

The Towne Singers Orientation Information

(updated Sept 2019)



Concert Seasons:

The Towne Singers perform two concerts per year: a Holiday concert in December, and a Spring concert in May. Rehearsals for the Holiday concert start in late August, and in mid-January for the Spring concert. There are no rehearsals during the summer months.

Open Membership:

Membership is open in January and August, during the first two rehearsals of each season. During the open membership period, prospective singers may attend the new members' orientation session to learn more about joining the Towne Singers, without obligation. The chorus is open to all ages and all levels of singing experience. Reading music is not required. Other than a simple voice section placement test, there are no auditions.

Dues:

Dues for the Holiday and Spring seasons are \$200 per season. Each member may pay in full at the beginning of the season, or on a monthly basis (the monthly payment schedule is announced at the beginning of each season). The dues pay for the Towne Singers operating expenses, including the Conductor, the Accompanist, rehearsal hall(s), and insurance. Dues also cover all music necessary for the concert.

Rehearsal Schedule:

Rehearsals are held every Monday evening from 7:00 to 9:30 pm. There is a short break during the rehearsal for announcements and refreshments.

Rehearsals Attendance Policy:

- Holiday Season (Aug-Dec): The 15 scheduled rehearsals include Monday-night rehearsals and two Saturday "sectional" rehearsals. Singers may miss no more than three of that total.
- Spring Season (Jan-May): The 19 scheduled rehearsals include Monday-night rehearsals and two Saturday "sectional" rehearsals. Singers may miss no more than three of that total. The dress rehearsal, just prior to the concert, is mandatory.
- Ad hoc "sectionals" organized by a Section Leader count as make-ups for missed regular rehearsals.
- If a choir member is unable or ineligible to perform in a concert, he/she may still participate in rehearsals but that participation must be discontinued once the choir begins to rehearse in the final seating configuration for the concert.
- The attendance policy may be waived on a case-by-case basis by the Conductor to accommodate exceptional circumstances, but only if the waiver provides an overall benefit to the choir and the concert. In such cases, the Conductor shall confirm the readiness of the choir member to sing in concert by performing a "readiness test".

Fundraising and Ticket Sales

Members are expected to support fundraising activities and sell concert tickets.

Officers and the Board of Directors:

Each May the choir elects a President and a Board of Directors. The Board coordinates the business and activities of The Towne Singers, and sets policy for those activities. Members are welcome to run for any of the offices. The Board meets monthly during the rehearsal seasons (details are in the master calendar). All members are welcome to attend.