

WFS Chorister Information 2015-16

Fees:

Membership fees for WFS are divided between Fanshawe College course registration and payment to the WFS directly as follows:

- Fanshawe College fees: \$90.00 for the year, due by the end of September. Fanshawe will allow this fee to be pro rated for part year registration if that information is provided to them. Cheques should be made payable to Fanshawe College.
- WFS: \$110.00 for the year. Payments can be made in one instalment of \$110.00 in September, or two instalments if preferred: \$55.00 in September, \$55.00 in January.

Auditions:

Participation in WFS is contingent on a successful audition, facilitated by the Artistic Director. Auditions for new members are designed to assess general musicianship skills (ie. tone, intonation, sight reading, ear training, rhythm etc.) as well as each singer's range and tessitura. Auditions will occur during the first two weeks of term 1 and 2, or as required. Following a successful audition, singers will be placed in appropriate sections at the discretion of the Artistic Director. Returning members of the WFS may be asked to complete a similar assessment as required.

Rehearsals:

All regular rehearsals will take place on Monday evenings, beginning September 14th, 2015 from 7:00 – 9:30p.m. at College Ave. Secondary School in Woodstock ON. In order to make efficient use of rehearsal time, choir members are asked to learn the music for each rehearsal beforehand. Listening tracks will be posted on Drop box to help members study their parts.

Attendance:

In order to ensure an enjoyable artistic process for all, it is expected that choristers honour the following attendance guidelines:

More than two missed rehearsals per term may result in a lack of confidence with the music to be presented at the conclusion of each term. That would jeopardize the enjoyment of the singer (and those who stand next to them in the choir) as well as the quality of their artistic offering in rehearsal and concert. If you must miss more than two rehearsals during a term, please speak to the artistic director about the appropriate plan of action. Attendance will be taken at every rehearsal.

If you are ill and will miss rehearsal, please contact your choir representative in advance of the rehearsal via phone or email. (Information regarding choir rep contact info will be given at our first rehearsal)

My choir rep is: _____ E: _____ T:

Concert Attire:

For our main series concerts in November, December and the Spring, the choir traditionally wears formal concert attire:

For Men: Black Tuxedo:

- White tuxedo shirt
- Black bow tie
- Black socks
- Black dress shoes
- Black vest/cummerbund = optional

For Women: Black formal attire:

- Black skirt – ankle length or just below the knee
- Black blouse – cap, 1/4, 1/2, 3/4 or long sleeve
- Black formal shoes
- Black nylons
- Appropriate stage jewellery – please avoid accessories (ie. scarves) that are not black

As a courtesy to choir members and audience who have a sensitivity to scent, choristers should avoid strongly perfumed products at both rehearsals and concerts.

Please note: **Alternate costuming may be required depending on programming, and will be announced well in advance of each concert.

Music Folders:

At the start of each season, choristers are assigned a choir number, which corresponds to the music folder handed out at the beginning of each term. Choristers are responsible for ensuring that scores are returned in good condition at the conclusion of each term for filing. Replacement charges for missing or damaged music will be the responsibility of the chorister. Please be sure that musical markings/notes made in the scores are made lightly in pencil, and at no time, should scores be hole-punched.

Programming:

For the 2015-16 season, the WFS will present three main series concerts, a Remembrance Day concert, a Christmas concert and a Spring program. In addition, there will be a fundraising cabaret in February. These events are chosen carefully for their artistic merit and to help increase our profile in the community.

Ticket Sales:

Choral singing is a performance oriented, public art form, and ticket sales represent one of the most significant sources of revenue for the choir. As part of our attempt to raise funds for the choir, all members will be expected to sell 4 tickets to each concert.

Fundraising:

During the season, choristers are asked to contribute to fundraising activities that help with operational expenses of the choir. Primarily, this comes in the form of promoting ticket sales for concerts and events but may also include donations to things like silent auctions etc.