

2024-2025 Season



EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

(Read before auditioning/ before accepting a position in a choir)

The Honors Choirs office is located on the 2nd floor at Bethel Lutheran Church, 810 Third Avenue SE, Rochester, MN 55904. The best way to reach us is by phone at 507-252-0505, or via email at HC@HonorsChoirs.org.

The following provides answers to questions you might have about the rehearsals and performances, tuition and concert attire, behavior expectations and attendance policy. Please read through this information carefully and contact the office if you have any questions.

REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

Rehearsals are held every Sunday at BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH in Rochester

Sunday, September 8, 2024 through the Spring Finale on April 28, 2025.

There is a break in the rehearsal schedule after Glad Tidings concert on December 8, 2024, with rehearsals resuming on January 5, 2025.

Rehearsal Times

Children's Chorus	(gr. 3-4)	1:30-2:45 pm
Treble Choir	(gr. 5-6)	3:00 to 4:45 p.m.
Chorale	(gr. 7-9)	6:00 to 8:00 p.m. plus Sectionals from 5:00 to 5:45 on a rotating basis
Concert Choir	(gr. 10-12)	6:00 to 8:30 p.m. plus Sectionals from 5:00 to 5:50 on a rotating basis

Concerts/Performances

Concert/Performance participation is mandatory. See ATTENDANCE specifics below.

October 13: Fall-LA-Palooza, afternoon through early evening

December 8: Glad Tidings, 3:00 & 5:00

December 13, 14, 15: Christmas with Choral Arts Ensemble *Concert Choir (gr 10-12) Only*

February 23: Voices, 4:00

April 27: Spring Finale, 3:00 & 5:00

May 18: Ovation, 5:00 ... *Concert Choir Only*

COSTS: TUITION, CONCERT ATTIRE & TICKETS

Tuition

Tuition for 2023-2024 *(increase of 10% anticipated for 2024-2025 season)*

Children's Chorus	\$348
Treble Choir	\$436
Chorale	\$524
Concert Choir	\$590

To accept and hold a position in one of the choirs, accepted singers pay a \$100 non-refundable deposit (included in the total tuition cost). The deposit deadline for singers accepted in June is **Friday, June 28, 2024**, and two weeks after acceptance for singers auditioning later in the season.

Tuition Scholarship Information There are two scholarship programs for singers. The *Myatt Helmers Scholarship* is available to all singers with financial need in meeting tuition costs. The *Diversity Scholarship* is designated specifically for ethnic minority singers with financial need. Find applications on the JOIN page at <https://honorschoirs.org/join/>. Applications may be made at any time during the season.

Concert Attire

Singers order their formal attire for concerts through Honors Choirs at an additional cost. Attire costs are paid in full when ordering. Some used attire may be available at a lower cost. Attire cost varies by choir and singer: New attire: Grades 3-9 is \$60-75; Grade 10-12 is \$100. This does not include alterations such as hemming.

Concert Tickets

Tickets are required by all audience members for concerts. Costs of tickets are generally \$10 for youth/student & \$15-\$25 for adults. Singers do not need a ticket.

ATTENDANCE

Honors Choirs singers should strive to be at all rehearsals and attendance is tracked throughout the season to be sure all singers adhere to the attendance policy.

Honors Choirs Attendance Policy

Singers are required to participate with their ensemble in ALL concerts and performances. There are few exceptions to this (illness, family emergency). Before accepting your position in choir, be sure to check the calendar so that your other activities do not conflict with performance dates.

Singers/families are expected to respect the Honors Choirs attendance policy. Singers should come to every rehearsal unless illness or a family emergency deems it necessary to be absent.

A singer may miss up to two rehearsals between September and the December concert and two rehearsals between January and the April concert. This includes concert rehearsals and pre-concert warm-ups. *(For Concert Choir, this includes all concerts and rehearsals in the months of December and May.)* More than two absences in either of these time periods may be grounds for dismissal from the choir. In extenuating circumstances when there is a third absence, the conductor may allow the singer an opportunity to demonstrate his/her mastery of the repertoire to continue participation. After a fourth absence, a singer cannot continue in the choir. Decisions regarding absence consequences are reviewed by the staff, and the decisions are final.

Because all absences "count" (even those due to illness and weather issues), singers should be careful to use them only when necessary. If a singer decides not to attend a rehearsal due to weather, it is recorded as an absence. If, however, choir rehearsal is cancelled due to weather, it is not considered an absence.

Please feel free to reach out to Jayne Rothschild (jayne@HonorsChoirs.org) with any questions or concerns regarding this information.