

Rainier Youth Choirs

Season 17

“Follow Your Heart”



MEMBER'S HANDBOOK
2023-2024

Excite, Engage, Excel!

Thriving since being founded in 2007, RYC has enriched the lives of hundreds of singers through weekly rehearsals, area concerts, and performance tours that **Excite** the music education process, **Engage** singers and families by building community, and **Excel** in choral music performance.

RYC's distinguished artistic staff has a joyous, musical Seventeenth Season planned with challenging and fun rehearsals, inspired performances, community outreach, and memorable festivals/tours.

As we begin another fun-filled and focused learning experience, we as parents, singers, and staff have a unique opportunity to set the standard of excellence and artistry for generations of RYC choristers to come. This comprehensive handbook will be your invaluable guide to that end. Please refer to it often!

Leora Schwitters

RYC Artistic Director/Founder

Past-President Washington American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)

Retired, Kent-Meridian HS; Cedar Heights MS, Kent School District



Rainier Youth Choirs is a treasure in the South Puget Sound Region. The level of musicianship taught, the expertise of the staff, and the quality of the music performed enhances area school music offerings and provides singers with an experience to grow as challenged musicians, pursuing a love and passion for choral music. I believe participation in RYC is one of the best decisions a parent can make with/for a child. This organization builds character in addition to making fine music.

Karen Fulmer

RYC Executive Director

Past National President American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)

Past-President Washington State ACDA and Northwestern Region ACDA

Retired, Bonney Lake HS, District Music Supervisor, Sumner School District



Warning: Possible side effects of singing in choir include increased compassion, empathy, self-discipline, language skills, knowledge of history, ability to work in a team, self-expression, improved confidence and focus. You may also experience increased test scores in school, greater lung capacity, a strengthened immune system, and spontaneous feelings of joy! *(Used by permission, S. Charbonneau, 2023)*

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TAX ID# 46-3355150

Website: RainierYouthChoirs.org

Report an absence:

Text or call (253) 315-3125 or text using 'Remind' (p. 5)

Mailing Address

Rainier Youth Choirs
P.O. Box 9222
Covington, WA 98042

Rehearsal Site

Cedar Heights MS
19640 SE 272nd St.
Kent, WA 98042

Concert Venue

New Hope Presbyterian Church
19800 – 108th Ave. SE
Kent, WA 98031

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Executive Director: Karen Fulmer
Artistic Director/Founder: Leora Schwitters
Bookkeeper: Michele Eaton

ExecDir@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Leora@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Accounts@rainieryouthchoirs.org

CHOIR DIRECTORS

Primo Voce (PV): Brittney Clegg
Primo Voce Assistant: Kelly VandeGuchte
Rehearsals: Mondays 5:30-6:45 PM
Bella Voce (BV): Leora Schwitters
Rehearsals: Mondays 5:30-6:45 PM
Colla Voce (CV): Jackie Grant
Rehearsals: Mondays 6:45-8:15 PM
Consonare (CS): Brian Hoskins
Rehearsals: Mondays 6:45-8:15 PM
Soprano/Alto Ensemble: Leora Schwitters
Tenor/Bass Ensemble: Brian Hoskins

Brittney@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Kelly@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Leora@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Jackie@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Brian@rainieryouthchoirs.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Heather Stafford
Vice President: Karla Sigrist
Secretary: Tamara Carnevale
Treasurer: Emily Cueto **Finance Chair**
Bookkeeper: Michele Eaton

Heather@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Karla@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Tamara @rainieryouthchoirs.org
treasurer@rainieryouthchoirs.org
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MEMBERS AT LARGE

Mark Eaton **Finance Committee**
Jennifer Jepson **Uniforms**
Andy Arnold **Finance Committee**
Jill Saldivar **Fundraising Chair**
Jessica Hyuck **Concert Manager**
Donna Wenndt **eUpdate Editor**

Mark@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Jennifer@rainieryouthchoirs.org
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Jill@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Jessica@rainieryouthchoirs.org
Donna@rainieryouthchoirs.org

Rainier Youth Choirs was created to give musically motivated and talented children the opportunity to create music in an energizing, inspirational, and supportive environment.

RYC is a music performance and education program for children and youth emphasizing the development of high caliber musical skills and outstanding artistic performances so as to inspire, enrich, and transform the lives of children. We hope your experiences with RYC will help form the foundation for a life-long involvement in and an appreciation for the choral arts.

BACKGROUND

Leora Schwitters founded Rainier Youth Choirs in 2007 as a subsidiary of the local Rainier Chorale, an adult non-profit choral organization. The Chorale created Rainier Choral Arts (RCA) and added RYC to celebrate their 25th year. RYC attained its own 501 (c)3 non-profit status in 2019.

OUR VISION: To sing, build community and change lives.

OUR MISSION: To encourage the personal and social growth of our singers and inspire our community through impactful performances and music education.

MUSIC EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY *(Adapted from Darcy Morrissey)*

Singing is universal.

Singing with deep musical understanding, skill, and humanity is truly an art. When achieved, it expresses and affirms what it means to be human, across cultures and time. We believe everyone is capable of experiencing this on some level and RYC strives to provide the training and atmosphere to attain the highest mastery of this art form.

Only the very best is good enough for children.

Children must learn from masterful teachers and perform the highest quality repertoire alongside consummate musicians, in acoustically fine venues.

RYC singers are musicians.

Truly attaining mastery of vocal technique, choir ensemble sensitivity, and overall musicianship is no easy task. A top-notch choral ensemble requires that each student strive toward their personal best. Our goal for each student is to experience the full musical thought process in real musical time which requires the student to be able to account for, prioritize, and synthesize many complex layers and minute details within the written music score. Instantaneously and continuously, singers connect the visual (reading music) to the aural (inner hearing before singing) to the oral (singing the music) and back to the aural (hearing/evaluating what they just sang). Being in an ensemble means that the singer is also able to do this and listen to other voices, analyze, and adjust as needed to create an ideal ensemble sound.

COMMITMENT to the entire season is expected from the time of enrollment through the last event in June. **There are no refunds for early withdrawals or leaves of absence.** Tuition refunds will not be made. If a singer is expelled, all payments are forfeited. Exceptions may be considered in certain situations at the discretion of and decided by the RYC Board. Requests must be submitted to the board in writing.

RYC strives to provide a high-level music education at one of the lowest tuition fees in the region. That being said, RYC can't run well without the help of **ALL** of our families. Parents will be presented options and the chance to sign up for preferred volunteer opportunities. Each RYC family should supply **an adult member to volunteer at least nine hours during the season or opt to pay a buyout of \$250 at the season start**. We prefer human helpers to buyouts! *Exceptions/accommodations may be allowed in special situations*. Chorus Connection will be the hub for finding volunteer opportunities.

SUPERVISION POLICIES

Every adult volunteer, staff member, and any singer 18 years or older is required to have an approved WATCH Form (Washington Access to Criminal History Authorization) on file with RYC. Staff and volunteers abide by the policy of working in groups with children, with at least two adults present when attending to individual children. RYC Staff abide by laws which require all adults who supervise children to report any suspected incidents of abuse.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Membership requires a **commitment to regular, on-time attendance**. *If a singer is unable to sing, but not contagious, they should attend and wear a mask. Absences should be rare and reported in advance*. Singers must be present at the two Monday rehearsals and the Thursday dress rehearsal prior to any concert in order to perform. Exceptions are at the ensemble and Artistic Director's discretion. Communication *well in advance* is the most effective way to avoid conflict.

PROMPTNESS—singers should be in place and ready a few minutes early (but not more than 15 minutes) for rehearsals or performance call times. RYC's mantra: *"Early is on time. On time is late. Late is unacceptable."*

SIGN IN/OUT POLICY: All singers are to be signed in and signed out at every RYC event by their driver. Grades 9-12 singers may sign for themselves. **EXCEPTION:** High School singers must be accompanied by a parent/guardian at their first rehearsal of the season who is to take care of paperwork/permissions. Volunteers will call or text to check on unreported absences.

COMMUNICATIONS

ON SITE: An **Information Table** is at rehearsals from 5:15 to 7:00 PM and is staffed by board members and trained volunteers to answer questions, collect payments, distribute information and sign singers in and out.

TEXTS: RYC uses '**Remind**': Enter 81010 then text @csryc (CS), @cvryc (CV), @bvryc (BV), and @pvryc (PV).

EMAIL is our preferred method of communication. Make sure we have the main email address for your family and **that RYC email addresses are unblocked**. An **eUpdate** will be emailed bi-monthly on the first and third Sundays at 3pm during the regular season. Event specific reminder emails are sent as needed.

ONLINE RESOURCES: CHORUS CONNECTION is the 'Member Login' page of www.rainieryouthchoirs.org. It houses forms, volunteer sign ups, calendar, announcements, order forms, music practice files, the Member Directory, and archives communications for easy retrieval. Join us on **FACEBOOK** and **INSTAGRAM** and share posts freely. Our **YOUTUBE** channel has many videos and grows with each concert or activity.

WHEN CHOIR IS CANCELED OR REHEARSAL LOCATION CHANGES, we will give plenty of notice about changes whenever possible using Remind texts. When bad weather or power outages happen, we will follow the Kent SD's decisions regarding school or evening activities cancellations. If possible, an alternate location will be used.

Rainier Youth Choirs' members study and perform a wide variety of music from traditional folk songs, music of the masters, contemporary literature, and music from other cultures. The repertoire is selected by each ensemble's director for the purpose of educating RYC members and is not intended to impose or intrude upon anyone's personal beliefs. It is therefore essential that ALL singers are willing to sing ALL selections. Music concepts (melody, rhythm, harmony, form, etc.) and musical skills (singing technique, theory, sight reading) are taught using the selected repertoire using Kodály teaching methods.

Bella Voce will have a weekly theory sheet to do at home that reinforces the concepts taught in class. Singers in any group who desire more music theory practice may wish to purchase this self-paced series: [A Young Singer's Journey, An Integrated Approach to Musical Literacy](#), by Baldwin, Bartle & Beaupre'. RYC has a small inventory @ \$20; otherwise, they can be ordered online from JW Pepper; Book 2, item #10029159; Book 3, item #10866211; Book 4, item #11323671; Book 5, item #11323672.

HOME PRACTICE of an average of 20 minutes four times per week is optimum for retention and musical growth. Practice tracks for songs will be posted on Chorus Connection for downloading and singing along.

ENSEMBLES

PRIMO VOCE (PV) is RYC's entry level for children in grades 2 - 4 to develop singing voices, musical ears, and build basic music reading skills. A joyful exploration of songs and music activities and games prepares the children to perform with confidence and commitment. PV singers must be able to match pitch and work well with others.

BELLA VOCE (BV) is the intermediate level choir, grades 4 - 6, which adds more musicianship training, vocal technique, and music theory instruction. BV is called upon occasionally for other performances throughout the season for various community events. After participation in BV, members may advance to CV with the instructor's permission.

COLLA VOCE (CV) is a more advanced choir for grades 6 - 8. These singers perform unison to six-part music. Most CV singers are "graduates" of BV who have demonstrated basic music reading skills and the ability to harmonize and sing independently. CV is called upon occasionally for other performances throughout the season for various community events.

CONSONARE (CS) is RYC's most advanced ensemble and performs SATB music. Music reading, advanced vocal skills, and exemplary rehearsal focus are necessary. CS is called upon occasionally for other performances throughout the season for various community events.

SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAMS

The success of RYC is dependent in large part upon the support of area music teachers. ***RYC singers should be active participants in their school choir, band, or orchestra program whenever possible.*** This serves two purposes: to not erode RYC's relationship with school programs and to ensure that RYC singers have daily skill practice and leadership opportunities. This results in optimum musical growth for our members.

Travel is part of the curriculum. These opportunities are often life changing and provide bonding experiences for the betterment and enrichment of each singer and the whole ensemble.

Retreats set the stage for learning and practicing protocols for traveling with RYC and for training adult chaperones. CV and CS have overnight retreats in Fall and in Spring.

A local overnight trip or retreat for BV is usually offered in the spring to help train singers and chaperones for longer excursions in the future.

Older groups plan to take an international tour every 3 to 5 years with more local, domestic, less expensive performance trips and/or festivals in between. Past destinations include Hawaii, New York City, New Orleans, Eugene and Portland, OR, Seattle and Ireland. **Singers and chaperones must have previous touring experience in order to participate in an international tour.**

TRAVEL/FESTIVAL PLANS FOR 2023-2024

Consonare and Colla Voce: San Diego Youth Choir Festival, San Diego, CA, June 26-July 2, 2024

Bella Voce and Primo Voce: Music in the Parks Festival, Wild Waves, Federal Way, Saturday, June 8, 2024

FUNDRAISING is for special needs or touring and may be added throughout the year. RYC leadership is open to group event and activity fundraising suggestions and seeks volunteers who are willing to chair/oversee these events and activities. Already planned are several MOD Pizza events, Windmill Gardens Holiday Greens (fall), and Windmill Gardens flower baskets (spring.)

CONCERT ADMISSION

Admission to RYC sponsored concerts is a suggested-amount donation. While no donation is required, revenue is needed to cover facility fees, instrumentalists, printing, etc., with extra income used for general operating expenditures. **This is one of our most important sources of fundraising**, and we encourage our members to invite friends and family to help fill the beautiful, spacious concert venue.

DONATIONS are tax deductible. RYC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization; tax ID number is #46-3355150. Donations go into our General Fund unless designated for specific things (scholarships, touring, sheet music, et al.) Donors are acknowledged in all concert programs and on our website. Members are encouraged to seek out additional donations whenever possible.

Employers, like **Boeing** and **Microsoft**, often have programs that allow employees to apply for matching funds for donations to non-profit organizations or make monetary donations for hours volunteered. We encourage you to check with your employer to see if these benefits are offered. Any contribution made to **United Way** can also be designated to RYC. Ask our Executive Director for details. If you shop at **Fred Meyer (# XB469)** and/or **Walmart** please consider linking your account to Rainier Youth Choirs; a small portion of the sales go to RYC. Find instructions in the eUpdates.

FULL TUITION Primo Voce - \$630 Bella Voce - \$900 Colla Voce - \$1,035 Consonare - \$1,215

Payment **Plan A** - Full payment **Plan B** - Nine recurring monthly payments linked to bank account or card

Sibling discount: *you must pay full tuition for the choir with the highest tuition; for each additional singer take off 10%.*

Full tuition may be paid by check* or cash by the 10th of the first month of enrollment with no processing fee. Full payment by credit/debit has a \$25 processing fee. Monthly payment plans must be linked electronically to your bank account (no fee) or credit/debit account (\$20 processing fee.) *Tuition is not collected through Chorus Connection. Checks and cash will not be accepted for partial payments.*

***CHECKS RETURNED BY THE BANK WILL BE SUBJECT TO A \$35.00 FEE**

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

Note: Links to online order forms can be found on the Chorus Connection home page.

- **Yearly Registration:** \$95 per singer, non-refundable. This does not apply toward tuition.
- **Casual Uniform** (*see page 10*)
 - Black, casual dress pants or black skirt with solid black leggings or tights
 - Black shoes
 - RYC t-shirt: Obtained through RYC

Note: Each new RYC singer will receive one complimentary black RYC T-shirt (to be used over multiple years) as the Casual Uniform for less formal occasions and retreats. Replacement shirts are \$20.
- **Formal Uniform** (Cost varies per group/gender, pg. 10)
- **Sheet Music** is supplied for all singers, to be returned. Lost music fee is \$20-\$30 per concert.
- **Tours:**

Extended tours (more than one day) require the purchase of additional clothing items, usually several low-cost matching RYC T-shirts, khaki shorts, etc.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Partial scholarships are available. Conditions apply. Contact the Executive Director for information.

REFUNDS will not be made for early withdrawals or leaves of absence. Exceptions may be considered at the discretion of and decided by the RYC Board. Requests must be submitted in writing.

Singers whose tuition or tour payments are in arrears may be restricted from participation in rehearsals, performances, tours, and/or other events or activities associated with Rainier Youth Choirs until accounts are brought up to date.

RYC was created to give musically motivated and talented children the opportunity to create music in an energizing, inspirational, and supportive environment. RYC has high standards of behavior for our singers. Self-discipline, courtesy, and organizational skills are part of the instructional program. **Inappropriate public displays of affection (PDAs) are never acceptable** before, during, or after any RYC event or function. Inappropriate behaviors are not tolerated and may result in dismissal from RYC.

REHEARSAL GUIDELINES exist in order to provide a safe (emotionally and physically), comfortable, and positive learning environment.

- Be kind, encouraging, and appreciative of others.
 - When others are speaking or singing, be an active listener, focused and engaged.
- Wait for permission to speak during rehearsals.
- If entering the room late, do so without talking or causing distractions.
 - When others enter the room late, stay on task and refrain from comments.
- Use the bathroom before and after rehearsals even if you arrive late.
- Turn off cell phones or other electronic devices.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- A black, one-inch, plain three-ring binder in good condition (occasionally needed for performance)
- All of your sheet music in that binder (pencil your initials on each song cover)
- Several sharpened pencils
- A small packet of Kleenexes
- Your own water bottle labeled with your name—not to be shared

Optional birthday treats are welcome at any time, but are to be distributed after the rehearsal is over. *Please, no beverages, potato or other chips, nuts, or trail mix.*

FORMAL UNIFORM ORDERING: RYC submits two group orders each season from Formal Fashions, one in October and one in January. Links to size charts and the online Order Form will be on the Chorus Connection home page. **A \$10 shipping/handling fee will be added for formal uniforms.**

**Shoes, socks, belts, and tights are to be supplied by the family.*

CASUAL UNIFORM ORDERING: RYC submits two group orders for the black t-shirts each season, one in October and one in January. New singers will receive a complimentary t-shirt based on the size indicated in their Chorus Connection profile. Additional t-shirts may be ordered using the form found on the Chorus Connection home page. Parents or other family members may choose to order their own RYC T-shirts. **Casual black pants, black skirt, leggings, shoes, and socks are to be supplied by the family. The formal pants may be used for both.*

New singers needing uniforms or returning singers who need replacements must order and pay online by the deadline stated in the eUpdates.

The casual and formal uniforms are required for all singers.

Note: We have a small, limited supply of gently used uniforms. Please consider donating your used pieces that are in good condition.

PV FORMAL AND CASUAL UNIFORM

(PV wears the same uniform for formal and casual events. This is also is RYC's casual uniform for all groups.)

*T-shirt	Black, RYC Logo t-shirt , not tucked or knotted. (\$20 to replace)
*Pants or Skirt	Black, casual, uniform-type (cotton blend, no cuffs, no denim). Pants must cover the hip bone. The torso should not be visible when arms are raised. Skirts must be worn with solid black leggings or tights.
*Socks or leggings	Black
*Shoes	Black, casual (like sneakers or skateboard shoes - solid color, no patent leather, no colored swooshes, tips, edges, thread or laces. Fabric, suede, smooth leather, or vinyl and flat casuals or Sketchers are all okay.)
*Belt	Black (optional)
*Pin	RYC pin and ribbon (pin is awarded at your first concert and a ribbon at the end of each year.) Replacement costs: pin \$5 and ribbon \$1.

CASUAL UNIFORM, ALL: See PV's uniform. Pins and ribbons are not always needed.

BV BOYS' FORMAL UNIFORM: Pants, shirt, vest, bow tie, black shoes (See page 11 for details)

BV GIRLS' FORMAL UNIFORM: Dress, black shoes, black tights (See page 13 for details)

TENOR/BASS FORMAL UNIFORM for CV & CS:

Pants, shirt, vest, black shoes (CV only: Windsor tie)
(See page 11 for CV details and page 12 for CS details)

***SOP/ALTO FORMAL UNIFORM for CV & CS:**

Dress, black shoes (See page 13 for details)

*For CV and CS Soprano/Alto Ensemble singers not comfortable wearing a dress an alternate all-black option is available. Ordering information supplied upon request.



– UNIFORMS: PANTS with VEST –

Bella Voce and Colla Voce

Shirt

\$16 Style 2121
White Lay Down Collar Tuxedo Shirt

Neckwear

Bella Voce: \$4 Style 8250 RA
(Children \$5) Bow Tie
Black Royal Satin

Colla Voce: \$12 Style 8261 RA
(Children \$17) Classic Windsor Tie
(Tall Adult \$17) *Maroon Royal Satin*



Vest

\$25 (Size XL or larger \$30)
Style 350
Black Satin Vest

Other Accessories

- Black shoes Prefer polishible shoe; no suede, no clogs, no patent leather, no shiny buckles, no sneakers; stitching should be black
- Black socks
- Black belt

Pants

\$22 (Size 42R or larger \$27)
Style 2701
Flex Fit Waist Dress Pant with Tailored Front
Black, elasticized waist, belt loops

Questions or concerns? Contact our Uniform Coordinator: Jennifer@rainieryouthchoirs.org

HOW TO ORDER

- RYC will place a group order for **shirts, ties, vests and pants.**
- 1) Measure yourself and use the charts below to determine your size.
Your size will likely be different than what you buy at a store
 - 2) Submit your size information and payment on *Chorus Connection*.
Links to the order form will be emailed

Other Accessories

Shoes, socks and belts will be supplied by the family.

HOW TO MEASURE

Watch this video for tips



youtube.com/watch?v=U5D6kkIB2ak

– If in doubt, always go up a size –

Body Measurements: *a uniform that is slightly big can be worn, however one that is too small cannot*

Unisex Tuxedo/Dress Shirts - Style 2109, 2109BK, 2121, 2122, 2181, 2181BK, 2186																														
Size	BS	BM	BL	XS1	XS3	S1	S3	S5	M1	M3	M5	M7	M9	L3	L5	L7	L9	XL3	XL5	XL7	XL9	2X5	2X7	2X9	3X5	3X7	3X9	4X5	4X7	
Neck	11	12	13	13	13	14	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	16	17	17	17	17	18	18	18	18	19	19	19	21	21
Sleeve	23	27	31	31	33	31	33	35	31	33	35	37	39	33	35	37	39	33	35	37	39	35	37	39	35	37	39	35	37	
Chest	28	31	35	35	35	40	40	40	44	44	44	44	44	48	48	48	48	52	52	52	52	56	56	56	60	60	60	64	64	
Fits to Height	4'2"	4'10"	5'2"	5'6"	5'11"	5'6"	X	X	5'6"	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

Signature Full Back Vests												
Styles: 350, 350C: Tall Cuts S-2XL only						6289: Tall Cuts XS-5XL				Shaded areas add \$5.00		
Size	BS	BM	BL	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
Chest	28	30	32	35	38	41	44	48	52	56	60	64
Waist	27	29	31	34	37	40	43	47	51	55	59	63
Fits to Height	4'10"	5'	5'2"	6'1"	6'1"	6'2"	6'2"	6'2"	6'2"	6'2"	6'2"	6'2"

Bowties				
Style #	Description	Neck	Height (±¼")	Width (±¼")
8250-1	Adult	11-21"	2.5"	5"
8250-3	Children	10-16"	2"	3.5"
8250-8	Junior/Women	10-16"	2"	4.5"

Windsor Ties				
Style #	Description	Neck	Length (±½")	Height
8261-1	Adult	11-21"	20"	6'2"
8261-3	Children	10-16"	14"	5'0"
8261-4	Tall Adult	11-21"	23"	6'6"
8261-8	Junior/Women	10-16"	16"	5'6"

Dress Pants																					
Children					Adult																
					Style: 2701, 2702 - Flex Fit																
Size	22B	24B	26B	28B	26	28	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58
Fits Waist	22-23	24-25	26-27	28-29	26-27	28-29	30-31	32-33	34-35	36-37	38-39	40-41	42-43	44-45	46-47	48-49	50-51	52-53	54-55	56-57	58-59
Regular	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Fits to Height	4'11"	5'2"	5'5"	5'7"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"	6'4"

Garment information can be viewed at formalfashionsinc.com



- UNIFORMS: PANTS with VEST -

Consonare

Shirt

\$16 Style 2186
White Mandarin Collar Tuxedo Shirt

Button Covers (Easily lost)

\$3 Style 1090SL
Silver Studs & Cuff Links Set
Four studs and two cuff links

Extra shirt studs (Easily lost)

\$1 Style 1091
Black Plastic Studs
Set of five



Vest

\$57 (Size XL or Larger \$62)
Style 8089 JT
Red Brocade Taffeta Vest

Other Accessories

- Black shoes Prefer polishable shoe; no suede, no clogs, no patent leather, no shiny buckles, no sneakers; stitching should be black
- Black socks

Pants

\$26 (Size 43 or Larger \$31)
Style 6501
Adjustable Waist with Buckle
Tuxedo Pant with Tailored Front
Black, polyester, satin side stripe

Questions or concerns? Contact our Uniform Coordinator: Jennifer@rainieryouthchoirs.org

HOW TO ORDER

RYC will place a group order for **shirts, button covers, vests and pants.**

- 1) Measure yourself and use the charts below to determine your size.
Your size will likely be different than what you buy at a store
- 2) Submit your size information and payment on *Chorus Connection*.
Links to the order form will be emailed

Other Accessories

Shoes and socks will be supplied by the family.

HOW TO MEASURE

Watch this video for tips



youtube.com/watch?v=U5D6kkIB2ak

- If in doubt, always go up a size -

Body Measurements: *a uniform that is slightly big can be worn, however one that is too small cannot*

Unisex Tuxedo/Dress Shirts - Style 2109, 2109BK, 2121, 2122, 2181, 2181BK, 2186																													
Size	BS	BM	BL	XS1	XS3	S1	S3	S5	M1	M3	M5	M7	M9	L3	L5	L7	L9	XL3	XL5	XL7	XL9	2X5	2X7	2X9	3X5	3X7	3X9	4X5	4X7
Neck	11	12	13	13	13	14	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	16	17	17	17	17	18	18	18	19	19	19	21	21
Sleeve	23	27	31	31	33	31	33	35	31	33	35	37	39	33	35	37	39	33	35	37	39	35	37	39	35	37	39	35	37
Chest	28	31	35	35	35	40	40	40	44	44	44	44	44	48	48	48	48	52	52	52	52	56	56	56	60	60	60	64	64
Fits to Height	4'2"	4'10"	5'2"	5'6"	5'11"	5'6"	X	X	5'6"	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

His Vests Styles: 8089, 4089, 3089													
Men's Short fit to 5'5" - Regular fit to 6'1" - Tall fit 6'6"													
Size	BXS	BS	BM	BL	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
Chest	26	28	30	32	32	36	40	44	48	52	56	60	64
Waist	26	28	30	32	30	34	38	42	46	50	54	58	62
Fits to Height	4'8"	4'10"	5'	5'2"	5'10"	6'	6'1"	6'1"	6'1"	6'2"	6'2"	6'2"	6'2"

Tuxedo Pants																
Styles: 6501 (Polyester), 6501SF (Polyester), 6502 (Polyester) & 7100 (Wool) - Adjustable Waist																
Size	Children				Adult											
	22B	24B	26B	28B	25	28	31	34	37	40	43	46	49	52	55	58
Waist	21-22	23-24	25-26	27-28	24-26	27-29	30-32	33-35	36-38	39-41	42-44	45-47	48-50	51-53	54-56	57-59
Fits to Height	4'11"	5'2"	5'5"	5'7"												
Short (S) Fit to 5'8"	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6501, 6502	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Regular Fit to 6'3"	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6501, 6502	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Long (L) Fit to 6'8"	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			

Garment information can be viewed at formalfashionsinc.com



– UNIFORMS: DRESSES –

Bella Voce



Dress

\$65 (Size 18 or larger \$75)
 Style 4915KAA-E
 Performance Knit Knee Length Dress
 Black, empire style, boatneck, cap sleeves

Hemline: Just below the knee
A bit longer is okay, so the hem will still be below the knee when the singer has grown an inch or two

Colla Voce and Consonare



Dress

\$75 (Size 18 or larger \$85)
 Style 4755AA
 Princess Style Dress with Empire Waist
 Black, performance knit, small scoop neckline, cap sleeves

Hemline: 1 ½ inches from the floor
With shoes on

Sash

Colla Voce: Maroon Ribbon
 \$7 Style 4700BELT MAR
 Consonare: Black Ribbon
 Included with dress
Sash is worn above the natural waist level

Necklace \$15 (Purchased from RYC)

Questions or concerns? Contact our Uniform Coordinator: Jennifer@rainieryouthchoirs.org

Other Accessories

Leg wear

Bella Voce: Opaque black tights (not nylons)
 Colla Voce: Skin color nylons or bare legs
 Consonare: Skin color nylons or bare legs

Black shoes

- Plain black, closed-toe shoes. Prefer Mary Jane style.
- Maximum heel of 1.5 inches.
- Not glossy, suede or patent leather.
- No bows or ornamentation.
- All stitching should be black.
- Shoes should be comfortable enough to walk gracefully for a couple of miles and then stand all evening.

HOW TO ORDER

RYC will place a group order for **dresses, sashes and necklaces.**

- 1) Measure yourself and use the charts below to determine your size.
Your size will likely be different than what you buy at a store
- 2) Submit your size information and payment on *Chorus Connection*.
Links to the order form will be emailed

Other Accessories

Shoes, tights and nylons will be supplied by the family.

HOW TO MEASURE

Watch this video for tips



youtube.com/watch?v=USD6kklB2ak

Body Measurements: Child Sizes

Childrens Blouses & Dresses					
Size	5	7	9	11	13
Bust	25	26	27	28	29
Waist	24	25	26	27	28
Hip	27	28	29	30	31
Fits to Height	4'9"	4'11"	5'1"	5'3"	5'5"

Body Measurements: Adult Sizes

If in doubt, always go up a size – a uniform that is slightly big can be worn, however one that is too small cannot

Dresses																		
Standard length fits to 5'9" including shoe with heel - Tall sizes available															Shaded areas add \$10.00			
Size	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34
Bust	30	31	32	33	34	35.5	37	38.5	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58
Waist	28	29	30	31	32	33.5	35	36.5	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56
Hip	34	35	36	37	38	39.5	41	42.5	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62

Parents are advised to check each singer's uniform for completeness and needed repairs in the days before each performance. Concert volunteers should not be expected to sew up ties, repair ripped-out hems, etc. Singers in all groups are expected to arrive for Call Time completely ready to perform. Many of our promotional action pictures come from the pre-concert time so appearances matter as in performance. Concert volunteers are to check for completeness of uniform upon check in. **If an item is missing, the parent has until the time the doors open to get the missing item to the singer so that they may perform in the concert.** *(If the articles needed to complete the uniform are in the emergency uniform box, the parent may choose to borrow the item one time. If the singer needs to borrow the item more than once, a \$5 fine will be charged.)* We do keep a few necklaces, button covers, ties and shirt studs for those who forget. *The most often overlooked item we don't have is the correct color/style of tights for Bella Voce girls.*

APPEARANCE GUIDELINES FOR PERFORMANCE

In addition to the required uniform, there are also guidelines for the whole appearance of the singer. The goal is for the choir to have a unified professional appearance while performing, one that does not distract the audience and does not draw attention to individual singers. **A singer who does not comply with appearance guidelines may not be allowed to perform.**

HAIR

Hairstyles are expected to be "conservative." Try for a neat style with the forehead clear of hair. Long hair should be **pulled off the shoulders**, preferably tied back so it doesn't slip off during performance. Eyebrows should be visible for those with bangs, again preferably clipped back or locked in place with extra firm hair-spray. Hair should stay in place even after a bow. All clips and bands used to hold the hair in place should be hair-colored, with a natural hair color strongly preferred. Facial hair (discouraged) must be neatly trimmed and groomed.

JEWELRY

A single pair of plain earrings may be worn. (Small hoops or gold, silver or black studs are acceptable; earrings that dangle or sparkle are unacceptable.) No other jewelry (including watches) is to be worn by either boys or girls of any group. The CV necklace will be left in the uniform box between concerts. The CS necklace may also be left in the uniform box. These may be taken home at the end of the season.

NAILS

Clear or light pink nail polish in good condition may be worn.

UNDER CLOTHING

Undershirts, slips, camisoles and/or bra straps must not be visible.

MAKEUP GUIDELINES

Primo Voce & Bella Voce: no makeup.

Colla Voce: Makeup should be minimal and very conservative in color. No bright colors, glitter, or shimmery makeup. No dark eyeliner. Eye shadow, if used, must be in subtle natural colors. Lip gloss, if worn, must be pale, sheer pink or clear with only a subtle shine.

Consonare: Makeup should be minimal, conservative and natural looking. No bright colors, glitter, or shimmery or high gloss makeup.

BEFORE THE CONCERT

Since concerts are often around mealtime, PLEASE make sure the singers have eaten before leaving the house. It can be a long time until the end of the concert, especially when they are hungry! In addition, please send a non-sugar, non-messy snack with them. Be sure to label it with their names.

HYDRATE! HYDRATE! HYDRATE!

Water is the single best drink for a singer. Caffeinated drinks are not helpful as they work as a diuretic, pulling moisture from the tissues rather than hydrating. Realize that it takes two hours for the water you drink to make it to the cellular level where it can lubricate your vocal folds which keeps you from getting hoarse and helps you sing your best.

Application: start drinking water (6-8 glasses) several hours before you have rehearsal or a performance for best results. Consider using a humidifier at night if your home has dry heat during the winter months, particularly if your singer complains of a sore throat in the morning.

CALL TIME is usually about two hours prior to the start of the concert. This is when your singer needs to be checked in, completely dressed for performance. If circumstances should make it so that the singer must arrive late, it is **CRUCIAL** that they vocalize (**warm up** their voice) prior to arriving.

SIGNING IN AND OUT

Concert volunteers will check uniforms and appearance at sign-in. Sign out after the event. Expect a text or call for unreported absences and for when a singer is not signed out.

WHAT TO BRING/NOT BRING TO A CONCERT

Singers often have some waiting time during the pre-performance rehearsal and, depending on the venue, during the concert. They should bring:

- A full water bottle
- Their music for reference if needed
- A book, crossword puzzles, coloring book, a deck of cards, or something else that is quiet to do
- Their own comb or brush (as these cannot be shared)
- A non-sugar and non-messy snack

Make sure everything listed above has the child's name on it. During the performance, these items will be kept in the group's waiting room, to be picked up after the performance.

PLEASE NOTE:

CELL PHONES

Singers may NOT have cell phones or electronic devices in their possession after signing in for a performance. It is best to not bring them into the venue. There will be a secure location for phones for those who do bring them.

PREVENT THEFTS

RYC is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Valuables should be left at home, given to parents, or locked in the trunk of your car.

The following guidance is provided for the RYC Board and volunteers who work our RYC main stage concerts. It is expected that all personnel, including the RYC leadership and staff, adhere to these policies:

- All concert attendees must register online ahead of time or in person to enter the concert venue. This process ensures that we obtain an accurate audience count. The only exception to this policy is for the concert supervisors, photographer, and sound/video crew.
- No unauthorized admittance to the performance hall is allowed prior to when the doors are opened to the public.
- Festival seating is the norm.
- **Audience members may reserve no more than two seats, not entire rows for family and guests.**
- Registered attendees wait in line before entering the venue. If a local dignitary or other special guest such as a reporter or visiting conductor are invited to the concert, they will be allowed priority seating. The Concert Manager must be informed to make sure the registration desk and door staff are aware of any exceptions. Those with physical challenges may be allowed priority entrance with one other guest assisting at the discretion of the Concert Team.
- Suggested donation amounts: Adult (age 19-59) \$20; Youth (age 5-18) and Senior (age 60+) \$15; Alumni \$5. Younger children are welcome if they can sit quietly for 75 - 90 minutes without causing distractions.

CONCERT ETIQUETTE

- Holding up a phone or other device to snap pictures or record during a performance is distracting not only to the singers, but to all audience members behind. It also hampers the quality of sanctioned videographer and photographer's products.
- Listen attentively to the performers and wait to make any comments quietly between songs or sets, not during the actual performance.
- Do not leave the performing area while the performance is in progress unless there is an emergency, and then as quietly and unobtrusively as possible.
- A song is not over until the conductor's arms are dropped. Wait to applaud soloists until they are recognized afterwards (except in jazz, when it is appropriate to applaud immediately).
- Don't do anything that might distract the performers, including flash photography.
- Turn off cell phones and other electronic devices and refrain from texting, answering or scrolling during the performance.
- Be encouraging and complimentary. Mistakes always happen in live performances, AND THAT'S OK!
- It is courteous to remove noisy children as quickly as possible. Children who are too young or restless to sit quietly for up to 90 minutes should not attend.
- It is incredibly important for each singer to have someone in the audience who is there just for them. Those who have never participated in a performing group may not understand how devastating it can be for a singer to just be dropped off for the performance and picked up afterwards.

Please support your child by attending their performances whenever possible.