



## **MUSIC MAKERS**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **2018-2019**

#### **What is Tacoma Youth Chorus?**

Tacoma Youth Chorus is a choral arts education program for boys and girls, kindergarten through high school, where kids develop and grow their passion for music as they interact with audiences and one another through rehearsals, music sharings, concerts and touring. For 27 years, Tacoma Youth Chorus has inspired young singers through the joy of music, carrying that joy and passion into adulthood. Singers learn the values of respect and hard work and, in turn, inspire those around them. But more than anything, Tacoma Youth Chorus is a place for kids to be themselves and have fun with music!

Our program consists of **Music Makers**, an intro to choral music class (non-performance), and the six choirs listed below, each dedicated to providing a rich and rewarding education and artistic experience:

*Music Makers: grades K-1 in Fall (nonperformance)*

*Choristers: grades 2-3 in Fall*

*Concert Choir: grades 4-5 in Fall*

*Chamber Choir: grades 6-7-8 in Fall*

*Women's Choir:\* grades 9-12 in Fall*

*Men's Choir:\* grades 9-12 in Fall*

*\*Chorale is created by combining the Women's and Men's Choirs and is directed by Judy Herrington*

*Connie Schmidt, Director*

*Connie Schmidt, Director*

*Leann Conley-Holcom, Director*

*Judy Herrington, Director*

*Judy Herrington, Director*

*Alonso Brizuela, Director*

#### **What is required for acceptance to Music Makers (grades K-1)?**

Children are asked to meet Mrs. Schmidt prior to acceptance to Music Makers.

#### **Should the parent attend the interview?**

Parents are expected to attend the interview—to learn how we work with young singers and to appreciate the work of their child.

#### **What criteria will be checked for admission to Music Makers?**

Appropriate behavior, positive attitude, willingness to take coaching, and focused attention are necessary to have a successful experience in Tacoma Youth Chorus. Families make a tremendous effort to provide this opportunity for their children, and it is important that classes are a worthwhile experience for everyone.

#### **When will families be notified regarding acceptance?**

All singers will be notified of their acceptance following their interview. If a child has difficulty during the assessment, the identified concerns will be addressed immediately and a plan will be discussed with the parent.

#### **What is the teaching and performing season?**

First classes begin in September and end mid-June. Classes are held at Charles Wright Academy in University Place. This is an experience-based class without formal concerts. There are informal parent sharings scheduled during the year. Families are invited to attend the many community concerts presented by the performance choirs of Tacoma Youth Chorus during the year.

#### **What kind of music is taught?**

A variety of fun and engaging music and materials will be used for teaching during the course.

#### **Do members of the choirs wear uniforms?**

Music Makers receive a Tacoma Youth Chorus t-shirt to wear with jeans for parent sharing events. More information will be available after a singer is registered.

#### **What is the tuition? Are there any other fees?**

Tuition is paid monthly and helps cover expenses directly related to classroom materials, music, accompanists, rehearsals, and our award-winning directors and musicians. **Financial aid (need-based scholarships) is available; no child is ever turned away for inability to afford our program.** An annual fee is also assessed at the time of registration to help defray administrative expenses. For more information about costs related to participation in Tacoma Youth Chorus, please visit: [Costs and Tuition Policy](#) PAGE.

#### **Where can I get more information about Tacoma Youth Chorus?**

Our website [www.tacomayouthchorus.org](http://www.tacomayouthchorus.org) has information about our program, including our extraordinary artistic staff, choirs, concerts, values, and other things that may be of interest to you. Phone calls are always welcome at our office (253-588-1391) or contact the director by e-mail or phone.