



MEMBER GUIDE

Greenville Choral Society
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Greenville, NC 27835

www.greenvillechoralsociety.com

Revised 2018

WELCOME TO THE GREENVILLE CHORAL SOCIETY

The Greenville Choral Society (GCS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization bringing quality choral music to Greenville, NC and surrounding areas.

This guide will familiarize you with the mission of the choral society and your responsibilities as a member of one of the best choral opportunities in North Carolina!

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Greenville Choral Society is to foster excellence in the art of choral singing and to provide music education, cultural enrichment and entertainment for its members and the community.

This Member Guide belongs to:

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Greenville Choral Society (GCS) and New Carolina Sinfonia. From its inception in 1969 as the Greenville Community Chorus, the Greenville Choral Society has expanded in scope, encompassing as many as five choral ensembles. The GCS is dedicated to pursuing excellence in choral singing and providing music education and cultural enrichment for its members and the community. Our organization of more than 100 adults, youth, and children gives talented singers the opportunity to collaborate and create meaningful musical art for the enjoyment of citizens in Pitt County and surrounding areas. Your choice to join GCS is indicative of your support of the mission and activities of the organization.

ENSEMBLES

Concert Choir – This ensemble of adult singers presents several concerts each season, often accompanied by the resident orchestra of GCS, the New Carolina Sinfonia. The group's varied repertoire includes sacred and secular music, and it focuses on extended works and oratorios. Members of the Concert Choir enjoy the pursuit of choral singing knowledge, skill, and artistry.

Chamber Chorale – Selected from members of the Concert Choir, this small ensemble of up to 24 singers serves as ambassador to the community by performing in concerts and for holiday, civic, and private events.

Youth Chorale – This ensemble for grades 9 through 12 provides an opportunity for area youth to study and perform advanced choral music literature, proper vocal technique, and principles of teamwork under the teaching of a skilled and experienced professional conductor.

Children's Chorus – This chorus for grades 4 through 8 serves as a choral training ground for children to learn quality choral music literature, proper vocal technique, and principles of teamwork under the teaching of a skilled and experienced professional conductor.

Bella Voce –Selected from the children and youth ensembles, members of Bella Voce perform advanced multi-part repertoire.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals take place weekly throughout the school year, typically from the end of August through mid-May. Members are expected to arrive on time, stay for the entire rehearsal, and attend all rehearsals, some of which may take place during school breaks. Attendance is mandatory at dress* rehearsals (TBA) which take place a few days prior to concerts.

**Concert attire is not required for dress rehearsals.*

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Each member is allowed no more than three absences per semester; no distinction is made between excused or unexcused absences. No more than four tardies and/or early exits from scheduled rehearsals are permitted. Section leaders monitor attendance.

After three absences the member is ineligible to perform at the next concert. Exceptions can be made in extenuating circumstances when more than 3 absences occur. The member should communicate with the choir director well in advance of the concert date to receive permission to perform.

CONCERT ATTIRE

The GCS endeavors to present a clean, elegant, uniform appearance, and all members are expected to abide by these guidelines. Failure to do so will result in not being allowed to perform. If any of these guidelines present a legitimate obstacle to a member's participation, whether financial or otherwise, the singer should inform the section leader or choir director at least four weeks before the performance.

Neat grooming is expected of all participants. **Wear non-scented deodorant and do not wear perfume or cologne** to rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and concert performances. This can have seriously negative consequences for ensemble members with asthma, allergies, and fragrance sensitivities.

WOMEN	MEN
<p>short sleeve, formal black top with a round/ scoop neckline</p> <p>plain black floor-length skirt or wide-leg pants</p> <p>black hose and shoes</p> <p>pearl necklace and pearl stud earrings</p> <p><i>No distracting hair accessories, jewelry or excessive makeup is allowed.</i></p>	<p>black tuxedo pleated white tuxedo shirt with standard "V" or tab collar (no ruffles)</p> <p>black studs black bowtie (no "butterfly"-type) black cummerbund black tuxedo pants black socks and shoes</p> <p><i>The tie and cummerbund should be a dull, low luster material (not shiny or velvet).</i></p>

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is an important part of membership. The GCS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and supports itself through fundraising and advertising campaigns, corporate and individual donations, honoraria, grants, concert ticket sales, and membership dues. Each member is expected to participate in these activities in order to keep membership dues to a minimum.

Dues- Membership dues are required of each participant in each choral ensemble at the beginning of each semester. Concert Choir dues are \$70 semester. The dues do not include the cost of music. Fees for music vary depending on the choral work(s) selected for the semester. All dues and fees for music are required by the third rehearsal. The music purchased belongs to the choral member.

While dues are required, no member or potential member should be prevented from participating because of finances. Please contact the general manager for scholarship information.

Group fundraisers- The GCS participates in group fundraising activities. Each member of the GCS is strongly encouraged to participate in all fundraisers as a way to avoid increases in dues.

Donations-The GCS seeks tax-deductible donations from individuals, businesses and corporations, and from GCS families. Donors are listed in concert programs and sent a letter of acknowledgement and receipt.

Gala-Each spring semester, the GCS sponsors a fundraising gala, an annual ticketed concert with dinner, intended to raise money for the general fund of the organization. This is the main fundraiser for GCS. Members are encouraged to volunteer their time and services.

Ticket sales- The members of GCS are strongly encouraged to sell tickets to our concerts.

Grants- The GCS Board of Directors welcomes suggestions from members about agencies, businesses, and foundations that might be solicited for financial assistance. Submit suggestions and grant applications to the GCS board grant writer.

CHECKS & PAYMENTS

The GCS accepts cash, personal checks, and credit/debit cards as methods of payment. A \$25 fee (subject to change) is imposed for any check returned because of insufficient funds. The GCS will only accept cash, certified bank check or credit/debit card payments from any individual who has submitted two (2) checks returned for insufficient funds.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is made up of approximately twenty members, parents of members, and persons from the community who are interested in fulfilling the mission of the GCS. Board members make a three year commitment to attend monthly meetings to discuss details of the GCS. All members are invited and encouraged to serve on the Board of Directors, as members are the owners of this organization. There are several non-voting members who serve on the Board of Directors including the choral directors, the general manager, and the grant writer.

WEBSITE/FACEBOOK/TWITTER

Visit the website for information regarding GCS activities. There are links for donations, ticket purchases, documents and other important news on the website. Visit the GCS Facebook and Twitter to stay current with GCS news and events.

Website: www.greenvillechoralsociety.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/greenvillechoralsociety
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