MINNESOTA CHORALE

Auditions

Mission of the Minnesota Chorale

The Minnesota Chorale celebrates the human voice and its power to educate, enrich, unite, and inspire by performing an ever-widening repertory of choral music, at the highest artistic level, for a broad community of audiences.

The Minnesota Chorale consists of a pool of singers, both paid and volunteer. All singers are auditioned annually in order to maintain the Chorale's professionalism and high artistic standards. Singers commit to at least two projects per concert season. At the time of the audition, singers will be provided with an overview of the 2020-21 Season. Information on rehearsal/performance dates will be provided to new singers following a successful audition at which time they will be asked to submit availability for each project in the upcoming season.

Rehearsals are held on Monday and/or Thursday evenings, with special rehearsals and dress rehearsals scheduled according to the requirements of each project. Our main rehearsal space is Westminster Presbyterian Church (1200 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis 55403).

This year, in response to social mitigation measures imposed to limit the spread of the coronavirus, and to protect auditionees and Chorale staff, auditions will be conducted online in a two-step process.

Step 1: Electronic Submission of Vocal Resume and Recorded Classical Vocal Solo

Prepare, record, and submit one classical solo of your choice along with a current vocal resume. The selection may be performed *a cappella* or with pre-recorded, electronic, or live accompaniment depending on what is available in your present living situation. Choose the method that works best for you – all submissions will be given equal consideration. Solos and vocal resumes will be evaluated, and invitations extended for the second step of the audition.

• **Recorded Vocal Solo**

The solo selection may be a sacred, secular, or art song for a total of no more than 2-4 minutes of music (memorization not required). Select a piece that best demonstrates your musicianship, vocal color, diction, sense of line, and musicality, and which remains within the designated time limit. The solo may be submitted as a video or audio file. To submit your materials, click this link.

- Recording guidelines:

- May be either an MP3, MP4, YouTube Link
- Label your audio/video file with your name, voice part and song title
- Label your resume or choral experience paragraph with your name and voice part

• Accompaniment

The Minnesota Chorale can assist in generating a pre-recorded accompaniment track for your audition, if you so request. To do so, please send a PDF of your selection along with a metronome marking of your preferred tempo to **alyssa@mnchorale.org**, allowing 3-5 days to generate and send you the recorded accompaniment. An online metronome can be found at **http://www.metronomeonline.com**

Step 2: Live Audition via Zoom

If invited to Step 2, the auditionee will be asked to sign up for an audition slot, at which time vocalises and flexibility passages will be provided to them. (CLICK HERE to view these materials) Range, flexibility, sight reading, and tonal memory will be assessed in a 10-minute live audition via Zoom. If you do not have the technological capability to audition via Zoom, please email Chorale Operations Director Alyssa Breece (alyssa@mnchorale.org) so that alternative arrangements may be made.

A $15.00 audition fee must be paid online prior to the live audition. The registration process includes an online payment link. If you are unable to meet this requirement please email alyssa@mnchorale.org so she may find a scholarship for you.

The live audition is used to evaluate the following aspects of the singer's skills:

- ability to modify vocal color
- ability to vary dynamics and style
- intonation
- vocal flexibility
- ability to control vibrato
- range
- clear diction and correct pronunciation
- sight-reading ability

Audition Dates: Live auditions will be held evenings at the Artistic Director's discretion.

Rescheduling an Audition

If you are in poor vocal health at the time of your scheduled audition, you must contact Chorale Operations Director Alyssa Breece (alyssa@mnchorale.org) to reschedule your audition time.

Contact Information

Alyssa Breece, Operations Director, alyssa@mnchorale.org ; 612-455-2100

- Submit vocal resume and recorded solo
- Help with online audition registration
- Questions regarding accompaniment track, Zoom, audition process, etc.