



Canberra Performing Choir Commitments 2021

Commitment

In order for the choir to continue to reach, and surpass, the high standard of performance and presentation that we have attained, choristers in our senior levels must understand that choir commitments come directly after compulsory school engagements. We understand that busy and talented young women of the calibre of our senior choristers will always have many other interests such as dance, instrumental lessons, or sporting commitments. It is important to establish an order of priorities. We expect 100% attendance at weekly rehearsals and other choir events and many choristers nationally achieve this. The minimum attendance rate that we are prepared to accept is 80%.

Rehearsal Times and Venue

Thursday evenings from 6.30 – 9.00pm at Canberra Girls Grammar School, Melbourne Avenue, Deakin (Senior School). Rehearsals commence on **Thursday January 28, 2021**.

Costume and Uniform

The weekly rehearsal uniform for Performing Choir consists of navy dance pants, a **navy t-shirt**, a magenta polar fleece and optional shorts. Choristers will also need to purchase an AGC Backpack.

The Performing Choir costume consists of black costume pants, a coloured top and black jazz shoes. It will be necessary for all new choristers to purchase the black costume pants at a cost of \$50 at the beginning of 2020. Provision of the costume top is included in 2020 fees; tops will be on loan and need to be returned when girls leave the choir.

Australian Girls Choir Concerts

Performing Choristers are expected to participate in all Australian Girls Choir concerts throughout the year including the associated rehearsals – the Winter Showcase Concerts (June) and the Annual Concerts (November/December). Confirmed dates will be provided early next year. Should you be unable to attend one of the concerts, we ask that you please contact our office to discuss this.

Public Engagements

Normally, we are invited to participate in a number of public engagements throughout the year and this requires a high level of commitment from girls and parents. On some occasions event organisers provide transport to and from the event, however for most engagements it is the responsibility of parents to organise their daughter's transport. The decision to participate in public engagements is at each parent's discretion; we encourage girls to make themselves available for public engagements unless there is a compulsory school event or family commitment that prevents this happening.

Touring

Under normal circumstances we offer a two week National Tour in June/July and a three week International Tour in September/October. We are unable to make any plans at this stage but hope to be able to make some national touring plans in 2021. We will be in contact with all senior girls' parents as soon as we have a plan in place.

See the next page for further details of Performing Choir commitments

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Performing Choir 2020 Fees

The Performing Choir fees for 2021 are \$2,825. This fee incorporates participation in weekly classes; all extra combined rehearsals; the compulsory residential Music School; the provision of a costume top for choir concerts and engagements and the loan of original notated sheet music.

Performing Choir Music School - held during school holidays

It is our preference to bring girls from at least two states together to undertake a week of learning in April each year and it is necessary to confirm venue bookings and airline travel around this time of year. ACT Performing Choir will attend a weekend residential music school in Sydney where they will join with NSW Performing choristers. Please note that this date has changed from previous communication.

Tuesday April 6 – Friday April 9

Stanwell Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops, NSW

The Music School has been a compulsory event since the choir's inception. Up to an extra term's intensive work is covered in this time and choreography items are learnt. We understand that conflicts can arise but the rule is and will remain the same; girls who cannot attend this Music School are ineligible to be part of Performing Choir. No exceptions will be made. It is our expectation that girls will remain on-site for the duration of this music school. We encourage you to contact us prior to re-enrolment if you have a conflicting commitment.

Extra Rehearsal Days

To prepare for engagements and concerts we will be holding four compulsory rehearsal days for Performing Choir throughout the year. Full attendance is expected. Dates and times will be confirmed early next year.

Full day weekend rehearsals:

Standard Repertoire Rehearsal – Held in late February

Carols Rehearsal Day – Held in early September

Annual Concert Production Rehearsal – Held in October/November

Performing Choir Leadership

Early next year Tutors will select girls to be part of our leadership team. These choristers are given responsibilities, including leading vocal warm ups, are role models for other girls and are encouraged to act as mentors to younger choristers.

Performing Choir Dance Group – Ballare

All Performing choristers may audition for Ballare at the beginning of 2021 and all current Ballare members will need to re-audition. Ballare is a specialist dance group consisting of up to 10 Performing choristers. These girls will rehearse separately each week, and will have the opportunity to work with a professional choreographer to hone their dance and performance skills. The group will feature in a number of Performing Choir and massed items. Rehearsals take place between 5.45 – 6.30pm prior to Performing Choir rehearsal and a fee of \$580 per year applies.