

Deer Creek Chorale

2021-2022 Membership Expectations

MEMBERSHIP EXPECTATIONS

Communication

- Formal communication is done primarily by email.
- Our Membership Directory is available in electronic format and includes member photos, emails and phone numbers.
- The Artistic Director sends a weekly (Friday) email missive to the choir with announcements and rehearsal information – members are expected to read it prior to the next rehearsal.
- The DCC website has a designated *Choristers* page (under Members Login) where all necessary information is available and updated. The username and password are both *dcc*.
- Members are asked to support our efforts on social media as their comfort level allows (e.g., “like” us on Facebook, follow us on Instagram [@deercreekchorale] and Twitter [@deercreeksings] and YouTube).
- The DCC office is in the brick house beside (to the west of) Bethel Presbyterian Church (weekly rehearsal location). **DCC Choir Administrator is Melissa Sweeney.** The DCC phone number is **410-575-3221.**

Rehearsal Expectations

- Comply with established attendance policies.
- Bring music placed in a binder or choral folder, in announced order.
- Bring a pencil for notes and water for hydration.
- Turn cell phones OFF. OFF means OFF.
- Be attentive and mentally engaged.
- Reserve conversation and socializing to pre- or post- rehearsal times.
- Arrive prepared: Practice the music as assigned, taking advantage of the online learning files on our website www.deercreekchorale.org.
- Each section (voice part) has a Section Leader (announced each season).

Attendance Policies

- Attend each rehearsal or sectional as scheduled.
- Arrive on time. If late, join the rehearsal quietly without interruption.
- Notify the director and/or assistant director prior to rehearsal when attendance is not possible.
- If you miss a rehearsal, obtain score markings and notes on what was covered prior to the next rehearsal.
- Consult with the director or designee if absent for more than 2 rehearsals in any semester.
- Attend a Chamber Choir or Youth Choir concert at some time during the season.

PLEASE NOTE: Failure to meet rehearsal and attendance expectations may result in being excluded from a performance and is decided on a case-by-case basis after consultation with Artistic staff.

Annual Fund Campaign Participation

Members are encouraged to participate in the Annual Fund Campaign to the extent that they are able (invite audience members, attend activities, volunteer and/or donate, etc.). Our goal is to attain 100% participation in the campaign, as this has a positive impact on our grant submissions and appeals to other donors.

Community Service/Outreach Participation

The mission and vision of the Deer Creek Chorale experience is service to the local and global community. Annual partnerships with various philanthropic partner organizations allow the membership to devote time and effort to the charitable partner. In the past, we have supported such efforts as *Alzheimer's Awareness, Pennies for Peace, Md Center for the Arts, Habitat for Humanity, Project C.U.R.E. Kits for Kids, Camp Sunrise, St. John's Episcopal Church's Aid for Haiti, The Good Samaritan Home in Sri Lanka, Central Asia Institute, Harford Family House and Camp Opportunity for Abused and Neglected Children*. Members are asked to support these efforts to help those in need (e.g., serve on a DCC committee, attend an event, offer volunteer hours toward the project, etc). **This is a minimal commitment and opportunities abound to participate at your convenience.** The camaraderie is awesome.

DCC Soloist/Chamber Choir Selection

At the discretion of the director, soloists and members of the Chamber Choir may be selected from present or past choir membership by appointment or audition. At times, soloists may also be hired from outside the choir membership. In addition to those expectations set forth in this contract, requirements for both soloists and members of the Chamber Choir include excellent vocal ability, quality of vocal tone and ability to commit to and fulfill the additional responsibilities.

Deer Creek Chorale Performance Attire

This is the sole responsibility of each member and is as follows:

There are two acceptable forms of formal concert dress: a tuxedo or the performance gown:

Tuxedo - Formal black: tuxedo, white shirt, black bow tie, cummerbund or vest, black dress shoes (shined).

Performance Gown – Formal DCC performance gowns, purchased by each chorister. Approximate purchase price is \$91 (includes shipping). Contact the DCC office to order. Plain, conservative black shoes (small heel or flats). Jewelry should be discreet, e.g. small strand of pearls and small earrings. No glitter, jewels or any color in concert attire unless specifically approved in advanced of performance date.

All members must have a black choral folder (easily found online or at music stores)

Note: In consideration of various singers' allergies and respiratory reactions to fragrances, do not use perfumes, colognes or other scented items.

Deer Creek Chamber Choir Performance Attire

Formal attire: 1.) black tuxedo, white shirt, black bow tie, cummerbund or vest, black dress shoes (shined) or 2.) conservative all black, formal floor length dresses OR floor length skirts/dress pants and top. Minimal jewelry.

Less formal attire: (as per director) 1.) black dress pants (no jeans/Dockers) with a long-sleeve black shirt. Black shoes or 2.) conservative black blouse and floor length skirt or pants. **No jeans, short skirts, leather, leggings, sparkles or jackets. Conservative shoes, no boots or sandals.**

Membership Fees

Each member is responsible for paying the annual fee of **\$150.00**. We also offer a payment plan of 3 payments at \$50.00 each due the first of each month (September, October and November). There is also an additional music fee of \$30 for returning members and \$40 for new members. If you are having difficulty with paying the dues entirely, please contact us to inquire about tuition assistance. Membership dues are nonrefundable.

Photo Release

From time to time, photos/videos are taken of performances, rehearsals and other activities. By signing the membership agreement, you hereby give consent that requested or provided photos or video footage where you are involved may be used exclusively for promotional purposes for the Deer Creek Chorale including our internet website, video presentations, television advertising and printed publications.

Vaccination Requirement

Due to the nature of our art form, the DCC board of directors has recommended that all singers be vaccinated. If this is not possible due to medical or religious reasons, the chorister is encouraged to wear a mask at all times.