

These membership guidelines are intended to:

- Describe the rights and responsibilities of all Cantata Singers members.
- Acknowledge that the Cantata Singers depends on the commitment of the singing members.
- Clarify the ways in which concerts will be staffed (see Staffing Concerts below).

Member Responsibilities

Members are expected to:

- Attend all the rehearsals for a given concert.
- Arrive on time, or even a few minutes early to help set up.
- Practice and learn the music.
- Inform the Personnel Manager and appropriate section leader of a potential absence or lateness at the start of a rehearsal period. Last minute absences should be reported as soon as possible. Too many absences may result in a discussion of participation.
- Check with the appropriate section leader about missed material, schedule changes, and other administrative information.

Rehearsal Information

Regular chorus rehearsals take place Wednesdays, 7:30-10 pm, at All Saints Parish Music Room, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline.

- **Parking:** Along Beacon Street
- **On the T:** Cleveland Circle (C) Green line, Dean Road stop; Riverside (D) Green Line, Beaconsfield stop

Rehearsal questions?

Call Personnel Manager: Lisa Lynch, lisalynch4@hotmail.com | (857) 366-0607

The Personnel Manager will give annual status reports at the Chorus Council meeting so that issues may be discussed and these guidelines may be adjusted as necessary.

Concert Attire

Regular Season

Women: Dressy all black, ankle-length, ¾ length or long sleeved dress or skirt/pants ensemble. Black shoes. Moderate jewelry.

Men: Black tux, long black tie, white dress shirt, no button down collar, black socks, black shoes.

Chamber Concerts

Women: Long or tea-length dark dresses. Any sleeve length is fine. Moderate jewelry.

Men: Dark suit or tux.

No perfume or cologne, please!

Soloist Opportunities

Vocal solos in the Cantata Singers season are available to all Cantata Singers members, although not all solos are cast from the group. Auditions for solos are held at the end of each season by the Music Director, to audition for the upcoming season's solos. All members must be available to be in the chorus for a concert on which they are auditioning to solo. If the Music Director wants someone to sing a solo in a concert that s/he is not scheduled to sing, s/he will be added to the chorus roster for the concert.

Chamber Series

The Cantata Singers Chamber Series offers programs of solo and vocal chamber repertoire that are musically linked to the main chorus series. All members may audition for the Chamber Series Music Director at the end of each season, for the upcoming season. However:

- Singers must also be scheduled to sing in the Concert Series to be eligible to sing in the Chamber Series.
- New singers must appear in a main chorus concert before appearing in the Chamber Series.

Staffing Concerts

The Personnel Manager will staff concerts by taking into consideration singers' wishes and availability, as well as the musical needs of each concert as expressed by the Music Director.

- In order to staff concerts in a way that will accommodate both singers' schedules and the musical needs of the concerts, the Personnel Manager will collect more specific information about all members' availability for the season in July, including both which concerts they are available to sing and which concerts they want to sing.
- **Preventing over-staffed concerts:** In the event that there are more members desiring to sing a particular concert than can be included, or that there are particular musical needs that should be served, the Personnel Manager and Music Director may not be able to accommodate all singers who would like to participate in a concert. If this happens, they will handle the situation with sensitivity, taking into consideration the musical requirements of the concert and the singers' desired commitment to the group. If this situation arises too frequently or becomes problematic, the membership guidelines will be reconsidered.
- Many factors demonstrate one's commitment to the group, such as consistent attendance, years with the group, dependability, etc. Some demonstrate lack of commitment by missing too many rehearsals, being chronically late, or dropping out of a concert once committed to singing it. It is understood that many of our singers have other professional engagements that may conflict on occasion, but it is important that the Personnel Manager know ahead of time so decisions can be made about staffing concerts.
- Members are encouraged to speak with the Personnel Manager or Music Director if they have concerns or questions about their status or assignments.
- Members are encouraged to re-audition whenever they wish, and may make such arrangements with the Personnel Manager and Music Director.

Note: The Music Director has the right to request re-auditions and make staffing decisions for musical reasons.

Guests

In the event that we do not have enough commitment for a concert, we will invite guests of Cantata Singers to participate in order to reach the desired number count per section. Guests are chosen by the Music Director and Personnel Manager. We welcome guests to sing with us for a concert, but guests must audition to become members of Cantata Singers.

Staff Contact Information

David Hoose, *Music Director*: davidmmhoose@verizon.net

Jennifer Ritvo Hughes, *Executive Director*: jhughes@cantatasingers.org

Emily Kirk Weddle, *Development and Marketing Manager*: eweddle@cantatasingers.org

Michelle Rush, *Education and Production Manager*: mrush@cantatasingers.org

Bridget Dennis, *Operations Manager*: bdennis@cantatasingers.org

Lisa Lynch, *Personnel Manager*: lisalynch4@hotmail.com | (857) 366-0607

Classroom Cantatas

Classroom Cantatas is Cantata Singers' music education initiative in Boston's under-served schools that marries music-making and the academic core curriculum to help children find their creative voice. Classroom Cantatas places trained Teaching Artists from Cantata Singers' ensemble for semester-long in-class residencies. Students work with Teaching Artists to compose and perform original songs about subjects they are studying in class.

For information about becoming a Teaching Artist and participating in the Classroom Cantatas program, contact Education and Production Manager Michelle Rush, at mrush@cantatasingers.org.