

# The Children's and Youth Ensembles of The Choral Society of Northeast Pennsylvania 2015-2016 Handbook

Welcome to the Children's and Youth Ensembles of The Choral Society of Northeast Pennsylvania! We're so glad you have decided to be a part of our organization this year. In the following pages we will try to provide you with the majority of the information that you will need to participate in our choirs. *In addition to this handbook, please ask your children each week as you pick them up or as they return home if they have received any handouts. Also, please keep an eye on your email inbox for updates.* For additional information and a downloadable version of the handbook, please consult our website: [www.choralsociety.net](http://www.choralsociety.net).

## REGULAR SCHEDULE:

### Tuesdays at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in downtown Scranton:

Cantus Novus	gr. K-2	5:30-6:15	Leslie Mason Moran, conductor * Ron Stabinsky, accompanist
Cantilena	gr. 3-5	5:30-6:45	Becky Burdett, conductor * Ron Stabinsky, accompanist
Kantorei	gr. 6-12 treble voices	6:15-7:45	Leslie Mason Moran, conductor * Ron Stabinsky, accompanist
Camerata	male changed voices	6:15-7:45	Frank Jones, conductor * Ron Stabinsky, accompanist
Cantare	gr. 9-12 select treble ens.	6:15-8:45	Dana Cerminaro, conductor * Ron Stabinsky, accompanist

## MUSIC-READING CLASSES

**Music reading classes** will be held within the rehearsal time at no added cost. From 6:15-6:45PM, students in grades 3-12 will be placed in a music reading class that is suited to their age and music-reading ability. Students will learn the basics of reading both rhythm and pitch at sight as well as basic music theory.

## PARENT-ON-DUTY

Each parent will be assigned at least one rehearsal during which they will be the parent on duty. A list will be emailed after singer rosters are complete. **If you have a specific date request, please give it to Kay in writing at the first rehearsal or via email.** You may be called upon for other duties, such as:

- passing out handouts, monitoring rehearsal
- monitoring lav use (by our younger singers)
- monitoring public phone use (should only be used in case of emergency and long-distance calls are prohibited)
- monitoring singers who have arrived early for rehearsal (when conductors are still rehearsing another choir within the organization) and who have not yet been picked up from rehearsal
- monitoring church entrances

**IMPORTANT:** We also ask that if you wish to observe rehearsals that you do so quietly, as conversations are very distracting to our singers, especially the youngest ones. If you wish to have conversations, the first-floor lounge or 2<sup>nd</sup> floor large room is an excellent place to visit with other parents and we encourage you to do so. *Please also remember that eating or drinking is not allowed in the church and that younger siblings should be monitored and kept from running throughout the church. It is very important to us that we remain welcome in the churches/venues which house us and that we are respectful of their spaces.*

**ATTENDANCE—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!!!** Attendance issues are probably our biggest headache, because we want to be reasonable, but yet keep policies that will allow us to achieve a high level of artistic performance. **Missing a rehearsal IS a big deal. Please treat it as such.**

- Attendance at all concerts and dress rehearsals is **mandatory**. Since our scheduled time in these spaces is always very tight, we also ask that you arrive on time, if not early. **If you miss a mandatory rehearsal we reserve the right to prohibit you from performance.**
- You are allowed to miss **two** regular rehearsals per semester, if there is good reason.
- Two lates make one absence. Class time is not optional. ☺
- **All conflicts must be given to your conductor(s) in writing by the second rehearsal of the semester.**
- If a last-minute emergency occurs which prevents your attendance at rehearsal, please call/email your child's conductor and leave a message. Cantus Novus and Kantorei should call/email Leslie, Cantilena should call/email Becky, Camerata should call/email Frank, and Cantare should call/email Dana. Contact info is listed below.

Please only call Leslie, Becky, Frank, and Dana about attendance issues—all other administrative concerns should be directed to Kay! ☺

- Big projects and homework assignments are rarely given as a surprise. *Plan ahead.*
- If you are participating in your school's drama production, we will excuse you for one rehearsal during tech week of your show. All other weeks you must attend Choral Society.
- If you are adding an extra obligation to your schedule during the course of the year, it is your responsibility to clear all Choral Society dates with them before you commit to the extra obligation. Make an extra copy of the schedule for your music teachers at school—they are generally willing to try to work with us if they have enough prior notice.

### PHONE NUMBERS/EMAIL ADDRESSES TO KNOW

Kay Ten Eyck—570-313-0146 (prefers texts to the cell) or kayt1085@gmail.com

Kay's mailing address: 530 McLean Street; Dickson City, PA 18519

Leslie Moran—570-343-1208 (home), 570-947-1020 (cell) or lmoran909@yahoo.com

Becky Burdett—570-262-6312 or beckyburdett@verizon.net

Frank Jones—570-906-1830 or fjones217@gmail.com

Dana Cerminaro—570-335-0884 or dacermi988@msn.com

### BEHAVIOR POLICY

It is my sincerest hope that behavior will be a non-issue in an organization such as this.

However, should the need arise. . .

- Parents will receive one phone call as a warning.
- If problems persist after that call the conductor has the right to remove the singer from the ensemble without a tuition refund.

Please make note of the following:

- Singers may not use the telephones in rehearsal/performance spaces without the assistance of an adult. Long-distance calls are not permitted from these phones. If it is necessary to make a long-distance call, please see Kay or the parent on duty.
- Lavatory use: singers must return to rehearsal in a timely fashion and leave the lavatory in the condition in which it was found.
- **Singers must only be in areas designated for our use.** Running or behaving in an unseemly fashion in **any** area of the building is not acceptable. Wandering throughout the building (even, and especially, by our older students) is not allowed. While **I** know that our singers are trustworthy, a pastor or church member who happens upon an unmonitored or seemingly unmonitored student/group of students may not see things in the same light. **We must abide by this rule at all times to be sure that we remain welcome in these churches/venues.**
- All cell phones and other electronic devices are to be kept in purses or backpacks during rehearsals and concerts.

### CONCERT ATTIRE

#### Females in Cantus Novus:

blue dress hemmed to 8" from the floor (with dress shoes), **white stockings, black shoes.**

#### Females in Cantilena:

blue dress hemmed to 8" from the floor (with dress shoes), **nude stockings, black shoes**

#### Females in Kantorei, Chanteuses, and Cantare:

black dress hemmed to 8" from the floor (with dress shoes), **black stockings, black shoes**

#### All males:

tuxedo shirt with black button cover and studs, black dress pants (of your own), black socks and black dress shoes.

#### All singers:

Earrings should be small. A single necklace may be worn by females. Hair should be neat, *pulled back away from the face*, and not too big. Makeup, if worn, should be tasteful. No perfumes or strongly-scented hairsprays.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

If there is need to cancel rehearsal, we will send a group email by 3:30 PM. We will also post a message on our Choral Society Facebook page, so be sure to “like” our page. Since we are a regional organization, we will make the decision that is best for the majority of the kids—and we understand that a family from an outlying area may need to make a different choice than a family who lives in Wilkes-Barre or Scranton.

## TUITION

Tuition for one semester (September–December or January–April) is:

- **\$70.00** for one child in **Cantus Novus, Cantilena, Kantorei, and Camerata** (plus fundraising—see below)
- Additional siblings can be registered at **\$30.00** per child.
- Cost for **Cantare** is **\$100.00** (due to the extra rehearsal time).
- Tuition is non-refundable.

I’m sorry to be so terse about this, but there have been enough people who have made me chase them for tuition and sheet music that the following policies are now in order:

- Tuition may be paid in installments, but you must discuss this with Kay **ahead of time** to set up a payment plan. If you have not requested a payment plan, **full tuition is due at the first rehearsal of each semester**. If you have missed this deadline, please send your tuition today to **Kay Ten Eyck; 530 McLean Street; Dickson City, PA 18519**.
- If you are not on track with your tuition payments, your child will not be allowed to perform.
- There will be a \$10.00 surcharge on your next bill for each **concert** of printed music not returned to us.

## FUNDRAISERS

As far as tuition goes, we are about the best deal in town. I know that some of you would prefer to pay a higher tuition (and then do no fundraising), while some of you can easily sell a box of candy. Therefore you have the choice—we will do one Gertrude Hawk candy bar sale in the fall and one in the spring. Each *family* (not singer) is responsible for one box. Each box of candy has 48 bars that are sold for \$1.00 per bar which provides us with a profit of \$24.00 per box. If you prefer to not sell candy, you can simply give us a check for the \$24.00 profit **by the first rehearsal of each semester**. If we don’t have a check from you at that first rehearsal, we will order a box of candy for you. This plan seemed to work very well in the past—I hope it provides you with acceptable options.

## DIRECTIONS

### Directions to Covenant Presbyterian Church, Scranton (550 Madison Street)

Take Route 81 to Exit 185 (Central Scranton Expressway). At the end of the exit ramp turn right onto Jefferson Avenue (not a hard right, but a right-angle right). Go 3 lights and you will be at the corner of Jefferson and Vine. Turn right onto Vine Street, go 1 or 2 blocks, and turn left onto Madison Street. There is a parking lot on your right (before you get to the church) and there is on-street parking. There is an additional parking lot if you drive past the church and turn right onto Olive Street.

### Directions to St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, Scranton (232 Wyoming Avenue)

Take Route 81 to Exit 185 (Central Scranton Expressway). At the end of the exit ramp, go straight through the light (this is Spruce Street). Go several lights and you will be at the corner of Spruce and Wyoming. Turn right onto Wyoming. The church will be within the next block on your right. Parking may be tricky, so leave extra time. There is a parking lot on your left, across from the church, but it is not open consistently.

### Directions to the Kirby Center, Wilkes-Barre (71 Public Square)

Take Route 81 to Exit 170B (Wilkes-Barre/309N). Stay on 309N then take Exit 2 (Wilkes-Barre Blvd.). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Wilkes-Barre Blvd. At the 3<sup>rd</sup> traffic light, turn right onto Scott Street. At the first traffic light, turn left onto Pennsylvania Blvd. At the first traffic light, turn right onto East Union Street. At the first traffic light, turn left onto North Washington Street and get into the right lane. Park and Lock East will be within one block on the right. The elevators in the parking garage will exit onto East Market Street. The Kirby Center is one block ahead (on Public Square). There is a fee to park in this garage. Metered parking is also sometimes available on the left side of North Washington Street.

### **Directions to the Scranton Cultural Center, Scranton (420 North Washington Avenue)**

Take Route 81 to Exit 185 (Central Scranton Expressway). At the end of the exit ramp turn right onto Jefferson Avenue (not a hard right, but a right-angle right). Go three lights and you will be at the corner of Jefferson and Vine. Turn left onto Vine St. and go two lights. Turn left onto North Washington Avenue. The Cultural Center is the second large gray building on your left. In addition to some metered street parking, there are two parking garages within one block of the SCC. To go to The Scranton Parking Authority Garage, continue past the SCC and go through the intersection with Mulberry Street. The Scranton Parking Authority Garage is in the middle of the next block on the right. To go to The Adams Avenue Garage, continue past the SCC and turn left onto Mulberry Street. Go one block and turn left onto Adams Avenue. The Adams Avenue Garage is located about three-quarters of the way up the block on your left. There is a fee to park in both of these garages.

### **CONCERT TICKETS**

Concert tickets for all of our Children's and Youth Programs are available for purchase at the door at a cost of \$10.00 for adults and \$8.00 for seniors/students/WVIA members/SCC Hood room members/Scranton Library Card holders. Children **18** and under are admitted free to all concerts that are just Children and Youth. The cost of the Choral Society Christmas Concert is \$15.00 per adult ticket, \$12.00 for the reduced categories, and \$5.00 for children 18 and under. There are no free admissions to that particular concert.

### **RECEPTIONS**

We will be having a reception after the concerts on **November 29<sup>th</sup>** and **April 24<sup>th</sup>**. Cantus Novus parents are responsible for bringing drinks while parents of singers in all of the other choirs should bring finger food (prepared so you can pick it up and eat it). We will need parent volunteers to set up and clean up, so please sign up to help. The May reception will also honor our graduating seniors, so if your child is graduating this year, we will need your help and input on what type of displays you would be interested in creating.

### **LOCAL SUMMER CAMPS/YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMS**

#### **Performing Arts Institute**

Todd Christopher has a variety of summer programs at Wyoming Seminary for musicians of different levels ages 7 through high school. Please contact him for further information at 570-270-2188 or at onstage@wyomingseminary.org.

#### **Wilkes University Community Conservatory**

There is a wonderful program at Wilkes which offers lessons on all instruments and voice, theatre classes, and general music skills classes. For more information, please call Lynne Mariani at 408-4426 or email at conservatory@wilkes.edu.

#### **Arts Alive**

A program for the visual, written, and performing arts sponsored by the Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit 19 held at the University of Scranton. Please contact Dr. Catherine Richmond-Cullen for further information at 570-876-9223.

#### **Marywood University**

Marywood runs both a summer music camp and offers lessons on all instruments and voice. Please call the music department to find out more information. The main switchboard number for Marywood is 348-6211.

#### **Private Lessons**

**If you know of a good teacher who is accepting more students, please let me know and I will add his/her name!**

Jessica Hitchcock	Scranton	<a href="mailto:jhitchsop@hotmail.com">jhitchsop@hotmail.com</a>	570-575-0408	voice
Linda Orseck	Scranton	<a href="mailto:orseckl@mvsd.us">orseckl@mvsd.us</a>	570-342-8492	piano/voice
Carl Shinko	Clarks Summit	<a href="mailto:carl@shinkosingers.com">carl@shinkosingers.com</a>	570-357-3207	voice/theory/guitar
Stephani Austin	Clarks Summit	<a href="mailto:abingtonpianoacademy@gmail.com">abingtonpianoacademy@gmail.com</a>		piano
Jenna Ash	Blakely	<a href="mailto:ariaamante@gmail.com">ariaamante@gmail.com</a>	573-489-9279	beginning voice/piano

## SEASON SCHEDULE

This is the schedule as of August 2015. Just keep your ears open—we try to not have any changes, but sometimes things happen that are out of our control . . . ☺

### FALL SCHEDULE:

Tuesday	September 8	<b>auditions 6:00PM-8:00PM</b>	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	September 15	first regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	September 22	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	September 29	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	October 6	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	October 13	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	October 20	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	October 27	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>November 3</b>	<b>mandatory rehearsal</b>	<b>St. Luke's Episcopal</b>
		Cantilena will be dismissed at 6:15. All other choirs should follow regular rehearsal times.	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 8</b>	<b>concert (4PM)</b>	<b>St. Luke's Episcopal</b>
		Cantus Novus and Cantilena will warm up at 3:30PM.	
		Kantorei and Chanteuses will warm up at 3:00PM.	
		Camerata and Cantare will warm up at 2:45PM.	
Tuesday	November 10	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	November 17	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>November 24</b>	<b>mandatory rehearsal</b>	<b>Covenant Presbyterian</b>
		Cantilena will be dismissed at 6:15. All other choirs should follow regular rehearsal times.	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 29</b>	<b>concert (4PM) &amp; reception</b>	<b>Covenant Presbyterian</b>
		Cantus Novus and Cantilena will warm up at 3:00PM.	
		Kantorei will warm up at 2:45PM.	
		Cantare and Camerata will warm up at 2:30PM.	

*We will be taking donations of new, unwrapped, non-violent toys for our Toys for Tots drive at this concert.*

<b>PHILHARMONIC SINGERS (Cantilena, Kantorei, and Cantare):</b>				
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 2</b>	<b>mandatory rehearsal</b>	<b>location TBA</b>	<b>time TBA</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 4</b>	<b>mandatory rehearsal</b>	<b>Scranton Cultural Center</b>	<b>afternoon TBA</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 4</b>	<b>Philharmonic performance</b>	<b>Scranton Cultural Center</b>	<b>7PM; call TBA</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 5</b>	<b>Philharmonic performance</b>	<b>Kirby Center, W-B</b>	<b>7PM; call TBA</b>

## SPRING SCHEDULE:

Tuesday	January 5	<b>auditions 6:00PM-8:00PM</b>	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	January 12	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	January 19	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	January 26	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	February 2	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	February 9	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	February 16	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	February 23	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	March 1	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 8</b>	<b>mandatory rehearsal</b>	<b>St. Luke's Episcopal</b>
	Cantilena will be dismissed at 6:15. All other choirs should follow regular rehearsal times.		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 13</b>	<b>concert (4 PM)</b>	<b>St. Luke's Episcopal</b>
	Cantus Novus and Cantilena will warm up at 3:30PM.		
	Kantorei and Chanteuses will warm up at 3:00PM.		
	Camerata and Cantare will warm up at 2:45PM.		
Tuesday	March 15	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	March 22	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	March 29	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	April 5	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
Tuesday	April 12	regular rehearsal	St. Luke's Episcopal
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>April 19</b>	<b>mandatory rehearsal</b>	<b>St. Luke's Episcopal</b>
	Cantilena will be dismissed at 6:15. All other choirs should follow regular rehearsal times.		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>April 24</b>	<b>concert (4PM) &amp; reception</b>	<b>St. Luke's Episcopal</b>
	Cantus Novus and Cantilena will warm up at 3:30PM.		
	Kantorei and Chanteuses will warm up at 3:00PM.		
	Camerata and Cantare will warm up at 2:45PM.		

### CANTARE AND CAMERATA:

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>May 31</b>	<b>rehearsal 6PM-8PM</b>	<b>St. Luke's Episcopal</b>
	(You only need to attend this rehearsal if you are singing on June 4 <sup>th</sup> .)		
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>June 4</b>	<b>Choral Adjudication</b>	<b>Hershey/Hersheypark</b>

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER! ☺