release and Indemnity Agreement](#)
5. If you plan to audition for the Talent Show (see page 15), have your materials ready and be prepared to sign up for an audition time at registration.

DIRECTIONS TO SAN MARCOS

FROM I-35 NORTH OR SOUTH:

1. Proceed to San Marcos via IH-35. Take the Aquarena Springs Drive exit (exit 206).
2. Drive west toward downtown San Marcos. You will pass the football stadium and Strahan Coliseum.
3. Immediately after the coliseum, you will cross the bridge and come to a stop light. At that light, continue through this light to the left and merge into the right lane. (**Aquarena Springs becomes University Drive**)
4. At the next available light, turn right to stay on University Drive. (A red circular building with a moat around it will be on your right.)
5. Take a right on **N. Guadalupe St.**
6. Turn right on **N. Edward Gary St.** and do the first turn around, and park in the large **Edward Gary Parking Garage** on your right.

FROM I-10 Northbound:

1. Take I-10 to the Rt. 80 Luling exit.
2. Follow Rt. 80 to San Marcos (about 20 miles).
3. Once in San Marcos, turn right at the light that is after the HEB, **Charles Austin Drive.**
4. Follow steps 5-6 from previous instructions at this point.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

1. **Clothes** – Please check weather for proper planning. Attire should be neat, casual, modest, and school appropriate. Please plan for potential rain. We suggest layers for students that typically get cold indoors. Most days will be hot and humid outside.
 - a. Comfortable Walking Shoes – San Marcos is known for its beautiful yet unforgiving hills
 - b. Socks
 - c. Light Jacket for rainy weather
 - d. Shorts and Pants – Appropriate length and style will be enforced
 - e. Shirts and Tops
 - f. Hats optional – only for outdoors
 - g. Sunglasses – only for outdoors, we suggest you don't bring expensive or sentimentally important sunglasses since these are typically the number one items that get misplaced and lost, usually during meals.
2. **Rehearsal Supplies** – Mandatory at each rehearsal

- a. Pencils with erasers
 - b. All-State Music – must be pre-ordered for camp or purchased elsewhere
 - c. Large Refillable Water Bottle – students will have opportunities to refill their water bottle throughout the day and are highly suggested to stay hydrated.
 - d. Highlighters and pens
- 3. Forms**
- a. Texas State University [Medical Release Form](#)
 - b. Texas State University [Participation Release and Indemnity Agreement](#)
- 4. Musical Instruments, Props, Costumes, or anything else necessary for your Talent Show Audition (Optional).**

LAST DAY OF CAMP

CAMP PERFORMANCE

The Texas State Choir camp culminates with a student performance in the new **Performing Arts Center – Patti Strickel Harrison Theatre** on the final morning of camp. All campers must participate in the final performance.

Starting time for the Concert Schedule for 5:00pm Friday July 30th

Information and Directions to the Texas State University Performing Arts Center can be found on the following websites:

http://www.maps.txstate.edu/driving_maps/perf_driving.html

<http://www.theatreanddance.txstate.edu/About-the-Department/Facilities/Performing-Arts-Center1.html>

CONCERT PARKING

For both Registration and the final concert, Parents/Guardians should park in the Edward Gary Parking Garage. The Performing Arts center is located directly west of

the parking garage. **For rates and more information about the parking garage please see page 10.**

GENERAL INFORMATION

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

Camp Office: **(832) 598-1827**. This phone number is designed to forward to one of the 3 camp administrators. Please leave a voicemail with your name, phone number, and email and one of the camp administrators will reply as soon as possible.

Your child will be active from 10:00am until 6:00pm. During this time, the camp office phone will be answered by a member of our camp staff. Please note that there are some activities that involve all of our staff. During these times, leave a message on our answering machine. In most cases, finding your child will take a few minutes because we rehearse in a few different locations during camp. We will do everything we can to get your message to your son or daughter as soon as possible.

Please discuss with your child how he or she can contact you. Cell phones are allowed but must be turned off during rehearsals. Also, please be sure arrangements are made in advance for your child's transportation home at the conclusion of camp.

EMERGENCY DEPARTURES

Campers may not leave camp for any reason (including visiting the home of relatives or friends). If a camper must leave camp early due to medical or family emergency, the parent or legal guardian must contact the camp administrator or coordinator to sign the camper out.

INSURANCE AND HEALTH CARE

Parents should provide health insurance for campers. Campers who require medical attention will be accompanied to the Student Health Center by a camp coordinator or counselor. Medical costs incurred for treatment at the Student Health Center will be the responsibility of the parents or guardian of the individual treated.

If any camper is seriously ill or injured, it is the policy of the Health Center that the doctor on the case will contact the parents. Individuals with potentially serious or life threatening conditions will be taken directly to a hospital emergency room. Parental notification of minor injuries and illnesses is left to the discretion of the camper. Please discuss with your child your expectations regarding communication of such information.

Texas State University cannot be responsible for or held liable for the administration of medication to campers. The camper must be able to self-administer his/her own medication. Required submission of health status and medical release forms are addressed in the enrollment process. Consent for Treatment of a Minor is required by Student Health Services to render medical treatment except in life-threatening situations.

ACCESSIBILITY

If a camper has a disability or requires special accommodations, please contact the camp office before registering and we will work to verify that we will be able to adequately meet your expectations. We also request that you let your head counselors and teachers know at the start of camp.

TALENT SHOW

The Annual Texas State Choir Camp Talent Show will be on the third evening of camp, at 5:00pm, in **Performing Arts Center – Patti Strickel Harrison Theatre**. This is a highlight event at camp, where our campers wow their fellow campers and counselors and section leaders with their diverse talents. From Broadway hits to Irish dancing, the Texas State Choir Camp Talent Show never disappoints! If you need an accompanist, we will provide one for you. Be sure to bring whatever music, props, costumes, etc. you need for your performance to camp on registration day. Auditions for the show will be held on the first day of camp, and you can sign up at registration. Winners will be announced on the last day of camp.

TEXAS STATE CODE OF CONDUCT

In order to provide a fun and safe environment, all campers are required to abide by the following rules and expectations while participating in the Texas State Choir Camp. During your stay at Choir Camp, we want you to have the best experience possible. The coordinators have developed the following dress code to assure that no one will feel offended or uncomfortable during his or her stay.

If you choose to dress inappropriately, you will be asked to change. By planning ahead and packing appropriately, you will save yourself the inconvenience of having to change and you will be contributing to a pleasant camp atmosphere.

Please be advised that the following dress code will be enforced for all individuals attending the camp, including staff, counselors, and chaperones.

Please be advised that the following dress code will be enforced for all individuals attending the camp, including staff, counselors, and chaperones.

- **Clothing:** All clothing shall be neat, clean, and acceptable in repair and appearance and shall be worn within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate to choral music events
- Articles of clothing which display profanity, products, or slogans which promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs, sex or are in any other way distracting, are prohibited.
- Excessively baggy or tight clothing, and clothing which advertises gang symbols or affiliation is prohibited.
- Items of clothing which expose bare midriffs, bare chests, undergarments, or that are transparent (see-through) are prohibited. Tank tops with straps wider than one inch are permitted. Please be advised that spaghetti straps, shirts which expose a bare back, halter tops, and tube-tops are prohibited.
- Air conditioners keep the classrooms at Texas State University quite chilly in the summer, so you may want to bring a lighter sweater or sweatshirt.
- Students are expected and required to follow all directions given by any faculty or staff member.

- We care about your safety and about our facilities. With this in mind, no horseplay, bullying, hazing or participation in dangerous games or activities will be allowed.
- In the unlikely event that there is an incident that represents inappropriate behavior, it should be immediately reported to a counselor or staff member.
- Students may not leave campus without authorization from a staff member. Residential campers must stay in the dormitory once evening activities have concluded.
- Students are expected to show consideration for others. Voices, music, and other noises should be kept at a reasonable volume.
- The use of alcohol and other controlled substances is not permitted. All medications must be given to the camp medical coordinator upon check-in.
- Weapons of any kind are not allowed. These include, but are not limited to: guns, pocketknives, razor blades, etc.

Please be sure to read this material carefully. Part of the success of the Texas State Choir Camp has been the excellent supervision and engaging activities. Campers who break the behavior rules or controlled substance policy will be punished by restriction of activity or by being expelled from camp without a refund. Your support of these discipline procedures is greatly appreciated.

Choir Camp Agreement Form

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand all of the Texas State University Choir Camp Handbook's stated terms and agreements and will comply with all rules, regulations, and procedures set forth in the aforementioned document. I understand that any violation of this contract agreement can result in dismissal from the camp with the possible assessment of fees and fines at the responsibility of the legal guardian.

Print Student Name: _____ Student Signature: _____

Print Guardian Name: _____ Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____