



## Your Guide to Singing with OC

Oakville Choral's rehearsals are filled with positive energy as we join together to share in the joy of singing!

Our Music Director is David Bowser and our accompanist is Anne Marie Leonard.

### Rehearsal Info.

In-person rehearsals are Tuesday evenings, 7:30-9:00pm, from September through April, with time off over the Christmas holidays.

A very important tip when you are singing is to hold your music high! You should be able to look over the top of it with your peripheral vision so you can watch the conductor while projecting your voice forward.

Listen closely to David's instructions and make notes as needed on your music - *always in pencil*. Feel free to make whatever markings will be helpful to you, whether it's the pronunciation of a particular word or specific dynamics the Music Director asks you to make.

### Inclement Weather

We rely on the decision of Sheridan College as to whether we will cancel a practice or not, so if they close the college for evening classes, we will cancel the rehearsal. OC will post a notice on the main page of our website and social media if this occurs.

### Learning Resources

There are many excellent online resources to help you learn the repertoire for each season. You can access the learning resources on our website's Members page, and also search up your specific section's audio learning files on these websites for choral singers:

- <http://www.choralia.net>
- <http://www.cyberbass.com>

There are also websites to help you with learning to read music, such as:

- <http://www.musicnotes.com/blog/2014/04/11/how-to-read-sheet-music/>
- <https://www.musical-u.com/learn/topic/ear-training/>
- <http://www.wikihow.com/Read-Music>

Within the choir, you can ask David and your Section Lead for their help.

## **Dress Rehearsals and Concerts**

There will always be a dress rehearsal before the concert, in the designated concert venue. At a dress rehearsal, we don't come "dressed" up; this term just means it's the final rehearsal, which includes all the singers and musicians that will be performing. So just dress casually as you would for any other rehearsal.

Our concert attire is usually uniform and basically all black. More details will be provided nearer to the performance dates.

## **Our Organization**

We are a registered charity, and run by a Board of Directors, who currently are:

Sandra Litt, President  
Virginia Fletcher, Vice-President  
*vacant*, Secretary  
Susan Chan, Treasurer  
Barbara Nixon, Concert/Publicity Manager  
Miriam Lea-Clarke  
Deborah MacLeod, Librarian  
Charlotte Sanders, Librarian  
Christine Vernon, Bingo organizer  
*Ex-officio members:*  
Myroslawa Lukiwsky, Member-at-large  
David Bowser, Director of Music

Our financial year is July 1 to June 30. The Annual General Meeting is held before a rehearsal in the Fall.

We have some fixed and variable expenditures. The Music Director, Accompanist and Section Leads are paid positions. We also pay soloists and musicians who accompany us at concerts as well as various administrative costs (e.g., venue rent, insurance, etc.).

Membership fees and ticket sales are important sources of income for the chorus. We also do fundraising (e.g., volunteering at a monthly Delta Bingo event) and apply for a variety of grants each year. As a registered charity, we provide income tax receipts for all donations.

## **Get Involved!**

There are many ways you can volunteer to help. We need volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors, help with setup of the rehearsal space, volunteer at the monthly Bingo fundraiser events, and also help out with preparations at the concerts.

If you're interested in volunteering, or have any other questions, please contact us at: [oakvillechoral@gmail.com](mailto:oakvillechoral@gmail.com)