



Live creatively. Build community. Find your voice.

APPENDIX G: SINGER POLICY

By participating in the Morris Park Singers, singers agree to accept and abide by the below policies:

MISSION

To foster an accessible, supportive choral experience for people looking to (re)introduce a creative musical outlet into their lives.

VISION

Creating an inclusive artistic community that welcomes, celebrates, and encourages the talents of individuals through a shared love of choral music.

CORE VALUES

The Morris Park Singers commit to:

- Accessibility: Making music participation affordable and open to all.
- Inclusivity: Welcoming individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.
- Collaboration: Encouraging teamwork and mutual support.
- Community: Building a sense of belonging through music
- Excellence: Striving for musical growth both individually and together.
- Joy: Celebrating the uplifting power of making music.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Singers participating in the choir need to be at least 21 years of age, unless otherwise approved ahead of time by the Board of Directors.

Rehearsals are on Monday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at Mill City Church (685 13th Ave NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413).

There are two seasons each year (Fall - post Labor Day to mid-December; Spring - late January/early February to mid May). Each season will be around 14 total rehearsals with a concert(s) at the end.

Although the Morris Park Singers is a non-auditioned choir, prior music experience is encouraged, and ability to match pitch is required. Music experience can be anything from singing in high school choir for a year to playing an instrument (and you want to try singing) to studying music for years or anything in between. We welcome all experience levels.

All new singers will be expected to meet with the executive director prior to the start of their first season. This meeting will include a short voice “test”, consisting of a couple warm ups to test range and tone, and a short pitch matching exercise, followed by a time to ask the director any questions about the choir and season. This is not an audition, but merely a way for the director to gather the necessary information to start the first rehearsal with everyone knowing their voice parts.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

If, going into a season, a singer would have to miss more than four (4) of the rehearsals, then they will need to sit that season out. Attendance at dress rehearsal is mandatory. Attendance of any small ensemble rehearsals (when applicable) is also mandatory.

Singers are expected to attend as many rehearsals as they are able and in a timely manner.

If attendance is not possible, singers are expected to notify the director and/or manager and their section leader(s) prior to rehearsal. Multiple rehearsals where this notification does not happen may result in suspension from the choir.

If a singer needs to drop from the current season, when possible, we ask that they drop **before the 5th rehearsal** of the season in order to bring in a singer on the waiting list with enough time to bring them up to speed, and give the director time to address any logistical changes that need to happen.

However, it is to be noted that it will never be held against a singer if they need to drop from the choir for a serious life change or event, regardless of when in the season they need to leave. If a singer drops, they are expected to return all folders, music, and other choir supplies in a timely manner. If they are unable to return their supplies, they will be expected to reimburse the choir in order to replace them.

REHEARSAL & PRACTICE EXPECTATIONS

Singers are expected to bring a pencil to each rehearsal, as they are expected to mark their scores. Singers are also encouraged to bring water, tea, or another beverage to each rehearsal to better take care of their voices.

At this time, masking is optional, but encouraged, to any who choose to. However, the Board of Directors reserves the right to change this policy when deemed necessary and will notify the choir immediately following this policy being changed.

Some practice outside of rehearsal will be necessary.

A practice page on our website is provided to singers that includes performance examples (when possible) and practice tracks for each part.

There will also be detailed rehearsal notes for each rehearsal posted the following day. Singers are expected to review these after every rehearsal, especially for any rehearsals that were missed.

CONCERT EXPECTATIONS

Attendance at the concert is mandatory in order to participate fully in the season. A singer who is not able to attend the concert may still sit in on rehearsals, but only for the first half of the season, until singing in formation has begun.

We perform with music at our concerts. However, the expectation is that singers know their music well enough where it is a “tool” and not a “crutch”, so they can actively watch the director while singing.

Concert dress is currently all black with a pop of color. There are very few limitations to what that pop of color could mean. However, the pop of color should be just a smaller accent, and not a major part of the ensemble or an all-over pattern. This could include (but is in no way limited to) a necktie/bowtie, scarf, shoes, jewelry, hair accessory, pocket square, or even your shirt (when worn under a jacket or cardigan). Singers are encouraged to ask the director if they have any questions.

MUSIC

Any sheet music used is on loan to the singers. That music, unless otherwise noted by the Executive Director, is expected to be returned at the end of the season, along with any folders and other supplies. Any pencil markings will need to be erased. If a singer is not able to return any supplies, they will be expected to reimburse the organization for all music and the folder.

As the Morris Park Singers was originally created under the umbrella of the Morris Park Players (a 501(c)(3) non-profit community theater company), there is a slight focus (usually 1/3 of the repertoire) on Broadway or popular music. The rest of the repertoire is more traditional choral music. It is important to the Organization that all of the singers are provided with a well-rounded choral experience, which includes a variety of different types of repertoire. Singers are always encouraged to reach out with any questions or concerns about any of the music selected. Programs from our previous concerts can be accessed at [our website](#) for reference.

CODE OF CONDUCT (from Article 10 of the Morris Park Singers Official Bylaws)

The Organization wishes to engage Board members, Subcontractors, committee members, singers, volunteers, and any person(s) or firms looking to do business with or for the Organization who will embrace its mission, vision, and core values and assist in furthering its goals.

The Organization expects that all person(s) listed above shall:

- Treat all those who they are interacting with on behalf of the Organization respectfully and professionally.
- Follow any specific rules set forth by any rehearsal, performance, or fundraiser venues.

The Organization asks that all person(s) listed above shall:

- Assist in the promotion of important events, including, but not limited to, concerts, fundraisers or fundraising events, and extra performances.
- Assist in the recruitment of new singers for each season.

The Morris Park Singers are committed to creating and providing a positive environment that is free from discrimination and harassment. Discrimination and harassment can be in person or tangentially via phone call, text, web blogs, social media post, email, or actual written communication.

Therefore, the Organization shall not tolerate, under any circumstances and without exception, the discrimination of individuals involved with the Organization based on race, color, gender, gender identity or gender expression, sexual orientation, religion, national or ethnic origin, familial status, age, disability, military veteran status, or any other status protected by the law. This list is not exhaustive.

The Organization shall also not tolerate, under any circumstances and without exception, the physical, verbal, emotional, mental, or sexual harassment of anyone involved with the Organization. This includes but is not limited to, singers, Board members, Subcontractors, committee members, volunteers, agents, and those doing business with the Organization. It also shall be noted that sexual harassment is prohibited whether it is between members of the same or different genders, gender identities or expressions, or sexual orientations.

This policy applies to all aspects of the relationship between the Organization and all parties associated with Organization, including but not limited to singers, Board members, committee members, subcontractors, volunteers, and any other persons or firms doing business for or with the Morris Park Singers.

Upon determining that a violation of this policy has occurred, the Organization may disengage the person not abiding by these policies from the Organization, which could include suspension from the choir for the current season and any future seasons, and terminating any appropriate contracts.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Morris Park Singers is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

The Morris Park Singers hold a full general liability insurance policy.

The personal or private information collected from the singers will never be passed to any third party without the express written permission of the singer(s) in question.

The Morris Park Singers may take videos or photographs of singers during rehearsals and events to use for promotional materials for the choir, either in print, on our website, or our social media. Singers will be notified in advance of this when possible. Singers are expected to notify leadership if they don't want any pictures/videos they are in to be used.

The Morris Park Singers Board of Directors reserves the right to amend or alter these policies at any time and will communicate such changes to its singers as quickly as possible.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 07/10/2025