



SEATTLE  
GIRLS  
CHOIR

## ***Placement Audition Information Packet***

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Placement Audition Application Form

Office: PO Box 22388  
Seattle, WA 98122-0388  
206-526-1900

# Seattle Girls Choir

## Placement Audition Kit

Dear Prospective Choir Member:

Thank you for your inquiry about Seattle Girls Choir! We appreciate hearing from you, and hope to welcome you soon into our community.

Since its inception in 1982, the Seattle Girls Choir has grown to become one of the premier musical organizations in Seattle. We are proud to contribute to our community musically literate, confident, and mature young women. We teach musicianship, voice, music theory, ear training and sight singing in an environment where students enjoy the company of intelligent and talented peers, make world-class music and develop life-long friendships. We provide excellent performance opportunities locally, regionally and abroad.

We have a five-level program for girls 2<sup>nd</sup> grade through high school at our rehearsal site located in the north Capitol Hill neighborhood at 1300 E. Aloha, Volunteer Park SDA Church.

“Dolcine” – for girls primarily in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade meets Tuesdays from 4:45-6:30

“Vivissimi” – for SGC choristers primarily rising into 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades and meets Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30. The two-hour rehearsal includes a break and a half hour each week devoted to sight singing and music theory.

“Entrata” - is the new entry point for newly auditioned choristers in grades 3-5 and meets Thursdays from 4:15-6:15. The two-hour rehearsal includes a break and a half hour each week devoted to sight singing and music theory.

“Allegra” – for girls 10 and above – meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30. The two-hour rehearsal includes a break and on one of those days a half hour devoted to sight singing and music theory.

“Cantamus” (Intermediate Choir) – middle & high school girls, meets on Mon. and Wed.  
Monday: Choral Rehearsal 4:30 to 6:15 - Sack Dinner Break 6:15 to 6:30  
Weekly Music theory and sight singing class from 6:30 to 7:30  
Wednesday: Choral Rehearsal from 4:30 to 6:30

“Prime Voci” (Advanced Choir) – includes international tours, professional recordings and special performances. Prime Voci meets Monday and Wednesday at the same time as Cantamus, and girls from these two choirs attend music theory and sight singing classes together. We combine the Upper Division choirs when a large choir is needed.

### **SCHEDULING A PLACEMENT AUDITION:**

Send in a completed Placement Audition Application (the final two pages of this document) and upon receipt we will contact you to schedule your appointment. Please mail to:

Seattle Girls Choir Auditions  
PO Box 22388  
Seattle, WA 98122-0388

Or email to: [audition@seattlegirlschoir.org](mailto:audition@seattlegirlschoir.org)

**HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR AUDITION  
WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE AUDITION  
AND WHAT WE ARE LOOKING (LISTENING) FOR:**

Auditioning for the Seattle Girls Choir is not as difficult as the term “audition” implies. Our auditions are an opportunity for us to get acquainted with you and a parent, hear your voice, and determine placement in our program. We look for potential, rather than polished performances.

The audition will start with just a few minutes of chatting to get to know you. You will then be asked to sing a song *a cappella* (unaccompanied). We are quite informal with the youngest girls, and simple songs are just fine. Choose a solo that you like! Songs you choose need not be complicated – we just want to hear you singing something you enjoy that demonstrates your voice. Your solo can be from a musical, learned at school, a hymn, a folk song, from a movie, a lighter popular song or an operatic aria or art song (please, no rock). You will also be asked to sing the first verse of *My Country 'Tis of Thee*, which will be coached by our faculty. Here, we are trying to get a sense of how quickly you learn and adapt to changes and suggestions.

We will then evaluate your ability to match pitches, an essential skill for progressing in our program. This will start simply, where a single note is played on the piano and you are asked to match it. It will get progressively more difficult, advancing to two or three pitches played simultaneously that you have to sing back. If you have a private music teacher or a school music teacher who is willing to help you this is something you can practice ahead of time!

If you have a small photo of yourself (school picture fine) when filling out your audition application please mail them all together. Otherwise please bring with you to the audition appointment and we'll add it to your file.

**AUDITION APPOINTMENTS:**

Upon receipt of your audition application, we will call you, followed by an email, to set a firm appointment day, time and location. Directions to the audition will be given at that time.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have about our program. Phone 206-526-1900, email [audition@seattlegirlschoir.org](mailto:audition@seattlegirlschoir.org), or visit our website for more information: [www.seattlegirlschoir.org](http://www.seattlegirlschoir.org).

Sincerely,

Jacob Winkler  
Artistic Director

# CHOIR HIGHLIGHTS

## AWARDS:

- International Youth and Music Festival, first place award – Vienna, Austria
- Youth Choir Division: Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, first place award 1987 – Wales  
Youth Choir Division: Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, second place award 2018 – Wales
- Youth Choir & Chamber Choir Divisions: International Choral Kathaumixw – Canada  
SGC has won 1<sup>st</sup> place in various categories each time they have attended. 1986, 1988, 2000, and 2014

## SPECIAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES:

- Salzburg Festival Opening Concert, Salzburg, Austria – July 2009
- ACDA Northwest Division Convention, Portland, OR – March 2006
- Pacific International Children's Choral Festival, Eugene, OR – June 2005 and 2007
- World Festival of Women's Singing – Featured Choir, Salt Lake City, Feb. 4-7, 2004  
Other Featured Choirs are: Seoul Ladies' Singers, Viva Voce! and Brigham Young University Women's Choir.  
Concerts at the Mormon Tabernacle & Assembly Hall
- Czech Sacred Music Festival, Prague – Featured Choir, 2003
- Seattle Girls Choir 20th Anniversary Concert – Benaroya Symphony Hall, Seattle – June, 2002
- World Festival of Women's Singing (Americafest) – Co-host Choir with Elektra – 2001 Concerts at Town Hall, St. James Cathedral and Benaroya Symphony Hall, Seattle
- ACDA National Convention, San Antonio, Texas – March 2001
- Mass at St. Peter's Basilica & Concert at St. Ignatius in Rome – July 2000
- Portland International Children's Choir Festival – "Featured American Choir" – 1998
- Harvard University Festival of Women's Choirs – 1996
- International Choral Sympaatti – Tampere & Helsinki, Finland – 1990
- International Society for Music Education International Conference, Finlandia Hall, Helsinki – 1990
- Goodwill Arts Festival: "Soviet-American Youth Choir Concert" – 1990
- Chorus America National Convention
- Music Educators National Conference (MENC, WMEA) – National Convention, Anaheim, 1986
- Hosted some of the world's finest young choirs in Seattle (the Moran Choir of Israel, MaedchenChor Hannover, the Tapiola Choir of Finland, The Shchedryk Choir of Ukraine, and many others!)

## NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL TOURS:

- European Concert Tours: 1985, 1987, 1990, 1992, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012, and 2016
- AmericaFest 1994: America's first traveling multicultural choral festival. One of four Founding Choirs (the others: Tapiola Choir of Finland, Efroni Choir of Israel and Shchedryk Choir of Ukraine). Concerts in Minneapolis, Des Moines, Chicago, Grand Rapids, Toronto, Quebec City, the Maritimes and New England.
- Millennium Jubilee Cathedral Tour: Prime Voci sang in cathedrals and churches in Vienna, Salzburg, Munich, Venice, Ravenna, Siena, Florence and Rome (at the invitation of Pope John Paul II) in the summer of 2000. This was a great experience for us, as a non-sectarian community choir!

## TUITION RATES 2019-2020 SEASON FOR EXAMPLE

Seattle Girls Choir rehearsal season is essentially made up of two five month semesters: September through January and February through June plus August Sleep-Away Choir Camp required for girls in our three upper choir levels.

Tuition for upper choir levels is spread over 10-months and includes the camp fees as it is an integral part of the curriculum.

The tuition rates below are effective beginning Fall Semester 2019. Financial Aid is available with demonstrated need.

Families are also expected to volunteer at least once per season to support the program and the opportunities provided for the girls.

Families may choose from three payment options:

- 1) Pay for the entire season
- 2) Pay twice within season (Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> and Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>)
- 3) Pay monthly over 10 months, September through June with tuition due 1<sup>st</sup> of the month unless arrangements made with Office Manager.

<b>DOLCINE:</b>	\$1300/season or \$130 per month, Sept-June	1 hr 45 min. of instruction weekly
<b>VIVISSIMI:</b>	\$1570/season or \$157 per month, Sept-June	2 hours of instruction weekly
<b>ENTRATA:</b>	\$1570/season or \$157 per month, Sept-June	2 hours of instruction weekly
<b>ALLEGRA:</b>	\$1850/season or \$185 per month, Sept-June	Four hours of instruction weekly Mandatory Choir Camp first week of August
<b>CANTAMUS:</b>	\$2200/season or \$220 per month, Sept-June	Five hours of instruction weekly Mandatory Choir Camp first week of August
<b>PRIME VOCI:</b>	\$2300/season or \$230 per month, Sept-June	Five hours of instruction weekly Mandatory Choir Camp first week of August

Tuition must be current for a girl to be admitted to class and to perform in concerts.

Each additional chorister in a family is issued a \$100 tuition discount per semester.

## QUOTES FROM ALUMNAE

**Iringa Gaggiu** – 2019 Graduate – Joined Fall 2006 – attending St. Andrews University.

...Although we all have friends outside of the organization, there's no other group of ladies any of us can say we've bonded with in quite the same way. The number of hours we've clocked in singing together is, for lack of a better word, insane. We've even traveled together internationally, sharing our love for singing with others, and even on an international competition's stage! These ladies have taught me so much: how to be confident, what it means to be an international woman of value, and how important it is to express yourself as you are, whoever you may be. I know my life will never be the same without them, but I know our love for SGC will unite us into the future.

**Isabel Woods** – 2019 Graduate – Joined Fall 2011 - attending University of Southern California

...The Seattle Girls Choir has been the most formative part of my musical education and has really cemented my interest in working towards a career in the music industry. The next four years of my life will continue to be centered around ensemble singing as I head to the University of Southern California to pursue a Bachelors of Music in Choral Music. Over the past few years I have become enthralled with the teamwork associated with choral singing and the undeniable satisfaction that comes from a successful concert. There is little that compares to singing in glorious venues around the world with your best friends; it is the ultimate bonding exercise. Standing for 75 minutes straight in 80 degree heat is not easy, but the silence that hangs in the air after the final cutoff makes it all worth it. In those few seconds, little tendencies like a subtle nod from Jake, or a squeeze from a friend's hand reminds you of the feat you have just completed and makes you want to do it all over again.

**Carline Pitton** – 2018 Graduate – Joined Fall 2008 - attending Wesleyan University

... As I grew up, so did my vocal skills, confidence, and patience for long rehearsals. I started spending more and more of my scarce free time at choir. As the commitment intensified, many girls left and never came back, deciding to prioritize sports or Girl Scouts instead. However, a core group of about twenty girls continued to return, week after week, year after year. Hours passed, sometimes flying, sometimes dragging on endlessly, as we practiced intonation, sight reading, musicality, and singing as a unit instead of as individuals. Growing up in a constant environment where we stood in the same room, on the same spot, for the same amount of time, on the same days every week provided all of us with the sense of stability and comfort we needed to develop into mature singers

**Samantha Eco** – 2016 Graduate – Joined Spring of 2008 – attending University of Washington

... I have learned to love my laugh, it is infectious. I have learned to love my voice, it is powerful. I have learned to love who I am, all because of this community. The friends I have made in choir are some that I plan to keep for a lifetime. These friends, although cliché, are my sisters (in AND out of singing). Experiencing everything from having your breath taken away during a concert to having your breath taken away under the stars at camp, the bond between choristers is indescribable and these relationships have built my confidence. Together, we remind each other that we are all women (or persons) of value.

**Maya Troll** - 2012 Graduate – Joined January 2000, Colby College

"Ten years later, my journey with the choir is drawing to a close. My childhood awe is balanced by adult understanding. My wait has been a decade of rehearsals and summer camp, full of music, dress hemmings, and Tully's lattes. I've sung masses and seen shooting stars. I have learned the importance of dedication and hard work. I have developed the tools to understand what I sing technically, and the curiosity to look for artistic meaning. I have become part of a community, developed a sense of responsibility towards my girls. I have learned to lean and be leaned on, to channel my emotions, to challenge myself. While I was learning to create the sound that so inspired my little girl self, choir shaped me into the person I am today."

For Office Use: Audition Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

## SEATTLE GIRLS CHOIR PLACEMENT AUDITION APPLICATION FORM

Fill in all information on both pages and mail in with a photo.  
If you have a copy of the report card \*or\* a letter of recommendation feel free to include at this time.  
Thank you!

Girl's Name:		Birth date:
Preferred nickname:	Age:	Grade fall 2019:
Name of School:		
Instrument Played?:		Years:

Home Address:	
City:	Zip:
Parent Email(s):	

To be used for primary communication

<b>Parent Name 1:</b>	
Place of Work:	Occupation:
Home Phone:	<b>Parent 1 Cell:</b>
<b>Parent Name 2:</b>	
Place of Work:	Occupation:
	<b>Parent 2 Cell</b>

**How did you hear about Seattle Girls Choir?**  Mailer  Radio  Poster  School  Church  
 Magazine/paper  Internet  Phone book  Music Teacher  saw a performance

**OR - who referred you to SGC? :**

**Do you subscribe to:**  Symphony  Opera  Ballet  NW Chamber Orch.  Other Choral  
 Children's Theater  ACT/Seattle Rep/Empty Space Theater  Other Theater

*Mail both pages of form to:*  
**SGC AUDITIONS – PO Box 22388, Seattle, WA 98122-0388**  
*Questions? Call 206-526-1900*

*or email to: [audition@seattlegirlschoir.org](mailto:audition@seattlegirlschoir.org)*

Upon receipt of your form, you will be phoned to set a firm appointment time. **Thank you.**

**Musical Experience to-date:**

Please give us some highlights of any musical experiences you feel we should know about. Include choirs or vocal groups, lessons, instrumental groups, dramatic and/or dance experience, recitals.

Why do you wish to become a member of Seattle Girls Choir?

What is your favorite *academic* subject (subject other than artistic)? \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else you would like us to know?

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**Faculty Audition Notes**

Brief Description \_\_\_\_\_

Solo \_\_\_\_\_

My Country Tis of Thee \_\_\_\_\_

Pitch Matching: Single \_\_\_\_\_ Double-stops \_\_\_\_\_ Triple-stops \_\_\_\_\_

Sight-Reading and/or Rhythm \_\_\_\_\_

Range \_\_\_\_\_ below Middle C to \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_

Probable Choir \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Faculty Member: \_\_\_\_\_