

MARIN GIRLS CHORUS POLICIES

2017/2018 Season

Please take a few minutes to read through this document in its entirety.

ATTENDANCE

Excellent attendance is expected of all singers. Absences make it difficult to learn the repertoire and keep up with memorization deadlines. Attendance is also important in building relationships with other choristers. Each chorister is allowed **three** absences per term (Fall/Spring). Following a fourth absence, choristers may be asked to sing for the conductor to demonstrate sufficient mastery of the music. If preparation is deemed insufficient, the singer may be asked to sit out part or all of an upcoming performance.

Pre-planned absences: When a situation arises which will prevent attendance, please email the teacher.

Grace Renaud: grace@marinchorus.org

Amanda Hahn: amanda@marinchorus.org

Unplanned absences: If an illness or emergency occurs the day of a rehearsal, please email Barbara@marinchorus.org to report the impending absence.

Attendance at all dress rehearsals and performances is mandatory for all students. We do everything possible to schedule our performances months in advance. This is to ensure that all choir members and families plan for and can attend all scheduled performances. Choir members may be exempted from a performance for illness, significant church or school events like graduations, bat/bar mitzvahs, confirmations and important family events. Members who wish to be excused from attending a concert are expected to approach the conductor as far in advance as possible.

A student may not miss a dress rehearsal for any reason other than illness, or she may not be allowed to participate in the associated performance.

WHAT TO BRING TO REHEARSAL:

Fresco: Blue Chorus Folder (provided by MGC)

Giocoso: 1 inch matte-black binder (family needs to purchase)

Arioso, Bel Canto, Chantons: 1 inch matte-black binder (family needs to purchase), music and music theory workbook, 1-2 sharpened pencils with erasers

All Singers: Water bottle (marked with the student's name), positive attitude

RULES OF CONDUCT

Arrive on time to all rehearsals and performances. Leave your books, jackets, and other belongings in the designated area. If you are late, wait for an appropriate break and quietly join the group.

Gum chewing, drinking (other than water) and eating is not allowed during rehearsal. Snacks and drinks may be consumed during breaks, *outside*, when appropriate. Eating is not allowed inside rehearsal space.

Singers must listen to and follow teacher's instructions. Disruptive behavior (giggling, nudging, talking out of turn or while the teacher is working with another section, etc.) is not allowed.

Singers are not allowed to leave the rehearsal/performance site without adult supervision.

BEHAVIOR

If a singer engages in disruptive behavior or otherwise fails to follow the Rules of Conduct listed above or does not respect the instructor or other singers, the instructor reserves the right to request the singer to sit out the remainder of the rehearsal. After the rehearsal has ended, the instructor will discuss the behavior with the singer and the singer's family.

If a singer is continuously disruptive, fails to meet the Rules of Conduct outlined above, or fails to meet the expectations for participation, the instructor reserves the right to request that the singer not continue to participate in the program. No refund of fees will be provided.

MATERIALS

The Marin Girls Chorus will provide each singer with materials, which may include song sheets, theory books or pages, or word sheets. Photocopied pages may be kept by the singers. MGC may also provide, as needed, octavos (printed music purchased by the Marin Girls Chorus and stamped "Property of Marin Girls Chorus"). **These octavos MUST be returned at the end of the season.** Families will be charged for any lost or damaged music. Recorded versions of songs, when available, will be posted on the website so singers can listen to the songs.

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

New families pay a required costume fee to cover the performance attire that their singer will wear during concert and casual performances. Returning families may need to repurchase performance wear to replace old or outgrown costumes as needed. Leggings, pants, shoes and stockings are the responsibility of the singers, and all need to be black.

Costuming fees are as follows:

- Fresco and Giocoso - \$20 for tshirt
- Arioso, Bel Canto, Chantons - \$65 for performance dress, \$30 for polo

Concert Performances:

Fresco: White Chorus T-shirt, black pants or leggings, black closed-toe shoes (no boots), and socks

Giocoso: Blue Chorus T-shirt, black pants or leggings, black closed-toe shoes (no boots), and socks

Arioso/Bel Canto/Chantons: Black performance dress, black stockings, black closed-toe shoes

Casual Performances:

Fresco and Giocoso: Chorus T-shirt and clean pants or leggings, or as directed by chorus

Arioso, Bel Canto and Chantons: Chorus Polo and clean jeans, or as directed by chorus

No jewelry is allowed at the Holiday or Spring Performance. All singers should wear hair neatly styled back (braids, pony-tails, headbands, etc.) so hair will stay neat and off the face. No big bows or large hair decorations, please. Stud earrings are the only jewelry allowed.

LOST AND FOUND

The Marin Girls Chorus is not responsible for any items left behind by the singers. Articles left at rehearsals, if not claimed within a few weeks, will be donated.

CHILD PICK UP AND DROP OFF POLICY

Parents should walk their singers to the rehearsal room. Please do not drop your child off more than 5 minutes early, as the instructor is busy preparing for class and cannot supervise your child during this time.

Singers are to be picked up by their parents or designated caregiver promptly at the end of rehearsal. Again the 5-minute rule applies—please pick up the singer within 5 minutes of rehearsal ending. Parents will be charged \$1 per minute for late pick up (defined as after the 5-minute grace period ends), at the discretion of the teacher in charge.

POLICY ON OBSERVING CLASSES

Weekly chorus classes are considered for the most part “closed” rehearsals; meaning that parents and siblings are asked NOT to stay while the class is in session. Exceptions are as follows:

- Parents of Fresco and Giocosio singers are invited to attend for the first 2 classes
- In cases where singers may have special needs and require parental help. Discuss with teacher.

We keep rehearsals closed because frequently there is not enough space and increased noise and disruptions cause distractions for the singers.

PHOTOGRAPHY RELEASE

Marin Girls Chorus retains the right to use photographs, film, and video of singers taken during the course of the season, at rehearsals, performances and MGC activities for publicity purposes.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We are grateful for our parent volunteers! While we have always called upon our community of families and friends to help manage concerts, events and special projects, we need to structure and organize this assistance to increase involvement and spread out the tasks. To this end, we ask parents to **volunteer at least 2 hours** each of the two sessions, fall and spring.