

# The Arroyo Singers

## **New Member Information 2021**

Welcome to The Arroyo Singers! We are a community-based women's chorale open to all tuneful voices and are happy you have found us. Established in 1961, we are a non-profit organization whose mission is to create a supportive group environment where members grow in their musical knowledge and expression and present fulfilling and engaging performances for our audiences.

### **Membership**

The Arroyo Singers is self-funded through membership dues of \$40.00 per month that covers basic operating costs. Additionally, two fund-raising efforts are conducted annually to support performance costs: sale of advertisements in the concert program and sale of tickets for the performances. Member responsibilities include:

- Attend weekly rehearsals regularly. When an absence occurs, follow up with section members to stay up-to-date.
- Prepare for performance by reviewing the concert pieces outside of rehearsal time. It is suggested that members review what was covered during rehearsal during the following week. If you do not read music or have no access to a piano, the choral director and other members can help you find YouTube videos or other sources.
- Timely payment of dues—either a one-time payment for the concert season or a monthly payment—at the first Monday of every month. There is a scholarship program for members who cannot afford the monthly dues; those members should request a scholarship application from the Arroyo Singers president.
- Participate in the ad and ticket sale campaigns.
- Wear appropriate attire for the concerts: nice black skirt or pants and black top.

### **COVID Protocols**

- All new and continuing members must wear a mask and be vaccinated to participate in the Arroyo Singers. Chairs will be spaced to maximize distancing.
- The Arroyo Singers will follow all COVID guidelines as they are issued.

### **Performance Opportunities**

We present two concerts per year, in early December and early June, traditionally at Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in Arcadia. In addition, we perform a dress rehearsal at a community site one or two days before each concert. We also may sing at other events, responding to requests from the community and with agreement of membership.

### **Governance**

Arroyo Singers is governed by a board consisting of members who have been elected to positions within the organization. There is a monthly Zoom board meeting. All interested members are invited to participate in the board meeting, though only board members may vote.

## Arroyo Singers General Information and Guidelines

**Rehearsals** are held on Monday evenings from 7:30 – 9:20 pm, with a short break for announcements halfway through. Extra rehearsals may be called a week or two before each concert, as needed, according to the director's judgment. Cell phone and other electronic devices should be silent during the rehearsal.

**Attendance is expected to be regular and prompt.** Continued membership in the choir following numerous absences shall be at the discretion of the director. Please contact your section leader on the roster in advance if you expect to be absent or late and follow up during the week to review what was covered at the missed rehearsal.

**Practice supplies** needed for rehearsal include a 1" matte black binder to hold music and a pencil to take notes on the music. Many singers have found a recording device to be helpful.

**Preparation** is essential for all members to ensure a successful concert. Please review your music once or twice a week between rehearsals to learn what the music director covered in the preceding rehearsal. Review pencil notes you made during the rehearsal, so that these instructions do not have to be repeated. Singers are responsible for learning their parts so that rehearsal time can be spent focusing on interpretation and ensemble quality.

**Dues** are \$40 per month payable to the treasurer on the first Monday of each month or once per term in a single payment (usually \$160 for fall and \$240 for spring). New members are not required to pay the first month, as they decide whether they wish to commit to membership. Dues are the largest form of financing The Arroyo Singers and enable payment for the music director, collaborative pianist, rehearsal space, and the music library. In case of financial difficulty, members should request a Scholarship Form from the President.

**Refreshments** of a light treat and drink have traditionally been served each week, provided by individual members. A sign-up sheet is circulated the first month of rehearsals and members are asked to commit to a date they will either provide the beverage and cups or the snack and napkins. **During the current COVID pandemic, no refreshments will be served and individuals are encouraged to bring a bottle of water and a straw for sipping.**

**Concert Ticket Sales** are a source of income for the choir performance costs. Each member is encouraged to sell six tickets. Tickets make a great gift for friends and neighbors!

**Program Ad Sales** are the second source of income for the performances. Each member is encouraged to sell two ads to local businesses that they frequent. In addition, members will buy program ad space for their own personal or family announcements.

**Volunteer and social opportunities** are available throughout the year within the choir. We are a non-profit group and must rely on our members for all administrative and organizational tasks that need completion. Please donate generously of your time and energy – **we need you and welcome your involvement!**

The Arroyo Singers are sociable group and enjoy time together outside of rehearsal. Two annual potluck dinners are held, following performances, at a member's home. (We do not currently know the status of these during the pandemic.)

**Join our Facebook group and LIKE** our page and share our content with your friends and family! [www.facebook.com/thearroyosingers/](http://www.facebook.com/thearroyosingers/).

**Contact us** – Visit our web site at [www.arroyosingers.org](http://www.arroyosingers.org) and click on our contact page.