

**SAVE THESE DATES:**

**Saturday, May 6:** rehearsal for sound and lighting at the Rio Grande, report at 8:30 a.m.

**Sunday, May 7:** Spring Concert at the Rio Grande, report at 1:15, concert begins at 3

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the Mesilla Valley Chorale (MVC). We are a diverse group of singers who share a passion for performing choral music. We are committed to making each rehearsal musically productive and personally fulfilling. Our goals are to provide a quality, joyful musical experience for our members and audiences alike and to enhance the appreciation of choral music in our community.

To help us consistently accomplish our performance goals, the MVC has established the following guidelines and expectations of its members:

**For the well-being of chorale members and audiences, anyone planning to sing with the chorale in January 2023 is expected to have been fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus in accordance with CDC guidelines.**

**Vocal Range Assessment**

New members and returning members absent for five or more years will have a singing/listening session with the director, assistant director, and accompanist. This short, relaxed session will help define range, vocal blend, and ability to hold pitch within harmonies as a soprano, alto, tenor, or bass.

**Music Staff**

Director, Carol Nike – 575-202-9646 or [carolnike4316@gmail.com](mailto:carolnike4316@gmail.com)

Accompanist/Assistant Director, Jeonai Batista – 225-330-1925 or [jeonai@nmsu.edu](mailto:jeonai@nmsu.edu)

Assistant Accompanist, Charlotte Johnson – 575-650-6577 or [kc5kwi@gmail.com](mailto:kc5kwi@gmail.com)

**Dues**

The MVC year consists of two semesters. Membership dues are \$55 per semester for most members and \$30 for full time students. Please let the Treasurer know if arrangements are needed for a time payment schedule. We don't want this to be a hardship for anyone. Dues provide funding for new music, stipends for the music staff, rental fees for rehearsal/concert facilities, and other expenses. Members are asked to donate music back to the MVC music library if they have no plans for future use, with the exception of computer-printed copies, which MUST be returned to be destroyed in compliance with copyright laws. Dues can be paid online through the website or in person by check or cash at rehearsal. **This semester ONLY, all members must return Let the River Run, as we borrowed these from NMSU. Each copy is numbered and logged against the member who receives that copy.**

**Rehearsals**

The fall semester begins the Monday after Labor Day with rehearsals weekly until the Holiday concert – the second Sunday in December. The spring semester begins the third Monday of January with weekly rehearsals until the spring concert – the first Sunday in May. Please note: rehearsal start dates are subject to change based on COVID-19 issues.

**Weekly rehearsals are held on Monday nights from 7:00 – 9:00** at St. Paul's United Methodist Church at Griggs and Alameda; enter the choir room door on Alameda.

Singers should be in their seats at 7:00 pm ready to sing. Rehearsals are fast-paced and productive. Asking music-related questions of the director during rehearsals often helps the whole group. We do ask, as a courtesy, that members not talk among themselves during rehearsal. Getting to know each other is important and encouraged before and after rehearsals and during breaks.

**Saturday AM Sectional Rehearsals** are scheduled during each semester, one hour for men and one hour for women. Attendance at St. Paul's United Methodist Church choir room is not required, but highly encouraged. These rehearsals have proven very helpful in producing high-quality performances. Park on the south or west side and enter through the side door into the choir room. **Men report at 10 and women at 11.**

### **Attendance**

To reach and maintain our goal of providing a quality musical experience, missing more than four Monday rehearsals during a semester may jeopardize participation in the performance, unless made up at Saturday rehearsals. All voices ARE important to the success of our overall sound.

**Section Leaders maintain attendance records. Contact the appropriate section leader, if you are unable to be at rehearsal.**

Sopranos – Cathy Boeker – 575-382-8989, or [mrsb\\_wsmr@hotmail.com](mailto:mrsb_wsmr@hotmail.com)

Altos — Pamela Smith – 575-449-4921, or [pamelasmithlc@gmail.com](mailto:pamelasmithlc@gmail.com)

Tenors — Tom Warren – 575-496-4000, or [twarren42@gmail.com](mailto:twarren42@gmail.com)

Basses — Reldon Beck – 575-523-0807, or [rbeck63@outlook.com](mailto:rbeck63@outlook.com)

**Digital Rehearsal Tracks** for each part for each song are available to all members; these can be downloaded to a computer or mobile device. These tracks are at <https://www.mesillavalleychorale.org/links>

### **Dress Code**

An MVC outfit is required for both men and women (see photo on [mesillavalleychorale.org](http://mesillavalleychorale.org)). Please let the Treasurer know if arrangements are needed for a time payment schedule. We don't want this to be a hardship for anyone.

**Women:** Beginning spring semester 2023, all women will wear new black tops @ \$20 each, as selected by the Wardrobe Committee. (MVC will cover additional costs, including taxes and shipping.) For newer members, returned black skirts may be available and altered for a small fee; otherwise, our seamstress will make new skirts @ \$20 each. Women will also wear black/off-black stockings, black shoes and undergarments, and a teal necklace for the spring and a red necklace for the holiday (\$3 each). Please wear make-up, as stage lighting pales complexions, and no perfume or fragrant sprays of any kind during rehearsals or concerts.

#### **Men:**

- The MVC black vest, worn with a white long sleeve shirt, black trousers, black socks and shoes.
- Ties: red ties (holiday) and teal ties (spring)
- **No after-shave** or fragrant sprays of any kind during rehearsals or concerts.

**NOTE: New MVC black vests plus ties cost \$46.** If used vests are available, the only cost is alterations, if necessary, provided by our seamstress. New ties are \$10 each and MVC covers tax and shipping for new ties and vests.

### **Chorale Officers:**

Reldon Beck - President and Ticket Coordinator (575-523-0807, or [rbeck63@outlook.com](mailto:rbeck63@outlook.com))

Melodye Pompa – Treasurer and Rosters (575-288-0564, or [melodyemvc@gmail.com](mailto:melodyemvc@gmail.com))

Ray Scroggins – Publicity Manager (262-490-7968, or [rscrogginsnm@gmail.com](mailto:rscrogginsnm@gmail.com))

Pamela Smith – Wardrobe Manager (575-449-4921, or [pamelasmithlc@gmail.com](mailto:pamelasmithlc@gmail.com))

Kathy von Ende – Secretary/Librarian (575-496-3186, or [kathrynvonende@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynvonende@gmail.com))

Tom Warren - Program & Website Production (575-496-4000, or [twarren42@gmail.com](mailto:twarren42@gmail.com))