

Season 2024-2025 Membership Packet

Treble Voices for Peace

theolympiapeacechoir.org

contact@theolympiapeacechoir.org

Welcome to Treble Voices for Peace!

Our Mission

Treble Voices for Peace is an inclusive community chorus dedicated to using the power of song to create peace and promote social justice and environmental stewardship.

Board of Directors (as of 12/21/24)

Chair:	Lili Belmont	contact@theolympiapeacechoir.org
Vice-Chair:	Appointment pending	
Secretary:	Karen Kievit	secretary@theolympiapeacechoir.org
Treasurer:	Charlie Ware	treasurer@theolympiapeacechoir.org
Vice-Treasurer:	Appointment pending	
Membership Chair:	Sharon Hong Maurman	membership@theolympiapeacechoir.org
Performance Coordinator:	Sharon Hong Maurman	performance@theolympiapeacechoir.org
Communications Chair	Anne Fischel	communications@theolympiapeacechoir.org
TVFP Liaison	Appointment pending	

Musical Team

Artistic Director	Kerri Lynn Nichols	director@theolympiapeacechoir.org
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Public Website	Manager: Anne Fischel	www.theolympiapeacechoir.org
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INFORMATION FOR THE 2024-25 SEASON FOR ALL TVFP MEMBERS

SEASON DATES AND REHEARSAL INFORMATION – SEMESTER 2

- First rehearsal: January 9, 2025. Rehearsal times: Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 pm at United Churches of Olympia
- Last rehearsal: Monday, May 19, 2025. All-Choir Extravaganza

PERFORMANCES – Second Semester January-May 2025

- Lacey Cultural Fest: Saturday, February 1, day-time (time TBA)
- Home Concert: Thursday, March 13th, 7pm at United Churches (Dress rehearsal on March 6th)
- Arts Walk and Community Concert: Sunday, April 27th, 2:30pm at The Heritage Room, 606 Water St SW, Olympia
- Olympia Farmers Market (tentative) Saturday or Sunday, May 17 or 18

Note: call times for the choir to arrive will be announced; generally they are at least one hour before concert time.

WINTER RETREAT - Together with The Olympia Peace Choir

January 25, 9am-1pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1925 Boulevard Rd. SE, Olympia

CHOIR SIZE

Up to 60, sections balanced as determined by the Artistic Director

CHOIR COMMITMENT

Members are Strongly Encouraged To:

- Attend the orientation rehearsal, January 9, 2025
- Attend 80% of rehearsals
- Attend 3 of the 4 performances in second semester, January through May
- Attend the all-choir retreat January 25, 2025

APPLICATIONS

Applications for Semester 2 are open until Monday, January 13 so that we can update our roster before the next rehearsal on Thursday, January 16.

DUES

Annual dues are \$280 for the entire season 2024-25; **second semester dues are \$140**. At least \$40 is due at the time your application is accepted. Dues can be paid in full or in installments to be arranged with the Membership Coordinator. Scholarship support can partially cover your dues; if you need scholarship support, contact membership@theolympiapeacechoir.org 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.

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

During the season, you'll likely hear this message repeatedly from our director and board members: **"It's on Chorus Connection!"** 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 invitation. (If you don't see the invite, check your spam folder.) If you haven't received your invite, please email membership@theolympiapeacechoir.org for assistance.

- Log in at app.chorusconnection.com/tvfp
- Click *My Account* and then *My Profile*.
- Make sure your profile information, especially your email address, is up to date.
- Please add a profile photo to help us learn who you are.

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 us for help at Membership@theolympiapeacechoir.org.

Rehearsals & Music Management

When: Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: The United Churches of Olympia ,110 11th Ave SE, Olympia


Rehearsal etiquette

- Enter the rehearsal space from Washington St. SE. Please sign in at the table inside the entrance.
- 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 pm.**
 - Please begin arriving at 6:40 to stagger check-in.
 - **If you arrive after the start of rehearsal, please sit in the back of your section until there is a natural transition or break**, and then move forward.
- 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 and during mid-rehearsal break.
- 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 direct questions to your section leader. Section leaders will communicate with our director.
- Sing so that your voice blends. You should be able to hear yourself and the people around you.
- During our break, our director needs time alone to relax and plan. If you have a question or concern, please consult a board member or your section leader. 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 is stored digitally in Chorus Connection, and some pieces will be handed out at rehearsal. After you complete your membership form and pay your dues (or set up an installment or scholarship plan), follow these steps:

- Log into your Chorus Connection account (app.chorusconnection.com/topc) from a desktop computer or device connected to a printer.
- Navigate to the Music section.
 - Desktop: Click **Music** on the top menu bar.

- Print-enabled device: Click the three horizontal lines in the upper right of your screen, then select **Music** from the menu on the left.
- Click on the blue **Music button** to the right of **2024-25 Season Resources**.
- Click on the Season 15 Music folder.
- 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.
- If you don't have a printer at home, **you can print out your music at any Timberland Library branch, for up to \$44 of FREE copies each month.** We will also identify choir members willing to help with printing music.
- 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 smaller than 2 inches with pockets in the front and back cover 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. 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. *At the conclusion of the season, members may make suggestions to the Director for the next season, if they fit within the themes of our vision statement and are arranged for a treble choir.*

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 at concerts, and from sharing recordings publicly on social media. 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.

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 Olympia Peace Choir Facebook page, you may freely share it with your family and friends.

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 carefully consider whether you're ready to perform at any given event if you've missed several rehearsals. We cover an extensive amount of material in one rehearsal. The protocol for determining whether you can perform is as follows:

- If you have missed several rehearsals in preparation for a performance, contact our director to discuss whether you are ready to perform with the group.
- Attendance at the final two rehearsals prior to a performance **is required. Occasionally, our director will make an exception under specific circumstances, so communicate with her well in advance.**

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

Our artistic director will let us know what to wear in advance of each performance. For most performances, long, black on the bottom and a bright, solid-color dress shirt, polo or blouse are standard attire. Black shoes if you have them.

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. Use the Chorus Connection bulletin board and our website, and reach out to section leaders for information.

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

A board member makes choir-related announcements during rehearsals. To keep rehearsals on schedule, we do not make announcements for individual members unless they are related to the choir. (An example would be announcing a sectional rehearsal.) **Please don't interrupt our announcements to share your own!** You can share flyers for community events on the sign-in or community table.

Weekly Rehearsal Notes

Rehearsal notes will be posted on Chorus Connection periodically.

Rehearsal Set Up:

Responsibility for Setup for rehearsals will rotate between sections. If it is your section's week to set up, please arrive by 6:45 to prepare the rehearsal space.

Withdrawal Policy

January 23 (after the first two rehearsals) is the last date for new members to withdraw from the choir, **after which time your membership dues are no longer refundable. The \$40 minimum payment is not refundable**, as this amount covers the cost of music, the season's expenses, and other materials for the

choir. Contact the membership chair (membership@theolympiapeacechoir.org) no later than **January 23** to obtain a refund of your dues payment, less \$40.

Season 2024-25 Calendar

The Season 2024-25 calendar is 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.

Social Media Consent:

Please note on Chorus Connection If you will share your image on our Website, Facebook, and Instagram Page.

Ways You Can Support The Olympia Peace Choir

The Olympia Peace Choir's financial wellbeing strongly depends on donations. All the choirs in our organization benefit from our community's generosity. 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 sign up for a "Thrift e-Card." When you access your account settings, 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," but once you are registered in the Stormans/Thriftway system, you 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 prompts on the website to choose The Olympia Peace Choir as the group you want to support. You can give your phone number to the cashier when you make purchases. If you'd like 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 Combine Fund Drive's online system with a paper contribution form. Visit the **Washington Combined Fund Drive website** to set up contributions. If you are a state employee, contributions can come out of your paycheck monthly, or as 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.