

The Rockford Aces

Jed Scott, Director

2017-18 Calendar

June 5	2:30-5pm	Auditions	HS Choir Room
Summer	TBD	REHEARSAL TBD	Based on Availability
Summer	TBD	SECTIONALS TBD	Based on Availability
Aug. 18-20	Fri 3pm- Sun noon	Aces Retreat	Pine Ridge Camp
Aug. 28	7-9pm	First Rehearsal	HS Choir Room
Sept. 6	7-9pm	Extra Rehearsal	HS Choir Room
Oct. 10	6pm	Fall Concert	Auditorium
Oct. 27	All Day	ACDA-Michigan Concert	Kalamazoo
Oct. 28	All Day	ACDA-Michigan Concert	Kalamazoo
Oct. 30	6pm	Attend FH Vocal Jazz Fest	Forest Hills PAC
Nov. 10-11	All Day	UM Bicentennial Men's Choral Symposium	Ann Arbor - Tentative
Dec. 19	6pm	Holiday Concert	Auditorium
Dec. 23	6pm	Aces Christmas Party?	Location TBA
Feb. 3	All Day	District S&E	GVSU - Carpool
Feb. 25	Time TBA	Extra Rehearsal	HS Choir Room
Mar. 5	NONE	No Rehearsal	Musical Week
Apr. 17	5:30-9pm	Rockford Idol Prelims	Auditorium
Apr. 19	6:30pm	Middle School Choral Gala	RHS
Apr. 21	All Day	State S&E	Carpool to Portage
Apr. 27	5:30-9	Rockford Idol Finals	Auditorium
May 1	6:30 & 8pm	Spring Concert	Auditorium
May 10-12	TBA	MYAF (FYI)	WMU
May 23	7pm	Farewell Concert	Auditorium
May 29	7-9pm	Extra Rehearsal	Location TBA
June 1	2:45pm call	Aces Concert	Auditorium

Aces rehearse every Monday night with the following exceptions: Sept. 4, Oct. 30, Dec. 19, Dec. 25, Jan. 1, Mar. 5, May 28.

All events on this calendar are REQUIRED performances for all ensemble members. Final Schedule will be provided before the first day of school. After August 28, additional dates to be scheduled by group decision (including: National Anthem performances, run-outs, fund-raising performances, etc.)

Attendance

In Aces, *every* member is a **starter** and as such, is integral to the day-to-day success of the ensemble. When school is in session, Aces will rehearse every **Monday night from 7-9PM**, and every **Thursday from 2:45-3:45PM**. Consistent attendance is ESSENTIAL to the success of this ensemble, so after **ONE** unexcused Monday absence or **TWO** unexcused Thursday absences, you will no longer perform with the ensemble for the remainder of the year.

All absences will be discussed with Mr. Scott and considered on an individual basis.

Examples of UNEXCUSED absences

Family vacation during non-break
Sport practice
I have tickets to see...
My band has a show
I need to study
Work

Examples of EXCUSED absences

Family health emergency/illness
Sport competition (for duration of the event)
Other major family event (wedding, e.g.) communicated at the time of your audition

Monday vs. Thursday

As much as possible, Monday rehearsals will focus on music-making with the entire ensemble. Thursday rehearsals are student-led and will often split into sectionals to work on notes and ensemble consistency. Section leaders will be appointed at Aces Retreat.

At Every Rehearsal

You aren't ready to rehearse if you don't have your: *music, pencil, and calendar.*

Attire

Aces attire includes a *collared* tuxedo shirt, tailcoat, tux pants, shiny shoes, *BLACK* socks, and Aces tie. At performances I will have new pairs of black socks available to buy - \$5/pair, money to benefit the Aces. ROTs (Ratty Old Ties) are available if needed.

Performance Expectations

Each member is integral to the success of the Aces, and there will be periodic assessments of proficiency. These may include quartet tests and solo tests, and passing may be required in advance of any performance.

Communication Between Rehearsals

With minimal rehearsal time, many important pieces of information are communicated via email and Facebook. A private Facebook group will be created to discuss rehearsals, disseminate information, etc. **It is expected** that members visit the group page regularly or set it up to inform them via text or email when there are updates.

Solo Auditions

Solo auditions will occur on a regular basis in Aces rehearsals. Interested members should learn the solo **on their own** as there will be minimal time for teaching solos in rehearsal. Use of recordings, videos, private voice teachers, trying solos during rehearsal when appropriate, etc. are all encouraged. A list will be kept of everyone who performs the solo adequately and FROM MEMORY, and solos will be selected before each performance. Solo auditions operate on a "First shall be Last" policy - the first to volunteer to audition will get a second chance to audition after everyone else has had a try.

Money Matters

Occasionally, small fees are required for various reasons (clothing, registration fees, etc.). The Aces will do its best to cover all expenses internally through fundraising; however, some minor expenses may come up during the course of the year. These will be discussed well in advance with the ensemble. If there are personal financial concerns, feel free to discuss the matter privately with Mr. Scott. *THE ONE EXCEPTION IS ACES RETREAT – Fee TBD will be collected before the start of Aces retreat on Aug. 18.*

Aces Audition Components

1. Prepared Excerpt (provided).
2. Sight Singing.
3. Ear Testing: Middle Note - Mr. Scott plays three notes simultaneously, you sing back the middle note.
4. Ear Testing: Tonal Memory - Mr. Scott play three notes consecutively, you sing them back in order.
5. Prepared Solo (a cappella), solo song of your choice (past or present).
6. Personal character – a perfect score for any student without a red flag from past or present choir teachers.

The Rockford Aces 2017-18 Audition

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM SIGNED AT THE TIME OF YOUR AUDITION

Name _____ *Please notate your highest and lowest comfortable notes on the staff below*

Grade _____ Preferred Voice Part _____

2017-18 RHS Choir _____



I have read the calendar and expectations and am able to fulfill the requirements of this group.

Student _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

The Rockford Aces Audition Form

---- For judge use only ----

Judge's Notes

Suggested Voice Part _____

Total Score			
Section	Score	Multiplier	Total
A. Prepared Excerpt	/25	X 1	/25
B. Middle Note	/9	X 2	/18
C. Tonal Memory	/9	X 2	/18
D. Sight Reading	/12	X 1	/12
E. Prepared Solo	/12	X 1	/12
F. Personal Character	/15	X 1	/15
		Total	/100

The Rockford Aces

2017 Audition Excerpt

Learn your part to the best of your ability.
You will be assessed on pitch/rhythmic accuracy, tone, style, and preparation.
Memorization is not required but will be noted.
Good luck & enjoy the challenge!

Brisk Shuffle, $\text{♩} = 78$
(Optional snaps on 2 & 4)

T1
Oh _____ yeah _____ oh _____

T2
Oh _____ yeah _____ oh _____

B1
Oh _____ yeah _____ oh _____

B2
doom ba doom ba doom doom ba doom ba doom doom doom

5
T1
Oh _____ Sue goes _____ out with oth-er guys.

T2
Oh _____ Sue goes _____ out with oth-er guys.

B1
Oh _____ Sue goes _____ out with oth-er guys.

B2
doom ba doom ba doom ba doom doom doom

9
T1
chunk chunk chuh - dunk chunk _____ ka chunk chunk chunk

T2
chunk chunk chuh - dunk chunk _____ ka chunk chunk chunk

B1
chunk chunk chuh - dunk chunk _____ ka chunk chunk chunk

B2
doom ba doom ba doom ba doom doom

2

ff

T1
8 chunk chunk chuh - dunk chunk _____ ka chunk chunk chunk

T2
8 chunk chunk chuh - dunk chunk _____ ka chunk chunk chunk

B1
8 chunk chunk chuh - dunk chunk _____ ka chunk chunk chunk

B2
doom ba doom ba doom ba doom doom

13

T1
8 chunk chunk chuh - dunk chunk _____ ka chunk chunk chunk

T2
8 chunk chunk chuh - dunk chunk _____ ka chunk chunk chunk

B1
8 chunk chunk chuh - dunk chunk _____ ka chunk chunk chunk

B2
doom ba doom ba doom ba doom doom

15

T1
8 hey Ah Hey!

T2
8 hey Ah Hey!

B1
8 hey Ah Hey!

B2
doom Ah Hey!