



**Fine and
Performing Arts**

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focuses on
student success –
every student,
every day.

November 20, 2023

Dear Northwest Choral Colleague,

I am so excited to invite you and your students to participate in the 2024 Four-State Honor Choir Music Festival at Northwest on Tuesday, January 16, 2024! Our clinician this year is master-teacher and composer Sylvester Otieno of Kenyatta University from Nairobi, Kenya. We met Sylvester last summer when the Northwest Tower Choir members toured to Africa in the summer of 2023. He is a remarkable musician, composer, teacher, and human being, and I am super pumped he's coming to Northwest for a residency. [Here is a link to see him in action](#) from our time in Africa!

Each school will be able to select up to eight students to participate. Middle school students are welcome, too! Nominated students should have no conflicts on the day of the festival, which will run from approximately 8:30 am-6:00 pm, including a concert, which is free and open to the public. [Register your students HERE!](#)

Please note, this is a FREE event, and NO ADVANCED PREPARATION is necessary! All music (mostly manuscripts from Kenya, arranged by Sylvester) will be learned on-site. For repertoire that is not taught by rote, sheet music will be provided.

Thank you for recommending your finest singers for participation in the 2024 Northwest Missouri State University Four-State Honor Choir Music Festival. We hope you'll join us for this fabulous event, made possible by the Missouri Arts Council!

Kind regards,

Adam Zrust, PhD, Director, Show/Jazz Choir Festival
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