



ARTS DISTRICT CHORALE

BEFORE YOU AUDITION FOR THE ARTS DISTRICT CHORALE . . .

Please read these pages thoroughly. It is important that those chosen for membership fully understand our vision, the expectations we have of our members, and will work with us toward the realization of our goals and objectives.

ARTISTIC VISION

The Arts District Chorale is:

- an organization of *excellence* recognized for unique, *innovative* programming of choral masterworks. Through *collaboration* with the world-class cultural venues of the downtown Dallas Arts District, the Chorale engages the post-modern observer with non-static, *integrated* arts experiences that *transform* the gathered *community*, singer and audience member alike.
- a distinguished choral ensemble of gifted amateur and professional *collaborators* who channel their passion for *excellence* into the *innovative* work of the Chorale, creating a *community* which gives human form to our innate need for hope and meaning through *integrated* arts experiences. This community is *transformed* by a shared experience of continuous learning and renewed commitment.

MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

MUSICAL

The corporate rehearsal process does not include learning notes. It is the responsibility of each member to learn his/her part prior to rehearsal. It is expected that each member will allocate approximately two hours per week for individual practice.

Members are expected to attend all rehearsals in their entirety. Any known or potential conflicts should be communicated to the staff prior to the first rehearsal.

Markings are supplied by the conductor during rehearsals. In the event of an absence from a rehearsal, members should arrange to get markings and other information from a member of his/her section prior to the next rehearsal.

CHORALE REHEARSALS

Flexible levels of participation allow members to commit to preparation for one event at a time in six to eight-week segments. Limited rehearsal time for each event is therefore intense, and absence from a rehearsal during a segment endangers the quality of our musical preparation. Faithful and punctual attendance at all rehearsals in each segment is expected of each member.

Absence from rehearsal is inevitable from time to time, given occasional illnesses and the responsibilities we all have to family and career. When a rehearsal must be missed, it is the responsibility of the Chorale member to notify the staff as far in advance as possible. Repeated failure to notify the staff of the circumstances of absence, except in the case of emergency, will result in the termination of membership.

Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings, 7:00-9:30 pm, at Northway Christian Church, 7202 W. Northwest Highway in Dallas, just west of Central Expressway on Northwest Highway.

Chorale schedules, notifications, pronunciation guides and score markings are also available on the members' page of the ADC website. No other effort will be made to notify absent members of schedule changes or markings. It is imperative that each member takes personal responsibility in these areas.

SUPPORT OF THE CHORALE

Each Chorale member pays a non-refundable administrative fee of \$75.00 at the beginning of the six-month semester (January-June or July-December) during which they participate in a public performance with ADC. The administrative fee helps defray the cost of printed music, rehearsal accompanists, postage, copying, rehearsal space and security.

When a performance venue is large enough to allow multiple complimentary tickets, members will each receive up to four adult tickets for a subscription event during the semester.

In the event of financial hardship, confidential arrangements may be made with the Executive Director for extended administrative fee payments or for a full scholarship in exchange for services-in-kind to the organization.

Chorale members are also expected to help defray program expenses by assisting to secure patrons for performances and to identify sponsors for fundraising appeals and performance underwriting. Tax-deductible donations to the Chorale, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, are always welcomed.

CONCERT ATTIRE

Members provide their own concert attire, which should be freshly laundered and pressed prior to events so that the Chorale looks sharp and professional. Members also provide their own black music folder for performances.

Men's attire is a standard black tuxedo (no tails, no vest) with a standard lapel (no velvet), worn with a white, pleated, winged-collar shirt without ruffles or colored trim. A solid black bow tie and cummerbund are also worn. The tuxedo jacket should be sized so that it buttons comfortably and completely during performances. Black studs and black cuff links are required. Footwear is black shoes with black socks.

Women's attire is a simple black dress with long sleeves or a long-sleeved black blouse with black skirt or slacks. A long-sleeved black pantsuit is also acceptable. Dresses and skirts should be either tea length or full length. Slacks must be full length. Dress attire includes black hosiery and shoes with a solid black upper and heel. Shoes may be heels or flats, but must have closed toe and heel. Jewelry, if worn at all, should be sparse, simple and non-reflective.

CONCURRENT MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER CHORUSES

Concurrent membership in the Arts District Chorale and another community or professional chorus is permitted, but is strongly discouraged. In such cases, it should be understood that any and all conflicts must be resolved in favor of the Arts District Chorale on each occasion, unless specifically and personally approved by the Artistic Director. This restriction does not apply to participation in the choral ensemble of your place of worship or other religious institution.

THE AUDITION

The Arts District Chorale welcomes all singers, both professional and amateur, who wish to channel their passion for excellence into the innovative work of the Chorale. We seek to share the beauty and joy of ensemble singing and to perform at the highest artistic level. Our members benefit from the pleasure, personal challenge and satisfaction of singing a broad range of great music in a variety of Dallas venues, primarily in the world-class cultural venues of the downtown Dallas Arts District.

The ADC's Artistic Director, Assistant Conductor and a panel of Chorale section leaders conduct the audition. The panel will evaluate your potential as a member in the following areas:

- good choral voice, not necessary a solo voice;
- ability to blend with other voices;
- quality of intonation, rhythm and general musicianship;

ability and willingness to self-teach your part.

The audition lasts about twenty minutes and consists of:

vocalization to determine voice range and quality

a brief sight-reading exercise

a brief tonal-memory exercise

a prepared solo with piano accompaniment

An accompanist will be provided for your audition. Please bring a legible copy of the piano accompaniment. If finding a suitable solo proves to be a challenge, you may sing (unaccompanied) either *My Country, 'tis of Thee* or *Amazing Grace*.

You will be informed of your acceptance status within one week of your audition.

For further information, please contact the Executive Director at 214.942.5085, or send an e-mail to auditions@artsdistrictchorale.org