

LINCOLN CHORAL *Artists*

Who we are

Lincoln Choral Artists is an auditioned, adult choir with members from Lincoln and the surrounding community. We strive to provide our choral members opportunities to expand their musical experience and expression.

Mission Statement

To serve the Lincoln community by providing an excellent musical experience for our audiences and members.

History

Originally created in the fall of 1979 as a part of the Lincoln Civic Experience the choir made its debut singing in the Nebraska State Capitol for the annual Capitol Christmas Concert. The Lincoln Civic Choir became an independent entity a few years later, originally rehearsing at Union College. In 1985, the choir became Artists-in-Residence at Nebraska Wesleyan University. During the Spring of 2011, the organization rebranded and became today's Lincoln Choral Artists (LCA). In the fall of 2023, LCA left Wesleyan and currently rehearses and performs at St. Paul United Methodist Church under the direction of Paul Robinson

LCA performs several concerts each year and has collaborated with a number of groups including Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra, the Omaha Symphony, Abendmusik, the Des Moines Vocal Arts Ensemble, the Lincoln Guild of Organists and the Nebraska Brass Band. Performances with these groups have included "Mozart's Grand Mass in C Minor", Mahler's "Symphony No 2, Resurrection", Rachmaninoff's "Vespers", "Carmina Burana" by Carl Orff and Bach's "Saint Mathew Passion". In addition, LCA has performed as the chorus in productions of Rodger's and Hammerstein's "South Pacific" and Roger Williams's "Big River."

Besides more traditional choral fare, LCA routinely performs works by contemporary artists such as Sara Bareilles, Joni Mitchell, John Rutter, Z. Randall Stroepe, Elaine Hagenberg as well as Nebraska composers David Von Kampen, Jean Henderson and Tom Trenney. LCA has performed on the stages of Lincoln's Lied Center, the Holland Center in Omaha and Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center, New York. Lincoln Choral Artists have also performed several times at Carnegie Hall in New York, most recently presenting Stephen Paulus' powerful Holocaust oratorio "To Be Certain of the Dawn".

Leadership

Musical Director: Paul Robinson, robinson.pauljohn@gmail.com

Asst. Music Director: Adam Lange

Choir Coordinator: Robert Hutcherson, robert.hutch1@gmail.com (402) 206-8558

The choir coordinator is the conduit between the Board of Directors and the choir. Questions, concerns or issues of choir members can be brought to the Board through the coordinator and vice versa. Position term is one year, can serve one subsequent term.

Music Librarian: Stephanie Clark

Section Leaders:

Sopranos - Stephanie Clark, stephanie.jane.clark@gmail.com (651) 307-3961

Altos - Wendy Morrissey, wjmorrissey@allophone.com (402) 525-4312

Tenors - Drew Ulmer, drew.Ulmer@gmail.com (402) 580-0167

Basses - Paul Madvig, madvig.Paul1@gmail.com (402) 890-9928

Board of Directors:

LCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation managed by a Board of Directors who serve two year terms. The 2024-2025 Board is

Alicia Henderson, President
Stephanie Clark, Vice-President
Janice Lipovsky, Secretary
Rosi Hatton, Treasurer
John Lee
The Honorable Holly Parsley
Bryan Robertson
Tami Wyman
Mike Zeleny

Nonvoting Ex Officio members:

Paul Robinson
Choir Coordinator
Section leaders

Executive Assistant - April Stevenson

Choir Membership

Auditions: Choir members returning from the prior year are not required to re-audition. Auditions for new members, or members returning after an absence of one year or longer, are on-going throughout the season and are conducted by the Music Director. Arrangements for an audition can be scheduled through the Music Director or the LCA website at lincolnchoralartists.org.

Dues: Nonrefundable dues are \$85 per year regardless of when one joins the group. Dues must be paid no later than the first rehearsal unless other arrangements are made with the Treasurer.

Music Deposit: A refundable music deposit of \$15 is due at the first rehearsal. All music must be turned to the music librarian before the deposit will be refunded. If all music is not returned, the deposit is forfeited and the choir member is required to pay any remaining replacement cost over the deposit amount. Once paid, the deposit will automatically carryover to the next year for returning choir members, unless it has been forfeited.

Attendance: Rehearsals are held Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 during the performance season. Occasional changes or additional rehearsals may occur at the discretion of the Music Director. The number of concerts during a season are at the discretion of the Music Director in accordance with the Board of Directors.

All choir members are expected to make a total commitment to a full season of singing. Excessive absences may affect a singer's ability to perform in a concert. Because there are times when it becomes necessary to miss a rehearsal, the choir member *must* notify their section leader ahead of the rehearsal for which they will be absent. The section leader will keep the Music Director apprised of the attendance/absences of each choir member.

If three (3) rehearsals are missed in a concert rehearsal cycle the Music Director will be notified and may, at their discretion, bar the singer from participating in the concert. The Music Director will take whatever steps they deem appropriate to determine whether the choir member is sufficiently prepared to sing despite their absences. Attendance at all dress rehearsals and concerts are required unless the Music Director excuses the absence.

Concert attire:

Men - Black single-breasted tuxedo or black suit single-breasted jacket and black dress pants. Jacket must close.

White, long sleeved, collared button up flat front shirt (no ruffles)

Black bow tie, black socks and black shoes

Women - Dresses are a uniform design and ordered through the choir. Wendy Morrissey is the contact person for orders. Approximate cost is \$95 to be paid at the time the order is placed. Length is two inches from the floor.

Black closed toe shoes, flesh colored nylons (if worn)

Jewelry is minimal. Necklace can be a small pendant on a simple chain. Wrist watch, rings, hair adornments and bracelet should also be minimal in size. No brooches.

Use of perfume, colognes/after-shave, scented lotions or hairsprays at rehearsal or during concerts is not permitted. Please be considerate of your fellow singers who may have allergies or reactions to various scents.

Rehearsal resources: These are posted for each concert and are available via the LCA website at lincolnchorlaartist.org under Choir Members Only/Rehearsal resources. Password is Schubert2024

Opportunities for participation

Lincoln Choral Artists is only as strong as its members and their involvement. Because LCA is a non-profit organization, the financial bottom line is always a concern. Likewise, the camaraderie of the choir is reinforced when its members are engaged with each other the various opportunities for involvement needed to make it a success. All choir singers are encouraged to become active members of the organization and participate in one or more ways beyond singing.

Committees: There are several committees open to membership by choir members. Additional information about them is available through any Board or committee member.

Marketing - Holly Parsley, Mark Mesarch

Fundraiser - Stephanie Clark, Sarah Woody, Rachel Francis Barnes

Advertising - John Lee

Donors - Jan Lipovsky, Mike Zeleny

Grants - Stephanie Clark, Rosi Hatton, April Stevenson

Accessibility - Stephanie Clark

Programming - Jan Lipovsky, Tami Wyman

Nominations - Jan Lipovsky, Mike Zeleny, Alicia Henderson, Stephanie Clark

Social Committee - Bryan Robertson, Beth Pomeroy

PLEASE consider signing up for one or more committees. Many hands make light work!

Concert Master: Works with the Treasurer, Executive Assistant and others to make sure each concert runs smoothly. Responsibilities include stage and venue decoration (when needed), finding ushers and ticket table workers and things like arranging a room to lock up valuables during the concert, etc.. Often choir members are also needed to strike the venue and do minimal clean up post concert.

The annual Gala/Fundraiser is only successful if all choir members actively participate. The silent auction, where members provide items is usually the largest money maker LCA has and is the most successful when everyone pitches in.

Ticket sales pay our bills!! Members should actively promote the concerts and sell tickets. Donor gifts are also always welcome at any dollar level. Don't be afraid to ask!

Concert Season

Gloria

Sunday, December 22, 2024, at 7:00 pm
St. Paul United Methodist Church

Gala Fundraiser

Saturday, March 1, 2025,
Time and location TBD

The Sands of Time

Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 7:00 pm
St. Paul United Methodist Church

Rehearsal Schedule

All at 7:30 pm., St Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 M St., unless indicated differently

September 26 - 7:00 p.m, First Plymouth Congregational, 2000 D St.

October 3
October 10
October 17
October 24
October 32

November 7
November 14
November 21

December 5
December 12
December 19

January 9
January 16
January 23
January 30

February 6
February 13
February 20
February 27

March 6
March 20
March 27

April 3
April 10
April 24

May 1

Rehearsal and Concert Etiquette



Follow the leader:

Always respect, watch and listen to whoever is conducting or leading the rehearsal.

Dedicate yourself:

Spend time outside rehearsal mentally studying your score.

Bring H2O:

Healthy singers never leave home without it.

Get ready to mark!

Are you set with your pencil? Go!

Everyone is vital:

We are only as strong as our weakest link, and attendance is crucial for our success.

"C" ...

...How much more we can achieve:
Attend weekly sectionals and watch how high we can soar.



Always early:

Arrive early and get your music in order

Folders up:

Make sure the folder enhances the projection of your sound.

Doc..

...Is always right (except when Tami is)

Be on the edge:

Sit on the edge of your seat to grasp the excitement

Give yourself permission:

Begin your vocal warm-ups as you enjoy your Thursday evening drive.

IPA CHART

INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET

CONSONANTS

puppy	p	very, rev	v
baby	b	thin, maths	θ
tent	t	that, other	ð
daddy	d	little, ball	l
cork, kiss, chord	k	rat, brat	r
guess	g	mummy, comb	m
so, rice, kiss	s	no, ran	n
cousin, buzz	z	singing, bank	ŋ
sheep, sugar	ʃ	hat, rehear	h
pleasure, beige	ʒ	yet	j
church	tʃ	wall, bewail	w
judge, general	dʒ	loch	x
farm, raff le	f		

DICTION

International Phonetic Alphabet-Vowels for Singers

