



Welcome to Desert Voices

CHORUS MEMBERSHIP GUIDE FOR THE 2023-2024 SEASON

Fostering Community Through Song

This guide is designed to answer common questions, offer a quick reference of basic Desert Voices policies and supply general membership information. Do not hesitate to utilize your fellow chorus members, office staff, and Board members as additional resources.

Desert Voices is a diverse, all-inclusive family (LGBTQIA+) whose members LOVE TO SING! We value goodwill, courtesy, respect, kindness, a positive presence in the community, and *singing*. Desert Voices offers a safe and supportive environment for all.

CONCERT SEASON – The concert season consists of 2 semesters, Fall and Spring. Our concert schedule may still be affected by COVID-related impediments. At this time (August 2023), we are planning to perform in December 2023 and 1-2 concerts in Spring 2024. There are also opportunities for outreach and joint performances throughout the community.

REHEARSALS – Rehearsals are Sunday evenings from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. We suggest you arrive by 5:10pm, so you can pick-up music, conduct chorus business, and get settled before rehearsal begins promptly at 5:30p. There is no 'break' per se, but you will have 5-10 minutes to visit the restroom, grab a snack, etc., at some point during the evening. From 8:00-:30p will be available for sectionals, work with soloists, and answering individual questions, as needed. There are also extra evening rehearsals immediately prior to a concert. Attendance at all rehearsals is expected, and attendance is tracked. We understand that we ask a lot of our singers, and that is commensurate with the entertaining, socially pertinent, and musically excellent shows that Desert Voices strives to produce.

MEMBERSHIP DUES – Singing member dues are \$180 per season or \$90 per semester.

Scholarships are available to assist with payment of dues on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the Office Manager (at rehearsal or at desertvoicestucsonchorus@gmail.com) for an application within the first 2 weeks of the semester. Scholarships MUST be renewed each semester.

Dues are used to fund expenses incurred by the Chorus, such as rehearsal hall rental, salaries for Interim Artistic Director, Accompanist, Office Manager, purchase of music, performance spaces, lighting, sound, musicians utilized during concerts, etc.

As a member of the Chorus, you will have the opportunity to sing, and will be encouraged to join committees, or assist with other duties to insure a successful season. We are a Community!

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES – Attend rehearsals & performances, learn the music, handle sheet music and folders with great care, respect other members, purchase your own concert wear and T-shirts, keep current with dues, promote attendance at concerts, and stay connected through Facebook, Chorus Connection, and email for all pertinent communications. Each singer will undergo a voice check at the beginning of the season, or at the AD's discretion, in order to verify range of voice, etc.

Please remember that food is not allowed in the rehearsal space, water only is allowed in a tightly capped container. Children are not allowed in the rehearsal space, and if in attendance, member MUST provide a caretaker. Please, no talking with your neighbors during rehearsals. It is distracting to others and rude to the Interim Artistic Director. We all giggle from time-to-time, but be respectful of your section mates. If you are having an issue within your section, first see your section leader. If that doesn't resolve the issue, please contact a Board Member.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – The Board is made up of singers and non-singers. The Board is responsible for developing policies, procedures, marketing, fund raising, and overseeing the health and welfare of the Chorus. All general Board meetings are open to the public, and chorus members are encouraged to attend and take an active interest.

Thank you for your commitment and talent!

www.desertvoices.org www.facebook.com/desertvoiceschorus