



JANUARY JOINING SPECIFIC

Season 1 (2023-2024) Membership Packet

Treble Voices for Peace

theolympiapeacechoir.org | tvfp@theolympiapeacechoir.org

Welcome to Treble Voices for Peace

Our Mission

The Olympia Peace Choir is an inclusive community chorus dedicated to using the power of song to create peace and promote social justice and environmental stewardship. Treble Voices for Peace is dedicated to advancing peace and justice through the power of song. It focuses on music written by and for women and gender marginalized communities.

Board of Directors of The Olympia Peace Choir

Chair:	Barb Morson	bmorson14@gmail.com
Vice-Chair and Liaison to Treble Voices	Sharon Hong Maurmann	shmaurmann@gmail.com
Secretary:	Karen Kievit	kzkievit@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Angela Rush	treasurer@theolympiapeacechoir.org
Vice Treasurer and Liaison to Treble Voices	Natalie Sawyer	butchcrooner@gmail.com
Membership Chair:	Lee Coslow Hutton	membership@theolympiapeacechoir.org
Performance Coordinator:	Nancy Spagat	nlspagat@hotmail.com
Social Media and Publicity:	Nancy Spagat with choir volunteer Karen Lunde	press@theolympiapeacechoir.org
News and Notes Lead:	Karen Ray	choirnews@theolympiapeacechoir.org
Member at Large	Kanina Chavez	nkchavez@comcast.net

Musical Team

Artistic Director:	Kerri Lynn Nichols	singforpeacebaby@gmail.com	360-789-2056
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Public Website <i>Share with friends and family!</i>	Link: treblevoicesforpeace.org Website manager: Kerri Lynn Nichols Email: singforpeacebaby@gmail.com
Public Facebook Page <i>Share with friends and family!</i>	Link: www.facebook.com/treblevoicesforpeace Social media manager: Kerri Lynn Nichols Email: singforpeacebaby@gmail.com

Dues

Full season annual dues are \$280 for Season 2023-24 (minimum deposit at registration \$80). This year, we are offering a **Joining In January Special** for half of the season dues (\$140; minimum deposit at registration \$40). The dues can be paid in full at the start of the season, or paid in installments that can be arranged with the Treasurer. Scholarship support can partially cover your dues; if you need scholarship support, contact Angela Rush (arushangela@gmail.com) or Natalie Sawyer (butchcrooner@gmail.com) to make arrangements. We invite anyone who can to “pay it forward” by paying more than the dues amount if you would like to support scholarships for those in need. Service to the choir will also be part of your dues.

Chorus Connection—Your Online Portal for All Things Treble Voices!

During the coming season, you'll likely hear this message repeatedly from our director and board members: **"It's on Chorus Connection!"** Because we use Chorus Connection for everything from sharing printable music to audio files to announcements, it's important to log in regularly and learn your way around.

Getting on Chorus Connection

NEW MEMBERS: Our membership chair will add you to Chorus Connection. Please check your email for an invite. (If you don't see the invite, check your spam folder.) If you haven't received your invite, please email Natalie Sawyer or Sharon Hong Maurmann for assistance.

Navigating Chorus Connection

Sign in: app.chorusconnection.com/tvfp

Music: app.chorusconnection.com/tvfp/music

Calendar: app.chorusconnection.com/tvfp/calendar

Member directory: app.chorusconnection.com/tvfp/members

If you have any difficulty navigating Chorus Connection, please contact Sharon Hong Maurmann or Natalie Sawyer.

Rehearsals & Music Management

When: Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

Where: United Churches, Olympia, 110 11th Avenue SE, Olympia


Rehearsal etiquette

- You will enter directly into the rehearsal space and sign in on the attendance sheet.
- Attend all rehearsals on time. The most important part of the rehearsal is the first 10-15 minutes when we warm up, tune, align hearts and minds, and work on technique. **Please be in your seat with music ready to go at 6:55 p.m.**
- Bring children only if they are choir members. Do not bring pets.
- Refrain from wearing fragrances. They can trigger allergic reactions, headaches, and asthma.
- Use good hygiene. (And consider avoiding garlic, onions, and spicy foods just before singing!)
- Do not bring food or drinks (other than room temperature water) into the rehearsal space.
- Turn off phones and other devices that make noise. Phones can also be placed in Airplane Mode.
- **During rehearsals, please give your full attention to our director!**
 - Don't speak with other choir members during the rehearsal; it's distracting to both your director and others seated nearby.
 - Save socializing for before and after rehearsal or designated times.
- The use of paper or sheet music is preferred. Music on tablets is allowed during weekly rehearsal, but not for dress rehearsals or performances. Please do not use phones for your music.
- **Avoid blurting out questions or comments during the rehearsal or our announcements.** We must optimize every minute of rehearsal! If our director asks for questions, please raise your hand or contact a board member or our director outside of rehearsal.
- Sing so that your voice blends. You should be able to hear yourself and the people around you.
- Please use Kerri Lynn's email to communicate with her: singforpeacebaby@gmail.com. If you must speak with Kerri Lynn during rehearsal, please wear a mask to protect her.
- Feedback helps us grow, but please share your suggestions and opinions *privately* in a courteous, respectful way.

Music Management and Printing

Some music will be stored digitally in Chorus Connection, and some pieces will be handed out at rehearsal, or taught in the aural tradition. After you complete your membership form and pay your dues (or set up an installment or scholarship plan), follow these steps:

1. Log into your Chorus Connection account from a desktop computer or device connected to a printer.
2. Navigate to the Music section.
 - a. Desktop: Click **Music** on the top menu bar.
 - b. Print-enabled device: Click the three horizontal lines in the upper right of your screen, then select **Music** from the menu on the left.
3. Click on the blue **Music button** to the right of **2023-24 Season Resources**.
4. Click on the Season 2023-2024 Music folder.

5. Click the blue Open button to the right of each music title, then select the Print icon  (usually found in the upper right) to print.
6. If you don't have a printer at home, **you can print out your music at any Timberland Library branch. If you are a member, \$44 of FREE copies are allowed per month (copies are \$0.10 apiece). If you are not a member, you can still print your copies for \$0.10/ copy.** We will also identify choir members willing to help with printing music.
7. You can download music to your device by clicking the green Download button to the right of each music title.

Photocopying

We only purchase enough copies of each song for choir members to print one copy of their music for the season from Chorus Connection. You may not make additional copies of music, warmups, narrations, or other materials without express permission from our director.

Preparing your music for rehearsals

- Please purchase a black, non-shiny 3-ring binder no larger than 2 inches to hold your music.
- Make sure to put your name and email address or phone number inside your binder so it can be returned to you if you misplace it. We suggest you put your music in alphabetical order prior to rehearsal.
- Bring a pencil to rehearsal! You'll need it for making notes on your music.
- **Do not make additional copies of/or share our music in any way.** Composers earn their income through music sales. Music scores are also protected by copyright laws.

Song selection

It is the sole responsibility of our artistic director to select music for the choir, which is planned far in advance of the season. She gives careful consideration to the balance of different types of music, level of difficulty, balance of parts, the choir's budget, and the music's alignment with our mission and theme. It is outside of her contracted responsibilities to review music suggestions and create arrangements.

Copyright Guidelines

The Olympia Peace Choir is committed to respecting the copyright of the artists who create the music we perform. Illegal copying, recording, and posting copyrighted music and recordings hurts the artists who work hard to create and protect their work. **We are committed to acting with integrity as part of our mission. Please communicate our copyright policy to your family and friends.** Discourage them from recording concerts, and from sharing it publicly on social media, and avoid sharing any videos you see on social media other than those posted by our official Facebook Page.

Recording during Rehearsals

No recording is allowed during rehearsals. Some part recordings will be made available.

Recording during Performances

Absolutely NO recording of performances, including performances of music within our rehearsals. You may request permission to record our director's original compositions or arrangements of music in the public domain directly from her.

Recorded Performances to Share

Occasionally, our social media manager will record pieces during rehearsals that are either in the public domain or our director's compositions. Our manager works with our director to determine which pieces are acceptable to share publicly. If a recording is shared on the Treble Voices for Peace Facebook page, you may freely share it with your family and friends.

In this choir season, a documentary is being made about the choir. Music from this documentary will be posted and available for public listening.

Performances

Performances are how we share our message with the local community and inspire them to act peacefully, think globally, and protect our precious environment. Every performance is an opportunity to connect. This is why we have high expectations for performance behavior and protocols.

Deciding Whether to Perform

We're committed to giving the best performances possible. The word "choir" means "together." Rehearsals are essential to help us develop as a group, blend, and align our parts. Because of this, we ask that you confer with the director about whether you're ready to perform at any given event if you've missed several rehearsals. We cover an extensive amount of material in each rehearsal.

Memorizing Music

We encourage you to do your best to memorize performance music. If that is not possible, you may use your binder. All songs from the oral/aural tradition **MUST** be memorized. Use the recordings on Chorus Connection and rely on your section: you are one member of a team!

Performance Attire

Black dress pants or skirt; bright, solid color dress shirt or blouse; black shoes if possible. If you need financial assistance, please contact Sharon Hong Maurmann or Natalie Sawyer.

Communication

Our artistic director and the board communicate with choir members in a few different ways. It's important to give your attention to each of them to have the best member experience.

IMPORTANT: Please make use of the resources we've worked hard to provide for you before reaching out for help. If you're unable to find the answer to your question, the board is happy to help. Board member email addresses are listed at the beginning of this document.

Announcements at Rehearsals

Some choir-related announcements will be made during rehearsals. To keep our rehearsals on schedule, we will not make announcements on behalf of individual choir members unless they are specifically related to the choir. (An example would be announcing a sectional rehearsal.) **Please don't interrupt our announcements to share your own!**

Weekly Member Emails

Weekly member emails will be regularly sent to choir membership by our director. These emails may contain important rehearsal notes and tips, reflections by our Artistic Director, and ongoing announcements. If you don't receive your weekly email, here are a couple of things you can do to solve the problem.

1. Check your spam folder. Your weekly member emails may be filtered there by accident. If you find that your choir email is being filtered as spam, please consult your email program's help documentation ... or search YouTube for helpful videos.
2. Check Chorus Connection: If you're still struggling to get your weekly email delivered to your inbox, you'll find a copy of the email on the Olympia Peace Choir Chorus Connection home page.
3. Ask Natalie Sawyer: If you find you just can't locate your weekly email, send an email to butchcrooner@gmail.com and describe the steps you've tried. We'll do our best to problem-solve!

Withdrawal Policy

October 20 (after the first four rehearsals) is the last date for early withdrawal from the choir, **after which time your membership dues are no longer refundable**. Contact the treasurer (treasurer@theolympiapeacechoir.org) no later than October 20 to obtain a refund of your dues payment less \$80. These non-refundable fees cover the costs of music, season expenses and other materials for the choir. There will be NO early withdrawal for January Joiners.

Season Calendar

The Season calendar can be found on Chorus Connection. Our calendar is subject to change. Changes will be announced and posted. Please prioritize and set aside these dates in your personal calendar.

Masks

As noted on your registration form and liability waiver, masks will be optional this year. However, all members should be prepared with a mask in the event of a local COVID surge or other situation when masks may be required.

In rehearsals, singers masks or personal KN95s are acceptable, and can be of any color. Only **Black** masks are acceptable for performances. The choir has excellent singers masks available for purchase at \$20 each. Members can also purchase their own masks. Sources of singers masks for purchase can be obtained by asking Natalie Sawyer or Sharon Hong Maurmann.

Storing Singers Masks

Store your mask in a paper bag or basket—never in plastic until you need it again. Sterilize it by airing it for 7 days or clean with an alcohol (not Clorox!) swab or wet-wipe. You can also wash your singers mask by hand in hot soapy water and hang to dry or dry outside in the sunshine. Never put your mask in a washing machine or dryer.

Peace Choir Teams

Treble Voices for Peace does not survive on music alone! It requires your assistance to make it run smoothly and to promote community. Service to the choir is considered part of your dues as a member. Your director will announce service opportunities throughout the season.

Ways You Can Support The Olympia Peace Choir and Treble Voices for Peace

Treble Voices for Peace financial wellbeing strongly depends on donations. You can help! Here are easy ways that you (and your family and friends) can support the choir through corporate rebate programs and the Washington Combined Fund Drive. Every dollar adds up and keeps us singing!



If you shop at **Ralph's or Bayview Thriftway**, you can direct 1% of your purchases to The Olympia Peace Choir. You need to have or to sign up for a "ThriftCard." When you access the settings for your account, click on "My Loyalty Details" and then the green nonprofits tab where you can choose The Olympia Peace Choir. You don't get a physical "card." Rather, once you are registered in the Stormans/Thriftway system, you just give your phone number to the cashier when you make purchases at either Ralph's or Bayview.



Fred Meyer's Community Rewards Program is like Thriftway; you can set up a free digital account. Use the directions and prompts on the website to choose The Olympia Peace Choir as the charity you want to support. Similar to Thriftway, you can give your phone number to the cashier when you make purchases. If you'd like to have a physical "Fred Meyer Shopper's Card," you can get one at Customer Service at the store and present this card instead of giving your phone number.



If you are a state employee or retiree, you can give safely and easily through the Washington State Combined Fund Drive's online system or with a paper contribution form. Visit the **Washington Combined Fund Drive website** to learn how to set up contributions. If you are currently a state employee, monthly contributions can come out of your paycheck in an ongoing way, or via a single donation. If you are a retiree, you can arrange to have contributions deducted from your PERS pension; contact the CFD office to set this up at 360-902-4162.