

Caritas Chorale Member Information - 2018

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership is open to anybody in the community who has a desire to sing great choral music. Many people with little musical experience have developed their singing and musical skills through the Chorale. Although an ability to read music is an advantage, it is not necessary, and there are no auditions for prospective members. We are committed to maintaining a friendly and enjoyable rehearsal experience while achieving high standards of musical performance.

Membership in Caritas Chorale provides an opportunity to members of the local community to be part of a high-quality choir with an excellent performance venue, a respected artistic director/conductor, a highly skilled accompanist, access to music scores, and the chance to perform with professional and semi-professional musicians.

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Timely payment of your fees helps to keep the choir's finances stable and sustainable. Fees are reviewed each year, and approved by the Board of Directors.

In case of financial hardship, scholarships are available. Speak with your section leader.

To confirm your membership:

- New members: submit a Membership Application.
- Returning members: confirm your contact information with your section leader.
- Pay your membership fees - \$25 for each concert season.

REHEARSALS:

Where: Our Lady of the Snows

Sun Valley Rd., Sun Valley, ID

When: Monday 6:30 pm – 8:15 pm

- Other rehearsals may be scheduled as needed, particularly in the week prior to a concert.

Rehearsals each week provide a structured opportunity for the choir to review the note-learning that singers have undertaken on their own time, and to develop harmony and expression across the mix of parts and voices.

Punctual attendance at rehearsals is essential. Please arrive earlier at the start of each rehearsal term to pick up music. For most performances, at least one additional rehearsal is scheduled close to the performance date.

MUSIC SCORES & CONCERT BINDERS

Music scores are provided to each singer at no cost. Scores for each rehearsal term are purchased in advance according to the expected number of singers participating in that term.

All singers are required to have a standard black music binder for use at all performances. These are available at local office supply stores.

Occasionally we may send music scores as email attachments for you to print at home. Please ask for a copy to be provided if you do not use email or have access to a printer.

To sing at a performance, you are expected to join rehearsals by the deadlines specified for that term, and to attend rehearsals regularly, the last three prior to a performance being

Caritas Chorale Member Information - 2018

mandatory. Exceptions may occur at the discretion of the conductor.

For planning purposes, singers are kindly requested to advise us in a timely way if you cannot participate in a term, so we can adjust the number of advance orders we need to place for music scores.

PREPARING FOR REHEARSALS

The Caritas website, www.caritaschorale.org provides access for singers to on-line rehearsal files. The more diligent you are in practicing and learning the notes at home, the more time we can spend in rehearsals developing the dynamics of our singing together. Please bring along these things to each rehearsal:

- Your music score
- Your pencil and eraser for marking up your score
- A bottle of water if you like

EXPECTATIONS OF CARITAS CHORALE MEMBERS

As a member of Caritas Chorale, you are expected to:

- Contribute positively to the experience of rehearsals, showing respect for the conductor and your fellow singers by listening carefully and not disrupting rehearsal time by talking.
- Notify your section leader of any change to your contact details.
- Maintain your financial status by paying all fees on time.
- Give notice of your absence from rehearsals, either by email or phone, or by letting your section leader know in advance.
- Keep up to date with all notices and news issued to members.

- Undertake practice on your own time to ensure you know your part before rehearsals. Then in rehearsals, you can concentrate on hearing how your part fits with all the other parts and, collectively, developing the choral dynamics.

PERFORMANCES AND PERFORMANCE DRESS STANDARDS

The Chorale's well-established reputation for excellence in musical performance has been assured by the commitment of singers to musicianship. The choir's image on stage is also important, and care must be taken with appearance, grooming, posture, and orderly sitting, standing, and entrance and exit from the stage.

There is a general standard for performance dress. The following requirements ensure the choir has a consistent and distinguished appearance, which assists the audience to concentrate on the voices and not the clothes.

Note: Less formal attire may be required for some concerts

FOR WOMEN

Women can choose from the following options:

- Full ankle-length black dress
- Full ankle-length black skirt with a black top
- Full ankle-length, black pants with a black top

Tops should have $\frac{3}{4}$ to long sleeves, covered shoulders, a full back and high front

Shoes: Plain, black 'dress' shoes.

Jewelry: It should be simple and under-stated, and not large or flashy.

FOR MEN

- Black tuxedo or black suit
- White shirt
- Black bow tie
- Black shoes and socks

Caritas Chorale Member Information - 2018

CARITAS STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CARITAS STAFF

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR—R L Rowsey

ACCOMPANIST—Dorinda Rendahl

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Linda Bergerson

Phone: 208-726-4846

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR — Margie Gould

LIBRARIAN—Gini Baumgardner

Email: caritassunvalley@yahoo.com

Mail: Caritas Chorale, PO Box 164

Ketchum, ID 83340

CARITAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT— Richard Stahl

VICE-PRESIDENT—Rebecca Waycott

TREASURER—Doug Taylor

SECRETARY— Cherie Kessler

BOARD MEMBER – Margie Gould

BOARD MEMBER – John Miley, bass section leader
email: mileyjb37@yahoo.com

BOARD MEMBER – Joy Bond

BOARD MEMBER – Judy Powell, alto section leader
email: ski.judy@hotmail.com

BOARD MEMBER – Ruth Jones, soprano section leader
email: ruthiejgsv@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBER – Bob Kendall, tenor section leader
email: neldaandbob@yahoo.com

Caritas Chorale Member Information - 2018

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S SUGGESTIONS FOR SINGERS

1. Practice! And practice some more!

- The more you practice, the more enjoyable choir rehearsals will be for you and everyone.
- Make sure you have a good method of practicing, even when you know the music well. Listen to your music files regularly, and see how your part blends with the other parts.

- Learning to sing the notes and words and getting the timing right is only the first stage. It's how the choir (and other players) sing together which is the creative and really satisfying part.

2. Make the most of choir rehearsals.

- One of the greatest joys of singing in a choir is achieving a close bond between Artistic Director/Conductor and choir. This is the way we achieve fantastic dynamics, precise timing and unity of interpretation and emotional effect for ourselves and the audience.

- Watch the conductor. Learn the music well enough that you're not looking at your score all the time with your face and eyes down! Learning by heart is also great memory training and you will be surprised at how much more liberating and enjoyable singing is when you know the notes and the words.

3. Contribute positively to the community of the choir.

- Producing a beautiful choral sound together under the guidance of a professional musical director is the unique experience we come to rehearsals to share.

- Please refrain from unnecessary talk during rehearsal, focusing attention on the conductor.

- Do not wear perfumes or perfumed cosmetics to rehearsals or performances – although non-perfumed deodorant is ok!

- Turn your mobile phone OFF or to silent.

4. Attend rehearsals regularly.

- Realize that your attendance at choir every week is part of the whole experience for everyone. Even if you know all the notes, you need to be there to be a part of the combined blending of voices.

5. Look after your voice.

- Keep yourself well hydrated, avoiding diuretics like caffeine and alcohol before singing.

- During rehearsals, sit or stand with good posture – back straight, shoulders, neck and jaw relaxed – in order to support your voice and take the strain off the vocal cords. •Consider having singing lessons and refreshers to improve your voice and understanding of music and singing.

6. Enjoy the thrill of performance.

- Make sure you are familiar with all instructions, for example, about preparing your score in advance, the procedure for going on and coming off stage, and the cues for sitting and standing throughout the performance.

- Watch the conductor as much as possible, keeping in mind the pivotal role played by the conductor in ensuring all parts come together beautifully – choir, soloists, orchestra, instrumental soloists – to bring the composer's work to life, and to enable the interpretation of the music to be exacting, exciting, inspired and magical.

- Sing to the audience – they have come to be thrilled and entertained.

7. And, above all, enjoy your singing!

RL Rowsey

Artistic Director

Caritas Chorale Member Information - 2018

Member Application Form
Caritas Chorale, PO Box 164, Ketchum, ID 83340

Membership is open to anybody in the community who has a desire to sing great choral music. All members are asked to confirm their contact details with their section leader each year, and to notify any changes to these details promptly.

Your contact details

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME _____

PO BOX/ STREET: _____

CITY , STATE, & ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ MOBILE _____

EMAIL: _____

What voice part do you sing? (circle one)

SOPRANO _____ TENOR _____

ALTO _____ BASS _____

Don't know / not sure _____

Non-singing volunteer

If you are a current Caritas Chorale member, when did you join the Chorale? _____

What is your background in singing/music, if any? (ie, choir, musical theater, teaching, listening, etc)

Skill level in reading music: (beginner through advanced)

Other relevant background :

If you have any special skills or experience that you could bring to Caritas Chorale's overall operation and/or the conduct of its performance program, please summarize here:

- Accounting/Bookkeeping
- Database Management
- Graphic Design
- Publicity/Advertising
- Videography
- Photography
- Project Management
- Word Press
- Other (please specify):