



March, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

Please excuse this Summit Choral Society Performance Choir singer from school, as they have been invited to perform at the National Choir Festival at Carnegie Hall in New York City. This prestigious national invitation represents the culmination of many hours of rehearsal, discipline and artistic growth, as well as the development of exceptional vocal skill. It is both an honor and a privilege to be selected through audition for this distinguished event and to represent the great State of Ohio on a national stage.

Summit Choral Society is committed to providing the highest caliber of choral arts education and meaningful performance experiences for every singer in our Children's Choir Program. Participation in this festival is an important extension of that education. During this tour singers will study and perform under the direction of world-renowned conductor Anton Armstrong, collaborate with fellow auditioned singers from across the country in the National Choir Festival and attend a Broadway performance as part of their cultural experience.

In order to participate fully in the scheduled festival events, singers will need to be in New York City March 6–9, 2026 and therefore out of the Akron area during that time. Summit Choral Society respectfully requests that this absence be excused so the student may take part in this extraordinary educational opportunity.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this event.

Sincerely,

Shara Cocchiola  
Executive Artistic Director  
[scocchiola@summitchoralsociety.org](mailto:scocchiola@summitchoralsociety.org)  
330-434-7464 / 330-257-9131