

Trinity Youth Chorus

2023-2024
Peppercorn/Junior
Chorister Handbook

The Trinity Youth Chorus

<https://trinitywallstreet.org/music/music-education-outreach/trinity-youth-chorus>

Congratulations on being accepted into the Trinity Youth Chorus!

We hope that you will enjoy singing in this remarkable choir and that you will develop a love of choral music that will last forever.

This manual outlines the choir policies and procedures for you and your parents/guardian. These policies enable the program to run smoothly and effectively, thus helping the choir to reach and maintain the absolute highest standard of excellence possible. It is *very important* that you and your parents read this manual, sign the commitment letter on-line, and agree to follow the policies and procedures.

Congratulations again on your acceptance!

The Trinity Youth Chorus Staff

Melissa Attebury, director
Peyton Marion, administrator and assistant conductor
Shanna Whitney, music education assistant
Farrah Dupoux, pianist
Anne Damassa Graff, Tahira Clayton, Aubrey Johnson, Emma Hasselbach,
Sheridan Stevens, Joel Esher, Zac Selissen teaching artists
Members of the Choir of Trinity Wall Street, vocal instructors

Rev. Michael Bird, Vicar
The Rev. Phillip Jackson, Rector

ABOUT THE TRINITY YOUTH CHORUS

2023-2024 marks the 19th season of the Trinity Youth Chorus. By audition, K–12th grade youth from various public and private schools throughout the New York City area are invited to join, all from diverse social and religious backgrounds. Participation includes training to be excellent musicians, singers and performers, as well as good citizens.

We distinguish ourselves among other music organizations with the following strengths:

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| CHORISTERS | We excel at nurturing personal and group artistic growth in a joyful environment. |
| COMMUNITY | We are a model of the highest standards of performance, organization, accountability, and leadership. |
| ARTISTRY | We are recognized for offering rich repertoire and programming based on cultural diversity, and we provide services and performances that reflect our commitment to continuous improvement. |

COMMUNICATION

Communication between staff and chorister families is of vital importance. All events and important deadlines are listed on a shared Google Calendar for each group — Peppercorns, Juniors, Seniors, and Schola — appropriate access is provided upon registration. This calendar can sync directly to your phone.

We also maintain a Trinity Youth Chorus website where you can register on-line, find this handbook and other important documents, and view the calendar. You can access the calendar here:

<https://trinitywallstreet.org/music/music-education-outreach/trinity-youth-chorus-communications>

E-mail alerts will be sent as needed to keep you up to date with information about changes in rehearsal schedules, added performances or administrative deadlines.

Please send any change of e-mail, phone number, or address to swhitney@trinitywallstreet.org

REHEARSAL/LESSON SCHEDULE

Please make every effort to attend scheduled rehearsals and events. If your child will be absent, please notify the directors in writing or by telephone (swhitney@trinitywallstreet.org). The choir directors appreciate as much advance notice as possible.

1. Rehearsals

- Peppercorn Choristers meet on Tuesdays/Thursdays from 3:30-4:00 pm & Junior Choristers meet on Tuesday/Thursdays from 4:15-5:00pm at 76 Trinity Place. Your chorister will be placed in either a Tuesday OR Thursday class accordingly with the instructors after their initial audition.

2. Theory class – Junior Choristers only

- All Junior choristers will be required* to attend a Music Theory/Sight-singing class on Mondays, which will be held via Zoom. Students are placed according to level (at the discretion of teaching team upon completed assessment)
Level A: 4:00-4:30pm
Level B: 4:30-5:00pm

**If an advanced student is able to pass placement tests for both levels, at the discretion of the director they may be excused from the chorister theory requirement, or attend advanced theory with the Senior Choristers on Sundays.*

3. Services/Concerts:

- Participate in 9:00am Family Worship on a monthly basis.
- Peppercorns/Juniors traditionally participate in a winter caroling event and Spring Concert – dates to be announced.

CONDUCT POLICY

In the Trinity Youth Chorus program, we hold high expectations for chorister conduct as well as for artistic performance. We have four simple rules:

CHORISTER RULES

Be kind.
Be safe.
Be respectful.
Be responsible.

During your chorister's time with the program, we will use these rules as our guiding principles for positive conduct. The director will regularly remind choristers of these rules and will ask choristers to use them to self-monitor their conduct. Parents, please talk with your choristers about the meaning and positive implications of kindness, safety, respect, and responsibility.

FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

- Participants in the Chorister Program do not have to be Episcopalian or parishioners of Trinity Church.
- Each participant will be required to sign an activities waiver at the beginning of the season.
- Due to the changing nature of the coronavirus pandemic, all Trinity Youth Chorus activities are subject to change.