**The Robert Dean Chorale Handbook**

**2024-2025**

Legal Business

The Robert Dean Chorale is a 501(c)(4) non-profit organization.

The Board

The Robert Dean Chorale is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. The Board helps the director make decisions about performances, helps to secure rehearsal and performance sites, and listens to concerns from the singers.

Singers respect each other and the Director by

1. Being on time for rehearsals.
   1. Live rehearsals begin at 2:00
   2. Zoom rehearsal begin at 4:00. Please log into the rehearsal a few minutes before 4.
2. Not chatting between numbers, allowing everyone to hear the directions being given.
3. Using their pencils to write in the music, to avoid repetitions of directions.
4. Practicing their music with the YouTube part videos, if available.
5. Wearing the appropriate outfit for concerts. (see wardrobe below)

Singers make the music come alive by

1. Holding their folders UP.
2. Watching the director whenever they can.
3. Putting the emotion of the song in their faces and bodies.

Singers’ Responsibilities

1. Attendance at rehearsals is very important and should be made a priority.

NOTE: If a singer misses more than a couple rehearsals, it will be at the discretion of the Director as to whether or not s/he will be allowed to perform.

1. To pay dues in a timely manner, sometime before the fourth rehearsal of each semester.
2. As a member of the Chorus, a singer’s participation at every concert is important to the group. Concerts may include
   1. Two concerts on same weekend, December
   2. Two concerts on same weekend, Spring
   3. One Sunday afternoon benefit concert, Spring (most years)
   4. Hospital Christmas concert (tree lighting at Unity hospital)
   5. Nursing Home concert
   6. Spencerport Canal Days performance (last full weekend in July)
   7. Spencerport Memorial Day ceremony
   8. Canal Museum performance (some years)
3. To practice with tutorials if they are available.
4. To support one another, as this is a *community* gathering of like-minded people.
5. To advertise the concerts among your family and friends.
6. To carry RDC business cards, talk about RDC to people you meet and recruit singers.
7. Present ideas to the Director for ways to make the concerts more interesting.

Attendance

1. Attendance is taken at every rehearsal.
2. If you know you will be absent from a rehearsal, please let the Secretary know by text, email or phone.
3. If you do not know ahead (illness or other unexpected event), please phone the Secretary.

Dues

1. Each singer pays $50 at the beginning of both the Fall and Spring concert semesters. ($100/year)
2. Payment for Fall and Spring semesters is due before the fourth rehearsal of each semester.
3. Summer session dues are $15.
4. If you are not in a position to pay, please see the Treasurer. We still want you to sing with us.

Concerts/Performances

1. Wear the correct wardrobe and come to warm-ups on time.
2. Please remember to NOT wear perfume/cologne for concerts. Several of our singers have sensitivities to fragrances.
3. Please remember to bring cookies and juice to the post-concert receptions.
4. All singers are asked to help set up and tear down our performance area. Please enlist help from strong, non-singing family members. Even if you cannot lift and carry equipment, come early to help fold programs, and get props organized.
5. NO water bottles on ‘stage’ during a performance. Ever. Leave them in the green room with your coat.

Practical Things

1. To the extent you are able, please plan to set up and tear down rehearsal area. Chairs stacked, piano moved to original spot.
2. Your music folder is yours for the semester. Folders are turned in to the Choir Librarian, at the final concert of each semester.

Wardrobe

Outfit #1 Formal Concerts and Filming for YouTube

Men: Long-sleeved, BLACK button-down shirt

BLACK pants and belt

Long, FOREST GREEN necktie

Black socks and shoes

Women: FOREST GREEN pullover tunic

Black pants OR black floor-length skirt

Black shoes

Small jewelry, if jewelry is worn

Outfit #2 INFORMAL EVENTS

Men and Women:

Short-sleeved white polo

Blue jeans, not khaki, not black.

Small jewelry, if jewelry is worn