***High Plains Choral Society***

***2022-2023 Handbook***

Welcome to the High Plains Choral Society! Our hope is that you will not only gain a new sense of music excellence, but will find a new sense of community in this group. Laid out below are some expectations, cost information, and scheduling for the year. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact one of our board members.

**Audition Requirements**

A prepared piece (art song or aria) and a small sight reading excerpt. Candidates should also be prepared to vocalize.

Prospective members must be 18/incoming college freshman or older.

**Membership Expectations**

1. Be on time to each rehearsal and performance and be consistent in your attendance.

 2. Uphold the professional standard of this organization by being fully prepared for each rehearsal.

3. Have the required concert attire before the first performance. (See Concert Attire below).

 **Financial Commitments**

1. Cost of Membership

* $75 for large group members(non-refundable) for the year payable to High Plains Choral Society.
* An additional $75 for chamber members for a total of $150(non-refundable) for the year payable to High Plains Choral Society.

2. Membership fee includes music, t-shirt, women’s pearl necklace and studs, accompanist fees, rehearsal space fee, and director honorarium.

3. There will be a buy one, get one half-off discount for multiple members of the same household.

4. Founding members will pay the $150 fee each year for life. (Membership must be continuous. Taking a break from the group will remove the Founders discount and you will be charged the updated member fee).

**Rehearsal Expectations**

The success of this organization depends largely on the efficiency and productivity of each rehearsal. Knowing your music ahead of time allows the group to achieve the artistry befitting of a professional chorus.

1. BE ON TIME to all rehearsals and performances. Please be in place when it is time to start rehearsal.

2. Always have your music, a folder, and a pencil.

3. Please keep the rehearsal/performance space clean and make sure any trash or drinks leave the room with you.

4. Chamber members are required to be a part of the large ensemble.

**Rehearsals and Concerts**

 Rehearsals

* Large group rehearsals are every Sunday from 2:30-3:30 with the expectation that you arrive no later than 2:25. Consistent tardiness will result in a written reprimand from the board. Further tardiness after a written reprimand could result in being removed from the ensemble and will affect future decisions regarding membership.
* Chamber groups rehearsals will follow the large group rehearsals from 3:30-4:40 pm. Same expectations for the large group apply to the chamber ensembles
* All rehearsals and performances are REQUIRED. Call time for performances will be 2:00pm unless otherwise indicated.
* Each large group member is allotted TWO absences per concert preparation period, which must be communicated in advance to the section leader or secretary. More than two absences will be reviewed on a case by case basis and may lead to dismissal from the group by the board.
* Chamber members are allotted ONE absence per concert preparation period, which must be communicated in advance
* to the section leader or secretary. More than one absence will be reviewed on a case by case basis and may lead to dismissal from the group by the board.

Concerts

* FALL CHAMBER CONCERT will be on Sunday, October 2nd at 2:30 PM
* COMBINED CHRISTMAS CONCERT will be on Sunday, November 13th at 2:30PM
* CHAMBER CONCERT in Sweetwater, travel required, December 3rd,4th (more information to come)
* CHAMBER CHRISTMAS GIG at Another Chance House, December 10th (more information to come)
* SPRING CHAMBER CONCERT will be on Sunday, March 5th at 2:30PM
* COMBINED FINAL CONCERT will be on Sunday, May 7th at 2:30PM

**Extra Rehearsals**

At the discretion of the director, extra rehearsals may be put in place. These rehearsals will be communicated well in advance.

**Music**

1. All concert repertoire is provided as a part of your dues.

2. If music is lost or damaged, the singer is responsible for acquiring a replacement.

**Concert Attire**

**Women:**

1. Black blouse with ¾ length or longer sleeves.

2. Black dress pants or floor length dress.

3. Black Closed-toed shoes.

4. Accessories

a. Red lipstick

b. Pearl necklace and studs (provided by High Plains Choral Society)

5. Hairstyle & color should be conservative and neat. Hair needs to be pulled back out of the face.

**Men:**

1. Black Long-Sleeve button down shirt.

2. Black dress pants.

3. Black dress shoes and black socks.

4. Hairstyle & color should be conservative and neat. Hair needs to be pulled back out of the face.

*www.highplainschoralsociety.org*

**High Plains Choral Society**

**2022-2023 Membership Contract**

**I** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **acknowledge that I have read and agree to abide by the policies outlined in the High Plains Choral Society Handbook. I understand that attendance and punctuality for every rehearsal and performance is required and that failure to meet these requirements could result in my dismissal from the group. I also understand the fees associated with membership in this organization. I promise to uphold a professional demeanor and reflect positively on the High Plains Choral Society.**

⃣**I agree to the above-mentioned statement.**

⃣ **Membership Fee paid Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***Member Signature Date***