



North Shore Choral Society

P.O. Box 103, Evanston, IL 60204-0103
773-741-NSCS (773-741-6727)

The North Shore Choral Society explores, studies, and performs a wide range of choral music for the enrichment and enjoyment of its singers and audiences.

MEMBERSHIP GUIDE, 2012-2013 SEASON

North Shore Choral Society is a not-for-profit community chorus founded 77 years ago that has given many hundreds of non-professional singers the opportunity to perform choral masterworks, both classical and contemporary. Sing with us to learn and sharpen your rehearsal skills, vocal and choral singing techniques, text enunciation skills, and concert performance skills.

Please visit our website at www.northshorechoral.org



NSCS is a member of the Illinois Arts Alliance and is partially supported by grants from the Illinois Arts Council, an agency of the State of Illinois.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the North Shore Choral Society! You're joining us for our exciting 77th season! Yes – we're an old, established organization. However, we stay fresh, viable and relevant because of new members like you.

We're hard-working and attentive during rehearsals, but we love to talk during breaks and before and after rehearsals. Feel free to seek out your section coordinator (they're listed on page 4) or any board member (they're listed on the back cover) if you have questions about our organization or what you see going on.

You can also submit your questions anonymously via our website. We'll keep a running question and answer update (Q&As in the Membership menu). A username (wesing) and password (very*well) are needed to access the Members Only portion of the website (www.northshorechoral.org).

Our first concert will be here sooner than we think, so please see Julie McDowell (women) or David Hunt (men) *immediately* regarding purchase of concert attire. Orders for new dresses and tuxedos can take up to six weeks. The good news is that you don't have to wear your concert attire for "dress" rehearsals!

Blue Notes, our announcement sheet, is distributed weekly at rehearsals and is also posted on our website. This is your opportunity to keep up with NSCS news and to share relevant items of interest with members. It's also intended to reduce the time devoted to announcements at rehearsals! To post an item, e-mail info@northshorechoral.org or call 773-741-NSCS (773-741-6727).

We're glad that you're here to share your musical talent
and your love of singing with us.

ENJOY!

2012–2013 Season Schedule

BackStage Evanston: Sunday, September 30, time to be determined
Ethel M. Barber Theater, Northwestern University, 30 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston

Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving

Julia Davids, conductor
With guest ensemble Oakdale Christian Academy Concert Choir,
conducted by Terrance J. Smith
Sunday, November 18, 2012, 2:30 p.m. call for 4:00 p.m. performance
Vineyard Christian Church, 2495 Howard Street, Evanston

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, November 17, 2012, 9:00 a.m. – noon, Vineyard Church

An Evanston Symphony Christmas

Lawrence Eckerling, conductor
With Evanston Dance Ensemble and Evanston Children's Choir
Sunday, December 9, 2012, 1:30 p.m. call for 3:00 p.m. performance
Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Avenue, Evanston

Special chorus rehearsal: Wednesday, December 5, 2012, 7:30 – 9:45 p.m., Evanston
Township High School (instead of rehearsal Tuesday, December 4).

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, December 8, 2012, noon – 3:00 p.m., Evanston Township High School

A Lifetime of Singing Weekend

Saturday Workshop with Karen Brunssen
and Dress Rehearsal with Evanston Children's Choir,
North Park University Chamber Singers, and guest ensembles
Saturday, March 2, 2013, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Regina Dominican High School, 701 Locust Road, Wilmette

Sunday Concert
Julia Davids, conductor
Sunday, March 3, 2013, 1:30 p.m. call for 3:00 p.m. performance,
Regina Dominican High School

An Afternoon at the Opera

Julia Davids, conductor
Featuring Kathleen and Peter van de Graaff, soloists, with full orchestra
Sunday, June 2, 2013, 1:30 p.m. call for 3:00 p.m. performance
Glenview Community Church, 1000 Elm Street, Glenview

Orchestra/chorus rehearsal: Friday, May 31, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, June 1, 2013, 9 a.m. – noon, Glenview Community Church

Rehearsals

Weekly rehearsals are every Tuesday, 7:30–9:45 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3637 Golf Road, Evanston. Exceptions: There will be no rehearsal Tuesday, December 4, 2012. Instead, there will be a rehearsal Wednesday, December 5, 7:30–9:45 p.m., at Evanston Township High School. There will be no rehearsals December 25, 2012 and January 1, 2013. Listening parties are tentatively scheduled to replace rehearsals on Tuesday, November 20, 2012, Tuesday, March 5, 2013, and Tuesday, June 4, 2013, locations to be determined. (Rehearsal needs may necessitate changes to the party dates.)

Outreach Events

The North Shore Choral Society is committed to community outreach. We perform outreach programs at both Oakton and Washington elementary schools in Evanston, as well as an annual holiday program at Three Crowns Retirement Home. Available singers are encouraged to participate in these enrichment activities.

Rehearsal Policy

You are strongly encouraged to attend all rehearsals. You are expected to be in your seat and ready to sing by the stated call time and should remain for the entire rehearsal. Please refrain from talking during rehearsals. No cell phone calls or text messaging is allowed. Attendance at the dress rehearsal(s) for each concert is *mandatory*. This means you have to be there!

Singers who miss a rehearsal should notify their section coordinator in advance (see below). If that's not possible, please contact your section coordinator as soon as you are able. If you don't feel well enough to sing but are well enough to attend rehearsal, you're encouraged to sit behind the chorus and follow along, taking notes in your music. If a rehearsal needs to be canceled for any reason (most typically bad weather), we will send an e-mail as soon as the decision is made. If you miss more than two rehearsals for any given concert, you must contact Julia Davids to discuss concert participation and to arrange a music singing review.

Membership Coordinator Emily Rivera (773) 465-5256; emilyjriviera@gmail.com

Section Coordinators

Soprano I Julie McDowell (847) 251-6498; acooljul1@comcast.net

Soprano II Rose Gomez (847) 361-0432; bluesongbird8@hotmail.com

Alto I Myra Sieck (847) 328-4739; myra.sieck@att.net

Alto II Antje Draganski (847) 475-7073; donalddraganski@sbcglobal.net

Tenor David Crumrine (847) 722-1260; dcrumri@luc.edu

Baritone/Bass Harry Vroegh (847) 864-1253; hvroegh@att.net

Performance Protocol

Concert Dress New members, please see Julie McDowell (women) or David Hunt (men) immediately regarding purchase of concert attire. Any NSCS member who sings in a concert is expected to adhere to the following dress codes:

Women's Attire: The uniform black dress (hemmed to the anklebone), uniform white pearl necklace, black hose, and plain black closed-toe shoes are required. No boots, sneakers, purses, hair ornaments, sweaters, jackets, or vests are allowed on stage during concerts. Single pearl earrings may be worn.

Men's Attire: Black tuxedo jackets and pants, black tuxedo bow ties, tuxedo shirts with black studs, black dress shoes, and black socks are required.

Please do not wear cosmetic fragrances of any sort at rehearsals or performances, out of consideration for those with sensitivity to the pheromones. This includes hairspray and aftershave.

Music Folder In performance your music must be enclosed in a black folder. Choral folders at a reasonable price are available from Gamble Music in Chicago; they can be obtained online at gamblemusic.com. Many of us use model 70-501K-7. If you prefer the same folder with retainer strings for music, order model 70-801K-7. If you choose not to be so elegantly equipped, an inexpensive black binder or folder may be used.

Sight lines The Director positions singers to ensure that she has eye contact with everyone and for other musical reasons. Subsequent inadvertent, or purposeful, modification of that positioning can interfere with the sight lines of those behind you. Even subtle shifting of body weight or tossing of the head can compromise the sightlines of singers in other rows. Please do your best to maintain the position you have been given and direct your questions or concerns to Julie McDowell.

Entering & Exiting Stage, Handling of Music Please listen to the Concert Manager to learn the route to the stage and always enter and exit quietly. When entering or exiting the stage, music should be closed and *carried in the right hand with the right arm down at your side*. When sitting on stage before the performance begins, music should be closed and on your lap. When Julia enters, stand without lifting your folder. At her signal, lift your folder and open it. In movements when we are seated and not singing, please do not follow along in the music but rather, skip ahead to the next choral movement (you can clip your score with paper clips to avoid leafing through solo movements) and watch the performers. You may leave your folder open in your lap so you are ready for the next choral movement. Please, no folder fumbling or music shuffling during performance.

Personal Decorum Remember that you are part of a performance and are highly visible to the audience. Please DO NOT:

- acknowledge individuals in the audience
- eat (food or candy) on stage (OK to have cough drops at the ready)
- chew gum on stage
- participate in verbal comments or conversation while on stage (with the exception of during intermission)
- conduct personal grooming on stage
- fidget, sway to the music or turn around while on stage
- take cell phones, cameras, or other hand-held electronic devices on stage

Water bottles, seat cushions and/or backrests may be taken on stage discreetly (unless directed otherwise). Please only drink from a water bottle at intermission or when absolutely necessary (coughing etc.). Medical devices may be taken on stage if proper arrangements have been made.

Applause Please smile and acknowledge the audience when they applaud. It is acceptable and nice to acknowledge our guest artists with respectful applause, when cued by the conductor to do so.

Auditions and Section Assessments

The primary purpose of auditioning singers is to help Julia get to know us and our voices better, to hear the strengths and areas for improvement in order to better position singers, and to ascertain whether each of us is singing in the right section. Other choruses of our size and stature regularly re-audition their members. Chorus America, the national support and advocacy organization of which NSCS is a member, recommends the process as an important element in sustaining a healthy choral organization. Starting with the 2013-2014 season, Dr. Davids will begin ongoing section assessments (rotating by section each year). These sessions will allow Julia and each voice part to calibrate and work to maximize the proficiency of each section.

Board Meetings

Board meetings are usually held at 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month. *NSCS members are welcome to attend.* You can inquire of any Board member (they're listed on the back cover) as to the meeting location; if you plan to attend, please let our Board President, Anne Harkonen, know in advance.

Social Events

We are a sociable organization; rehearsal breaks and listening parties are opportunities to become better acquainted. For rehearsal breaks, members sign up to donate juice, goodies and paper cups. Listening parties, usually on the Tuesday evening following each concert, provide an opportunity to share food and drink and to listen to the concert recording. The food, the drink, and the recording are often a revelation!

Financial Expectations

Dues and Music Fees Annual dues are \$115 and include a discounted season subscription: you'll be given one ticket for each concert, excluding the Evanston Symphony holiday concert. You may purchase an additional season subscription when you pay your dues for a discounted price of \$40. For full-time students, annual dues are \$30. Dues must be paid by the third rehearsal unless special arrangements have been made with the Membership Chair or General Manager. Fees for music scores must be paid on receipt; your scores are yours to keep.

Contributions of Time and Money NSCS has been financially sound primarily due to strong support by us, its members, through cash contributions, fund raising, and volunteer services. Professional in-kind contributions save us over \$10,000 annually. We encourage all NSCS members to become actively involved in supporting NSCS.

Ticket sales We expect each NSCS member to promote our concerts by word of mouth, by e-mailing digital copies of concert posters, and by actively selling tickets and/or buying tickets for friends and relatives. Unlike some choruses, we don't set a ticket requirement, but each member should sell *at least* two tickets for each concert. Try to focus on new patrons, as they are our donors of the future!

During the season, past and potential contributors receive a **fund-raising letter** by mail, asking for donations to help NSCS maintain the high quality of its programming. This is our largest source of revenue. Think about people you know who would enjoy our concerts, invite them to attend, and give us their names and addresses for our mailings.

We've developed several ways to obtain corporate funds through our regular shopping activities. The purchase of **Jewel gift cards** is the most profitable of these. **IGive** is a free portal for internet shopping that gives rebates to charities designated by registered users. Over 1000 stores from Amazon to zChocolate participate. We have a direct link for more information and registration on our website. The average user generates \$50 a year in rebates, so get registered and get in the habit of using it! Details and reminders for each of these programs will be provided. Keep thinking of family, friends and neighbors who might participate.

The cost of printing programs for each concert is offset by the **sale of ads in our concert program booklets**. You will be given contract forms and sample programs to help obtain ads from businesses and other services. Last year, we raised almost \$5,000 from the sale of program ads.

Our General Manager, in consultation with the Vice President of Fundraising, works on **corporate and foundation grants**. If you have knowledge of, or connections to, such funding sources, please contact Scott Paine, Vice President of Fundraising, or Karen Rigotti, General Manager. Does your employer have a matching gift program?

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Julia Davids – Music Director
Sharon Rich Peterson – Accompanist
Karen Rigotti – General Manager

Board of Directors

Anne Harkonen – President
Julie McDowell – Vice President, Operations
Tom Keller – Vice President, Concerts
Susan Demaree – Vice President, Public Relations
Scott Paine – Vice President, Fundraising
Steve Warner – Secretary
John Darrow – Treasurer
Marcia Bollo – Member at Large
Anthony Green – Member at Large
Steve LaTour – Member at Large
Renata Lowe – Member at Large
Emily Rivera – Member at Large
Julia Davids, *ex officio*
Karen Rigotti, *ex officio*

These NSCS members have agreed to serve as coordinators in the 2012-2013 season:

Concerts

Box Office Manager – Jamie Gottschalk
Concert Manager – Carl Kettler
Concert Program Booklets – Marcia Bollo
House Manager – Ron Tolisano
Tickets Manager – Sanna Longden, with
Pat English, Tom Olkowski, Phoebe Segal

Fundraising

Patrons – Steve Warner
Program Ads – Jack Hedquist, with
Kathleen Tolisano
Rebates – Harry Vroegh

Operations

Archivist – Melinda Kwedar, with
Len Barker and Jane Kenamore
Computer Services – Dan Woodard, with
James W Miller
Concert Dress – David Hunt, Julie McDowell
Desktop Publishing – Ellen Pullin, with
Anne Heider, Jenny Lunz,
Dorothy Scott, Kathryn Skelton

Operations (continued)

Mailings – Kent Fuller
Membership – Emily Rivera
Music Librarian – Bruce Gladfelter
Online Calendar – Emily Rivera
Printing – Mars Longden
Social Events – Stacey Watson
Webmaster – James W Miller, with
Ellen Pullin

Public Relations

Donald Chen Young Artists Award – Anne Heider
Outreach – Pam Anderson
Publicity – Marj Lundy
Social Media – Emily Rivera

Marketing

Advertising – *open position*
Art – Milly Silverstein
Audience Development – *open position*
Brochure – Bob Zahniser

Consultants

Legal Counsel – Kathryn Skelton