



GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

Chorale members and their director share a common goal: to perform music that is authentically expressive, meaningful and to the best of their ability. To help us reach this goal, the following guidelines and expectations are observed.

Guidelines for chorale members:

- Be engaged and contribute 100% of yourself to all rehearsals and performances.
- Support and encourage fellow singers. Treat everyone with respect and courtesy as you would expect from them.
- Be mentally alert and leave any concerns or worrisome issues at the door.
- Strive to understand the meaning of the words, feeling the emotions evoked by the music.
- Listen to your singing voice and how it blends and balances with the voices around you.
- Stay focused, listen attentively and refrain from talking during rehearsals; but don't hesitate to ask questions of the director.
- Be attentive when sections other than yours are rehearsing. Do not hum or sing your part unless asked to do so.
- Be in your seats ready to sing at designated start times. Remain until the end of rehearsal.
- Have a pencil in hand and organize your music in rehearsal order.
- Mark your scores (in pencil) taking note of dynamics, breathing and other instructions. Be accountable to remember and observe all directions. Never use a pen, highlighter or marker in your scores.
- Maintain regular attendance. When a conflicting obligation requires you to miss a rehearsal, advise the director in advance.
- Do not use any perfume or scented cosmetics, hair spray, shaving lotions or other aromatic products in consideration of others, especially those with allergies.
- Speak to your section rep should you have an issue to work through or concerns to air.
- Practice your music between rehearsals. Do the exercises and warm-ups suggested by the director and get plenty of rest, especially before performances
- Give yourself time to fully understand and appreciate new and unfamiliar music.

Expectations of the chorale director:

- To create a safe atmosphere in which it is acceptable to sing out and to risk making a mistake.
- To encourage supportive behaviours, being consistent but kind.
- To build and maintain a professional and trusting rehearsal environment.
- To start and end rehearsals on time.
- To be prepared for each rehearsal with a logical plan and procedure.
- To be patient and fair – giving praise when warranted.
- To correct groups of singers, not individuals when addressing mistakes.
- To maintain a balance of work and fun.
- To encourage questions, feedback and observations.
- To lead with confidence and sensitivity.
- To be open, authentic and approachable at all times.