



MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK

2012 – 2013 Season

RAINIER CHORALE

P.O. Box 5336

Kent, WA 98064-5336

Phone: 206.835.8888 Fax: 425.687.0576

www.rainierchorale.org

PRINCIPALS AND BOARD:

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|
| Artistic Director: | Ron Bayer rbayer@greenriver.edu | 253.862.5754 |
| Executive Director: | Terry Bolender terrybolender@comcast.net | 253.630.2934 |
| President: | Patty VanWagner peppermintpatty1@earthlink.net | 253.631.2434 |
| Vice President: | Dave Rogers drogers@microsoft.com | 206.353.6373 |
| Secretary: | Jenny Bygland bri.jen@comcast.net | 253.796.1430 |
| Treasurer: | Annette Bailes annette.bailes@wieb.com | 253.639.4710 |
| Board Members: | Jeannette Wanner njwanner@msn.com | 253.630.4542 |
| | Becca Gomes beccagomes@gmail.com | 206.406.6935 |
| | Noel Klump noel.klump@gmail.com | 253.347.9307 |
| | Ashley Wiser awiser87@gmail.com | 253.335.6028 |
| Webmaster/Librarian | Kay Cummings kittykayann@comcast.net | 206.592.2950 |

Section Managers:

| | | |
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| Soprano: | Ashley Wisser | 253.335.6028 |
| Alto: | M J Falcone | 206.455.3044 |
| Tenor: | Colleen Terlicker | 206.243.9450 |
| Bass: | Rae Colborne | 253.277.3948 |

RAINIER CHORAL ARTS

Rainier Chorale was established in 1983. In 2006, Rainier Choral Arts was created as the umbrella organization over Rainier Chorale and Rainier Youth Choirs.

The Chorale is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization led by a Board of Directors elected by the general membership. Monthly dues, ticket sales, grants, an annual fundraiser, and donations from public and private sources fund the Chorale program.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors consists of nine elected members, each serving a three-year term. The Board elects the officers from its own ranks at the first Board meeting of each new season. The officers are the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Board primarily attends to issues relating to the internal management of the Chorale, assuring the organization continues to achieve its musical goals. In doing so, it works closely with the Artistic Director and Executive Director and is ultimately responsible to the Chorale membership. The Artistic Director and Executive Director are not members of the Board, but serve in an advisory capacity.

The Board meets monthly. All Chorale members are welcome to attend the meetings, though they do not have a vote. Non-board members may contact the President in advance to add agenda items.

For more detailed information about the Board, please refer to the Rainier Chorale Bylaws (available upon request, or as posted on the website).

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Ron Bayer has been the artistic leader of the Rainier Chorale since the 1996-97 concert season. Having spent 14 years as the director of choral activities at Green River Community College in Auburn, he now teaches music theory, music technology, and class piano; he also serves as the chair of the Fine Arts Division. Ron was inducted into the Washington Music Educators Hall of Fame in 2004. He began his teaching career at the high school level in Wisconsin and Minnesota, where he gained recognition as a strong, traditional choral director and also a leader in the then-emerging vocal jazz scene. After completing a nine-year stint in the upper Midwest, he came to the Pacific Northwest following the lure of the mountains, teaching briefly at Mount Vernon High School before coming to Green River.

Ron received his bachelor's degree in music education (in both vocal and instrumental music) at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, and a master's degree in choral music and conducting at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he studied with Harold Decker. Further graduate studies in jazz education were pursued at Western Michigan University where he studied piano with and assisted Steve Zegree.

An avid mountaineer in his off time, Ron is currently in demand as an adjudicator, clinician, pianist, and arranger.

SECTION MANAGERS

Section managers are the organizational leaders of their respective sections. They are responsible for taking attendance at all rehearsals and performances, and for reporting absences to the Artistic Director. They may be asked to relay important information via telephone and e-mail prior to rehearsals, such as an unexpected change of rehearsal site.

CONCERTS

Traditionally, Rainier Chorale presents three concerts each season, with two performances (Saturday night and Sunday matinee) of each concert. (See “Season at a Glance” on the inside of the back cover.) Special event concerts may also be added to the season or may take the place of a regular concert.

REHEARSALS

Regular rehearsals are held on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the choral room at Cedar Heights Middle School, 19640 SE 272nd, Covington. Occasionally, because of schedule conflicts with the school, rehearsals may be held at alternate sites.

Please silence all cell phones and pagers during rehearsals. If you must make a call or send a text message, do it during the scheduled break.

Saturday rehearsals, (usually one or two per quarter), are scheduled by the Artistic Director. These rehearsals are usually held at Kent United Methodist Church, 11010 S.E. 248th Street, Kent. This rehearsal is considered a regular rehearsal so attendance is expected. So you can schedule ahead, specific dates are listed in the “Season at a Glance” section.

Dress Rehearsals are generally held the Thursday or Friday night prior to each concert. Concert attire is not required, but attendance is mandatory.

A complete rehearsal and concert schedule will be made available at the beginning of each quarter, or may be found on the website. While the rehearsal schedule is designed to teach the majority of the music, each member is responsible to work on the music on their own. Members may record rehearsals to assist in learning the music during the week.

ATTENDANCE

The musical quality of the Chorale's performances, the development of ensemble artistry, and the morale of the organization depend upon regular and prompt attendance at all rehearsals and concerts.

Each member is expected to be on time for each rehearsal, concert, and business meeting. If a member misses three rehearsals during a quarter for any reason, they may be asked to meet with the Artistic Director to demonstrate their knowledge of the music in order to perform in the concert. Attendance at both performances in a quarter is expected; exceptions must be approved by the Artistic Director.

The Artistic Director may grant leaves of absence, although the member may be asked to prove sufficient knowledge of the music in order to perform in the upcoming concert. Should a member miss a quarter, they will be required to meet with the Artistic Director to renew their membership.

VOLUNTEERING

Members are asked to sign up for committees at the beginning of the season to help spread the workload across the entire membership and not rely on the Board members plus a few others to handle everything it takes to run the Chorale. It takes many volunteer hours to put together the details for each concert – setting up rehearsals and the venue for performance, programs, flyers, tickets, plus many other tasks. That doesn't include the hours that the Board members donate to the running of the choir organization.

NOTE: If your company offers compensation for employee volunteer hours, please contact the Treasurer to apply for those funds.

MEMBER EXPENSES

DUES: Each member pays \$20.00 per month dues (or \$200.00 per year). To help defray the cost of uniforms, new members do not pay dues the first quarter of their membership, provided they purchase the uniforms.

MUSIC FEE: Each member pays a \$20.00 per quarter music fee. The fee may be paid each quarter, or a one-time annual payment of \$60.00. In special circumstances, members may be asked to purchase a particular score which may be in place of the music fee.

WARDROBE:

Class I Costume: Winter and Spring Concerts

Women: Black three-piece (long skirt, shell, and jacket) ensemble. Black shoes and hose, small pearl or gold stud earrings. Necklace purchased

Cost: \$140.00 approx

through Rainier Chorale. Ensemble may be purchased from Rottle's Apparel and Shoes. 253.939.9514

Men: Either rent or purchase: Black shawl collar tuxedo, white dress shirt (non oxford cloth, non button down nor a stand up collar), black dress shoes and socks. Cost: variable

Rottle's Apparel & Shoes in Auburn offers Chorale members a discount for tuxedo rental or purchase. 253.939.9514

Tie and vest set purchased through the Chorale. Cost: \$50.00 approx

Class II Costume: Summer Concert

Men & Women: Short-sleeved shirt ordered through Chorale. (Women: shirt is worn as a jacket with a white scoop-neck shirt underneath.) Cost: \$25 approx

Khaki pants (tan, not army green)

White socks and tennis shoes

The Summer Concert theme may dictate variation of the exact costume. Information will be available soon after the start of the third quarter.

MUSIC FOLDER: Music must be in a black choral folder for each concert. A variety of folders are acceptable. Many members purchase a professional choral folder through the Chorale. Cost: \$22.00 approx

TICKETS: Members are expected to sell tickets to family and friends. Season tickets are available for best value. Cost of season tickets may vary depending upon special events during the season.

Presale Cost:
\$18 general; \$16 seniors and students; \$10 children under age 12 (door prices additional \$2 per ticket)

TRIPS: The Chorale plans a variety of performing trips, which the members are encouraged to join. Members are expected to pay for their own expenses, although fundraising events may be used to defray part of the costs.

Cost: Variable

HELPING HAND

Financial aid is available for some member expenses. Please see the Board President or Treasurer for an application. Your request will be reviewed in confidence by the four-member committee who will then notify you of the decision made. Should a Helping Hand be granted, the music fee for the quarter must still be paid by the member. The Helping Hand grant is for one quarter at a time.

MUSIC

The Librarian issues each member a packet of music at the beginning of each quarter; this packet is expected to be returned after each concert. The music is the property of Rainier Chorale. Rehearsal notes must be made in pencil, not pen. Markings do not need to be erased before return.

AUDITIONS

The Artistic Director will listen to singers before or after rehearsals on Tuesday nights. Prospective members and former members returning after an absence may make arrangements with him for other times.

Solo auditions will be announced throughout the season. Due to time constraints, prospective soloists are expected to learn their chosen pieces prior to the audition. The Artistic Director may also assign solos without an audition as he deems appropriate.

WEBSITE – www.rainierchorale.org

Be sure to visit the Members Hall section of the Chorale's website weekly for any announcements and updates. The website contains important information such as member rosters, calendar of events, Board information, and ticket order forms – as well as a few fun things. You can quickly obtain contact information for the Board, Artistic Director, and other key personnel. It's also the best way to change your contact information should you move or have a new e-mail address.

Contact Kay Cummings at 253.981.3150 or kittykayann@comcast.net to obtain a log-in ID and password in order to access the member portion of the site.

SOCIAL EVENTS

We work hard, and we like to play too! A number of organized social activities are planned each year. A post-concert party is held following each Sunday concert. It's a great chance to mingle and get to know other Chorale members in an informal setting. Stay tuned to announcements at each rehearsal, as well as on the website, to find out more details. If you

would like to help organize an activity, we're always looking for helping hands and good ideas! Just talk to any Board member.

FUNDRAISING AND DONATIONS

No single source provides enough revenue to totally support the Chorale. It is through everyone's cooperation and participation that we keep Rainier Chorale financially solvent. Donations over and above the dues are welcome. Donations are tax deductible, and benefactors are listed in the program at Chorale concerts.

The Chorale's ongoing fundraiser is our Scrip program. You can purchase gift cards through the Chorale to give as gifts and – more importantly – use like cash at your favorite establishments (grocery stores, restaurants, etc.). The Chorale earns a percentage from every gift card purchased. This is an easy way to support the Chorale without any real expense to you! Visit the website for a complete list of retailers and details on ordering.

Members are strongly encouraged to participate in annual fundraising projects. These events not only help to support the Chorale, but they also contribute to our ongoing scholarship fund for college students who choose to pursue degrees in vocal or choral studies.

TICKET SALES

Ticket sales are the single-most effective means of raising funds, as well as promoting the Rainier Chorale in the community. Members are expected to sell tickets for each concert and the Board may deem mandatory sales quotas necessary.

CONCERT APPEARANCE AND ETIQUETTE

Each member is responsible to acquire the prescribed costume for each concert. The object of our uniform is to allow us to look like we all belong to the same group. Members who choose not to comply with the dress code will be asked by a designated member of the Board of Directors to make the necessary adjustments or may be excused from the performance.

Jewelry: Small pearl or gold stud earrings only. At the December and Masterworks concert, only the chorale-provided necklace may be worn. Otherwise, NO necklaces, dangly earrings, or sparkly accessories (including hair accessories and body glitter) of any kind.

Please be aware that flamboyant make up and hairstyles are a distraction for our audience, so we request that you do your best to blend in.

NO cologne, perfume, scented hairspray, or aftershave as a courtesy to those with fragrance sensitivity.

Gum chewing interferes with your ability to sing and is a distraction to our audience, so no gum chewing while on the risers.

Silence your watches; leave pagers and cellular phones off stage.

Bring only folders and music on stage (no pencils, purses, programs or other materials whatsoever). Please carry your music in your right hand when entering and exiting the stage.

At the completion of a section, turn the music quietly to the next chorus cue. Do not turn pages with the soloist. At the completion of a piece of music, acknowledge the audience, but do not turn to the next piece until the Director signals.

Do not applaud our own.

2012-2013 SEASON AT A GLANCE

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| October 13, 2012 | Saturday rehearsal – KUMC 3:00, (afternoon/potluck) |
| December 6, 2012 | Thursday - Dress rehearsal - KUMC |
| December 8-9, 2012 | Holiday Concert – KUMC |
| January 26, 2013 | Saturday rehearsal - KUMC Time TBD (afternoon/potluck) |
| February 9, 2013 | “Stardust” Cabaret, Dinner and Silent Auction – Green River Community College – 6:30 pm |
| April 4, 2013 | Thursday - Dress Rehearsal - KUMC |
| April 6-7, 2013 | Masterworks Concert – KUMC |
| May 4, 2013 | Saturday rehearsal – KUMC Time TBD (afternoon/potluck) |
| June 13, 2013 | Thursday - Dress rehearsal – Carco Theatre |
| June 15-16, 2013 | Pops Concert – Carco Theatre |

Mission Statement

Rainier Chorale is committed to pursue excellence in the performance of choral music, to provide a challenging creative outlet for its members, and to produce enjoyable musical experiences for its audience.

Values Statement

Rainier Chorale values each of its members, maintains a cohesive performing group, encourages each person to grow as a musician, and fosters fellowship among its members.

Rainier Chorale values integrity and fairness in its business and fundraising practices.

Rainier Chorale values many styles of music, and performs a variety of concerts, drawing from works by sacred, secular, classical and popular composers.

