

Dalton Rashad Criss Adirondack High School Gospel Honors Festival 2024

Dear High School Choral Director,

On behalf of the Plattsburgh State Gospel Choir, it is my great joy to invite you and a select number of your high school chorus members to the second Adirondack High School Gospel Honors Festival, April 19 & 20, 2024! The renowned PSU Gospel Choir, co-directed by Dr. Dexter Criss and Andrea Ogle, would like to welcome you and your students into the rich musical culture that gospel choir has to offer. We are striving to bring together 100+ of the Champlain Valley's top high school musicians (both singers and instrumentalists) to celebrate this music in a two-day festival at Plattsburgh State that culminates with a Saturday evening concert at the Strand Theatre.

This festival is a unique opportunity for you and your students to experience the region's best gospel music with a world-class conductor, a Plattsburgh-based orchestra, a gospel band, and soloists from within the PSU Gospel Choir. Students will experience two days of intensive rehearsals, similar to the Area All-State festival, after having prepared their music prior to their arrival at the festival. Lunch and Dinner will be provided, and hotel accommodations are underway for those who may have a significant distance to travel. **There is a nominal registration fee of \$125 per student, \$75 for chaperones and bus drivers- teachers are our guests! The registration deadline is November 15, 2023.** We will do our best to ensure that music is distributed prior to the holiday break.

We are blessed and honored to welcome Dr. Raymond Wise to lead the 2024 festival! Professor Wise currently serves on the faculty of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, where he serves as Professor of Practice in the African American African Diaspora Studies department and instructs courses in African American music. He is the associate director of the African American Arts Institute, an IU division devoted to the perpetuation and performance of African American music and art. Wise conducts the African American Choral Ensemble. He has also served on the faculties of The Ohio State University, Denison University, and Trinity Lutheran Seminary.

Because of the profound social, emotional, educational, and spiritual impact we've experienced through this music and community at the Ithaca College High School Gospel Choir Festival over the past 15 years, as well as our 2019 inaugural festival weekend, we plan to continue in the same spirit of excellence with you and your students!

We hope that you will join us and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Warm regards,



Jennifer Moore
Willsboro CSD, PreK-12 Music Teacher
Boston University, DMA Candidate



Dexter L. Criss, PhD.
Professor of Chemistry & Biochemistry
Artistic Director of Gospel Choir, SUNY Plattsburgh

Dalton Rashad Criss Adirondack High School Gospel Honors Festival 2024

PRELIMINARY CHOIR ITINERARY

Friday, April 19, 2024

- 9:00 a.m. Check In and Registration, T-shirts
- 9:30 a.m. Welcome Address from the SUNY Admissions Office
- 10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. choir rehearsals in E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium
- 12:15-1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sectionals
- 2:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Rehearsals in Giltz
- 4:45 p.m. Festival Photos in Festival T-shirts
- 5:00 p.m. Dinner at Clinton Dining Hall
- 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Rehearsals in Giltz
- 8:45 p.m. Dismissal to Buses/Hotels

Saturday, April 20, 2024

- 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal at Presbyterian Church (orchestral rehearsal at Strand)
- 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Move across the street to the Strand Theatre
- 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Dress Rehearsal
- 4:15 p.m. Dinner and Dressing for Concert
- 5:30 p.m. Gathering for pre-concert talk and warm-up
- 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Performance (formal black/white)

Dalton Rashad Criss Adirondack High School Gospel Honors Festival 2024

DIRECTOR INFORMATION FORM

Name: _____ School: _____

Principal: _____ Phone: _____

School Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email address: _____

Cell phone: _____

Please check any that may apply:

I will be attending with my students

I would like to assist with organizational needs and/or sectional rehearsals

I will not be able to attend this year's festival

I will provide a chaperon for my students

Chaperone name: _____

Relationship to student: _____

Cell phone: _____

Email address: _____

Dalton Rashad Criss Adirondack High School Gospel Honors Festival 2024

STUDENT INFORMATION FORM (Please submit one per student)

Student Name: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Music teacher name: _____

Do you take private lessons? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, how long have you had lessons? _____

Private instructor's name: _____

Vocal Part (circle one): Soprano (1 or 2), Alto (1 or 2), Tenor (1 or 2), Bass (1 or 2)

Contact Information (*none of this information will be shared or publicized*)

Mailing address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Email address: _____

Cell Phone: _____

T-shirts are required. Each student will be given five advance tickets to sell in exchange for a free T-shirt. If a student does not sell their tickets, they will be expected to purchase their T-shirt for a fee of \$20 on the day of the festival.

Adult T-shirt size (circle one): XS, S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

Dalton Rashad Criss Adirondack High School Gospel Honors Festival 2024

Parent/Guardian Permission Slip (Please submit with student form)

My child, _____, has my permission to participate in the 2024 Adirondack High School Gospel Honors Festival, April 19-20, 2024.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Medical Release Form

Student name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Work phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Medical Insurance Information

Type of insurance: _____

Group #: _____ Policy #: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Phone number: _____

Parent form continued on next page...

Does your child have any health issues that would be helpful to a trained professional in the event of a medical emergency? If so, please explain:

I give my permission for my child to receive medical attention in case of an emergency.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____