

HOW TO BE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

Membership Policies 2007-2008

DUES

- Dues for new Members joining at the start of the season and for all returning Members, regardless of return date, are \$175 and are due at or before the first rehearsal. Any arrangements to the contrary must be made with the Membership Chair.
- In case of financial hardship, a Member may apply to the Membership Chair for a scholarship. Scholarship recipients will be expected to participate in additional volunteer activities benefiting the Choral Society as agreed with the Membership Chair.
- Payment in full of outstanding dues is a condition for participation in any activity of the New York Choral Society.
- Dues for new Members who are accepted and join the Choral Society after December 20, 2007 will be \$125. Dues for new Members who are accepted and join the Choral Society after February 27, 2008 will be \$100.

REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

- Each Member is expected to sing every scheduled performance, unless an exception is granted by the Music Director.
- Each Member is expected to attend all rehearsals in their entirety. Attendance is recorded by the Section Leader.
- During rehearsal, a Member is expected to stay focused on the rehearsal; talking, eating, outside reading, using electronic devices, etc. detracts from the rehearsal.
- Members with insufficient rehearsal attendance will be allowed to sing in concert only at the discretion of the Music Director. The member will be asked to demonstrate his knowledge of the score before a determination is made.
- Poor rehearsal or concert attendance may result in the termination of membership.

TICKET SALES

- Each Member is expected to sell a minimum of 8 tickets to each concert produced by the Choral Society. Any Member who does not sing in a concert produced by the Choral Society is expected to sell a minimum of 4 tickets to that concert.
- A Member's ticket sales obligation may be met (all or in part) by contributing an equivalent number of tickets to the Student Outreach Program, which subsidizes Choral Society concert tickets available to students.
- Sales made through the box office or online can be credited to an individual Member, at the request of the Member.
- Ticket sales are a significant factor considered during membership reviews.

MUSIC AND SCORES

- It is the responsibility of each Member to learn his part outside of rehearsal time. It is expected that each Member will spend three hours per week of individual practice time.
- Markings to the score are supplied by the Music Director in rehearsal. It is the responsibility of the Member to obtain markings that may have been given during a missed rehearsal.
- All scores lent to a Member remain the property of the New York Choral Society. The Member will be charged for the replacement cost of the score unless it is returned by the second rehearsal following a scheduled performance. Following the final concert, all scores are due back no later than the Annual Membership Party.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

We are an organization that exists because of the dedicated work of its volunteer Members. Each Member is expected to participate as a volunteer, including working on committees, which are described in the NYCS organizational chart.

CONCERT DRESS

A Member will not be permitted to sing a concert unless the appropriate attire is worn. All music must be in black folders.

- Men: Black tuxedo, white shirt, black bow tie and black shoes.
- Women: Ankle-length black skirt; black, long sleeved, crew or jewel neck top; black shoes and black socks or hose.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REVIEW

Each Member of the chorus is reviewed and/or re-auditioned annually. The Membership and Standards Committee, Music Director, and President conduct the review. The annual membership review is based on a Member's overall participation in the Choral Society, including rehearsal and concert attendance, ticket sales, musical preparation, volunteer activities, and financial contributions to the chorus. If a Member has satisfied the membership policies, that Member's re-audition will be waived for the upcoming season. Regardless, each section will be re-auditioned every four years. No Member may sing a concert until the membership review and/or re-audition has been completed.