**The difference between musical performance and music ministry is in the heart of the musician.**

There’s a fine line between performance and music ministry, and it isn’t always easy for music ministers to know when they’ve crossed that line from ministry to performance, from serving God to serving self.  Here are a few guidelines:

* Performance is concerned with a quality product while ministry is concerned with a holy process.
* Performance seeks to be successful while ministry seeks to be faithful.
* Performance strives to shine like the sun while ministry strives to lead others to the son.
* Performance draws attention to the performer while ministry draws attention toward God.
* Performance is out front to be seen while ministry is out front to lead.
* Performance entertains while ministry prays.
* Performance is ***for*** an audience while ministry is ***with*** a community.

If you still aren’t sure, pay attention to what is going on in your mind as you approach the microphone.  Do you pray: “Lord, use this instrument as you will to bring your word to your people”?  Or do you pray: “Lord, help me to sound my best so I can be proud of my singing.  Grant that I make no mistakes and do not make a fool of myself ?”   When you make a mistake, what is the first thought that crosses your mind: “Did that make people think less of me?”  Or: “Did that distract anyone from God’s message?”

Finally, how willing are you to hand the microphone to someone else, trusting that God may want this other musician to minister to you.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR CANTORING, Grades 5-8**

1. Attend weekly rehearsals regularly.
2. Provide good leadership at rehearsals, including being attentive, participating, and leading by good example

(i.e... no homework or cell phones out)

1. Attend All-School masses and other calendar events.
2. Assist in the training of younger cantors.
3. Lead through “Music Ministry”, and not for personal gain.

*I agree with, and promise to abide by, the Requirements For Cantoring.*

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Student Signature Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date