

Dear singer,

Congratulations for being recommended to participate in the Alberta Children's Choir! I know that singing in the choir will be an enjoyable and rewarding experience for you. This year marks the largest Alberta Children's Choir in history with 125 recommended choristers and this is the first year the Alberta Children's Choir will be performing the world premiere of a piece written especially for the choir! It will be an exciting choir to sing in and I'm sure it will be an outstanding experience.

Please read the information in this package very carefully. It will help you prepare for the experience and ensure that you have all of the information you need to make your time in the choir great. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Alberta Choral Federation office at 780-488-7464 or info@albertachoralfederation.ca

In this package you will find the following:

Music

This music is on loan from the ACF Library and must be returned after the performance. Please treat it with care and mark it only with pencil. All photocopies are either temporary or have been made with permission, and must be returned after the concert in the folder you were given.

Voicing

On the front of your music folder beside your name you will see two upper case letters with a slash between them. These letters tell you what parts to sing. The first letter tells you your part for 2-part music (S or A); the second letter tells you your part for 3-part music (S1, S2, or A). Your parts were assigned based on your conductor/music teacher's recommendation. If you feel that you have been assigned the wrong part please ask your conductor/music teacher to contact us prior to the regional rehearsal.

Schedule

Singers must participate in all aspects of the Alberta Children's Choir as printed on the schedule. It is very important that singers be on time for all rehearsals.

General information

Conductor: Kellie Walsh (St. John's, NL)

Accompanist: Sheila Wright (Edmonton, AB)

We encourage you to visit the Alberta Children's Choir page on the Alberta Choral Federation website (www.albertachoralfederation.ca) to read Ms. Walsh's biography.

Dress

- Dress for the rehearsals in Edmonton and the regional rehearsal is casual/comfortable. Concert dress is the ACC t-shirt with black pants/skirt, black socks/tights, and black shoes.
- Each singer will receive an ACC t-shirt at registration *which they must wear to rehearsals on Saturday.*

Regional rehearsals

Prior to the rehearsals with Kellie Walsh in Edmonton, regional rehearsals will be held in several locations around the province. Attendance at the regional rehearsal closest to you is mandatory...

- Edmonton: **Saturday, 21 Jan 2011, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**
MacEwan Alberta College Campus (10050 MacDonald Drive), Room 410
Regional rehearsal conductor – Carmen So
- Calgary: **Saturday, 21 Jan 2011, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**
Webber Academy (1515 93 ST SW), Music Room
Regional rehearsal conductor – Patricia Clattenburg
- Lac La Biche: **Various after-school times; you will be contacted by your director**
Regional rehearsal conductor – Heather Dempsey (780-623-4827)
- Camrose: **Various after-school times; you will be contacted by your director**
Regional rehearsal conductor – Joy-Anne Murphy (780-672-3372)

Tickets

Each singer will receive one complimentary ticket which has been included in this folder. Additional tickets are \$10 and may be purchased in advance through the ACF Office (780-488-7464). Tickets will also be available at the Friday morning rehearsal or at the door on Saturday night. Note that tickets will not be available at registration on Thursday evening.

Travel/Accommodation

Please note that travel and accommodation arrangements in Edmonton are the responsibility of the singers. We have arranged for a special rate at the Coast Edmonton House Hotel of \$99/night for choristers and their families coming from out of town. Each of these rooms is a suite, including a fully equipped kitchen. The hotel is also willing to provide a breakfast box for choristers at a cost of \$13 per meal so that families do not need to wait for meals in restaurants. To book a room at the Coast Edmonton House Hotel, please review the information on the following form from the hotel. *Note that you will need to book a room before **January 15, 2012** to secure the lower rate.*

Rehearsal CDs

Rehearsal CDs have been included with this packet. **It is critical that singers spend as much time as possible with their music and their CD. Singers will be expected to know all the notes and rhythms when they arrive at the Thursday evening rehearsal.**

Volunteering

We will require a number of volunteers this year. If you have checked that you would be available to help out on the chorister's registration form, our volunteer coordinator will contact you.

Archival Recording

The concert will be recorded and choristers will be able to purchase archival recordings at the concert on Saturday night. More information on purchasing a recording will be available at the regional rehearsals.

Communication

As we approach the residency period and regional rehearsal weekend, I will be in touch with all choir families with more information as it arises and to make sure everyone has the information they need for the choir to be successful. This will be done primarily through email so it will be important to regularly check the email provided on the chorister's registration form.

Contact Information

Kimberley Denis, Alberta Choral Federation Program Coordinator

- kim@albertachoralfederation.ca
- 780-488-7464 (office)
- 780-995-6053 (cell to be used January 21 and February 2-4 only)

McDougall United Church

Located in the heart of Edmonton, McDougall United Church has a beautiful choral acoustic and will serve as a wonderful rehearsal and concert venue for the Alberta Children's Choir. **Please note that for the sake of security, the building will remain locked during rehearsals.**

For on-site check in on Thursday evening, please enter McDougall using the main doors on 101 street (signs will be posted to direct you to this entrance). The main doors will be unlocked at 5:45 p.m. and remain open until 6:45 p.m. after which a designated security-person will be able to let you in through the south entrance. **The 101 Street doors will be unlocked 15 minutes before the end of rehearsal** – please use those doors to pick your child up.

For Friday and Saturday rehearsals, please use the 101 Street doors. These doors will be unlocked 30 minutes before the start of rehearsal and 15 minutes before the end of each rehearsal. If you need to enter the building after a rehearsal has started, please use the south doors and a designated security-person will be able to let you in.

We strongly encourage parents to come in to the building to meet their child rather than to have their child wait outside to be picked up.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the information above. I will be unavailable between December 23 and January 10 but will be able to address your questions upon my return after Christmas.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Denis
Program Coordinator
Alberta Choral Federation