

Nicole Brandt to tour with New Way Singers

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

- Summer vocal tours are becoming a tradition for HHS student Nicole Brandt as she prepares for her third year with New Way Singers.
- Having enjoyed performing with New Way Singers the last two years, Brandt decided to audition again last March. Singing two songs and a couple scales as well as an application and references were all part of the selection process.
- Brandt is excited to return to the group and noted her summer would be a little “lame” without it. She said she will be reunited with vocalists she performed with in previous tours, explaining about half the group are also returning choir members.
- Brandt and 50 other high schoolers will gather on June 15 for several days of practice at Nebraska Christian College in Papillion, Neb before their first concert on June 19. In preparation for the performances, Brandt is required to memorize all music before arriving for practice. Here vocalists will learn techniques to improve their vocal skills as they perfect songs for the tour.
- In addition to the vocal aspect of the tour, participants will also engage in small group Bible studies throughout their time together.
- With concerts June 19-28, the tour schedule includes 10 stops in South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska as well as a free day in Chicago, Ill. Brandt will be staying with host families and noted she is excited for the fun times on bus rides.
- “Be Still” is the theme for the concerts which also feature prayers, expressive Bible readings, testimonies and even some interpretive dance in addition to the songs.
- As a soprano in the HHS concert and select choirs, Brandt has grown in her vocal abilities because of her experiences with New Way Singers. “What I’ve learned there has taught me to sing better in regular choir,” said Brandt.
- This is hopefully not the end for Brandt’s New Way Singers adventures as she hopes to participate again next summer for her fourth year in a row. She is continuing the Brandt tradition as her father, Jerry Brandt, also performed with the New Way Singers for three years when the group was just beginning to gain popularity.
- Nicole is the daughter of Jerry and Debbie Brandt of Holyoke. She will be a senior at HHS in the fall.
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