



📍 Box 3021, 26 Cranford Way
Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2A0

✉ festival.singers08@gmail.com

🌐 festivalsingers.ca

MEMBER INFORMATION

REGISTRATION AND FEES

Registration forms must be completed in their entirety. This helps us update and maintain our database.

The choir season runs from September to May, and members need to pay membership fees by the third week of each term.

Payment may be made by cash or cheque payable to *Sherwood Park Festival Singers Society* or by e-transfer to festival.singers08@gmail.com

\$310 if paying for the full year OR
\$180 per term, payable at the beginning of each term (September and January)

Fees help to cover the costs of director and pianist honorariums, music purchase and rental, facility rental, insurance costs, etc. Casino and grant funds help to reduce fees.

The wearing of a mask at rehearsals will be optional as will social distancing, unless ordered by AHS.

MUSIC

Music is to be returned at the end of each rehearsal until membership fees are paid. After you've registered and paid your fees, you'll receive a package containing each piece of music required for the term.

Choristers are given a folder of music for the term (Fall or Winter). Members may make notes in their music in pencil (**please don't write in ink**). Music is then to be returned at the end of the term. Please **don't punch holes** in any music; instead, you can request a plastic music holder, allowing you to store your music in a three-ring binder.

To help you learn your part, practice at home and prepare for our performances, you'll receive a rehearsal CD OR MP3 files to play on your device.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Sept 5 - 7:00 pm Registration - First Rehearsal - Festival Place
- All other rehearsals start at 7:15 pm - Festival Place
- Sept 19 - All registration fees due
- Oct 28 - Fall Workshop - Glory Lutheran Church - 8:30 a.m- 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, Nov 22 - Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Concert - call time TBA at Festival Place
- Nov 25 - Christmas Concert at Festival Place - 2:00 pm - call time TBA

- Jan 2, 2024 - First Rehearsal/Registration - Winter Term- Location TBA
- March - Spring Workshop - 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 pm - Glory Lutheran Church
- May 3 - Dress Rehearsal - Spring Concert - Glory Lutheran Church- call time TBA
- May 4 - Spring Concert - Glory Lutheran Church - 7:00 pm - call time TBA

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Unless otherwise stated, practices will be held every Tuesday from 7:15 through to 9:30 p.m. Practice times may be extended as show dates approach. Set up for rehearsals will be at 7:00 PM. If you can come early and help set up at 7:00 PM it will be greatly appreciated.

ATTENDANCE

A polished performance at the end of each term depends upon our members' hard work and regular attendance. **Let the Director and/or the executive know via email if you're going to be absent.**

At the director's discretion, a member who has missed too many rehearsals may not perform in concert.

Two Saturday workshops are offered each year with optional guest clinicians. Although attendance is not mandatory it is an excellent time to get to know members and have extra rehearsal time. Workshops are from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Coffee and muffins are available from 8:30 to 9:00 am Please bring your own water bottles and lunch.

Festival Singers often enters the Sherwood Park Music Festival in April. This is another fun experience and helps to improve the quality of our performances.

ILLNESS - If you are unwell with ANY respiratory illness or COVID symptoms DO NOT COME TO REHEARSAL until you are fully well again. Please advise the Board via email if you test positive for COVID.

If you will be absent for any reason please let us know! You can do this by email at festival.singers08@gmail.com or mark yourself away on the attendance sheet for pre planned absences.

PERFORMANCES

Festival Singers observes a dress code for its performances, which consists of a long-sleeved black shirt, black slacks/pants and black socks or hosiery. No bare legs or feet. Scarves or ties will be provided to “dress up” your appearance at concerts.

At performances, singers' music must be kept in a black performance binder, which can be borrowed or purchased from Festival Singers – see music librarian.

VOLUNTEERISM

Many choirs do a lot of fundraising. We strive to keep fundraising activities to a minimum through our fee structure and grants. However, choir members will be asked to participate in some fundraising activities including but not limited to:

- Selling tickets to concerts
- Volunteering for a casino (every 3 – 4 years) - 2024 is a Casino year!
- Other possible small fundraising opportunities that the Board may decide to participate in as required.

Festival Singers is a members' choir. Many hands make light work; it's better when everyone pitches in. Please be available to help when asked. By volunteering you meet people more easily and help us build a wonderful choir community.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Member of the board of directors
- Publicity and media (knowledge of graphic design, media relations and print industry an asset)
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- Website maintenance
- Choir Historian (maintaining an archive of current and historical documents)
- Concert committees (there are many tasks involved in organizing performances)
- Social event committees

REHEARSALS

We realize choir rehearsals are meant to be a fun and enjoyable experience, and we encourage our choristers to get to know one another. To ensure a respectful environment for all choristers and for our director, we ask that everyone try to keep noise and chatter to a minimum.

Please refrain from wearing scented products of any kind as some of our members have allergies and/or respiratory ailments.

REMEMBER! Do not come to rehearsal if you are sick. Let us know if you are not coming!

MORE INFORMATION

Festival Singers Society is operated by a volunteer Board of Directors as we are a non-profit registered Society.

Additional information may be found on our website (festivalsingers.ca).

Festival Singers also has a presence on Facebook. Members with accounts are invited to like and share our content.