

Who is in the Festival Choir, and how are they nominated?

- We aim to accept ~900 singers from approximately 200 schools into the festival choir. This year, the festival choir might be slightly smaller based on on-campus housing availability.
- Juniors and seniors are nominated by their school choir directors or private instructors.
- Membership is based on the ranking and recommendations of the student's director and the needs of the Festival Choir.

How does payment work for the festival?

- Directors will be guided to Luther College's payment portal in a subsequent email and through our website after selections are made.
- Cash or Check will be accepted on arrival as well as paying in full with a credit card through our payment portal.
- Fees will be accepted after selections
- Checks should be made out to "Luther College"

How many students can be nominated from one school?

- We are capping nominations at 10 students per school. A nomination is not a guarantee of acceptance to the festival.

What is the optional lesson and Scholarship audition?

- Seniors Only: Scholarship applicants sing one piece for a Luther voice faculty member in a 15-minute private voice lesson.
- The prepared solo should be thoroughly prepared and memorized or near-memorized in order for the lesson to be useful.
- The prepared solo should be accompanied either by their choir teacher or by a Luther student accompanist.
- A Luther student accompanist can be hired for a \$20 fee if requested by the nomination deadline.

What is a Monday Night Outstanding Soloist?

- Students must be signed up for a lesson and should be interested in being considered for a Monday night solo.

- During their lesson, they must come prepared with a piece of solo repertoire that is memorized.
- If the Luther faculty in their lesson feels that they have achieved excellence in their solo, then they will be advanced to a semi-finalist round. During the semi-finalist round, ~20 students will sing in front of a panel of Luther voice faculty. From there, it is typical that 4-5 soloists are selected to perform at the Monday night Grand Concert.
- The 4-5 outstanding soloists will then have a couple of minutes to run their piece with our Luther College Accompanist prior to the concert.

What is the festival repertoire, and how do schools obtain it?

- Directors will be asked to order festival selections from JW Pepper for their students. ***Repertoire and link will be sent out in an email***

Where do directors and students stay during the festival?

- Students can either opt to stay on campus in a dorm lounge or in a dorm room with a Luther student. We have limited space for on-campus housing and so we ask that schools find off-campus housing if it is feasible for their school district.
- Teachers will need to stay in town at either an airbnb, hotel, or a friend's home.
- Off-campus housing options include: Local hotels, Bed and Breakfasts, and Airbnbs. In town, we have Comfort Inn and Suites, Country Inn and Suites, Fairfield Inn and Suites, Hotel Winneshiek, and Super 8. Teachers have also had good luck with local Bed and Breakfasts and Airbnb.

Can a student attend the festival without their school or their teacher?

- A teacher nomination is required for a student to be considered for the festival, but a student's choir teacher does not necessarily have to attend the festival with the student. Having said that, every student attending the Dorian Vocal Festival must have a teacher, parent, or chaperone with them in town for the duration of the festival. This policy is in place so that there is someone in town to take care of the student in the case of an emergency. Likewise, if there is a behavioral issue that would result in the student being removed from the festival, an adult must be present to take the student home.

When are the festival concerts and how are tickets obtained?

- Monday, January 12th, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.
- Admission by ticket only. Ticket sales will open Monday, December 8, 2025.

- Directors and chaperones will receive tickets to the concert when they arrive.
- Tickets are \$10 on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit the Luther College Ticket Office Website to purchase your tickets.
- The concert will be live streamed on the Luther College Music Department YouTube channel for those who are unable to acquire a ticket to the concert.

Is the Festival Grand Concert live streamed?

- Due to a shift in personnel, we are unsure at this time if we will livestream the Festival Grand Concert. If the concert is streamed, you can find it on the Luther College Music Department YouTube channel.

What is concert attire?

- Concert attire is the following:
 - Option A: A collared shirt with nice dress pants. Ties are encouraged.
 - Option B: A nice blouse with dress pants/skirt or a dress.
 - Black and white clothing is encouraged!