

A Message from the President:

Welcome to an outstanding season of singing with the Westchester Choral Society, celebrating our 75th concert season!

Please encourage your friends, neighbors, family and co-workers to attend our performances and to consider adding their voices to ours as members. A brief call to Numa Rousseve at (914) 285-9026 is all it takes to arrange a “user-friendly” audition. If they are wavering about trying out, invite them to sit in on one of our rehearsals. Keep our flyers on hand to post wherever possible (stores, libraries, etc.) and distribute to anyone who shows the slightest interest.

We are also eager to involve more members in WCS committees and activities, so please give the gift of your time. We need volunteers for administrative tasks and to support events. The mutual benefit resulting from working together even when not singing leads to a natural high.

All of us, in addition to making exciting music, are representatives of the WCS and major enablers in keeping our group alive. Over the years, you’ve brought in new individual and corporate support because of your loyalty to WCS, promoting us whenever feasible. Please share any ideas about outside support with the Board members so that we can pursue more sponsorship for our group. Connecting personally to donors makes all the difference in obtaining funds. If you might assist us with this form of development, please let us know.

We welcome donations at any time from our chorus members or outside sponsors. Donations can be made via check, stock donations, or online at our website www.westchesterchoralsociety.org by clicking on the “Donate” button. Donors are gratefully acknowledged in the Society’s concert programs. We encourage those who work for companies with matching gift or other programs that support community arts organizations to use these programs. WCS is a 501(c)(3) organization, so all contributions are tax-deductible. Please see a board member if you have any questions.

Our exciting 75th anniversary season is here, with our performing glorious music together, thanks to Frank, David, and all of you.

Elaine Laurence

Westchester Choral Society, 216 Central Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606

www.westchesterchoralsociety.org



MEMBER HANDBOOK

Our website is www.westchesterchoralsociety.org. We suggest you add it to your favorites and check it often for the latest information.

Our goal is to perform at a professional level. Your audition and acceptance into the WCS imply a commitment on your part to attend rehearsals, learn the music thoroughly, and sing the full complement of concerts for the year.

President: Elaine Laurence
Vice President: Susan Duncan
Treasurer: Carol McMillan
Secretary: Maureen Kilfoyle
Music Director: Frank Nemhauser
Accompanist: David Baranowski

Section Leaders

Sopranos: Carol Cherry (834-8982) cclhsc40@gmail.com
Harriet Fibel (576-2748) HFibel@JoeFibel.com
Altos: Trish Chalifoux (588-8809) trishchalifoux@gmail.com
Tenors & Basses: Joe Isherwood (315-1706) joseph.isherwood@verizon.net

Rehearsals

We rehearse **Tuesday evenings 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.** at the Music Conservatory of Westchester (MCW) in the Recital Hall, 216 Central Ave., White Plains. Occasionally we will have a Saturday morning rehearsal; this will be announced well in advance.

To learn whether a rehearsal has been cancelled due to weather, call MCW at (914) 761-3900, Ext. 103.

Any member not planning to sing a concert must notify the Music Director and Section Leader as soon as possible, preferably prior to the first rehearsal for the concert.

Attendance at weekly rehearsals and final rehearsals is required. Be sure to sign the attendance sheets at each rehearsal. Members may not be absent from more than 25% of rehearsals for a concert and may not miss a final rehearsal (except for religious reasons). Section Leaders monitor attendance. Please inform your Section Leader in advance if you expect to miss a rehearsal.

Parking

Use spaces in the MCW lot, on Central Ave. in front of the building, in the front part of Mavis behind MCW, or in the municipal facility on the opposite side of Central Ave. *Please don't park at City Limits Diner.*

Concerts

The Westchester Choral Society will perform two concerts this year:

Sunday, December 4, 2016, at Rye Presbyterian Church 3:00 p.m.

Bach Cantata 61: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*
Other music of the season

Saturday, May 13, 2017, at White Plains Presbyterian Church 4:00 p.m.

Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*
Hungarian and Slovak Folk Songs

Final rehearsal for the December concert is December 3 from 10:00 to 1:00.
Final rehearsal for the May concert is Friday, May 12 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.
Frank will announce the call time for the day of each concert. Please cover your music with black construction paper or insert it into a black binder.

Concert Dress

Sopranos & Altos: Black floor-length skirt or slacks; black long-sleeve, jewel-neck top; black shoes & stockings; strand of pearls (available at rehearsal for \$5.00). **Variation:** colorful scarves, tops

Tenors & Basses: Black tuxedo or black/dark gray suit; white dress shirt & black bow tie; black dress shoes & socks. **Variation:** black dress shirts

ALL: Please, no perfume, cologne, after-shave, etc.

Please distribute flyers and invite others!

To access recordings of all rehearsals:

1. Go to iTunes, search for "Practice Makes Perfect" in Podcasts. Choose the one with a picture of a microphone on it to get our list of rehearsals, or
2. Use this link www.buzzsprout.com/16637.rss .

Dues

\$200 (\$175 each for married couples) payable by check given to the Treasurer by October 6.

New Member Incentive:

- 25% (\$50) off dues for all members under age 40.
- 25% (\$50)* off existing member's dues for each new member brought in.
- 25% (\$50)* off each new member's dues.

*discount is for one year only.

Our policy is not to exclude anyone for financial reasons. Speak to the President or Treasurer to make alternative arrangements (confidentiality will be respected).

Ticket Obligation

Each member is required to sell the equivalent of 4 regular-priced tickets to the December and spring concerts (6 tickets for married couples) to be paid for at least 2 weeks prior to the concert by check given to the **Ticket Sales Chair**. Ticket sales cover a significant portion of our yearly costs, but, more important, singing to a full house enhances the joyful musical connection between us and our audience!

Committees

As a volunteer organization, we encourage each member to volunteer to lead or work on committees and attend the events that provide outreach to the community and financial sustenance to WCS. **We are able to exist only because of the generous contributions of our members' time and talent.** Please volunteer by contacting the President or the following:

Advertising Sales.....Sandra Zinman & Angela Fascilla
Budget and Finance.....Carol McMillan & Carol Cherry
Concert Arrangements.....Numa Rousseve & Joe Isherwood
Publications.....Maureen Kilfoyle, Angela Fascilla & Shannon Torrini
Fund Raising/Grants.....Susan Duncan & Elaine Laurence
Music/Run-outs.....Frank Nemhauser, Susan Duncan, Numa Rousseve,
Carol Cherry, Rita Nemec
Music Librarian.....Laura Mohatt
Membership/Hospitality.....Debra Segal, Leni Glauber,
Barbara Katz, Maureen Kilfoyle & Numa Rousseve
Publicity/Social Media..... Susan Duncan, Rita Nemec, Shannon Torrini
Summer Sings.....Sandra Zinman, Carol McMillan et al.
Ticket Sales.....Carol Cherry & Trish Chalifoux
Webmaster.....Monique Robidoux