

WELCOME TO

THE

Northland Community Choir

EVERY
MONDAY
NIGHT



7:00PM
-
9:00PM

819 Main St, Parkville, MO 64152

Contents

Welcome to the Northland Community Choir.....	2
Participating in the Choir.....	3
<i>Free First Visit.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Dues.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Season.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Sections.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Solos.....</i>	<i>4</i>
Choir Rehearsals.....	4
<i>Rehearsals.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Rehearsal Notification.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Attendance.....</i>	<i>5</i>
Music.....	6
<i>Music Assignments.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Handling of Music.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Music Turn In.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Lost Music.....</i>	<i>6</i>
Rehearsal Tools.....	7
<i>YouTube.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Listening in Your Off Time.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Mini Concerts.....</i>	<i>7</i>
End of Season Concert.....	8
<i>Practice.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Dress.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>The Concert.....</i>	<i>9</i>
Choir Events.....	9
<i>Group Events.....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Fundraising and Sponsorship.....</i>	<i>9</i>



Welcome to the Northland Community Choir

This choir, founded in 1974, is committed to providing a place for people to come together to sing and to appreciate quality choral music. NCC is a choral ensemble whose members cultivate an environment of learning and growth in an atmosphere of sharing and acceptance. The choir's purpose is to enrich the spirit, musical appreciation, and well-being of its members and the community-at-large.

As a new member, you may be wondering about expectations and what may be involved in your dedication to the choir. This manual will help explain expectations as a member of the choir and how you can make music matter. Welcome to our choir family!

For additional information about the choir, please visit our webpage:

<https://northlandcommunitychoir.com/>

and be sure to follow us on Instagram: @NCCsings

and Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NCCsings>



Our board or members will be happy to assist with any questions you have throughout the season. We are glad to have you as part of our choir.

Participating in the Choir

This choir is a non-audition community choir. Everyone who would like to participate is welcome. Understanding that everyone is busy, we want to make sure that it meets your expectations.

Free First Visit

We invite you to try out our choir rehearsal for your first visit without making the commitment. We will have music for you to use so that you can participate during your first visit. Unless you decide to join, the music will need to be returned at the end of that rehearsal.

Dues

Should you decide to become a member of the choir, season dues will need to be paid. These dues pay for the salaries of our artistic leadership, church rental, sheet music, and team building events, as well as other operational expenses. Each member will pay \$70 for the season, which will include all rehearsals and the end of season concert. Dues can be paid by cash, check, or Venmo. Dues are paid after the first free visit, or if you are a returning member, they are due at the first rehearsal or meeting of the upcoming season. Students with a valid student ID are exempt from dues. Additionally, for those individuals who find the membership fee prohibitive, we have some financial aid available on a case by case basis. To inquire about financial aid please contact any board member or email the choir at NCCSings@gmail.com.

Season

The choir has two rehearsal seasons per calendar year. Each finalized with a concert open to the public. The Fall season begins in August with a potluck where you can meet other members, pay dues, and check out your music. The Fall concert is in late November or early December.

The Spring season begins around the second week of January, with a potluck where you can meet the other members, pay dues, and check out your music. The Spring concert is in late April or early May.

Sections

The Northland Community Choir has several different sections or voice parts including Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone and Bass. For those unfamiliar, the firsts (1) in each section sing the higher part within that section. When you arrive, we will ask that you pick the part that you think is best for your voice (usually a part you have sung before). If you are unsure of your voice part, the Director will be happy to assist you. The earlier in the season this can be decided the better, so that you can begin rehearsing with your section. At the discretion of the Director you may be asked to switch voice parts, including moving from first (1) to second (2) or to a new section entirely.

Solos

At the discretion of the Director, music may be selected containing solo parts. These are assigned following an "audition", where the Director will listen to each individual interested in the part sing the solo alone on top of the rest of the choir. The director will determine the best fit and notify individuals directly.

Choir Rehearsals

As a community choir, the success of the choir depends on the dedication of our members. With only 12 or so rehearsals before each concert, each minute of rehearsal is important!

Rehearsals

Rehearsals are Monday evenings from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the Parkville Presbyterian Church located at 819 Main Street in Parkville, Mo. We take a break about halfway through the rehearsal for socializing and to enjoy snacks provided by choir members (an optional volunteer signup form will be available).

Rehearsal Notification

Each week, the Director and board will send out an email with rehearsal notes and any upcoming information. This email will contain the pieces we will be rehearsing, so you can come prepared with your music organized and having listened to the tracks ahead of time. In the event that rehearsal needs to be canceled due to weather or other circumstances an email will be sent as well as announcements posted on our website and social media pages. Additionally, section leaders will be in contact with their sections to ensure everyone has been informed.

Attendance

While the rehearsal season can feel long, there are only about 12 weeks to prepare 10+ songs for the concert. As such, it will be your responsibility to attend rehearsals and practice outside of rehearsal time. Because it is important not only for your section, but for the full choir that you attend rehearsal, we ask that you keep your absenteeism to a minimum. If you have to miss rehearsal please let your section leader know with as much notice as possible. If you have to miss more than three rehearsals, please make sure to speak with the director about your plan to prepare independently. Attendance will be taken by the section leaders at each rehearsal. Section leaders will contact members who are absent to check in throughout the season.

Music

The music is selected by the Director at the beginning of the season and approved by the board of directors. Usually there are about 10 songs performed per season.

Music Assignments

At the beginning of each season, after you have registered with the choir and dues are paid, your music will be assigned to you in a numbered envelope. Please keep this envelope for music turn-in at the end of the season.

Handling of Music

You are allowed to punch holes in the music and make edits on the music with **pencil** only. We do ask that you keep your music safe in an all black folder. This folder will be used during all performances. You will be responsible to keep your set of music safe and in good condition throughout the season. Failure to do so may result in fines.

Music Turn In

At the conclusion of the final concert, your music will need to be turned in, in the numbered envelope that was assigned to you at the beginning of the season.

Lost Music

The choir spends part of the dues paid by each member on music. If you should lose your music, a \$25 lost music fee will be assessed and will need to be paid before you are assigned new music for the next season.

Rehearsal Tools

As a member of this choir, it is essential that you practice and listen to the music selections outside of rehearsals. There are a few tools that can help you practice.

YouTube

The choir will create a playlist for the season where music will be uploaded for listening and practice. This is of immense help. Each week in the email notification, the list of items we will be rehearsing will be available. Not only should you use this to organize your music to find songs quickly during rehearsal, but it will be beneficial to listen to the songs listed for the week so that you are prepared for practice.

Section Parts

At the Director's discretion he/she will provide section parts for each piece to help individuals learn their parts.

Listening in Your Off Time

As an added tool, it is very helpful to listen to the YouTube list in your car, around the house, or whenever you can. Pay special attention to not only the pitches and words, but the flow and meaning behind the music so you can replicate that during rehearsal.

Additional Performances

Each season, we may have additional performances where we will sing in different locations in the community. We will usually sing a short set of 3-4 songs. While these concerts are optional, we would certainly like you to make plans to attend these when they are announced. The choir will do their best to announce these performances with as much notice as possible.

End of Season Concert

All of the hard work will pay off during a concert at the end of the season. The concert will be at the Parkville Presbyterian Church and usually take place on a Sunday at 3:00PM. The date and time of the season concert is typically announced before the start of rehearsals. Generally, the Fall concert is in late November or early December and the Spring concert is in late April or early May.

Concert Run-Through Practice

The day before the concert, we will have a longer practice to run through the entire concert repertoire and rehearse with any additional musicians. This practice usually starts in the morning with a break halfway through. While these exact times will be announced closer to the concert date, please make note in your schedule when these practices will occur.

Dress

The concert dress includes your black folder and all black attire(black shirt and pants, or long skirt, or dress.) There may be a highlight color announced by the Director and board closer to the concert which is to be added by the member in one additional article of clothing if convenient to do so.

At special events or community performances, we may ask members to wear a NCC logo'd t-shirt, which are available for purchase for \$10. If you choose not to buy a t-shirt, you can wear a coordinating color or business casual attire.

The Concert

The concert will be about one hour in length with one intermission. The cost of one concert ticket is \$10 for adults to be paid by cash or Venmo at the door. Children under 18 and college students with an ID are free. Doors will open at 2:30 pm for a strict 3:00 pm start time.

Choir Events

Here are some additional pieces of information that will help to make our season successful.

Group Social Events

Not only do we love to sing, but we love our members! We do see each other every Monday of the season, but we try to get together outside of rehearsals for happy hours, dinners, or musical events in the community. These events are always optional, but are a great way to build community within our choir. Our group will have a potluck to start the fall season, as well as a gathering the Monday after a concert to celebrate our successes and reflect on how we can improve. Additional gatherings will be announced by the Board and Section Leaders.

Fundraising and Sponsorship

As with any non-profit organization, our choir has expenses that are not always covered by our membership dues. As such we have developed sponsorship opportunities for businesses as well as individuals to support our mission. The opportunities can be found on our website or by contacting the board of directors. Additionally, we may host special fundraisers, such as raffles, T-shirt sales, auctions, etc.. Some of our greatest supporters are our very own members, and if you choose to donate directly to the choir be sure to inquire whether your employer has a matching gifts program which can double the impact of your donation!