

# Hendricks Symphonic Choir

## *Etiquette 101*

*undated August 1, 2010*

*These are things you may know, and we hope you will forgive us for repeating them. It is our hope that this list will continue to change and evolve, as it reflects an ever growing organization.*

### **The Choir**

The Hendricks Symphonic Choir is a choral group dedicated to singing the choral masterworks. We will rehearse on Mondays during the concert season, and expect to perform up to four (4) concerts a season.

### **Joining the Choir**

The Hendricks Symphonic Choir is open to all residents of the community interested in singing great choral music. New members are accepted by audition. For additional information, or to schedule an audition, contact Benjamin Del Vecchio (317) 241-0750 [delvecchiob@prodigy.net](mailto:delvecchiob@prodigy.net) While there is no membership fee, members will be encouraged to make a minimum annual donation of at least \$25 to the Hendricks Symphonic Society, a non-profit corporation. This money helps to offset expenses. Members are expected to purchase their own music. There will be a fund available for students and others for whom this creates a financial hardship.

### **Audition Requirements**

*Auditions will be held annually or biennially at the discretion of the director. They are primarily to enable us to find out more about you. We want them to be a positive experience, and promise to do everything we can to make you comfortable, so that you will be able to sing with confidence. We will ask you to:*

1. Vocalize for range, quality and accuracy of pitch.
2. Performance of a song. Prepare a song of your choice (accompanist will be provided). It can be a hymn, art song, sacred solo, aria, or a song from musical theater. Memorization is not required. Please bring a copy for the accompanist.
3. Sight-reading.

### **Attendance Requirements**

Members must attend a minimum of 80% of the rehearsals for a program, and must attend all dress rehearsals. Two tardies to rehearsal equals one absence, and It is your responsibility to check in with your section coordinator immediately upon arrival and not wait until break . Any exceptions must be approved by the conductor

### **Section Coordinators**

Each section will have an appointed coordinator. Members should address needs or concerns to their section coordinator. Coordinators will report to the personnel manager, who reports to the conductor.

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## **Concert Dress**

Men wear tuxedos or a tuxedo-like suits (i.e., black; not grey, brown or blue), white shirts, black bow tie, black shoes and black socks. Women are all in black: long floor length dress, or same length black skirt or slacks with preferably a long-sleeved black blouse, and black dress shoes. Please **no sleeveless tops** and **no flashy jeans**. **We would like to move toward uniform long black dresses (or pant suits) for women and Tuxedos for the men by the fall of 2013 (3 years)**

## **Music**

Choir members are expected to either provide their own music or purchase it from the choir. For music purchased from the choir, All sales are final. There are no refunds on music if someone has to drop out of choir. For performances music must be put in a black folder or notebook, or bound with a black cover. Don't wait until the last minute to find a cover which will be practical in performance!

## **Concert and Rehearsal Aromas**

Do not wear perfume, cologne, aftershave, or perfumed hairspray before a concert or a rehearsal. Do wear unscented deodorant! Do not smoke or indulge in aromatic food or drink before we sing. We are in very close quarters, breathing deeply, and we need all the clear oxygen we can get! Do not drink alcohol before a performance for obvious reasons. Leave the celebration until after a brilliant concert.

## **Concert and Rehearsal Behavior**

Rehearsals will begin with a warm up promptly at the assigned hour, and anyone not in their seat and ready to sing will be considered late. Food and gum chewing is not allowed. Water bottles should be the no spill variety. Each member is expected to bring a sharp pencil with an eraser to rehearsal. This is in order that you can mark your music. Music should not be marked with a pen. Talking should be kept to a minimum, and all questions should be addressed to the conductor. Musicians are not allowed to be in public areas or mingle with the public before or during a performance.

## **Expectations**

Each singer is expected to learn the music assigned for each rehearsal on his or her own. Beyond the first reading of a work, rehearsal time will be devoted to the development of ensemble sound, interpretation, and other musical matters. It is further expected that each singer will make a reasonable effort to develop his or her own vocal skills, and will make every effort to contribute in a positive manner to the work of the group. When possible we will provide rehearsal CD's, or an internet link to music, so you can practice at home.

## **Cell Phones**

We prefer that you do not bring cell phones to rehearsal, but if you feel you need them on your person, they must be turned off. You can retrieve messages at intermission or after the rehearsal or performance. Cell phones will never be allowed on stage during a performance