

PEORIA AREA CIVIC CHORALE YOUTH CHORUS

Fall 2011



INTRODUCTION

The Peoria Area Civic Chorale Youth Chorus is a not-for-profit organization sponsored by the Peoria Area Civic Chorale. Founded in 1986, the Peoria Area Civic Chorale Youth Chorus exists to provide interested singers with extra-ordinary choral music experiences via outstanding music education and excellence in performance. Through a curriculum that uses high quality repertoire from a wide variety of musical styles this program strives to develop vocal and musicianship skills in the youngsters who participate, providing them with opportunities to not only experience the joys of singing but to lead them to be expressive artists.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE YOUTH CHORUS

Those students exhibiting strong vocal and musical skills and potential are encouraged to audition for membership into the Peoria Area Civic Chorale Youth Chorus. No musical training or experience is necessary. Auditions are held each August and January. Also, many opportunities also exist for parents and families to be involved in the success of the PACCYC. The Peoria Area Civic Chorale Youth Chorus cannot operate successfully without the assistance of volunteers.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD IS READY TO AUDITION?

The ability to sing in tune develops at a time that is unique to each child. Like learning to play a sport, it is a skill each child masters step by step. We cannot accept students who are not yet able to match pitches accurately. In that situation, choir would be a difficult experience for them, and they might not enjoy it. However, we will invite them to return for an audition the following year. In many cases, we've seen that children who have not been quite ready to sing in a choir have waited and auditioned successfully a year later.

TUITION - due on or before August 30th

A non-refundable Tuition is required for participation in the PACC Youth Chorus. Checks should be made out to Peoria Area Civic Chorale, with the child's name listed on the check.

Semester tuition: \$120 per student (\$100 per additional student from same family)

Annual tuition - paid in full Sept 1st: \$200 per student (\$180 per additional student from same family)

Deadline for tuition is August 30th.

The *Tuition-plus program* is a way for parents and students to extend the opportunity of singing in the PACC Youth Chorus to all talented children, not just those who can afford it. Please consider making a donation to this program.

REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

The Peoria Area Civic Chorale Youth Chorus meets for rehearsals at First United Methodist Church, 116 NE Perry, downtown Peoria, on Tuesday afternoons, 4:30—6:00 p.m., from September to May. In addition to various community events, the Youth Chorus presents a concert each semester. They also join the Peoria Area Civic Chorale twice a year.

Attached is a calendar for this semester. Please place these dates on your calendar now to prevent surprises. Please note that the schedule is subject to change throughout the semester. **All rehearsals are required.** The absence of your student from a rehearsal not only affects your student but also the entire chorus. If your student must miss a rehearsal, please be sure extra time is spent outside of rehearsal to practice and learn the music. Let Courtney know (309-264-0340 or paccyouthchorus@gmail.com) as soon as a conflict arises to allow for any adjustments.

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

Students will perform in uniform attire for all community, Youth Chorus and PACC Performances.

Boys: Boys will have the opportunity to buy black tuxedo outfits consisting of a full back vests, bowtie, cuff-links, and black tux pants. Tuxedo shirts are available using uniform shirts from previous years. These items cost a total of approximately \$63.50 dollars, and are purchased to be adjustable over time. Items *gently used* may be traded for larger sizes, as the "exchange program" permits.

Girls: Girls will wear Youth Chorus performance attire (black pants and blouses TBD). All girls will purchase their outfits for approximately \$59.50 through the Youth Chorus with opportunities to re-sell as needed. In some cases, previously worn outfits may be available at a reduced price.

Girls will also wear black, toe-covered, low-heel shoes with dark or neutral socks/hosiery. Hair must be pulled back, away from the face with neutral-colored hair accessories. Jewelry should be limited to small stud-like earrings, no necklaces please. Unacceptable items: white socks/hosiery, sandals, heels higher than ½ inch, large and bright colored hair bows, large and/or sparkling earrings and necklaces.

REHEARSAL TREATS AND PARENT MONITORS

Treats are provided for the students each Tuesday afternoon before rehearsal. Parents are asked to sign-up for a rehearsal to bring treats. We ask that treats are available for the students by 4:15 in order to begin rehearsal in a timely manner. Please be sure that the treats you choose possess nutritional value. Treats high in sugar adversely affect the rehearsal atmosphere.

Also, one parent a week is needed to volunteer as rehearsal monitor. The rehearsal monitor will help with crowd control before rehearsals, monitor student breaks and handle any non-music concerns that may arise during the course of rehearsals.

WEBSITE ACCESS AND INFORMATION - www.peoriacivicchorale.org

From the Home Page - Click on "youth outreach" on left-hand column; click on PACCYC. This will give you all the information and calendar for the coming year.

We have also created an area for only Youth Chorus members. This password-protected area will have the following available: audio files, membership rosters, and other information throughout the semester. From the Home Page - Click on "Youth Chorus Area" at the bottom of the left-hand column; when prompted, type the following:

Username: paccyouth

Password: youthchorus

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Music Director – Courtney Vercler

Courtney Vercler is thrilled to be serving as Music Director for the Peoria Area Civic Chorale Youth Chorus.

After receiving her Bachelor of Music Education degree from Illinois State University, Courtney spent five years teaching in Washington Grade School District 52. There she taught general music to kindergarten through 5th grade students and directed 4 choirs of 6th through 8th grade students. She also continues to direct the Washington Middle School fall musical. Courtney is also a full-time mom, works with area music education students from ISU and Bradley, and maintains a private vocal studio.

Accompanist – Anna Price

Anna is thrilled to be working with Courtney Vercler and the Peoria Area Civic Chorale Youth Chorus again this year. Anna graduated summa cum laude in 2006 with a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from Bradley University, where she studied under the direction of Dr. Edward Kaizer. She has also completed training in Suzuki and Kindermusik instruction. Currently, Anna is the accompanist for Roosevelt Magnet School, maintains a private piano studio and is the piano instructor and accompanist for the Sun Foundation Suzuki School of Music. In addition, Anna enjoys playing piano for her church, Providence Church in Morton, and teaching Kindermusik through Trinity Lutheran Church. Anna is an active member of the Peoria Area Music Teachers Association as well as the Suzuki Association of the Americas.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Business Office

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Girls' Outfits – *Volunteer needed*

Boys' Outfits – *Volunteer needed*

Rehearsal Helper Coordinator – *Volunteer needed*

FALL 2011 PACCYC CALENDAR

Tuesday, August 9 th	4:30-6:00 p.m. Stellae Singers rehearsal
Saturday, August 13 th	9:00-11:00 Auditions for returning members
Tuesday, August 16 th	4:00-7:00 Auditions for new students
Tuesday, August 23 rd	4:00 Additional auditions 4:30 First rehearsal 5:30 MANDATORY Parents meeting 6:00 Stellae Singers rehearsal
Tuesday, September 6 th	4:00 Final auditions 4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, September 13 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Sunday, September 18 th	Stellae Singers perform at CIYS Ice Cream Social Fundraiser (Report to Tower Park at 12:30 p.m.)
Tuesday, September 20 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Saturday, September 24 th	9:00-Noon PACCYC Retreat (at Washington Middle School in Washington)
Tuesday, September 27 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, October 4 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, October 11 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, October 18 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, October 25 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, November 1 st	4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, November 8 th	4:30 Rehearsal

Friday, November 11 th	7:00 Fall Concert (6:00 CALL TIME) Concert location: FUMC Peoria Sanctuary
Tuesday, November 15 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Mon. November 14 th OR Sunday November 20 th	Dress rehearsal at Civic Center for Kick-off Holiday Season Concert (Times TBA)
Monday, November 21 st	PSO/PACC/PACCYC Kick-off Holiday Season Concert @ Civic Center Theater (Times TBA)
Tuesday, November 22 nd	4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, November 29 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, December 6 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Tuesday, December 13 th	4:30 Rehearsal
Thursday, December 15 th	Time: TBA Dress Rehearsal for PACC <i>American Family Christmas</i> at 5 Points Washington
Friday, December 16 th - Saturday, December 17 th Sunday, December 18 th	PACC <i>American Family Christmas</i> at 5 Points Washington (Times TBA)

Spring 2012 Dates

Tuesday, January 10 th	4:30 to 6:00 p.m.- Auditions for new members
Tuesday, January 17 th	4:30 First rehearsal 6:00 Meeting for parents of new members (No Stellae Singers)
Friday, May 1st (tentative)	7:00 PACCYC spring concert
Fri/Sat, May 4 th /5 th	PACC Spring Concert (dress rehearsal Fri, concert Saturday)