

# WOMEN'S CHORAL SOCIETY

## POLICIES

(Revised 2017)

### **Purpose:**

The Women's Choral Society fosters the following purposes:

1. Financial aid to music students at the University of Oregon School of Music and Dance
2. Concert music of variety and quality
3. Bonds of friendship and joy from working and singing together.

Two concerts per year, donations, and dues provide the funding to meet this triple purpose.

### **Rehearsals:**

Rehearsals begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. and end by 9:15 p.m. on Monday evenings.

Please be seated and ready to begin at 7:00, with music in the order specified by the director.

Visiting needs to happen before that time. Serious attention helps us make the best use of our time during rehearsals, so please save all discussions for break or after rehearsal is over. Music-related questions should be directed to your section leader who will clarify with the conductor.

Any other WCS questions should be directed to the Directors-at-Large to be addressed by the Board. All rehearsals and performances are scent-free.

The majority of each concert is performed from memory. Additional rehearsal time organized within each section (sectionals), MP3 files on Groupspaces, personal recordings made by individuals during rehearsals, and practice CDs (if needed), are all optional ways for members to spend time memorizing and polishing music outside of Monday night rehearsal times.

**Dress Rehearsal:** there will be a dress rehearsal before each concert to address final polishing of the performance. Follow instruction from the director and stage manager. There may be minor adjustments made for staging at this time. Any ambulatory issues should be brought to the section leaders in advance of this rehearsal. Dress rehearsal attendance is mandatory to perform in the concert.

### **Communication:**

Groupspaces is the system used for official WCS communications and is the home for many important resources, such as practice music files, e-mail archives, choir/ section rosters, and organization information. The WCS Groupspaces Internet account is located at: [groupspaces.com/womenschoralsociety.org](http://groupspaces.com/womenschoralsociety.org).

At rehearsals, the right hand side of the white board may be used for non-WCS announcements. Music-related questions should be directed to your section leader for clarification with the conductor. Any other WCS questions/concerns should be directed to the Directors-at-Large to be addressed by the Board.

### **Attendance:**

The director is an excellent conductor and has much to teach us. As a result, we meet our goal of "Excellent performance of quality music." It is imperative, however, that members attend rehearsals consistently to meet this excellence. Attendance is tracked by section leaders. If a member misses four or more rehearsals, she must get permission from the conductor before performing in the concert.

**Section Leaders:**

Section Leaders are responsible for tracking attendance, section line up, facilitating sectionals, and creating practice CDs, if needed. Any music questions, such as clarification on difficult passages, conductor changes to written music, or section challenges should be directed to Section Leaders.

**Conduct:**

Members are expected to behave respectfully and courteously to other members, the conductor, accompanists, soloists, hired musicians, and the stage manager at all times. Inappropriate behavior will be reviewed by the Board and may lead to removal from the choir.

**Music:**

The music issued to you is your responsibility – please take good care of it. Use *pencil only* to mark your music. Music is distributed at the first rehearsal of each term and collected at the concert by our Music Librarian. If you are unable to complete the term or will not be singing in the Concert, please contact your Section Leader and return your music to the music librarian as soon as possible or make arrangements to have it picked up. You must return all music to remain a member in good standing.

**Concert Attire:**

For both concerts, we wear floor-length black skirts, black hose, and black shoes. Tops are long-sleeved, black for the winter concert, and jewel tones for the spring concert. Makeup helps to keep your face from being washed out by the stage lights, but please *DO NOT WEAR PERFUME*.

**Concert Tickets:**

Members are encouraged to publicize our concerts. Tickets are sold online at <https://womenschoralsociety.org/> or at the door.

**Dues:**

Dues are \$55.00 per term. (A sliding scale is available, should full dues pose a problem for a potential member.) The terms run from September through the Winter concert in January and from February through the Spring concert in May. These dues cover 40% of the choir's expenses.

**Scholarships:**

Each year we award at least two scholarships to U of O music students. Money for these scholarships is raised from concert ticket sales and from private donations.

**Community Support:**

A large part of our budget is derived from private donations. We welcome your suggestions of individuals, businesses, and organizations who may wish to contribute. Please contact the development director.

*Thank you!*