

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

ALL-STATE CHOIR CAMP INFORMATION PACKET



SMALL SCHOOL CONDUCTOR:
DR. LYNNE GACKLE

LARGE SCHOOL CONDUCTOR &
CAMP DIRECTOR: DR. MICHAEL MURPHY

Camp Leadership Team:
Evelyn Shaffer, Emily Le Blanc,
Grant Peterson

2026 CHOIR CAMP

1A-4A MIXED CHOIR
(SMALL SCHOOL)
JULY 6-9

5A-6A MIXED CHOIR
(LARGE SCHOOL)
JULY 10-13

5A - 6A MIXED CHOIR
(LARGE SCHOOL)

JULY 10TH - 13TH

✉ sfasuchoircamp@gmail.com

About the SFASU All-State Choir Camp:

One of the first of its kind, Stephen F. Austin State University's annual All-State Choir Camp is designed for 9th to 12th grade students preparing for the TMEA All-State choir auditions. We are committed to both the 1A-4A and 5A-6A All-State processes. Our section leaders are a combination of SFASU faculty and esteemed high school directors from various parts of Texas (most of whom are SFA alumni!). Our camp will teach all the All-State repertoire, diction lessons, and provide International Phonetic Alphabet transliterations for directors. We are thrilled you chose SFA as your All-State Choir Camp destination!

2026 5A - 6A SFASU Camp Faculty & Staff:

Dr. Michael Murphy, Camp Conductor & Camp Director

Dr. Jake Taylor, Tenor-Bass Choir Camp Conductor

Jennifer Gallagher, Treble Choir Camp Conductor

Evelyn Shaffer, Camp Coordinator

Emily Le Blanc, Head Female Counselor & Asst. Camp Coordinator

Grant Peterson, Head Male Counselor & Asst. Camp Coordinator

Natalie Parrish, soprano 1 section leader, *Oak Ridge High School*

Andrea Loer, soprano 2 section leader, *Langham Creek High School*

Blythe Hopson, alto 1 section leader, *Manvel High School*

Katie Bulen, alto 2 section leader, *Pearland High School*

Kris Rodriguez, tenor section leader, *Cypress Park High School*

Levi Duncan, bass section leader, *Alvin High School*

Dr. Jan Taylor, professional development sessions for music educators

Dr. Scott LaGraff, Dr. Misook Yun, Prof. Nita Hudson, & Prof. Debbie Berry, SFASU Voice Teachers offering voice lessons

EVERY CAMP ACTIVITY IS SUPERVISED & ATTENDED BY A COMBINATION OF THE FOLLOWING:

Camp Faculty: Faculty consists of SFA professors and outstanding high school choral directors from across the state. Upwards of 50 professional music educators are present at our camp to share their vast knowledge with students.

Campus Assistants: "CA's" are trained and certified by SFASU Housing and Student Life personnel.

SFASU Choir Camp Counselors: Counselors consist of SFASU alumni who are music educators, and graduate and undergraduate students, many of whom are studying to become music educators.

Recreation Center: Campus recreation staff and lifeguards are on duty during all evening Rec Night activities.

Camp Waiver Forms:

All forms, including the **Risk, Release and Indemnification Agreement** and the **Photo Release Form**, should have been completed online through registration.

Fees & Refunds:

We will assess a \$25 fee to refund requests before or by June 30th. **No refunds will be processed after July 1st.**

All students staying in campus dorms must provide a **refundable \$5 cash** key deposit upon dorm check-in. **Exact change** is required.

SFASU safety policy states that in the event of a lost or broken dorm key, a \$75 charge is applied to the individual. The fee must be paid before leaving the camp.

Student Medical Care:

Students are required to administer their own prescription and over-the-counter medications. Parents and/or guardians should review all medication directions with their student prior to arrival at camp, ensuring proper understanding of medication procedures. Under no circumstance should campers share medications with other campers.

As signed in the Acknowledgement of Risk, Release, and Indemnification Agreement, parents consent to any medical treatment that may be required as a result of any injury or illness arising out of participation in camp activities. The university does not provide health or accident insurance for participants engaged in any activities.

THE SFASU CHOIR CAMP WILL NOT TOLERATE CASES OF VANDALISM, FIGHTING, BULLYING, SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR OTHER VIOLATIONS OF CAMPUS SAFETY REGULATIONS. FAILURE TO FOLLOW CAMP AND CAMPUS RULES AND REGULATIONS MAY RESULT IN EARLY DISMISSAL FROM THE CAMP.

First Day of Camp:

Student Registration: Friday, July 10th from 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Park at the dorms on campus, **Steen Hall**, and leave your luggage in the car:
- 609 East College St., Nacogdoches, TX 75965

Then report to the **Choir Room**, Room 125 inside the Wright Music Building on campus:

- 2210 Alumni Dr., Nacogdoches, TX 75962

There will be camp staff and counselors there to direct you. You will check-in and receive your camp packet that includes your name tag, camp schedule, a SFA campus map, and any other camp related materials.

After you have checked in, head into the dorms to receive your room assignment. Have your **mandatory \$5 deposit ready** to receive your dorm key (must be exact change).

When you receive your room key, head to your assigned room to unpack your belongings and get settled in **by 1:53 p.m.**

All students must report to **Turner Auditorium**, found inside the Griffith Fine Arts Building, **by 2 p.m. for Welcome & Introductions:**

- 2222 Alumni Dr., Nacogdoches, TX 75962

(next to the Wright Music Building on campus)

STUDENT DRIVERS:

Students driving themselves to campus will need to **secure a parking pass from the camp**. Parking passes are only for areas designated as "Residential Parking." You may not park in "Faculty/Staff Parking." Students are not allowed to drive around Nacogdoches during the camp hours.

COMMUTERS:

All commuter students will have a designated counselor that they will **check-in with each day** before the first morning rehearsal and before leaving for the evening. Commuters are encouraged to participate in all evening camp activities!

Last Day of Camp:

Campers will present a final **All-State Music Showcase** of their newly learned literature on **Monday, July 13th, at 11 a.m. in Turner Auditorium**, located in the Griffith Fine Arts Building. We encourage parents and family members to attend!

At the conclusion of the All-State Music Showcase, all students will be released to check out of the dorms. There, students will turn in their dorm key and receive their \$5 deposit back. The students may keep their lanyards and camp meal cards.

Meals:

Meals are provided at the camp. Our "On Campus" and "Commuters with Meals" campers must eat in the cafeteria assigned for our camp. Leaving campus to sample the eateries near the music building is not allowed. SFA Dining Services offer a wide variety of foods available for our campers to accommodate everyone's tastes, allergies, and dietary needs. With this, we still encourage campers to keep snacks in their dorms for after evening activities.

Students will have the **option** to partake in **Pizza Night** on July 12th, the final night of the camp. Students choosing to order pizza will pay for it with their own spending money. Options include cheese and pepperoni, no substitutions. Students with allergies or other dietary needs are welcome to partake and will be provided with a suitable item that fits their needs.

Students are not allowed to Doordash, Uber Eats, or utilize other delivery services for meals.

Recreation:

On the evening of Saturday, July 11th, the Student Recreation Center will be available for swimming, indoor basketball and ping pong, and outdoor basketball and volleyball. All students will travel to the recreation center together.

Students who choose to swim will provide their own towel for the evening. All students must wear proper cover-ups to and from the Recreation Center. Those choosing to play indoor basketball are required to wear closed-toe shoes.

SFASU Camp Talent Show:

We are excited to introduce the SFASU All-State Choir Camp Talent Show! All students are invited to audition for the Camp Talent show. Auditions will take place during camp hours on Friday, July 10th. The Talent Show will be held on the evening of July 12th. A piano will be provided, but students should bring any additional items needed for their act; including instruments, soundtracks, props, costumes, etc. Acts do not have to be musical.

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM
@SFA_CHOIRCAMP
FOR PHOTOS THROUGHOUT CAMP!

Electives:

We are excited to offer electives at camp this year! During registration on the first day, students will select their top elective choices and will be placed in electives for the July 11th and 12th elective sessions. Please take a moment to review the options below before arriving to camp.

CHORAL CONDUCTING BASICS:

An introduction to basic pattern beat structures and expressive gestures for aspiring student leaders.

- **Dr. Jake Taylor**, *Stephen F. Austin State University,*
Associate Director of Choral Activities

ALL-STATE AUDITION PREPARATION:

Strategies for navigating the TMEA audition rounds.

- **Faculty TBA**

DICTION FOR SINGERS:

Proper pronunciation for standard voice repertoire.

- **Dr. Scott LaGraff**, *Stephen F. Austin State University,*
Professor of Voice

VOCAL TECHNIQUE & PEDAGOGY:

Learn more about healthy vocal production for solo and choral settings.

- **Dr. Richard Berry**, *Stephen F. Austin State University,*
Professor of Voice

LEVEL UP ON YOUR SIGHT-READING:

Skill-building to master the sight-reading portion of the All-State audition process.

- **Faculty TBA**

BECOMING A MUSIC MAJOR IN COLLEGE:

A solid, step-by-step roadmap for pursuing a successful career in music.

- **Dr. Claire Murphy**, *Stephen F. Austin State University,*
Coordinator of Music Education

HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY PREPARE FOR YOUR COLLEGE VOICE AUDITION:

Strategies on how to put your best foot forward in your college voice audition.

- **Professor Nita Hudson**, *Stephen F. Austin State University,*
Lecturer in Voice

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

ALL-STATE CHOIR CAMP

Packing List

YOUR ALL-STATE MUSIC:

Our camp does not provide music. If your home choir is not providing the music, you may click the links below to order music from the following stores:

- [Penders](#) | 800.772.5918
- [JW Pepper](#) | 800.345.6296

Please order your music before the camp, and make sure to bring several pencils and a binder to put your music in!

ITEMS FOR DORMS:

Campers stay in the SFA residence halls assigned by the housing department and will be there for the duration of the camp. Please bring:

- Pillow(s), blanket(s), and sheets for a Twin-size bed
- All toiletries and hygiene products (deodorant, shampoo, soap, feminine products)
- A towel (more than one towel if swimming) and washcloths
- A light jacket or sweater (dorms & music spaces can get cold)
- Modest, hot-weather, casual dress for rehearsals and camp activities
- Comfortable shoes (you will do a great deal of walking)
- Appropriate swimsuits for recreation time (including swimsuit coverups/ shirts)
- Umbrella! Be prepared for the possibility of rain
- Chargers for technology
- Snacks and spending money for incidental costs
- Any extra items needed for the SFASU Camp Talent Show auditions

SPIRIT DAYS:

Saturday, July 11th: School Spirit Day - Wear your School Shirt!

Sunday, July 12th: Color Wars - Rep your section: **SOPRANO** | **ALTO** | **TENOR** | **BASS**

Monday, July 13th: Camp T-Shirt Day - Wear your SFASU camp t-shirt (given at check-in)!

**BE SURE TO SAFEGUARD ALL EXTRA MONEY AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS.
INITIAL OR LABEL ALL PERSONAL PROPERTY BROUGHT TO THE CAMP.
SFASU IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEMS LOST, STOLEN, OR DAMAGED.**