

## **SDMEA Freshman Choir Festival Information**

**What?** This festival would include the students learning/preparing approximately 5 pieces. A guest conductor from a South Dakota university would be invited to lead the day of rehearsal in preparation for a concert that parents and friends could attend. The conductor would be asked to include 1-2 songs that would be appropriate for a winter/holiday concert so teachers could use these pieces with their home choirs if desired.

**Who?** Any freshman singer(s) in your choir program that you feel would benefit from an extra singing opportunity can be nominated for this event (up to 16 for this first year- ideally four of each part- SATB). They need to be students you feel demonstrate maturity, singing skills that can be developed, and a desire to improve. The amount of students chosen will depend on the number of students nominated. The goal will to for a balanced SATB choir.

**When?** November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Where?** The Mitchell High School Performing Arts Center  
821 N Capital St  
Mitchell, SD 57301

**How?** A list of the music will be available approximately one month in advance for teachers to purchase. It is expected students come to the festival with the music in hand and learned (not memorized). Rehearsal tracks will be available online at the time the music list release.

**Why?** The choral event offered to schools by the SDMEA in the past was the virtual choir. Interest has dropped over time which led us to look for a different opportunity for our high school singers in South Dakota. A survey was sent out to teachers with different options and the freshman festival idea received the most votes.