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Louise Winters, Vice-President District B  
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Elder William Dean, Jr., Member District D  
Rayford Horton, Member District E

James L. Henderson, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

*Connecting for Success: Every Child, Every Classroom, Every Day*

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## HCCHS Choir Developing Their Sound

LEXINGTON, Miss. – In only the second year of working with teacher Pierrdro Gallion, the Holmes County Central High School Choir is going places! In September, select choir members participated by invitation in the Mississippi State Choral Symposium collaborating with youth musicians throughout the state. They also made public appearances and performed by invitation of Mayor McCrory and other civic leaders for the Lexington Rotary Club, Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Awareness Community Program, and other events. They hosted the Mississippi State University Chamber Singers at the Doretha Draine Wiley Fine Arts Magnet Academy Choral Hall in November.

The HCCHS singers will perform with Tougaloo College and other colleges as well as state and national competition in New Orleans. The students began a \$10,000 pledge goal in order to offset cost for the students' travel. They have made great strides raising over \$5000 in pledges and contributions in only a few short months. The group performed community concerts at Durant Baptist Church and Fresh Start Christian Church to display the students' talents and to raise funds. Director Pierrdro Gallion was fortunate to be joined by living legends of the southern choral areas Dr. Loretta Galbreath, Director of Choral

Activities at Jackson State University, Ms. Rose McGee, 35-year choral music educator who served for 20 years as Choral Director at Lanier High School in Jackson Public Schools and Dr. Bobby Cooper, 51-year veteran Collegiate Music Educator and Professor who served as Choral Director at Hinds Community College in Utica, Mississippi for 45 years.

Dr. Galbreath said, "I heard great blend and production of sound today. They are headed in the right direction under Mr. Gallion." Ms. McGee said, "Mr. Gallion has always stuck out as a leader ever since high school. That excellence in spirit, motivation and work ethic is what we saw in the performance with his students. I was thoroughly impressed with the varied repertoire prepared for today's concert. Continue to expand your repertoire." She encouraged the students to "listen to and follow all the directives of your director." Dr. Bobby Cooper was equally effusive, "This is a well-disciplined group. I loved the way they followed and communicated with their director as they shared their musical gifts with us today. I encourage Mr. Gallion and the group to keep doing what they are doing. I encourage the students to continue to listen to their director. They are already a superior choir."



The Holmes County Central Singers will compete on the state level at the Mississippi High Schools Activities Association State Performance Assessment March 18<sup>th</sup> in New Albany. They will conclude their community fundraiser concert series with a ticketed concert in Pickens at the Goodman-Pickens Elementary 4 pm on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the school or at the door. They will travel to New Orleans for a national competition April 3-5.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. James L. Henderson said, "The HCCHS musicians are superb ambassadors from Holmes County to the rest of the world. We are proud of our students' success and

know that their performances are competitive on both the state and national levels."

To donate to the choir, please make checks payable to the Jaguar Choir Booster Club and mail to P.O. Box 92 Lexington, MS 39095 or give electronically on Cash App to \$HCCHS Choir.

*Media organizations in need of more information are asked to contact Ms. Deborah Antoine, Media Spokesperson by email: [dantoine@holmesccsd.org](mailto:dantoine@holmesccsd.org), or call (662) 854-3447.*



Front Row Left to Right: Mr. Gallion, Dir., Ivory Dorsey, Elissia Stewart, Makiya Lewis, Derrick Williams, Benjamin Lewis, Kelvin Jordan, Ja'Kyla Vaughn, Sharkeyla Ellis, Ko'Rion Johnson, Bernice Davis, Charity Smith  
Back Row Left to Right: Lillian Lewis, Gloria Thomas, Lesley Bowman, Zanashia Hawkins, Katelynn King, Sharmarques Hawkins, JarKevis March, Zacchaeus Thurmond