

New to Barbershop Letter

Hi [invitee name],

I hope your summer is going well and you and your family are happy and healthy. I'm reaching out today for a simple reason: I'd like to sing with you.

As you may know, I sing with the **Forward Harmony** barbershop chorus. We recently returned from an international competition in Cleveland and are "re-setting" as a result after taking a short summer hiatus. When we return to rehearsal on Sunday, **August 11th** we're inviting anyone interested in singing with us to attend (hopefully including you!) - to sing, learn what we're about, and get to know us a bit.

Unsure of whether you should give it a try? Here's a few things you may be interested to know:

- **It's a lot of fun** – Barbershoppers are very welcoming, friendly people, and we don't take ourselves too seriously; we also have an "afterglow" after rehearsals where we can gather for a beverage and camaraderie
- **You don't have to read music** – we provide learning tracks to help you learn your part and the vast majority of our members are not professional musicians
- **We focus on singing our best** – we are an award-winning chorus, and our director (who is an international champion singer) focuses on improving our overall vocal and performing skills, not just learning the notes and words
- **Singing improves your mental health** – it's a great way to relieve stress and take a break from the hustle, bustle and responsibilities of everyday life
- **Networking opportunities abound** – our chorus consists of dozens of people from all ages and walks of life from different communities in our area; and when we attend barbershop conventions, we gather in the hundreds or thousands

I hope you'll consider paying us a visit from 6-9 pm on August 11th at the Emmanuel United Church of Christ in Dousman. Let me know if you have any other questions or are interested in getting a ride to rehearsal. I'd love to see you there!

In harmony,

[your name]

Barbershop Person Letter

Hi [invitee name],

I just wanted to drop you a line and let you know that Forward Harmony is looking for new members and has a membership night coming up on August 11 from 6-9 pm at the Emmanuel UCC church in Dousman. We recently returned from international in Cleveland and are stoked for what's to come, including the Land O Lakes district contest this fall, our holiday show this winter, and a spring show/youth outreach event featuring an international champion quartet next spring.

I know you have a great voice and know what barbershop is about, so I'll keep this brief, but here are some of the things specifically about Forward Harmony that might interest you:

- We are an all-voice chorus (men, women, and those beyond the binary!)
- We only rehearse every other week (on Sunday night to avoid other weeknight commitments)
- We strive for excellence yet do not require an audition for membership or vocal evaluation to perform/compete
- We sing "square" barbershop but the songs we sing are diverse: from the Beatles to Broadway, Billy Joel to *The Sound of Music*, *The Muppets*, holiday songs and more.
- Our membership comes from the Madison as well as Milwaukee area and points north and south; we have several carpools that we can set you up with if desired
- Our director Bryan is in an international champ quartet (*After Hours*) and is an accomplished arranger, coach and director of three choruses who helps ensure we all perform to our best ability
- We have top quality learning tracks to help us learn our repertoire quickly and easily

So what do you say? Even if you aren't available on the 11th, you can find us at the same place, same time, every other Sunday night. Let me know if you have any other questions. I'd love to see you and sing with you again!

[Your Name Here]