



**Genesee Chorale Handbook  
Fall 2019**

**Ric Jones, Music Director**  
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**(585) 250-5483**  
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**Friday, December 13 - PERFORMANCE (Laud to the Nativity)**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Grace Baptist Church**  
**238 Vine St.**  
**Batavia, New York 14020**

**Sunday, December 15 - PERFORMANCE (Laud to the Nativity)**  
**4:00 PM**  
**The Grove UMC**  
**11004 W. Center Street Ext.**  
**Medina, NY 14103**

## Repertoire:

Lauda per la Natività del Signore - Ottorino Respighi

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing - arr. Dan Forrest

Gesu Bambino - Pietro Yon

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks - Craig Courtney

Rise Up, Shepherd - arr. Philip Kern

Silent Night - arr. Dan Forrest

Angels We Have Heard on High - arr. Peter Anglea

## Website:

[www.GeneseeChorale.com](http://www.GeneseeChorale.com) (NEW & UPDATED!)

- weekly rehearsal overview (posted each week)
- rehearsal recordings & announcements
- box office
- schedule

## Rehearsal Cds:

- If you would like a CD, please place your name on the signup form and Ric will have them next week. \$2.00/CD

## Rehearsal Etiquette:

- Rehearsals occur every Monday and will begin promptly at 7:00 PM and end at 9:00 PM.
- Please bring a pencil to **every** rehearsal. It is beneficial to keep it in your folder at all times. Please use pencils, not pens or highlighters. The music will be used again and the emphasis and directions may change. Please, no pen marks.
- During rehearsal time, please stay focused on what we are doing.
- Please save business matters until **after** the rehearsal is completed.
- Please do not rehearse (sing or hum) your part when I am working with another section. It is distracting to me and the other members.
- Please be disciplined in proper posture. Posture greatly affects tone quality, projection, and intonation.

- **Please be aware that many people are sensitive or allergic to strong scents.** The deep breathing that accompanies singing worsens when exposed to strong perfumes and other personal products.

### **Attendance:**

Please do everything you can to be at all the rehearsals. We perform some challenging music and always accomplish a great deal in one rehearsal. If you miss multiple rehearsals, you will find that you are falling well behind the rest of the group. We ask that you make every effort to be at rehearsal and that you be as committed as possible to the Chorale. If you know you will miss a rehearsal, please contact me or your section leader. We will take attendance every week. With three missed rehearsals, you will be contacted by your sectional leader. With any additional missed rehearsals, your participation in performances will be at Ric's discretion.

### **Tickets:**

Tickets can be purchased via credit card or PayPal at our box office at [www.GeneseeChorale.com](http://www.GeneseeChorale.com). These tickets will be available as "will call" at each performance. We will ALSO be using a traditional paper ticket. Tickets will be sold as PRESALE & AT THE DOOR. Tickets will be a flat rate of \$10.

### **Section Leaders:**

Soprano :

Merry Lou Holley      786-3634 (H)      322-3725 (C)  
holley3@frontiernet.net

Alto:

Patty Drew      344-1897 (H)      993-7074 (C)  
patd70@twc.com

Tenor:

Alan Barcomb      356-3319 (C)  
abarcomb@rochester.rr.com

Bass:

Mark Christensen (716) 523-3405 (C)  
mjc17@roadrunner.com

### **Voice Testing, Placement & Seating:**

In an attempt to develop the best possible blend and balance, every member of the Chorale will have their voice tested and will be placed in the appropriate section. Every new member will be required to have their voice tested. Seating arrangements will be adjusted over the first few weeks of the season.

### **Reminder Service:**

This season we will continue to incorporate a text/email system that will help all members with reminders, cancellations, etc. It is a program called Remind101. It is very easy to sign up for this FREE service. If you want to receive notifications as a text, use method one. If you want to receive notifications as an email, use method two.

1. To receive notifications as a text message: text "@geneseec" to (646) 666-7798
2. To receive notifications as an email: send an email to geneseec@mail.remind.com (no message or subject is needed)

### **Proper Dress:**

The Chorale maintains a professional image. Part of that is uniformity in attire. Please plan accordingly **now**. Every member is expected to wear the following:

Women - all black. Blouse, pants or long skirt, or dress. Sleeves should be below the elbow. Jewelry should be understated and subtle.

Men – black suit (black slacks & coat), black tie, white shirt.

### **Announcements:**

In an effort to **eliminate the excessive number of announcements at rehearsal**, we encourage you to email your announcement to the entire group at [geneseechorale@googlegroups.com](mailto:geneseechorale@googlegroups.com). Please contact Ric for announcements that need to be posted on our website.

## Refreshments:

We will have refreshments approximately once a month. Each day will be assigned to a section. The schedule is as follows:

September 9 – Chorale Board

November 18 – Alto 1

September 30 – Tenors/Basses

December 2 – Alto 2

October 21 – Sopranos

## Music

- Music will be provided to you by the Genesee Chorale
- Please complete the registration form on our website or at the first rehearsal
- Semester dues are \$25
- Everyone should have a **black binder or music folder**.
  - If you need to purchase a quality choral folder, we recommend MusicFolder.com. Many of our members use their DELUXE BLACK FOLDER with the removeable 3-ring adapter.

## Small Ensembles

Occasionally there will be opportunities available to be part of a small select ensemble. Sometimes this is to sing a piece on our concert or participate in a special performance away from our regular scheduled performance calendar. When these opportunities arise, the Chorale will be notified and a sign-up sheet will be made available for those interested. **Signing up does not guarantee selection.** Ric will make the final selection of performing members.

## Sunshine Committee:

The Sunshine Committee will help spread sunshine in times of need, difficulty, or sorrow to Genesee Chorale members. If you know of a member who is in need of some cheer due to personal or immediate family situations, please email or call Rachel Sovocool to add him or her to this list. 585.813.1245

## **Fundraisers:**

Fundraising is vital to our existence and to being able to continue our fine tradition of choral performance.

Ongoing fundraisers:

Rada Cutlery Fundraiser - Rada Cutlery is 100% American Made – raw materials and construction. Rada Mfg. Co. has made and sold over 150,000,000 knives since 1948, earning the reputation for remarkable cutlery, service, and value. Buy the best high carbon, stainless steel.

### Amazon Smile

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to The Genesee Chorale. Find the link to our Amazon Smile page on our website.

### Bottle Drive

Return them to Easttown Beverages and Redemption Center in Batavia. Let them know it is for the Genesee Chorale. Easttown Beverages and Redemption Center is located at 563 E Main St, Batavia, NY 14020

Fall fundraisers:

Patron/Ad Book (September – Early November)

DeeDees Desserts/cheesecake (October – November)

## **Preparing for a Performance:**

**Plan ahead and start upping your water intake at least day before the concert.**

"Singers use up more water if they are sweating during performances, or simply working in a hot, dry venue. It's easy to become dehydrated without even knowing it.

Speech Therapist Ruth Epstein urges singers not to wait for the interval and then rush and drink all that they can: "Water should not be

“glugged” as a punishment but sipped throughout the day and throughout the performance”.”

### **Your H2O Checklist.**

- Drink six to eight cups a day (but this is not a “magic number”)
- Adjust the amount of water you consume to take into account sweating and caffeine
- Have enough so that you ‘pee pale’
- Room temperature is better than hot or cold
- Sip rather than glug
- Don’t wait until you are thirsty to drink

<http://voicecouncil.com/w-a-t-e-r-sound-advise-for-singers/>

**If you find yourself struggling with dry-mouth during the performance**, try lightly biting down on the sides of your tongue and inside of your cheek. This will activate your salivary glands and get you through to the intermission.

**Dress for the temperature** - please choose smart clothing and footwear that will keep you cool and safe on the risers.

**Avoid the dizzy spell** - hydration, smart clothing and footwear, and remembering to eat will all help. Keeping your knees slightly bent and wiggling your toes in your shoes also help to keep the blood flowing. If you ever feel dizzy on the risers, it is best to simply sit down right where you are.

### **Concert Etiquette:**

- Arrive at the designated call time for that performance.
- Take care of personal business prior to lining up with the choir.
- Listen carefully to all pre-performance instructions.
- Always be in the appropriate designated place at the appointed time prior to performance.
- Prior to a concert, turn off any cell phones, pagers or wristwatches that make noises.

- Please be aware that many people are sensitive or allergic to strong scents. The deep breathing that accompanies singing worsens when exposed to strong perfumes and other personal products.
- When entering the performance area, please enter in a quiet and respectful manner. There is a job to be done and concentration is required.
- When entering and exiting, folders should be held in the left hand.
- Each row will walk onto the risers as a group. Walk softly and quickly. Always pay attention when you are in line so there are no gaps in the line. Do not talk.
- Movement during a performance should be kept to a minimum
- Posture - Weight should be evenly distributed on both feet. Hands should be down at your sides. Eyes should always be on the director. Remain still except for facial expression, good breathing technique and singing.
- Never sing directly behind a singer in front of you. Everyone should be visible from the audience.
- There should be absolutely no conversation or discussion during the performance, including between pieces.
- Water bottles are not allowed during a performance. You will have ample time to get a drink before the performance and during the intermission.
- Please do not open wrappers once you are on stage. If you are concerned you may need a cough drop, please have one at the ready.
- Keep in mind that the performance is not over until the last person is off of the risers.

**Contact:**

Please feel free to contact Ric or Janine anytime with questions or problems. They are available by phone, text, or email.