



Rosemary Thomson
Chorus Master

Members' Handbook
2008 - 2009

The Calgary Philharmonic Chorus, founded in 1963, is a voluntary adult chorus working with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra to achieve excellence in the performance of choral music and to promote the enjoyment and development of choral singing in the community.

Opportunities for you to help achieve our objectives:

You can make a difference to the success of the chorus by volunteering to help in any of the following areas:

1. Excellence Committee. Promote greater professionalism and higher standards of performance by the chorus.
2. Outreach Committee. Develop and carry out ideas for extending choral work in the Calgary area.
3. Communications Committee. Ensure that the Calgary Philharmonic Chorus and its work becomes better known throughout the community.
4. Library Committee. Ensure that our valuable music is stored and catalogued efficiently and that it is available at appropriate times.
5. Development Committee. Take the lead in chorus planning and fundraising.
6. Help any of the executive in their various roles.
7. Volunteer your services as an executive member at the Annual General Meeting.
8. Join the Tea Aria III committee.

FACULTY

Chorus Master	Rosemary Thomson 403-508-7680 rthomson@cpo-live.com
Chorus Master Designate	Timothy Shantz 403-508-7680 tshantz@cpo-live.com
Accompanist	Cheryl Emery 403-238-2811 emery_cheryl@hotmail.com
Administrator	Bernie Constantin 403-286-0832 bernie.constantin@stmu.ab.ca

CALGARY PHILHARMONIC CHORUS EXECUTIVE

President	Irene Kyle 403-282-2274 ijkyle@shaw.ca
Vice President	Glenn Bontje 403-239-1740 glenn.bontje@hp.com
Past President	Andrew Holder 403-607-3198 Holderincanmore@shaw.ca
Treasurer	Holly Demedash 403-862-1156 Hollyane@shaw.ca
Secretary	Allison Johnson 403-249-6804 choralreef@shaw.ca
Wardrobe Coord.	Marian Zekulin 403-288-6956 marianze@telus.net
Social (Shared)	Patricia Austin-Edy 403-640-1500 patriciaedy@hotmail.com
	Joan Simmins 403-284-5991 joan_simmins@scotiawaterous.com
Soprano Rep.	Pat Knecht 403-239-5053 pat@knechtmusik.com
Alto Rep.	Carrie Monk 403-589-9640 sniffbran@yahoo.com
Tenor Rep.	David Owen 403-217-2780 midnorton@googlemail.com
Bass Rep.	Doug Strother 403-802-1209 doug.cal@shaw.ca
Chorus Marshall	David Schey 403-241-3076 ckds@telusplanet.net
Librarian	Keith Wyenberg 403-246-9420 kwyenberg@shaw.ca

Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Executive

President

- Liaise with CPO administration, representing and promoting the goals of the Chorus; sits on the CPO Board as a voting member.
- Chairs chorus executive meetings and is a member of all Chorus committees: coordinates implementation of Strategic Plans.

Vice-President

- Represents the Chorus when the President is absent.
- Takes responsibility for defined committees as agreed between President and Vice-President.

Section Leaders

- Record the attendance of chorus members and report to the Chorus Master any prolonged or unexplained absences.
- Report any musical difficulties or trouble spots within their section to the Chorus Master.
- Keep accurate record of markings and musical changes; communicates these to section.

Treasurer

- Ensures Chorus accounts are up-to-date and accurate.
- Prepares annual budgets and financial statement for Annual General Meeting.
- Collects annual fees.

Secretary

- Records and distributes the minutes of executive meetings and the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Wardrobe Coordinator

- Ensures that all Chorus members are aware of the proper concert attire.
- Suggests alternative choices if wardrobe changes are made.
- Reinforces "no scent" policy.

Social

- Ensures refreshments are available at rehearsals.
- Organizes chorus social events.
- Makes arrangements for post-concert receptions.

Chorus Marshall (appointed position)

- Responsible for all aspects of chorus organization for performances: sits and stands, order of entry, etiquette, etc.

Financial Responsibility – Membership Fee:

An annual fee of \$200 is charged for membership in the CP Chorus. The fee, due at the beginning of each season or in two installments, is payable to the Calgary Philharmonic Society and contributes to the annual expenses incurred by the Chorus, such as the Chorus Master and accompanist fees.

Financial help is available for those who may require it. Please talk to the Treasurer.

Opportunities to Help

You can make a difference to the success of the Chorus by volunteering to help. Please see the first page for ideas of how you can help.

Auditions

All members of the Calgary Philharmonic Chorus are required to re-audition each year, usually after the last concert in June. The Chorus Master may at any time require a Chorus member to audition prior to a concert should there be concern about his or her musical preparedness. New members' auditions are generally held in the spring and late summer.

Rehearsals – Jack Singer Rehearsal Hall (JSRH)

Regular Rehearsals: Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9:45 pm. Extra pre-concert rehearsals are held with guest conductors and orchestra, usually in Jack Singer Concert Hall (JSCH). Please consult the calendar for specific dates and times. Additional rehearsals, if needed, are announced in advance, while Section rehearsals may be called before a full rehearsal.

Music

Each choir member will be assigned a number. You will be responsible for the music with the corresponding number while you are a member of the CP Chorus. Extra copies will not be available after the music has been distributed.

PLEASE:

- Use a soft lead pencil to make your notations. NO HIGHLIGHTERS.
- Erase any markings before returning music.
- Keep music in a folder or music bag for storage.
- Don't punch holes in music.
- Repair all tears in your music.
- Hand your music in at the first rehearsal following each concert.

Rehearsal Etiquette

Proper conduct respectful of all chorus members is required. The chorus membership lists are for the use of chorus members alone. Using these lists as a means of contacts for business, real estate or mailout lists may lead to dismissal from the chorus.

- Rehearsals begin on time.
- Please come prepared with your music and several sharpened pencils.
- Study your music prior to rehearsals.
- Choristers are responsible for all material covered at rehearsals which they miss. This includes schedule changes and other announcements. Please contact your section leader for such details following an absence.
- Extraneous conversation is detrimental to the rehearsal process. Limit conversation to the break. Direct all questions regarding music to the conductor, or your section leader at the break.
- Practice good singing posture – no crossed legs, no slouching.
- Do not wear any after-shave, perfume, scent or scented hair spray.

Rehearsal Attendance

- You are expected to be at every rehearsal.
- Arrive early enough to pick up new music and get settled in.
- Rehearsal attendance is taken each week and monitored by the Chorus Master.
- If you are unable to attend, **phone or email your Section Leader before the rehearsal.**
- If you are unable to sing for any reason, come to rehearsals so that you can mark your scores with any changes made (to avoid spreading illness, please sit apart from other choir members).
- If you must leave the chorus for a period of time, notify your Section Leader how long you plan to be away.
- Should a member miss any three rehearsals prior to a concert, they will be required to meet with the Chorus Master, and may be required to re-audition on the music to be performed.

*****Please note: Attendance at all dress rehearsals is mandatory. The Chorus Master has the final decision in who may perform in any concert.*****

Section Leaders (call if you cannot attend rehearsal)

Soprano	Pat Knecht	403-239-5053
Alto	Carrie Monk	403-589-9640
Tenor	David Owen	403-217-2780
Bass	Doug Strother	403-802-1209

Concerts

Concerts are usually held in the Jack Singer Concert Hall. The Chorus Marshall will arrange when the chorus is to enter and exit the stage and will consult with the Chorus Master and Conductor as to the standing and sitting cues.

- A small black evening bag may be taken on stage for personal items.
- While on stage or backstage DO NOT touch any instruments.

- Enter the stage with music in your upstage hand.
- Remain standing after you reach your seat.
- Watch designated person for signal to sit.
- No talking from the Concert Master's (First violinist's) entrance until the end of the performance.
- Use good posture while sitting. Do not cross your legs.
- Keep movements to a minimum.
- Watch for cue to stand. Music should be open as you stand and at singing level.
- Mark choral entrances with paper clips to avoid turning pages during long orchestral or solo passages. Turn pages quietly! Don't follow the music with the soloists.
- Take your music with you at intermission and after the concert.
- At the end of the piece, close music after the conductor turns to the audience.
- You may applaud as conductor, soloists and orchestra are acknowledged. Please do not stamp your feet.
- Sit quietly as the Concert Master sits.
- Wait to leave until most of the orchestra has cleared the stage.

Concert Dress

As members may be allergic, please, no perfumes, aftershave, or scented hair spray.

The wardrobe coordinator must approve of all concert dress.

Men:

- Black tuxedo (or black suit)
- White shirt with standard collar
- Black bow tie
- Black shoes / socks


Ladies:

- All black, dressy enough to go with the men's tuxes but not to distract the audience, ie. No glitter
- Black gown/skirt or long dress pants (max 2" above ankle)
- Black **long-sleeved** top (no see-through fabrics, arms/shoulders must be covered)
- Black hosiery
- Black shoes
- No cotton pants/tops, black jeans or casual pants.
- Minimum jewelry, small matte earrings only

SEPTEMBER 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labour Day	2	3 First Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	4	5	6 AGM and Chorus BBQ 5 pm BYOB
7	8	9	10 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Piano Rehearsal Vanelli JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	2 1st Dress Rehearsal SAJA^ 7:00-9:30pm	3 2nd Dress Rehearsal 11:30-2:00 LotR* SAJA^ 6:30 pm Call	4 CONCERT LotR* SAJA^ 6:30 pm Call
5	6	7	8 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	9	10	11
12	13 Thanksgiving! 	14	15 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30-9:45 Dress Reh. SAJA^ 7:30pm Women's Chorus	23 CONCERT M. Night's Dream - SAJA^ Women's Chorus 7 pm call	24 CONCERT M. Night's Dream - SAJA^ Women Only 7 pm call	25 CONCERT M. Night's Dream - SAJA^ Women Only 7 pm call
26	27	28	29 Orchestra Rehearsal Flummerfelt JSCH 7-9:30	30 Dress Rehearsal JSCH 7:00-9:30 pm	31 CONCERT Faure Requiem JSCH 7:00 pm call	Workshop w/ J. Flummerfelt 10 am - 4 pm Location TBA


^ Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium

* Lord of the Rings


NOVEMBER 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 CONCERT Faure Requiem JSCH 7:00 pm call
2	3	4	5 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -10:00	6	7	8
9	10	11 Remembrance Day	12 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -10:00	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -10:00	20	21	22
23	24	25 Piano Reh. Minczuk Location TBA 7:30-9:45	26 Orchestra Rehearsal JSCH 7:00-9:45 pm	27	28	29 Dress Reh. 10:30-1:00 JSCH
30						Ode to Joy JSCH 7pm call

DECEMBER 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Piano Rehearsal Taurins TBA 7:00-10:00	2 Piano Rehearsal Taurins JSRH 7:00-10:00	3 Orchestra Rehearsal Taurins JSCH 7:00-9:30	4 Dress Rehearsal Messiah JSCH 7-10 pm	5 CONCERT Messiah JSCH 6:15 pm call	6 CONCERT Messiah JSCH 6:30 pm call
7 CONCERT Messiah Singalong 1:00 pm call	8	9	10 Vivaldi Reh. Chamber Choir JSRH 7:30-9:45	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Carol Singing and Social 5:30 pm (TBA)	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 BREAK - No Rehearsal	25 Christmas Day 	26	27
28	29	30	31 BREAK - No Rehearsal			

JANUARY 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 	2	3
4	5	6	7 Vivaldi Reh. Chamber Choir JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Vivaldi Rehearsal - CC JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Elijah Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Vivaldi Rehearsal - CC JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Vivaldi - CC Piano Reh. Taurins JSRH 7 - 10 pm	5 Orchestra Rehearsal - CC JSCH 7:00-9:30 pm	6	7 Dress Reh. 11-1:30 JSCH Vivaldi Gloria JSCH 7 pm call
8	9	10	11 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Rehearsal JSRH 7:00 -9:45 pm	26 Dress Reh. Women Only Minczuk JSCH 7:00-9:30 pm	27 CONCERT Holst - Planets JSCH 8:15 pm call	28 CONCERT Holst - Planets JSCH 8:15 pm call

MARCH 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	5	6	7 Spring Workshop 10:00-4:00 Location TBA
8	9	10	11 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Rehearsal JSRH 7:30 -9:45 pm	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- CHORAL HUMOUR -

A Glossary of Choral Music Terms

Tonic:	A smooth liquid generally enjoyed over ice after choir rehearsal.
Dominant:	In a choral relationship, usually the soprano.
Augmentation:	Delicate surgery for altos involving the implantation of "falsettos".
Leitmotif:	Like a regular motif, but less filling.
Score:	Basses 8, Tenors 0.
Contralto:	An alto who has been convicted of a felony.
Basso Continuo:	When the conductor can't get the fools to stop singing.
Castrato:	The highest male voice (some alteration required.)
Concerto Grosso:	An accordion concert.
Glissando:	What directly precedes the highest note in the soprano part.

Some Newer Terms You Might Not Know

Adagio fromaggio:	To play in a slow and cheesy manner.
AnDante:	A musical composition that is infernally slow.
Approximento:	A musical entrance that is somewhat close to the correct pitch.
Bar line:	What musicians form after a concert.
D.C. al Capone:	You betta go back to the beginning, capiche?
Diminuendo:	The process of quieting a rumor in the chorus.
Fermantra:	A note that is held over and over and over and...
Frugalhorn:	A sensible, inexpensive brass instrument.
Gregorian champ:	Chorister who can hold a note the longest.
Molto bolto:	Head straight for the ending, but don't make it seemed rushed.
Opera buffa:	Musical stage production at a nudist camp.
Spritzicato:	Plucking of a stringed instrument to produce a bright, bubbly sound, usually accompanied by sparkling water with lemon (wine optional).

<http://www.oratoriosocietyofny.org/ChorusHumor.html>

Concert Schedule (2008-2009)

- Fri. October 3, Sat. October 4 (Specials)
Lord of the Rings Symphony
Claudio Vanelli
- Thurs. October 22, Fri. October 23, Sat. October 24 (with Alberta Ballet)
Mendelssohn - Midsummer Night's Dream
Womens Chorus
- Fri. October 31, Sat. November 1 (Classics)
Fauré — Requiem
Joseph Flummerfelt, Conductor
- Sat. November 29 (Beethoven Festival)
Ode to Joy (Beethoven Symphony #9)
Roberto Minczuk, Conductor
- Fri. December 5, Sat. December 6, Sun. December 7 (Singalong)
Handel — Messiah
Ivars Taurins, (aka, G.F. Handel) Conductor
- Sat. February 7 (Serenade)
Vivaldi — Gloria
Ivars Taurins, Conductor
- Fri. February 27, Sat. February 28 (Classics)
Holst — The Planets Womens Chorus
Roberto Minczuk, Conductor
- Fri. April 17, Sat. April 18 (Classics)
Mendelssohn — Elijah
Roberto Minczuk, Conductor
- Fri. May 8, Sat. May 9 (Pops)
We Will Rock You: The Music of Queen
Pierre Simard, Conductor
- Fri. May 15, Sat. May 16 Matinee, Possible Evening (Specials)
Video Games Live 2.0
Jack Wall, Conductor

Handbook
Compiled by Andrew Holder,
Irene Kyle

Designed by Alix Westgard.
<http://thestarvingpoet.net>

