

Livingston County Chorale Children's Choir

Handbook

2008-2009

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I. Welcome

Greetings and welcome to another exciting year with the Livingston County Chorale Children's Choir! This handbook has been designed to give parents and singers an overview of the directors' expectations, guidelines, and tips for becoming the best musician possible. This choir offers a great opportunity for each student to grow musically, vocally, and socially through disciplined rehearsals and exciting performances. It is the philosophy of the directors that all students can learn and succeed in music, and students can expect to grow in their understanding of musical concepts and expression through participation in LC4. We will help students to achieve their singing potential in a fun environment where we work as a team to achieve a common goal. We look forward to working with this year's group!

II. Tuition and Materials

- Tuition will be collected beginning September 8. Tuition is \$100 for the entire season, September through May. Please make checks payable to Livingston County Chorale. No cash, please. If you would like to arrange a payment plan, please contact Chad Bondie after our rehearsals.
- Scholarship funds will be available, determined by the LCC Board on an individual basis. Please speak with Jan Clay or Allison Laibly to obtain a scholarship application form.
- Singers will be lent a folder in which to hold their borrowed music. Music will be provided for all singers and is also considered the property of LC4. If folders or music are lost or damaged, the singer will be asked to pay for replacement.
- Singers have the option to purchase an LC4 t-shirt for \$10. In the event that we perform around the community, these shirts will act as our uniform.

III. Choir Member Responsibilities

I will work to:

- Perform to the best of my ability at all rehearsals and concerts.
- Do the best I can to encourage and assist fellow choir members.
- Always bring a pencil to rehearsal.
- Provide proper care for my folder and music, making sure it is not damaged or lost.
- Show proper respect and consideration for my fellow singers, all directors, and accompanists.
- Respect our rehearsal room and performance venues.

IV. Rehearsal and Performance Etiquette

To have an effective rehearsal, everyone must work together with the correct attitude and behavior. Rehearsals will begin promptly at 4:15. Proper behavior in rehearsal includes: sitting or standing with proper posture, minimal talking, being polite, and being prepared.

While at a performance, singers are expected to be on their best behavior. This includes no talking or other disruptive behavior, being attentive to those on stage, and showing appreciation to other performers after their presentations. Singers will need to arrive early for each performance to warm up and review placement on stage.

V. Performance Attire

New singers will be measured for their uniform at the first rehearsal. The uniforms cost \$55 (girls)/\$25 (boys) new and will be ordered to arrive before our December concert. Uniforms are sometimes returned to the choir by former members, and those will be available for a reduced cost.

Girls: Girls will wear black dresses. To allow growing room, dresses will be ordered a bit big, and minor alterations may be necessary. Please provide black dress shoes and nude colored stockings.

Boys: Boys will wear uniform tuxedo shirts, a bow tie and cumberbund. Please provide black dress shoes and black dress pants.

VI. Attendance/Absence Policy

- Singers are expected to enroll for the entire season, September through May. Please see the directors if extenuating circumstances arise.
- Two pre-arranged absences will be allowed each semester. If an unavoidable situation arises, a phone call should be made to the parent coordinator before the rehearsal or performance.
- Absences may be for the child's illness, family emergency, or school music concert.
- Dress rehearsals are mandatory for any singers to perform in a concert.
- The child may be asked to withdraw from the choir if these expectations are not met.
- Singers will sign in at each rehearsal. Parents must come inside and sign children out at the end of rehearsal. This is to ensure the safety of the children. In the case of carpooling, the driver must sign out all children whom they will transport home.

VII. Parent Help

We can't do it without you!!!!

- Please drop students off by 4:15 and pick them up by 5:45.
- If you must bring younger siblings to rehearsal, please wait with them in the cafeteria area during rehearsal time.
- **We will be looking for parent helpers** to assist with administrative responsibilities for the LC4. If you are interested, please sign up at the first rehearsal. At this time, we need a Parent Coordinator and Uniform Manager. As the season progresses, we may ask for additional help as needed. Please don't be shy!