

Holland Chorale

We transform our community through creative experiences and excellence in vocal and choral music. We entertain, inspire, and educate the adults and youth of West Michigan while enriching the lives of our singers through artful rehearsal and performance.

P.O. Box 1513 - Holland MI, 49422

www.Hollandchorale.org

616-494-0256

HOLLAND CHORALE MEMBER HANDBOOK

WELCOME! We are so delighted that you have joined the Holland Chorale Family for our exciting 2024-25 Season!

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CHORALE STAFF & LEADERSHIP:

Staff

Patrick Coyle- Artistic Director	513-236-1433	pcoyle@hollandchorale.org
Jennie Reyes- Operations Manager	616-494-0256	jennie@hollandchorale.org
Nicholas Loren- Vocal Consultant	616-540-4016	nicholasloren@aol.com

Personnel

Carol Zeh - Personnel Manager	616-218-4612	czeh@sbcglobal.net
Jo Meeuwse - Music Librarian	616-896-9698	jmeeuws1@zps.org
Ruth Sill - Costumes/Uniforms	616-566-6394	ruthesill@sbcglobal.net
Joe Terpstra - Rehearsal/Stage Manager	616-886-2046	joeterp23@gmail.com
Jill DeVries - Member Engagement Chair	616-888-9693	jillian810@yahoo.com
Dave Schallert - Dickins Quartet Manager	616-402-8971	dschallert62045@gmail.com

Section Leaders may lead sectional rehearsals in conjunction with the Artistic Director or without. If you have any musical questions please ask your section leader during a break, before/after rehearsal, or by email or phone.

Soprano – Jean Lemmenes	616-283-5263	jlemmenes@gmail.com
Alto – Nancy Lohman	616-283-8613	nancy_lohman@hermanmiller.com
Tenor – John Griffin	260-330-0042	griffinjohnnc@gmail.com
Bass – John Griffin	260-330-0042	griffinjohnnc@gmail.com

Board of Directors

Jenny DeGraves - President	jdegraves@shrr.com
Nola Tolsma - Vice President	nola.tolsma@gmail.com
Mike Pikaart - Past President	pikaart@hope.edu
Norm Donkersloot - Treasurer	norman.donkersloot@gmail.com
Jo Meeuwse - Secretary	jmeeuws1@zps.org
Jill DeVries - Membership Engagement Chair	jillian810@yahoo.com
Steve Hook - Goodwill Ambassador	sphook0707@gmail.com
Seth Getz - Member-at-large	sethgetz@gmail.com
Casey Lampen - GNFS & Artistic Committee Rep	caseylampen@gmail.com
Dan Beerens- Development Committee Chair	danbeerens@gmail.com
Kara Slater- Member-a-large	karajoslater@gmail.com

REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE:

Weekly Rehearsal: Tuesdays 7:00-9:00 PM, First Reformed Church: 630 State St. Holland, MI 49423
Join us for a happy “Half-hour” Social Time: 6:30-7:00 PM (See schedule and sign up to bring treats!)

Fall Semester

- Season Kick- Off Party
- Adventures in Harmony (Treble Voices)
- Fall Concert
- Annual Fundraising Gala- “Puttin’ On The Ritz”
- Holiday Concert
- Dickens Quartets

Winter/Spring Semester

- Hot Winter Nights
- Boys & Girls Club Performance
- Summer Sing
- Spring Concert
- End of the Year “Glow-Out Party”

Adventures In Harmony: Adventures in Harmony is a workshop and performance that we host and participate in with over 200 high school students from West Michigan. The event alternates annually between treble and low voice editions. Throughout the day (9 AM-2 PM) students and Chorale Members rehearse with a master conductor. This creates a unique opportunity for students to be mentored by Holland chorale members throughout their experience. The program culminates in an evening showcase where members of the community, family, and friends are invited for a free concert. **We prefer that sopranos/altos attend the full day workshop at the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts (8:45 AM -2 PM). However, in order to sing with the mass chorus, Chorale members must attend at least one session: the morning (8:45-11:30 AM) OR afternoon session (12-2 PM). If a singer can only attend one session, the afternoon is preferred.**

Annual Fundraiser Gala: Every year we have an annual fundraiser gala that embodies varying themes from year to year - this year being “Puttin’ On The Ritz” a swanky 1920’s event. This celebratory night honors the giving spirit that contributes to the vibrancy of our organization, joining with other members and patrons to celebrate our season and raise funds for the Chorale as a whole. A musical program is offered featuring singers in the Chorale as well as dinner, drinks, and additional means of fundraising. This is an opportunity for singers to perform solos, duets, and trios (*audition required*) or in the larger ensemble (*no audition required*).

Fall & spring conference/ bonus rehearsals: Twice each season (fall semester and winter/spring semester) the Chorale has a “conference” where we rehearse for a longer duration. We also have bonus rehearsals to prepare for our concerts. Mark your calendars!

Dickens quartets: Sing Christmas Carols and spread Holiday Cheer! This is a fun extra performing opportunity within our community over the holiday season. Sign-ups are in the fall. Members are split into quartets – 1 singer on each voice part. To participate 1-2 rehearsals is required outside of normal Chorale rehearsal. Costumes are required and provided by the Chorale. Contact Dave Schallert for more information.

Community Outreach: Community service/outreach events and performances are occasionally added, according to the singers’ availability. (Optional)

Attendance: We have a strict attendance policy to ensure the highest level of performance and commitment. **If you must miss a rehearsal or a portion of a rehearsal, you are required to send an email to attendance@hollandchorale.org.** Emails to this address are automatically forwarded to Patrick, Section Leaders.. **Do not contact anyone separately by email or phone.** If you miss more than three rehearsals for any given concert cycle Patrick will determine if you are eligible to perform. Singers are required to attend rehearsals and performances and encouraged to participate in social events and community outreach performances.

Uniform: Uniform coordinator Ruth Sill will measure and order uniforms for new members and current members who may need a different size at the beginning of the season/semester. Uniforms are ordered from Formal Fashions, and tie/pocket square sets and shawls from Amazon.

MEN: Gentlemen wear tuxedo pants/jackets with black dress shirts and a colored tie with pocket square. Black dress shoes and black socks. Total cost for the complete uniform ranges from \$125 - \$140, including tax and shipping, depending on height and size required. Your own tux may be worn if approved by the uniform coordinators.

WOMEN: Ladies wear black tops and bottoms (selections offered at measuring; photos will be available) and a colored shawl. Black closed-toe dress shoes and black hosiery should be worn. Small earrings (or none). No necklaces. Total cost for the complete uniform ranges from \$95 - \$105, including tax and shipping, depending on height and size required.

Attire for special events may vary and will be communicated accordingly. Singers are responsible for any necessary alterations. Guidance will be given if a tailor or seamstress is needed. An invoice will be given to you when your uniform is delivered. Payment is accepted via check or credit/debit card. Please make checks payable to Holland Chorale with the memo "Uniform." Payments can be made at rehearsal, by mailing a check to P.O. Box 1513 Holland, MI 49422, or online via the member page with credit/debit card at hollandchorale.org.

Any questions? Call Ruth Sill at 616 566-6394 or email ruthesill@sbcglobal.net.

Rehearsal Protocol:

- Upon arrival, please initial the attendance sheet, pick up your nametag, music, and other materials provided
- Be on time for rehearsals – arrive early enough to be in place by start time.
- The Music Librarian will distribute sheet music at the beginning of each concert session. Sheet music is the property of the Holland Chorale and remains in our Music Library for future use. With rare exceptions, music must be returned following each performance. Unless specifically instructed to retain a particular piece of music, turn in all sheet music as instructed by the Music Librarian. Contact Jo Meeuwssen for more details.
- Everyone is assigned a number by the Music Librarian each season. Please mark your number on all of your music.
- You are responsible for your music folder. You are asked to take your folder home and bring it back for rehearsals.
- Please refrain from cell phone use during rehearsal: texting, email, etc. If you must attend something, leave the rehearsal space so as not to distract the group or wait until there's a break.
- Respect your fellow singers by maintaining quiet when your section is not singing.
- Many of us are extremely sensitive to strong odors. Please use unscented deodorant and refrain from using all other scented products before rehearsal and performance. Please do not smoke any substance in the hour preceding rehearsal

ADMINISTRATIVE

Membership Dues: Each singer pays \$200/year. Fees may be paid for the entire year or in two installments \$100/semester (Fall/Holiday Semester and Winter/Spring Semester). For first time members, we offer \$50 off dues for the year to help offset the dual cost of dues and uniforms.

Dues must be paid by: September 24, 2024 (1st installment) & February 25, 2025 (second installment). Cash, Check, Credit Card accepted. Payments given to Operations Manager or Personnel Manager before/after rehearsal. Payments can be made at rehearsal, by mailing a check to P.O. Box 1513 Holland, MI 49422, or online via the **member page** with credit/debit card at hollandchorale.org. Please make checks payable to Holland Chorale with the memo "Dues."

Scholarships: The Chorale is committed to ensuring that no one is excluded from participation due to financial circumstances. Scholarships may be available. Please see the Operations Manager or Chorus Personnel Manager for details. If you are financially able and would like to contribute to a Scholarship Fund, it would be greatly appreciated.

The Chorale is also dedicated to equipping and educating our youth. We have several "youth in music" scholarships available for high school musicians to become members of the Chorale.

Membership Web Page: The Member page is a resource with resources such as member directory, season calendar, and rehearsal videos. Go to hollandchorale.org. Click "Member/Board Pages" at the far right in the menu bar. Select "Members Pages."

Harassment Form: Please read, sign, & return form for our files

Media/Pictures Policy Form: Please complete the Media/Pictures Policy form indicating your consent whether or not we can use your photo for publicity.

Season Survey: At the end of each season, please take the time to complete the season survey that will get distributed. Your input is invaluable to us and helps make our season better and better every year. Thank you!

AUDITION POLICY

- New members are required to audition for the Chorale.
- Many solo opportunities are available for members. Generally, these are auditioned. Occasionally the Artistic Director will appoint soloists (either members or guests) as necessary for specific repertoire
- "Puttin on the Ritz": All chorale members who have purchased a ticket for the event are invited to sing in the opening and closing selections to the program. No audition is required. Auditions are required if interested in singing in a small ensemble or solo. Auditions: TBD

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Publicity/Marketing

Spread the word! Invite your friends & family to our concerts.
Like our Facebook page & Instagram and share our posts
Put up flyers for concerts in local businesses.
Take pictures/video and share with Operations Manager
Instagram Takeover during rehearsal
Add your friends and family to our mailing list and email lists. Inquire with the Operations Manager

Sponsorships/Digital Advertising

Ask workplaces and local businesses to sponsor concerts or purchase digital advertising.

Set Up & Tear Down Crew

Before dress rehearsals and day of concerts

Adventures in Harmony Day of Event Operations

Check-In/Greeter, Lunch, Set up & tear down.

Yearly Mailings

Help us send out holiday mailing by stuffing envelopes, stamping, etc.

Ushering

Not for Chorale Members. This opportunity is for Friends/Family of Members. Ushers receive one complimentary ticket per person.

Refreshment Table

Engage with patrons and help serve food/beverage.
Bring treats for after concert celebrations

Community Events and Participation: Want to be a part of a committee? Every year we are looking for members in Development, Member Engagement, and the Artistic Committee. If interested, email Jennie Reyes.

Join a committee!

CARE: If you have a sudden illness, death in the family, or something to celebrate, please feel free to share it with our Member Engagement Chair, Jill DeVries.