

## WCCC AT A GLANCE

Welcome to the Wichita Community Children's Choir! Here is a handy "quick list" of important things to know.

### What should I expect?

Expect to do some serious singing, and to have some serious fun! WCCC is a vibrant, upbeat choir that provides children the opportunity to develop their music talent and enrich their lives through the singing of beautiful music. Our choir is unique in that children of all ages, from many schools, come together as one and create a unique sound. As a "musical family", we support and encourage one another instead of being competitive.

Our songs cover a wide variety of styles including famous sacred and secular masterworks and songs from our American heritage such as folk, spiritual, jazz, gospel, and Broadway classics. We also enjoy singing music from many other countries and languages and promoting global harmony and inspirational messages. As a member of WCCCC, singers are expected to accept and respect the choir's entire music repertoire from an artistic standpoint.

### When does WCCC start?

**June 1** - scholarship applications due.

**June 15** - Mail in Membership Contract, Tuition Deposit of \$75

**August 26 OR 27** - Fall Round-Up at Sims Ranch

(Details and a sign-up schedule will be e-mailed to parents)

**August 29**-First Rehearsal and Parent's Meeting at Friends University, Riney Fine Arts Center

6:00 -7:00 p.m. Singers - Room C7 Parents - Sebitts Auditorium

7 -7:30 p.m. Watermelon Feed on the Lawn

**Sept. 7** - Singin' Saturday 9:00-noon Location TBA

### What days do I need to mark on my calendar? (TENTATIVE CALENDAR updated May 2019)

**REHEARSALS** - Thursdays at Friends University, Riney Fine Arts Center Sept.-April

Choristers (grades 4-6) 4:45- 5:30 in room B5

Chorale -(grades 5-9) 5:00 -6:30 p.m. in C7

September- April

No Thursday rehearsals Thanksgiving or during Winter and Spring Break

**RETREATS—All singers are required to attend our Music Learning Retreats.**

Singin' Saturday Saturday, September 7 (9:30- noon) Location TBA

Fall Retreat Saturday, October 5 9:30 -2:00 Maize South Middle School

Winter Retreat Saturday, January 11 9:30-2:00 Maize South Middle School

**CONCERTS—All singers will perform in two major concerts, WINTER PRELUDE AND SPRING SING. There will be dress rehearsals at the performance location and attendance is mandatory.**

**WCCC Winter Prelude at St. Elizabeth Anne Seton Church**

Rehearsals at SEAS: Sat. Dec 7 10-noon  
Thurs. Dec. 12 5-7

Concerts: Friday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m.  
Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 p.m

**Spring Sing! Concert at First Mennonite Brethren Church**

Rehearsal at FMBC: Friday, April 25 5-7  
Saturday, April 25- 10-noon

Concert: Sunday, April 26 at 3:00  
Reception to follow

**ADDITIONAL SPECIAL PERFORMANCES**

**WHAT: WCCC SINGATHON! (a WCCC showcase of our talented members!)**

**WHO:** WCCC members

**WHEN:** February 9 2:00 p.m at First Mennonite Brethren Church  
Rehearsal- Feb. 8 9 a.m. to noon

**WHAT: "SYMPOSIUM" CONCERT with composer GWYNETH WALKER**

**WHO:** WCCC Choirs (Choristers and Chorale) and Friends University Concert Choir

**WHEN:** Thursday, April 2, Rehearsal 5-6:30 p.m. at Friends University  
Concert 7:30 p.m. at Sebitts Hall, Friends University

**WHAT:** PERFORMANCE with WICHITA SYMPHONY - "Carmina Burana" by Carl Orff

**WHO:** WCCC Symphony SINGERS (selected from Chorale grade 6-9)

**WHEN:** Concerts November 23 and 24  
Rehearsals- we will have 3 additional rehearsals - more info forthcoming)

**WHAT: CHORALL DAY-TOUR to Lawrence, KS**

**KANSAS ChorALL CHILDREN'S CHOIR FESTIVAL**

**WHO:** Chorale Members

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 18, 2020

**What about attendance?**

**Attendance at all rehearsals, performances, and events is expected.** The Wichita Community Children's Choir has earned a reputation as an outstanding performance group. Each member is an important team member and has no substitute! Choristers are challenged at a high level each week and the rehearsals are sequential, requiring each singer to be present and growing together to create the WCCC's hallmark sound.

The choir schedule is posted early in the year and updates are posted on our website

to assist in planning your busy family schedules. In order to ensure the choir's success and growth, the following attendance policy is in place:

1. An absence is an absence no matter the reason.
2. All Music Learning Retreats, Dress rehearsals, Winter Prelude, and Spring Sing Concerts are mandatory. An unexcused absence during the last week prior to a concert will preclude participation in the concert.
3. For an anticipated absence of a dress rehearsal or concert, please notify the Director **by email** at least two months prior to the absence in order to be excused. (major family events (wedding) or a graded school activity, illness are approved absences.
4. For an absence due to sudden illness or emergency, the parents should notify the Director as soon as possible.
5. Each singer has one "free" absence a semester.
6. A make-up lesson will be offered at a specific time by the Director for those who have missed 2 or more rehearsals. If absences become excessive, the singer will be required to demonstrate they are current with the repertoire and adequately prepared in a private one- hour lesson (\$30) with staff. The Director will decide whether the musician is adequately prepared to continue in the choir and to perform in concerts.

### **PUNCTUALITY**

Punctuality is of utmost importance. Our rehearsals are fast-paced and we need ALL our members there as every minute counts! Singers are expected to arrive at least 10 minutes early to take care of the following:

- Check in for attendance
- Use the restroom
- Arrange your music in the order listed
- Prepare a sharpened pencil.
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Recurring tardies or early departures:

Arriving 10 minutes late or departing early three times within the semester will count as 1 absence.

Excessive tardiness can result in the choir member being dismissed from the choir at the discretion of the Director.

### **What are the financial policies?**

**Payments/Drop Off:** Forms and payments should be turned in before rehearsal to the rehearsal

assistant or choir treasurer. All checks should be payable to "Wichita Community Children's Choir". You may also make payments under the "Donate" tab on our website. Remember you must obtain a receipt for ALL CASH PAYMENTS.

**Annual Tuition** is \$175 (Choristers) and \$250 (Chorale) and is divided into two installments.

**Deposit-** WCCC Singers reserve a place in the program by:

1. paying a **non-refundable Tuition Deposit** of \$75 (checks payable to WCCC)
2. signing the **WCCC SINGER AND PARENT CONTRACT (Appendix 4)**
3. mailing both items, postmarked **no later than June 15 to:**

**Wichita Community Children's Choir P.O. Box 48324 Wichita, KS 67201-8324**

**Balance-**the final tuition payment is due at the **August Round-up**.

### **Policies**

- All invoice payments must be current in order for singers to participate in rehearsals and performances.
- If, for whatever reason, a singer resigns or is asked to leave the choir, no tuition refunds will be made. Should extenuating circumstances arise, an appeal may be made to the Board.
- A \$30 service fee will be charged for all returned checks.

**Scholarships:** Financial assistance is available on a need-basis to help WCCC families cover the costs of their chorister's participation in the choir program. Refer to our Handbook for application forms.

**Confidentiality:** The scholarship application form will be held in confidence and will not be available to anyone other than the scholarship committee.

**Application:** A Scholarship Application is required for all Scholarship requests. The Scholarship application postmark deadline is June 1. Applicants will be notified of the results of the application by the next week. Scholarship recipients are responsible for a \$75 deposit at enrollment and the tuition amount listed on their scholarship document due by September. The scholarship credit will be applied towards the remaining balance on January 1, providing that the singer fulfills attendance and membership guidelines.

**Amount:** Scholarships shall be for a percent of tuition to be determined by the scholarship committee. All other fees such as uniform and trip costs are the responsibility of the choir member's family.

**Volunteer Activities:** Families receiving scholarships are expected to volunteer their time in WCCC activities.

**What about choir outfits?**

**CHORALE Concert Dress for Boys:**

- White tux shirt, black vest, and royal blue bowtie (ordered through WCCC)
- Black dress pants, belt, black socks, and black dress shoes (provided by parents)

**CHORALE Concert Dress for Girls:**

- Royal blue concert dress, WCCC jewelry (ordered through WCCC)
- Black flat dress shoes, closed-toe (provided by parents)

**CHORISTERS:**

- WCCC polo shirt (tucked in) , black pants, belt if needed, and black shoes

**Casual Dress:** WCCC t-shirt,(tucked in) black pants, belt if needed, and black shoes

**Used Concert attire:**

Singers who have out-grown their concert attire may have it available for purchase at our Fall Round-up. (Information on this will be emailed in fall to former members who wish to sell garments)

**Sportswear:**

A variety of optional sportswear will be available for members and/or families to purchase in the fall (i.e. caps, sweatpants, hoodies, book bags, jackets, etc.)

**Replacement Cost:**

Students are responsible for replacing any lost or damaged apparel during the course of the performance year. Approximate costs of new items are: Dress \$ 60 Tux shirt and vest- \$35

**Professional Appearance:**

As music ambassadors to our city and state, it is important to present a professional and unified appearance before, during and after an event. Policies include: Clean and pressed outfits, men's shirts tucked in with a belt and bow-ties in place, hair styled off of face with a black headband, black barrette or band. Be sure to wear deodorant! Please do not wear perfume, jewelry, heavy makeup or bright hair colors when performing.

**What if I have more questions?**

No problem! Please refer to our **HANDBOOK** as it is very detailed. Also, please check our website regularly for information, forms, handouts, practice tracks and calendar updates. [www.wcccks.com](http://www.wcccks.com)

Throughout the year, you will receive regular emails with updated information. We will also use REMIND to send texts directly to your phone for reminders, important messages, and cancellations.

It is **critical** that you keep us informed of your current contact information so that we stay in communication. If you are not able to easily access information through the website or email, please let the Director know.

**?? Still not sure??** - Always feel free to contact the Director or the WCCC President.

Karen Sims, Artistic Director 316-648-3293

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