



# Member Guide

## **Greenwood Festival Chorale**

P.O. Box 49775

Greenwood, SC 29649

GwdFestivalChorale@Gmail.com

[www.gwdfestivalchorale.com](http://www.gwdfestivalchorale.com)

## **Rehearsals**

First Presbyterian Church

108 E. Cambridge Avenue

(P.O. Box 426)

Greenwood, SC 29646

(864)229-5814

[www.firstgreenwood.com](http://www.firstgreenwood.com)

## **WELCOME TO THE GREENWOOD FESTIVAL CHORALE!**

Please take time to read the guidelines. Our time together is limited and valuable, and every singer is important to the success of the Chorale.

## ***QUESTIONS? JUST ASK!***

Steve Skinner

Artistic Director and Conductor

[Steve@FirstGreenwood.com](mailto:Steve@FirstGreenwood.com)

David Otabor, President

Becky Smith, President Elect

[GwdFestivalChorale@Gmail.com](mailto:GwdFestivalChorale@Gmail.com)

## Mission Statement

Consistent with the belief that the arts are vital to the human spirit and the health of communities, Greenwood Festival Chorale exists to provide opportunities for its members, residents of Greenwood, SC and the surrounding counties, to learn and perform choral works of a wide variety of composers, composition styles, and scale while also providing enjoyable and culturally enriching programs to the community at large.

## Concerts

All concerts are held in the Sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church in Greenwood.

- **Winter:** Usually the first or second Tuesday evening in December, the winter concert is a Christmas program. It is a ticketed event. Rehearsals for this concert begin late August or early September.
- **Spring:** In appreciation for the use of facilities for rehearsals and library storage, the GFC presents a concert of sacred music as part of the FESTIVA Arts Series of First Presbyterian Church in Greenwood. This free concert is usually held on a Sunday afternoon at 4:00 in March. Rehearsals for this concert usually begin early in January.
- **Summer:** The GFC presents a concert of mostly secular music (i.e. showtunes, jazz, Broadway, etc...), sometimes as a sanctioned event of the SC Festival of Flowers. The concert usually takes place on a Tuesday evening in June and is a ticketed event.

## Rehearsals

- Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:00 in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church in Greenwood. Enter through the side door from the parking lot at the **MUSIC ENTRANCE** sign.
- Attendance at rehearsals is of utmost importance so that each singer knows the music and we can develop our ensemble blend. If you must miss more than two rehearsals, please speak with the conductor.
- If you must miss a rehearsal, please get breath marks and other notations from another singer.
- Our rehearsal time is only two hours each week, and this is a time for us to focus on learning music and singing as an ensemble. Please silence your cell phone during rehearsals, and please refrain from conversations that may distract other singers from hearing instructions from the conductor.

- Please use a pencil and mark your music.
- You may bring water to rehearsals. Please bring it in a spill-proof container.
- First Presbyterian Church graciously allows us the use of their facilities. It is our responsibility to pick up after ourselves after each rehearsal.

## Music

- When you arrive for your first rehearsal, you will need to get a packet of music. Sign in for a number on the sheet for your section (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass), and you will get a manila envelope containing music with a number that will correspond with your sign-in number. This will be your music for that particular concert.
- Once all music is put into the packets, you are encouraged to take your music home to review it between rehearsals. You may choose to turn it in after each rehearsal.
- At a rehearsal close to the concert, you will be given a black folder with a number that corresponds with your music packet number.
  - Put your music in the black folder (either the rings or the strings). Please do not remove the rings or strings from the folder.
  - Fold the manila envelope in half and put it in the back pocket of the folder.
  - After the concert, put all your music back in the manila envelope and turn it in before you leave the concert hall. Please do not take music home with you after the concert.

## Concert Dress

- Men wear a black tuxedo with a black cummerbund, white shirt, black socks and shoes. For the Christmas (Winter) concert, they wear a red cummerbund and red bow tie. For other concerts, they wear a black cummerbund and black bow tie. These can all be ordered through the GFC.
- Women wear a black top with a long black skirt or dress pants and black shoes. These can be ordered through the GFC. A strand of pearls is provided by the GFC for most concerts, or you can wear your own.. Please do not wear flashy jewelry.

## Cost

- The cost for each singer is annual dues and concert dress.
- The GFC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with an elected Board of Directors. Funding for our operating expenses is received from the following sources:
  - Ticket Sales - The Winter and Summer concerts are ticketed events.
  - Membership Dues - \$50 per person per year. Due in September.
  - Sponsorship Campaign - Our annual sponsorship campaign is in the fall. Ads will appear in both the Christmas (Winter) and Festival of Flowers (Summer) concert programs.
  - Donors - Champions, Benefactors, Patrons, and Friends. These are Individuals or businesses who make contributions to the GFC. These donors are also listed in the Winter and Summer concert programs. Contributions can be made in honor or memory of someone as well.
  - Grants - We apply for grants from the South Carolina Arts Commission and the Greenwood County Community Foundation. We will apply to any organization that funds grants for arts organizations.

## Solos

- At the discretion of the Artistic Director and Conductor, solos may be contracted, auditioned, or selected



**Please refrain from wearing perfume, scented lotions, aftershave lotions, etc. at rehearsals and especially at concerts. While individual fragrances may be pleasant, it is overpowering to others when fragrances are mixed in such close quarters.**