



Grass Valley Male Voice Choir

Post Office Box 1698 • Grass Valley, CA 95945

www.GVMaleVoiceChoir.org

Choir Mentor – Role Description

Position Overview

A GVMVC Choir Mentor is an experienced choir member who serves as a friendly guide for new singers during their first season with the Grass Valley Male Voice Choir.

The mentor's role is to help new members feel **welcomed, informed, and comfortable**, both musically and socially. Mentors support new singers as they learn how the choir operates, where to find resources, and how to fully enjoy the experience of singing with GVMVC. Mentors support individuals; Section Leaders support sections.

Role of a Choir Mentor

A Choir Mentor is:

- A welcoming presence
- A helpful point of contact
- A positive example of choir culture

Mentors are **not administrators or enforcers**—their role is to encourage, inform, and support.

Responsibilities At the First Rehearsal

Mentors should plan to arrive early and help new singers get settled.

This may include:

- Greeting the new singer and helping them feel at ease
- Familiarizing them with the rehearsal space
- Helping them locate their seat (usually next to their mentor)
- Ensuring they have their music and understand how it is organized
- Showing them where to find a “librarian copy” of music if they forget theirs
- Introducing them to other members of their section
- Answering basic questions about rehearsal flow and expectations

Mentors are also encouraged to:

- Ask how the singer found GVMVC
- Learn a bit about their musical background
- Share contact information so the new singer knows who to reach out to



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Ongoing Support During the Season

Throughout the season, mentors help new singers navigate the choir experience by:

- Answering questions or helping find answers related to:
 - Attendance expectations
 - Illness protocols
 - Dues
 - Sectionals or workshops
- Encouraging the use of GVMVC resources, including:
 - The website
 - Calendar
 - Rehearsal aids
 - Weekly emails
- Helping new singers become familiar with key choir roles (e.g., librarian, wardrobe coordinator, photographer)

Concert & Event Support

As performances approach, mentors may also help new singers understand:

- Concert-week logistics (parking, call time, rehearsal flow)
- Dress expectations
- Green room locations and procedures
- Any special contributions or volunteer needs

A calm explanation ahead of time helps reduce anxiety and builds confidence.

Encouragement & Community

One of the most important roles of a mentor is simply to:

- Be positive and encouraging
- Check in occasionally to see how things are going
- Help new singers feel like they belong

A welcoming experience in the first season often leads to long-term involvement and enjoyment.

Final Thought

Choir Mentors help shape the spirit of the Grass Valley Male Voice Choir. By offering guidance, encouragement, and a friendly presence, mentors ensure that new singers feel supported—not overwhelmed—and ready to fully participate in the music and community of GVMVC.