

ALASKA CHILDREN'S CHOIR
HANDBOOK
2011/2012



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INTRODUCTION

The Alaska Children's Choir offers girls and boys ages 5-18, from all parts of the Southcentral Alaska area, an opportunity to study and perform a comprehensive repertoire of classical, opera, and folk music in a professional atmosphere. In weekly rehearsals, these artists-in-training learn a challenging repertoire of choral music. They study music theory, harmony, vocal techniques, sight-singing, and concert etiquette. In addition to Alaska Children's Choir concerts, many members perform with other groups locally that require trained singers, such as the *Anchorage Opera, Alaska Chambersingers, Anchorage Concert Chorus, Valley Performing Arts, Anchorage Symphony* and the *Anchorage Festival of Music*.

FOUNDING

The choir was founded in 1979 by Renda Horn and Julie Baxley as the *Anchorage Girls and Boys Choir*. *Janet Stotts* took over the *Directorship of the Choir* in 1984. The name was later changed to *Anchorage Children's Choir*. In the early 1990's, as our membership grew to include members from a wider geographic area, the name *Alaska Children's Choir* was adopted to reflect the wide area from which we draw our membership.

The Alaska Children's Choir exists to educate and train Southcentral Alaskan children in the art and technique of choral music and to perform with the highest artistic standards locally, regionally, and internationally. It is our intent to provide the highest quality instruction in singing technique and music theory, and to expose our singers to the best repertoire and the highest performance standards appropriate to their age and ability.

To the Anchorage and Matanuska Valley communities in particular, we strive to offer a performing ensemble of the highest caliber—one that can meet a wide range of community needs; from formal concert presentations to informal social and community gatherings.

We recognize that music education must be presented within the context of the whole experience of childhood. We make a sincere effort to balance the responsibilities of Choir membership with the other responsibilities and needs of our singers—yet at the same time, require enough commitment to make possible a meaningful experience with us.

Welcome to the Alaska Children's Choir! We hope you enjoy your Choir experience. Please use this book as a reference for any information you might need regarding your membership in the Choir.

ALASKA CHILDREN'S CHOIR STAFF MEMBERS

JANET STOTTS-DIRECTOR

Janet Stotts, Director, earned her Bachelor of Arts cum laude in Vocal Music Education at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. Her graduate work in Early Childhood Music and Choral Music was done at BYU, Dominican College and with the Robert Shaw Workshop in New York. Janet has served as clinician and guest conductor for several regional, state and national events. In addition to her work with Alaska Children's Choir, Janet teaches private voice and piano lessons and conducts a preschool music program, Exploring Music in her Wasilla studio. She has served as Music director for several Valley Performing Arts productions. In 1996, Janet received a Woman of Achievement Award presented by BP Exploration and YWCA. In 1997, Janet received a Distinguished Alumna Award from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. In 2005, the Alaska Children's Choir, under Janet's direction, was awarded a Mayor's Arts Award for Excellence in the Arts. In 2006, Janet received the Governor's Arts Award for Arts Educator as sponsored by the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

Janet is a member of several professional music organizations--National Association of Teachers of Singing, American Choral Directors Association, Alaska Keyboard Teachers Association and Music Teachers National Association.

Janet lives in Wasilla with her artist husband, Gene.

Call (907) 357-3170 - (Studio Phone). Janet may also be reached by email: acc@mtaonline.net. The choir website is: www.alaskachildrenchoir.net.

Mailing Address:

*The Alaska Children's Choir
5160 West Beverly Lake Rd.
Wasilla, AK 99654*

Janna Preston, Accompanist

JANNA PRESTON, Accompanist, is a lifelong Alaskan and West High graduate. She earned a BA in Music from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. She was the recipient of the George Fisher Scholar Athlete Award at PLU. She teaches piano in her home studio in Anchorage. She is also a freelance accompanist for instrumental and vocal students in a variety of venues. She is also the Principal Accompanist for Alaska Dance Theatre and a church musician. She and her husband, Glenn, have two grown children. Her hobbies include dog-walking, swimming, camping and spending time with family and friends.

CHOIR MANAGEMENT TEAM: KIM ERICKSON, MARG AND JACK KRUSE, PARENTS AND THE INTERNET.

Kim Erickson (Choir Manager) brings enthusiasm and strong organizational and accounting skills to the choir management team. Kim's daughter, Amanda, has been with the Alaska Children's Choir for nine years and Kim has been an active volunteer parent. ******NOTE BENE! Register ON-LINE!!! All payments now can be made on line with Pay-Pal, which allows you to choose your credit card. The General Consent Form and the Medical Release should be printed out and then MAILED to Kim Erickson, 3811 W 72nd Ct., Anchorage, AK 99502 or hand delivered at a rehearsal.**

Marg and Jack Kruse (Tour Managers) have planned and facilitated domestic tours and traveled with the touring choir on tours arranged by tour companies in 1989, 1992 through 1997, and 2005 to the present. While on tour, Marg takes responsibility for logistics and nurture and Jack takes responsibility for capturing the sound of music and many pictures to make a memory DVD for the kids after tour.

Marg (albeit a novice webmaster) maintains the choir website: www.alaskachildrenschoir.net. Look to the website for updates on schedules, upcoming concert dates and venues, handbooks, registration forms, and answers to numerous questions you may have about past and upcoming tours or other interesting information on the choir.

Please feel free to email any of us with questions: acc@mtaonline.net, , kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com and/or marg@arctichost.net .

THE ALASKA CHILDREN'S CHOIR PROGRAM

Girls and boys between the ages of 5 and 18 are auditioned for acceptance into the choir by appointment with the director. At the audition, the director looks for training potential, not the degree of music skill already acquired. *There are five choirs in one:*

MINISINGERS (AGES 5 - 6) - MN

Choir members new to our program who are ages 5-6 usually enter the Minisingers, where they study music theory, sight-singing, ear-training, and the basics of good vocal production. This choir performs at the annual Holiday and Spring concerts, and at events that require the full choir membership. Based upon musical ability and experience, Minisingers are promoted to the Mastersingers.

MASTERSINGERS (AGES 7 - 8) - MS

Choir members new to our program who are ages 6-8 usually enter the Mastersingers, where they study music theory, sight-singing, ear-training, and the basics of good vocal production. This choir performs at the annual Holiday and Spring concerts, and at events that require the full choir membership. Based upon musical ability and experience, Mastersingers are promoted to the Chambersingers.

CHAMBERSINGERS (AGES 8 -10) - CS

Choir members who have been in the Mastersingers at least one year, and/or have the permission of the director, may enter the Chambersingers. Continued emphasis is placed on musicianship, vocal technique, and theory. Once students enter the Chambersingers, they begin to work with multiple-part songs, and sing repertoire in foreign languages. This choir performs at the annual Holiday and Spring conceits, and at events that require the full choir membership. Based upon musical ability and experience, Chambersingers may enter Jubilate.

JUBILATE (AGES 10 - 14) - JB

Choir members who have been in the Chambersingers at least one year, and have the permission of the director, may enter Jubilate. Continued emphasis is placed on musicianship, vocal technique, and theory. Jubilate members also learn to sing intermediate-level repertoire in foreign languages. This choir performs at some community concerts, at the annual Holiday and Spring concerts, and at events that require the full choir membership. The Jubilate level is designed as a level where singers who have intermediate musical ability can perform at a more advanced level than the Chambersingers offers.

TOURING CHOIR (AGES 10-18) - TC

Students who have been members of Jubilate for one year or more, and have the Choir Director's permission, may proceed into the Touring Choir. Touring Choir members place emphasis on musicianship and vocal technique, as well as theory. A large percentage of the Touring Choir repertoire is sung in foreign languages. Some songs are sung without accompaniment (a cappella). The Touring Choir gives frequent community performances in addition to the annual Spring and Holiday concerts.

Each summer, the Touring Choir travels from home on a concert tour. Nationally, the Touring Choir has traveled to the Pacific Northwest; Washington, D.C.; Minnesota; the U.S. East Coast; and to New Orleans, Louisiana. International tours have included England,, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Italy, Germany, Austria, British Columbia, Australia and New Zealand. In the summer of 2006, the Touring Choir participated in an international children's chorus festival in New York City's Carnegie Hall. In 2008, the choir participated in the Windy City Festival in Chicago, Illinois. In 2009, the Choir celebrated Lincoln's Bicentennial with "Voices of Hope and Peace", which was presented in Washington, DC and several venues in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Maryland. Last summer, the Touring Choir performed a concert tour to Czech Republic, Austria and Germany. The Choir has earned many awards at choral festivals, including: 1st place Children's Choir in the 19th International Youth and Music Festival in Vienna, Austria; Senior Youth Choir of the Year award at the Bournemouth Musicmaker's Festival, Bournemouth, England; 2nd place Children's Choir in the International Oskarshamn Festival Oskarshamn, Sweden.

The commitment required for Touring Choir membership is heavy in both time and money, but builds a strong, well-rounded young adult. Acceptance into the Touring Choir is also based on the singer's social readiness. A contract of participation is required.

CAMERATA (AGES 14-18) Subset of Jubilate and Touring Choir

Singers who are high-school age and are members of Jubilate or Touring Choir may audition to be part of the Camerata. The repertoire is advanced and requires considerable skill and training and attention to ensemble singing.

CHOIR POLICY

GENERAL POLICIES

Choristers must be respectful of rehearsal areas. EXCELLENT conduct must be maintained at all times—before, during, and after rehearsals and performances. Singers must always follow the leadership of the director and staff.

CHOIR ACTIVITIES

- Annual Holiday and Spring concerts in multiple venues in Southcentral, Alaska
- Annual summer concert tour (for the Touring Choir)
- Appearances with the Anchorage Opera, Symphony Orchestra, Alaska Chambersingers, and Anchorage Concert Chorus
- Concerts in the Anchorage and Valley areas
- Participation in civic functions
- Radio and television engagements and commercials

AUDITIONS

The Choir holds auditions twice yearly. There is one opportunity in August to audition for all choir levels, and another in January for all levels except the Touring Choir. Previous music training is advantageous, but not required. Singers are tested on rhythm, pitch, basic tone quality, and potential for learning.

ACCEPTANCE

Acceptance into the Choir is always conditional for the first 30 days. We base continued membership on pitch matching ability in a group, behavior, overall musical ability, and adaptability to the choral experience. Sometimes a child will perform well at the audition, but will not perform well within a group. We will advise you of any areas of concern.

EVALUATION

You may contact the director at any time for an evaluation of your child's progress. We are always eager to discuss your child's progress with you.

'PASSING'

'Passing' is a system by which the director is able to have quality control of the singers. Each piece of repertoire is sung by each Choir member for the director. Each selection must be sung from memory and in acceptable pitch. CD's are made, each semester, specifically for assistance in memorization and passing. If a chorister does not pass each piece, he/she must schedule an appointment and re-sing his/her repertoire. He/She must continue this process until he/she does pass. No member will be allowed to perform in any concert until he/she has passed all repertoire in the time frame dictated by the Director.

ROSTER - PHONE/EMAIL LIST - CARPOOLS

A roster, listing all choir members and their addresses and phone numbers, will be generated from the online registration information. We hope this will be helpful to you in

setting up carpools.

NEWSLETTERS - CALENDARS

*Every week, there is a Choir newsletter, please check your **email**. A great deal of important information is covered in the weekly newsletters. Please be sure you read this important document-- *it is the pulse of the Choir!**

PARENT HELP

Your child's experience with the choir is enhanced by your participation and your commitment to making it a success. We need you! Each family is asked to chaperone at one of the dress rehearsals or concerts each semester!

In addition to chaperones, volunteers are needed as drivers for the school tours, coordinating the school tours, providing goodies for the bake sale, promoting concerts, uniform inspections, ticket sales, and other tasks. If you are able to assist, please contact Kim Erickson at kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com or Janet Stotts at acc@mtaonline.net .

TIME COMMITMENTS & EXPECTATIONS

Parents should understand that choristers have music to memorize and theory homework in various degrees and at various times. The performance schedule during concert time in December and April/May is very challenging for Choir members and their families. Please keep your calendars close at hand and note new events and changes on your calendar.

Choir members receive a CD each semester with music for the season's concerts. Each Choir member should listen to this CD for at least 20 minutes daily. This CD practice is extremely important to our maintenance of excellence. Please encourage your singer to set aside at least 30 minutes each day for practice and completion of theory homework.

PERFORMANCE POLICY

MISSING A FINAL REHEARSAL BEFORE A PERFORMANCE MAKES A MEMBER INELIGIBLE TO PERFORM IN THE CONCERT UNLESS THE DIRECTOR SPECIFICALLY GIVES PERMISSION.

The chorister is responsible for arriving (dressed and ready to sing) in the proper uniform, at the correct location, at or before the call time. Uniforms should be clean, neat, ironed or steamed, and complete. Hair should be kept out of the eyes. Bobby pins and hair ties should match your hair color to make them as invisible as possible. Only clear nail polish is allowed for singers, if they should choose to wear any at all. High standards of personal hygiene and concert dress will be strictly enforced. No earrings are to be worn while in concert uniform.

Performance call and pickup times will be listed in the weekly newsletters. Remember to **ALWAYS READ YOUR NEWSLETTER THOROUGHLY** and post dates and times of Choir events in a visible location.

TOURING CHOIR POLICY

The Touring Choir level is intended to build a more "well-developed" young performer in many ways. Not only do young people who perform with the Touring Choir grow in professionalism as performers, they have the opportunity on tour to grow as individuals.

Touring Choir members challenge and build their:

- Communication Skills
- Listening Skills
- Independence
- Discipline
- Teamwork
- Preparedness
- Flexibility
- Sense of Humor
- Poise
- Responsibility
- Self-confidence
- Ambition
- Stamina
- Understanding of the world around them

When choristers achieve the Touring Choir level, they are expected to be prepared, both musically and developmentally, to handle the substantial responsibilities that go along with being a Touring Choir member, including readiness to travel **without** Mom & Dad. These responsibilities begin with the twice-weekly two-hour rehearsals. There are also many more performances for the Touring Choir than for the other Choir levels. This means an even greater increase in time commitment than just double the rehearsals. (Some Touring Choir performances are paid performances, which assist in raising funds toward the Choir's tour expenses.)

On tour, choristers must do their own hand washing of laundry and ironing, and are responsible for their own personal hygiene. They get to know their own limits and how to best use their time wisely. They develop self-confidence and learn to accept and handle independence and responsibility.

Touring Choir expenses go beyond the basic tuition, uniform and music/concert fees. There is a Renaissance costume and a travel uniform (including Choir logo clothing) which are required, and, of course, the expense of Tour.

Parents wishing to travel parallel and hear concerts on Tour must make their own travel arrangements—keeping in mind that singers may not deviate from the group before the conclusion of the concert tour without specific permission from the Director. Tour in

2012 will be to Powell River, British Columbia. This semi-domestic tour will be to participate in the International Kathaumixw, a choral festival and both choral and individual vocal competition. Marg & Jack Kruse will make the travel arrangements and join us as tour leaders and chaperones. The dates of the festival are July 3 – 7. We hope to add a couple days of touring/singing at the start of our trip, thus our travel dates are approximate until some cost details come in. Currently we are looking at June 30 – July 8, 2012.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE & POLICY

NORMAL REHEARSAL SCHEDULE '2011 - 2012'

Tuesday/ Anch. <i>Central Lutheran 15th & Cordova</i>	Wednesday/Valley <i>5031 E. Mayflower #6 - on Mayflower Frontage Rd; just off Palmer- Wasilla Hwy</i>	Thursday /Anch <i>Central Lutheran 15th & Cordova</i>	Friday/Valley <i>United Protestant Church 713 S. Denali, Palmer</i>	Saturday * <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish; 3900 Wisconsin, Anchorage</i>
<i>MN / MS / CS 4:30-6:30pm TC 6:30 - 8:30pm</i>	<i>MN / MS / CS 4:30-6:30pm TC 5:30-7:30pm</i>	<i>JB 5:30-7:30pm TC 6:30 - 8:30pm Camerata 8:30-9:00pm</i>	<i>JB 4:30-6:30pm TC 5.30 - 7:30pm Camerata 7:30-8:00pm</i>	<i>MN / MS / CS 11 am- 1 pm JB 12 noon-2 pm TC / Camerata 12 noon-3:30 pm</i>

* Saturday rehearsals are normally held once per month.

MISSING REHEARSALS

If for any reason, you are unable to attend a rehearsal, please telephone the Choir Voice mail at the Choir Office 907-357-3170 (Valley) & leave a message before 3:00 pm that day. You can also contact choir manager, Kim Erickson 907-223-8385 (Anchorage).

Singers are welcome to make-up missed rehearsals by attending an additional rehearsal for their Choir level, (i.e. an *Anchorage Chambersinger* member would travel to Palmer on Wednesday; a *Valley Jubilate* member would travel to Anchorage on a Thursday, etc.)

GENERAL REHEARSAL POLICY

The Alaska Children's Choir meets once each week (Touring Choir, twice) and four Saturdays per semester. *If your child misses only one rehearsal she/he misses two hours of instruction. She/he will miss music marking (which part to sing, phrasing, possible cuts, diction lessons, language study), theory, sectionals, and important announcements. Much work and progress transpires in two hours.*

Because of the Choir commitment to excellence, we request all parents endeavor to have children at all rehearsals. We strive to prepare the children to succeed. Missing rehearsals handicaps them when it comes time for "Passing" prior to each concert season. In cases where there are (for whatever reason) three or more absences in a given semester, the chorister must re-audition immediately to remain eligible for choir membership.

REHEARSAL ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE POLICY

It is very important that Choir members arrive punctually. However, do not arrive more than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled rehearsal time. Always sign the singers in and out on the roster. It is very important that each Choir member is safely off the premises within 15 minutes following the rehearsal. We will never leave a child unattended. Singers must wait inside the building until a parent or guardian arrives.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION & FEE SCHEDULE***

******NOTE Registration and Payment ONLINE! The Alaska Children's Choir now takes PayPal! Use your credit card!**

FEE SCHEDULE 2011 – 2012 for the First Child (Highest Choir Level) in a Family

Tuition for Mini, Master, Chamber and Jubilate for each semester is: \$500
Tuition for Touring Choir for each semester is: \$660
Music Fee for Mini, Master, and Chamber and Jubilate for each semester is: \$50
Music Fee for Touring Choir for each semester is: \$60

FEE SCHEDULE 2011 – 2012 for additional children in a Family

Tuition for a 2nd child in MN, MS, CS,JB for each semester is: \$450
Tuition for a 3rd child in MN, MS, CS,JB for each semester is: \$375
Tuition for a 4th child in MN, MS, CS,JB for each semester is: \$375
Tuition for a 5th child in MN, MS, CS,JB for each semester is: free
Music Fee Mini, Master, and Chamber and Jubilate for each semester is: \$50
Tuition for a 2nd child in Touring Choir for each semester is: \$600
Tuition for a 3rd child in Touring Choir for each semester is: \$495
Tuition for a 4th child in Touring Choir for each semester is: \$495
Music Fee for Touring Choir for each semester is: \$60

DUE DATES & LATE FEES

******NOTE BENE! All payments and registration must be filled out ONLINE BY SEPTEMBER 5th for the Fall Semester and by JANUARY 7th for the Spring Semester!! Payments NOT received by September 5th and January 7th will be subject to a 10% LATE FEE. The General Consent and Medical Release Forms should be printed out and MAILED to Kim Erickson, 3811 W 72nd Ct., Anchorage, AK 99502**

'SEMESTER' DEFINITION

Fall semester, September 5---December 17, 2011

Spring semester, January 2--May 12, 2012 (Touring Choir continues until tour)

TC Mandatory tour preparation rehearsals in May and June – TBA

MUSIC FEE

The music fee is charged to cover the expense of purchasing sheet music for each singer, related copying charges, and the production of practice CD's. The music fee is due with the tuition payment each semester.

CONCERT FEE

The Concert Fee is designed to allow us to budget the concerts. Each Choir Member commits to buy \$80 worth of concert tickets. For families with more than two children in choir, you are required to purchase \$160 worth of concert tickets. You may then give them away or sell them, at your own choice. Touring choir members may sell additional tickets for credit toward tour (at 75% for each ticket sold beyond the first \$80 worth).

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Pay today with PayPal ONLINE!! It's quick and easy, go to the Shopping Cart. You do not need to have a PayPal account to pay online with a credit card.

UNIFORM INFORMATION

MINISINGERS, MASTERSINGERS & CHAMBERSINGERS

Girls' uniform consists of the following pieces:

Full-length formal dress (ordered through Choir) (hemmed to 1" off the floor w/ shoes on)

Please refer to the "Hemming Directions" at the back of this book.

Half slip (white)

Nude tights (no patterns, please)

Black flat 'Mary Jane-style' leather dress shoes with straps (available at Nordstrom) ***Be sure to have your singer wear her Choir shoes when measurements are taken!*** Please do not purchase suede or patent leather shoes!

Boys wear the following uniform:

Four piece formalwear ordered through choir consisting of

Black tuxedo pants

White shirt

Claret cummerbund and bow tie

Black oxford style tie shoes (not patent leather)

Black socks

JUBILATE and TOURING CHOIR

The Jubilate and Touring Choir **girls'** uniform consists of the following pieces:

Full-length formal dress (ordered through Choir) (hemmed 1" off the floor w/ shoes on)

Please refer to the "Hemming Directions" at the back of this book.

Half slip (white)

Nude pantyhose (no patterns, please)

Plain black leather dress shoes - heel no higher than 1"(available at Nordstrom)

Be sure to have your singer wear her Choir shoes when measurements are taken! Please do not purchase suede or patent leather shoes!

Necklace and bracelet (purchased through choir)

Jubilate and Touring Choir **boys** wear the following uniform:

Tuxedo (ordered through Choir) consisting of:

Black jacket

Black pants

White shirt

Claret bow tie and cummerbund

Black oxford style tie shoes (no patent leather)

Black socks

All dress uniforms are ordered through the choir. Shipping is expensive. Any orders not placed at the beginning of the semester are subject to an additional \$25 shipping and handling fee.

CASUAL UNIFORM INFORMATION

ALL CHOIR LEVELS

All choir members are required to purchase a casual performance uniform. When ordering from Lands End, use the preferred school number (9000-6212-6). The casual uniform, ordered from Lands End School, consists of the following:

Short sleeve Performance Interlock Red polo shirt with white Choir logo

(order from Lands End Item Nos.

- 05140-2BR0 – Kids;
- 31370-2BR6 – Women’s;
- 31370-1BR1 – Men’s

Cobalt (Blue) Hoodie with white Choir logo (order from Lands End Item Nos.

- 39371-2BR7 – Big Girl -
- Item No. 39371-4BR6 – Boys -
- Item No. 39371-6BR5 – Women’s -

Boys: Black Pleated Chinos (Lands End School Uniform Catalogue)

Girls: Black Chinos (Lands End School Uniform Catalogue for youth; or other NON-jeans, NON-leggings cotton slacks from Lands End with belt loops. NO skin-tight pant-legs.)

Black leather belt (Lands End School Uniform Catalogue)

White fold-over socks (plain – NO ankle socks)

Clean, plain white (absolutely no colors) TIE walking/tennis shoes — canvas or leather

This casual uniform is worn for concert tours to area schools and other less formal performances. All Choir logo items are available through Lands End. Any Lands End items may be ordered with the choir logo on them. Members are encouraged to wear Choir logo items outside of Choir events.

Also currently available a few:

White polo with red Choir logo
Blue polo with white Choir logo
Red nylon windbreaker with white Choir logo

UNIFORM INSPECTIONS

In order to perform in any concert, each singer's uniform must pass an inspection. This inspection is very important to insure that all uniforms look alike and conform to our uniform guidelines. The inspections are held at Saturday rehearsals noted in the Choir newsletter. The first inspection of a semester is to allow those who already have a uniform, determine whether it is going to be large enough to use another semester, or whether it should be sold and a new uniform ordered. All new uniforms (for both new members and returning members who have outgrown their uniform) will be ordered within a week of this first uniform inspection. The last Saturday rehearsal before the

concert will be a final dress uniform inspection, at which time, if a uniform does not pass inspection, you must make the required changes and schedule an appointment for re-inspection, or your child will not be eligible to perform. Last minute concert uniform orders will be subject to an additional \$25 rush shipping fee. Uniform inspection checklists are at the end of this handbook.

MAKEUP INFORMATION

Because stage lighting 'washes out' the color in a performers face, we require all our choristers to wear makeup for each concert. Makeup is applied to all singers by chaperones before each concert. This is to ensure uniform color and placement on each face. We take great care to apply makeup in a sanitary manner. Choir members who desire their own makeup must purchase the colors we use:

- *Blush (all singers):* Clinique 'Iced Lotus'
- *Girls' Lipstick:* Clinique 'Angel Red' or 'Vintage Wine'
- *Boys' Lipstick:* Clinique 'Honey Gloss'

We recommend each Touring Choir member have his or her own makeup. Please label makeup with your child's name on each container.

HAIR, NAIL POLISH, ACCESSORIES, & UNIFORM PREPARATION

Singers with long hair (girls and boys) must keep their hair out of the eyes, and off the shoulders and face. If hair accessories are necessary, they must match the hair color to make them as invisible as possible. Only **clear** nail polish is allowed for singers, if they should choose to wear any at all. High standards of personal hygiene and concert dress will be strictly enforced. No earrings, watches, or non-uniform accessories are to be worn while in concert uniform. Choir uniforms should look neat both up close and from a distance. We ask that you inspect your uniform before each performance. Please mend any torn hems or seams. If your uniform is wrinkled, please iron or steam it. Only with your help can we insure a professional stage presence for our choristers.

UNIFORM WEAR

These concert uniforms provide instant recognition that a singer is a member of the Alaska Children's Choir. We ask that you do not wear the *concert* uniforms outside of Choir activities. Anyone, member or non-member, is welcome to purchase and wear our logo clothing, such as polo shirts, sweatshirts, and windbreaker. These items are available through the choir.

UNIFORM LAUNDERING

Choir uniforms may be laundered according to the following guidelines:

The girls' formal dresses can be hand-washed or machine-washed in the 'delicate' cycle. However, dry-cleaning is recommended to extend the service life of the garment.

The boys' blazers, trousers and vests must be dry-cleaned.

PRELIMINARY 2011/2012 SCHEDULE & CALENDAR INFORMATION

This page lists the schedule for the 2010-2011 Choir season as we know it. This is subject to change. Watch your newsletters for changes and additional information. This will be emailed *and* put on the website.

August 26: Alaska State Fair, Colony Stage, Call time is 4:45 p.m.; Performance is 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Week of September 5th Semester Begins:

September 17: Saturday Rehearsal (10:00 – 3:30 pm): Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 3900 Wisconsin St., Anchorage (Parent Meeting 10-11 am; Dress Uniform Ordering; Sale on remaining casual uniform items in stock)

October 15: Saturday: NATS High School/College Music Theatre competition

October 16: Sunday: NATS High School/College Music Theatre competition

October 22: Saturday Rehearsal (11 a.m. – 3:30 pm) OLOG

November 5: Saturday Rehearsal (11 a.m. – 3:30 pm) OLOG

November 19: Saturday Rehearsal (11 a.m. – 3:30 pm) OLOG

December 9: Friday St. John, 3:00 – 7:30 pm (dress rehearsal 4 -7 pm)

December 10: Saturday, St. John, 5:00 pm – 9:30 pm (concert at 7:00 pm)

December 15: Thursday, OLOG, 3:30 – 7:30 pm (dress rehearsal 4:- 7 pm)

December 16: Friday, OLOG: 5:00 - 10:00 pm (concert at 7 pm)

Week of January 2: Semester II begins

January 7 Saturday Rehearsal (11 am - 3:30 pm) OLOG

January 8, Sunday: Touring Choir at All Saints Episcopal Church, 8th and F (10 am – Noon)

February 4: Saturday: NATS Youth Competition, Wilda Marston Theatre, Anchorage Library

February 11: Saturday rehearsal (11 am – 3:30 pm) OLOG

March 15-18: ACDA Honor Choir events, Seattle

March 24: Saturday, NATS Classical Competition High School/College

March 25: Sunday, NATS Classical Masterclass High School/College

March 31: Saturday rehearsal (11 a.m. -- 3:30 pm) OLOG

April 14: Saturday rehearsal (11 a.m. – 3:30 pm) OLOG

May 4: Friday, St. John 3:00 pm – 7:30 pm (dress rehearsal scheduled for 4-7pm)

May 5: Saturday, St. John 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm (concert 7 pm – 9 pm)

May 11: Friday, 3:00 pm – 7:30 pm (dress rehearsal 4-7 pm) OLOG

May 12: Saturday, UAA Anchorage Concert Chorus Competition (morning)

May 12: Saturday, 12 pm – 5 pm (Concert 1 – 3 pm) OLOG

Tour 2012

Approximately, June 30 through July 8: Touring Choir trip to Powell River, BC to attend International Kathaumixw

**SEMESTER SCHEDULE FOR REHEARSALS Fall semester, September 5 –
December 17, 2011 Spring semester, January 2-May 12, 2012 (Touring Choir
continues until tour.)**

Minisingers, Mastersingers, Chambersingers, Jubilate attend one rehearsal per week
Touring Choir attends two rehearsals per week

REGULAR REHEARSAL SCHEDULE RESUMES THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7

Tuesdays--Anchorage, Central Lutheran, 15th & Cordova

4:30-6:30 p.m. Minisingers, Mastersingers,
Chambersingers 6:30-8:30 p.m. Touring Choir

Wednesdays--Wasilla, ACC Studio, 5031 E. Mayflower Lane,
#5

4:30-6:30 p.m. Minisingers, Mastersingers,
Chambersingers 5:30-7:30 p.m. Touring Choir

Thursdays--Anchorage, Central Lutheran, 15th & Cordova

5:30 -7:30 p.m. Jubilate
6:30 -8:30 p.m. Touring Choir 8:30-9:00 p.m. Camerata

Fridays—Palmer, United Protestant Church, 713 S. Denali

4:30-6:30 p.m. Jubilate
5:30-7:30 p.m. Touring Choir
7:30-8:00 p.m. Camerata

The Camerata is a subset of singers from the Jubilate and Touring Choir groups (at least 12 years of age). An additional audition will be required for entrance into this elite group of singers.

**SATURDAY REHEARSALS--OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PARISH, 3900
WISCONSIN, ANCHORAGE**

The Saturday rehearsals for the season will be held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 3900 Wisconsin St., Anchorage. These monthly rehearsals are VERY IMPORTANT--it's the only time we are able to rehearse all the singers together! The Saturday rehearsals for the 2010-2011 season are:

**September 17, October 8, November 5, November 19, January 7, February 11,
March 31, April 14.**

Minisingers, Mastersingers, Chambersingers 11 a.m. -1 p.m.

Jubilate 12 noon -2 p.m.

Touring Choir 12 noon -3 p.m.

Camerata 12 noon – 3:30 p.m.

Schedule subject to **changes & additions.** **Please read your newsletters and
calendars!**

ALASKA CHILDREN'S CHOIR CHAPERONE GUIDELINES

Chaperone Responsibilities

Children are assigned to dressing rooms by level and lineup order. Chaperones will have a list of children in their room, and their assigned lineup order. Absent children (not present 15 min. after call time) should be reported to the chaperone coordinator: Chaperones must stay with their assigned children in the room until they are called to line up. Children must stay in their assigned room until called. Where no restrooms are available in the rooms, younger children may need to be escorted to restrooms, and older children sent in groups. Chaperones assist children in lining up, remain with them while waiting, and escort them between dressing rooms and the stage entrance. Chaperones are not to be on stage unless requested. Our program requires various levels to exit and enter stage, to line up again, go back to their rooms, or, under some circumstances, watch the performance from designated areas. Chaperones will be provided with copies of the concert program so they can keep track of the schedule.

All Minisingers, Mastersingers, and Chambersingers must be signed in and out by the parent or guardian who is transporting them. Jubilate and Touring Choir members may sign for themselves.

Chaperones may be asked to assist in applying makeup. Chaperones should review uniforms and assist with straightening ties and belts and checking hose, shoes and hems. Please reference uniform checklists when inspecting uniforms.

After each night's performance, dressing rooms are to be cleaned up and trash emptied in the church dumpster.

Behavior and Discipline

Children are expected to walk, speak in quiet voices, be courteous, and cooperate with chaperones and other adults assisting with the production. Children who are both excited and tired do occasionally cause discipline problems. Ideally, chaperones should be able to resolve most problems with a gentle reminder. If disruptive behavior persists, take the problem to the chaperone coordinator. Do not go to Janet directly. If necessary, the chaperone coordinator will call in Janet, if available. **No one except Janet may remove a child from the performance.**

Illness

A child who is too ill to perform should be taken to the chaperone coordinator. If at all possible, sick children will be kept in a quiet, supervised area until they can be picked up. Do not give any child medicine unless it was brought by the child, in its original container. This includes Tylenol, aspirin, cough drops, and other nonprescription medicine.

A Few Words of Advice

Wear comfortable shoes and clothes.

Carry a small supply of useful things: safety pins, Band-Aids, scissors, needle and thread (white and black), etc. The chaperone coordinator will have these supplies, but you may be running out of time. Take a few simple activities along - card games or the like. Children will be asked to bring their own books and games, but something extra is often handy.

Chaperones who are assigned to rooms with younger children should expect to take an active role in keeping the children occupied. You will need to make baby-sitting arrangements for your own children who are not in choir. They cannot be brought along while you are chaperoning, nor may they come backstage at intermission.

Remember, these children have worked very hard to get ready for the performance, and they want very much to perform. Help them do it, but remember - it is THEIR performance!

Chaperones will not be admitted to the stage area to watch the concert. You should make plans to watch the concert on the day you are not chaperoning.

ALASKA CHILDREN'S CHOIR GENERAL CONSENT FORM 2011/2012

To: Alaska Children's Choir
Janet Stotts, Director
All Staff of the Alaska Children's Choir

Date: _____

Choir member's Full Name: _____

Birth date: _____ Choir Level: _____

Please Initial each paragraph:

_____ I have familiarized myself with the general activities, functions and policies of the Alaska Children's choir. Recognizing the educational and music values of the Choir's activities, I will assist my child in planning his/her schedule intelligently and in maintaining a satisfactory scholastic record at school. I will confer with his/her school administrators whenever he/she may need to be excused from school because of a Choir engagement. I will assure that notification is given to the Director whenever my child needs to be absent from or late to rehearsals and/or performances because of illness or other circumstances.

_____ I give The Alaska Children's Choir permission to publish, without charge, photographs taken while my child is participating in the Alaska Children's Choir activities including, but not limited to, rehearsals, concerts, school tours or when traveling as part of the Touring Choir. These photographs may be used in publications, including electronic publications, or in audiovisual presentations, promotional literature, advertising or in other similar ways.

_____ I understand that ACC Concert Dress uniforms may not be worn outside of Choir engagement without specific approval from the Director. It is my understanding that the Alaska Children's Choir takes reasonable steps to provide adequate supervision and care of my child at rehearsals, performances and other events. However, I assume full responsibility for my child's welfare. I release the Alaska Children's Choir, its Director, staff, agents and subcontractors from any liability that may be incurred in connection with my child's activities with the Choir.

_____ I agree to pay the semester tuition, music fees and concert fees as outlined in the Choir handbook.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email address: _____

ALASKA CHILDREN'S CHOIR
GENERAL MEDICAL CONSENT 2011/2012

Singer's Name _____ Birth date _____

Family Physician _____

Medical Issues _____

Medications: _____

Allergies _____

I/We, the undersigned parents or guardians of _____, a minor, do hereby authorize the staff of the Alaska Children's Choir, in whose care the minor has been entrusted while participating in activities of the Choir in and about the State of Alaska or while on tour to other regions outside the State of Alaska, to consent to any and all medical treatment or procedures necessary in case of injury or illness while with the Choir. Such treatment may include, but is not limited to, anesthesia, x-ray, and medical or dental procedures as shall be in the best judgment of the attending physician or dentist.

Parents' or Legal Guardians' names:

Mother: _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Father: _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Additional Emergency Contact: _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Medical Insurance Company Name: _____

Insured _____ Group # _____ Policy # _____

Emergency Contact : _____ Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Please have both parents sign, if possible: Father (or legal Guardian) _____

Mother (or legal Guardian) _____

Date: _____

Alaska Children's Choir Girls' Dress Uniform Order Form

To order your child's concert uniform follow these steps!

1. Measure your daughter and note the measurement in the appropriate box below:

Bust	Waist	Hips

Measurement Guidelines:

Measure around the fullest part of bust over bra.
Measure around the smallest part of natural waist.
Measure around fullest part of hips.

2. Compare your daughter's measurements to the charts below. Find the required size and **ORDER AT THE SHOPPING CART ON LINE!!!**.

Girls : JB / TC (Women)

Order size	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
Bust	30	32	34	35	36	38	39	40	41	43	45	47	49
Waist	22	24	26	27	28	30	32	34	35	37	39	41	43
Hips	32	34	36	37	38	40	42	43	44	46	48	50	52
Length	40.5	41	41	41.5	41.5	42	42	43	43	43.5	43.5	44	44

GIRLS : MN / MS / CS (Youth)

Order size	7	8	10	12	14	8.5	10.5	12.5	14.5	16.5
Bust	26	27	28.5	30	31	30	31.5	33	34.5	36
Waist	22	23	24.5	26	27.5	28	29	30	31	32
Hips	27	28	30	32	34	33	34.5	36	37.5	39
Length	36	36.5	37	38	38.5	38	38.5	39	40	40.5

Name: _____

Choir Level: _____ Anchorage or Valley?

Dress Price (All levels) \$80 Size Needed: _____ (Be clear if it is youth or women's)

Necklace (JB / TC ONLY) \$20

Please be sure to indicate if your daughter needs a YOUTH size !!!

Tall sizes also available if you need more length – add \$3.00 and be sure to indicate "Tall".

Hemming Guidelines

Dresses are to be hemmed to hang 1" from the floor. In order to accomplish this successfully, please review these notes.

1. The dress as hemmed by the factory cannot be assumed to be straight. Please measure and mark the hem around the entire length of the hem before cutting.
2. Have your singer wear her approved concert shoes when the dress is measured for the hem.
3. Take care not to pull the dress down when placing pins.
4. After the hem has been marked, measure again allowing the dress to fall freely. It may be helpful to have the child stand on a table or stool while marking the hem. This will allow the dress to hang freely and be marked more accurately.
5. After the hem has been marked, cut the excess fabric leaving 2-3" for the hem.
6. Iron the hem and have your singer put the dress back on. At this point the hem can be corrected as needed. Again, measure around the entire hem line.
7. The hem should be secured by a blind stitch. A machine hem through all layers is not acceptable.

Alaska Children's Choir Boys' Dress Uniform Order Form

Complete Uniforms:

- 4-Piece Ensemble (complete uniform for MN/MS/CS) \$65.00
- 5-Piece Tuxedo Ensemble (Complete JB/TC) \$135.00

Purchase items separately:

- Bowtie: \$ 5.00
- Cummerbund: \$10.00
- Tuxedo Shirt \$20.00
- Tuxedo Pant, Adjustable Pleated \$30.00
- Notch Lapel Tuxedo Coat (JB/TC only) \$70.00

Indicate Sizes:

- Bowtie: Regular Youth
- Cummerbund: Regular (27"-44") Youth (18"-28")
- Shirt Size: _____ Sleeve Length: _____
- Pant Size (waist): _____
- Jacket (JB/TC, only) Size: _____

Boy's Shirt: All Levels

Boy's Sizes:

Men's Sizes:

Youth Sizes:	BXS	BS	BM	BL	XS	S	M
Age	3-4	6-8	10-12	14-16			

Nec k	10- 10.5	11- 11.5	12- 12.5	13- 13.5	13- 13.5	14- 14.5	15- 15.5
Ch est	21- 23	24- 27	28- 30	31-34			
Sle eve	19.5	23.5	27.5	31.5	30-33	30-37	30-39

Shirt size is determined by neck and sleeve measurement. Sleeve Length: With arm at side, place tape at center of back of neck. Measure over TOP of shoulder down to the bend of the wrist.

Boy's Jacket: Jubilate and Touring Choir

Order size	8	10	12	14	16	18	Men	XS	X	M
Chest Size	29	30	31	32	33	34		34	37	41

Chest: For Jacket, measure loosely around the body and arms at the chest, and deduct 7" for the correct size.

MINISINGERS, MASTERSINGERS & CHAMBERSINGERS

CONCERT UNIFORM CHECKLIST

Choir Member's Name: _____

Girls Uniform-

Uniform Piece	Check?	Comments
Dress: Black/red Gavotta Formal gown <i>Hem:</i> full-length (1" from floor with shoes on)		
Undergarments. Half slip - white		
Shoes: Mary Jane-style, black flats with straps. No suede/patent leather		
Hose: Nude pantyhose / tights		

Boy's Uniform-

Uniform Piece	Check?	Comments
Pants: Black dress slacks (ordered through choir) <i>Hem:</i> 1" off the floor measuring at the heel of the shoe		
Shirt: White dress shirt (ordered through choir) Cuff should cover wrist		
Claret cummerbund (ordered through choir)		
Claret bow tie (ordered through choir)		
Shoes: Black leather dress shoes Lace-up, Oxford-style		
Other: Black socks Black belt		

JUBILATE & TOURING CHOIR CONCERT UNIFORM CHECKLIST

Choir Member's Name: _____

Girls' Uniform-

Uniform Piece	Check?	Comments
Dress: Black/Claret Gavotta (ordered through choir) Formal gown <i>Hem:</i> full-length (1" from floor with shoes on)		
Undergarments. Half slip - white.		
Shoes: Black leather dress shoes – plain, low pumps preferred (NOT MORE THAN 1")		
Hose: Nude pantyhose or knee-highs (no patterns)		
Floral trellis necklace and bracelet (ordered through choir) – bracelet worn on right wrist		

Boy's Uniform

Uniform Piece	Check?	Comments
Tuxedo Pants: (Ordered through choir) <i>Hem:</i> 1" off the floor measuring at the heel of the shoe		
Shirt: White dress shirt (ordered through choir) Cuff should cover wrist		
Tuxedo Jacket: Black (Southeastern Apparel) Sleeves to wrist, body of jacket should cover		
Claret cummerbund and bow tie (ordered through choir)		
Shoes: Black leather dress shoes Lace-up, Oxford-style		
Other: Black socks		