

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Member's Handbook Table of Contents

Introduction	
Mission	2
Guiding Principles	2
Levels	3
Location	5
Communication	5
Membership	
Auditions	5
Promotions	5
Tuition	6
Scholarships	6
Current Rates	6
Registration	7
Entertainment Work Permits	7
Behavior Standards	7
Rehearsal	8
Performances	9
Other Opportunities	10
Awards	10
Music	
Assignments	11
Parent Information	
Volunteering	11
Funding and Fundraisers	11
Promotional Materials	11
Dress Code and Uniforms	
Casual Uniform for Rehearsals	12
Casual Uniform for Performances	12
Performance Uniform	12
Appendix I – Promotion Criteria	13
Appendix II – Entertainment Work Permit	15
Appendix III - Wardrobe Details	16

Southern California Children's Chorus

Member's Handbook

WELCOME

Congratulations on being accepted into Southern California Children's Chorus(SCCC)!

This member's handbook explains SCCC's structure and procedures. Please read it as it contains useful information for all member's of SCCC. We hope you enjoy your year of music and are challenged to achieve your full potential as a chorister.

MISSION

The Southern California Children's Chorus exists to enhance children's lives through distinguished choral music education and world class performance.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In carrying out its mission, SCCC adheres to several important guiding principles:

SCCC is open to and encourages participation of boys and girls throughout Southern California regardless of racial or ethnic background or economic status.

SCCC provides children with a unique and important educational, social, and artistic musical experience. SCCC believes that music education and choral performance greatly enhance a child's development in academic and social arenas.

SCCC believes children possess a tremendous capacity for knowledge and growth. By striving for excellence in a disciplined and encouraging atmosphere, children can achieve their full potential in choral artistry.

SCCC believes that educating children in the best choral repertoire from the past and the present preserves an important part of our culture for future generations.

CHORUS LEVELS

ENSEMBLE SINGERS

Ensemble Singers is a specialized group of vocal artists of high school and college age.

Comprised of choristers primarily from grades 12 and up. Members are chosen from auditions. It consists of male members whose voice has changed, and female members who are entering their senior year in high school or college students who wish to continue singing in a choral setting. Musicianship, vocal coaching and extensive study of repertoire are areas of focus in the ensemble.

Due to the smaller number of singers in this chorus, weekly attendance is extremely important and should be considered before participating in Ensemble.

Ensemble Singers perform for a limited number of specialized engagements.

The Ensemble Singers meet for one hour, thirty minutes weekly on Tuesdays.

CONCERT CHORUS

The Concert Chorus is SCCC's premier performing/touring chorus.

Comprised of choristers primarily from grades 7 through 12, members are auditioned and promoted to the Concert Chorus upon displaying the maturity and musical and vocal skills needed to meet the challenge of learning and performing a large, sophisticated and difficult performance repertoire.

It is required that Concert Chorus members regard the chorus as their top priority in personal scheduling. Weekly attendance is extremely important. The Concert Chorus rehearses on Tuesdays for two hours, fifteen minutes, and includes music theory, sight singing and ear training.

Additional rehearsals are called as needed before tours or other special engagements.

The Concert Chorus performs regularly throughout Southern California for public and private organizations.

A mandatory yearly retreat is scheduled in the fall from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon.

An optional tour is scheduled nationally and internationally approximately once every 2 years in early summer.

ADVANCED CHORUS

The Advanced Chorus is the entry-level chorus for members of this age group with vocal readiness, maturity, and musicianship.

Comprised of choristers primarily from grades 6 through 10, members are chosen from auditions each year. The Advanced Chorus provides continued training in vocal technique, breathing, theory, Kodaly sight singing, ear training and the development of performance technique. Choristers remain at this level until they have mastered the skills required to move on to the Concert Chorus. The period of time varies widely with individuals and can range from 1 to 4 years.

Weekly attendance is extremely important. The Advanced Chorus rehearses on Tuesdays for two hours, and includes music theory, sight singing and ear training.

Performance opportunities include approximately 4 events each fall and spring.

A mandatory weekend afternoon retreat is scheduled in the fall.

Optional weekend tour or music education camps may also be scheduled.

INTERMEDIATE CHORUS The Intermediate Chorus is an entry-level chorus for new members of this age group with vocal readiness and maturity.

Comprised of choristers primarily from grades 4 through 6, members are chosen from auditions each year. The Intermediate Chorus provides extensive training in vocal technique, breathing, theory, Kodaly sight singing, ear training and the development of performance technique. Choristers remain at this level until they have mastered the skills required to move on to the Advanced Chorus. The period of time varies widely with individuals and can range from 1 to 3 years.

Weekly attendance is extremely important. The Intermediate Chorus rehearses on Tuesdays for one hour, forty-five minutes.

Performance opportunities include approximately 4 events each fall and spring.

APPRENTICE CHORUS This entry-level chorus for new members is a readiness program in which the basics of vocal production and musicianship are presented in a manner suitable for the age group.

Comprised of choristers from grades 2 and 3, members are chosen from auditions each year. The emphasis is on musicianship training as developed by Hungarian composer Zoltan Kodaly.

SCCC offers two sessions of Apprentice Chorus due to the large enrollment number.

Each session of the Apprentice Chorus, "Early Birds" and "Late Birds," rehearses one hour on Tuesdays.

Limited public performances are scheduled during the year, including the annual Holiday and Spring Concerts: however the emphasis at this level is preparatory training.

PRIMARY CHORUS Primary Chorus is designed for children in the first grade.

Choristers at this level will begin to read some pitches and simple rhythms. Through the use of the Kodaly Method the children are introduced to solfa syllables and their relationship to the music staff and to each other. Simple melodic and rhythmic patterns, which are based on childhood chants, are introduced to the choristers. In time the choristers learn to associate these patterns with the solfa syllables and in turn will be able to read basic pitch and rhythm patterns by sight. The repertoire of Primary Chorus includes folk songs and singing games that are enjoyable to this age group.

Primary Chorus singers are prepared for further instruction in subsequent levels of the Southern California Children's Chorus.

The Primary Chorus meets on Tuesdays for forty minutes.

KINDER CHORUS Kinder Chorus is designed for children in Kindergarten.

With repeated experiences Kinder Chorus members will begin to develop and perceive the concepts of music, which include the sense of steady beat and rhythm. The repertoire of songs in Kinder Chorus includes a wealth of age-old folk songs and singing games, which are pleasing and possess aesthetic value. All of this is accomplished through the use of the Kodaly Method of music instruction for children. Kinder Chorus singers are prepared for more detailed instruction found in subsequent levels of the Southern California Children's Chorus.

The Kinder Chorus meets on Tuesdays for forty minutes.

LOCATION

Our office and rehearsal space is located at:
 Orange County Music & Dance
 17620 Fitch Avenue #280
 Irvine, CA 92614

Near the 55 and MacArthur Blvd, we are centrally located in Orange County with easy access to all points of the southland.

COMMUNICATION

WEBSITE www.scccchorus.org

PHONE 949-336-7115

REHEARSAL TIMES

Rehearsals are scheduled for Tuesday afternoons from September through May.

KinderChorus:	4:30 to 5:10
Primary Chorus:	5:20 to 6:00
Apprentice Chorus:	Early Bird Session, 4:20 to 5:20 Late Bird Session, 5:30 to 6:30
Intermediate Chorus:	4:30 to 6:15
Advanced Chorus:	4:30 to 6:30
Concert Chorus:	4:30 to 6:45
Ensemble Singers	6:30 to 8:00

ADDITIONAL

Member information is found on the SCCC website. It is the chorister family's responsibility to access it and stay up to date with the information needed for rehearsal and performance scheduling, and any other important information needed to make a successful choral year.

MEMBERSHIP**AUDITIONS FOR NEW CHORISTERS**

Auditions are scheduled for prospective choristers of the Apprentice through Concert levels. Dates are scheduled at the end of the season, in the summer months, or during the choral season as the directors allow and space permits.

No auditions are required for KinderChorus or Primary levels. However, membership is at the discretion of the director who considers maturity level.

YEARLY RE-AUDITIONS

Re-auditions are held for each chorister, each year, usually at the end of the season or in the summer months. Choristers are invited back the following year if they re-audition successfully and if they have met the expectations of their individual chorus during the previous year.

PROMOTIONS

Choristers are often quite anxious to be promoted and the directors are very sensitive to the importance of promoting the singer when he or she is READY, and not before.

Each singer develops at his or her own rate, and the amount of time spent at each level varies widely among members.

Most promotions to the next chorus level are made at the end of June and are at the discretion of the music staff.

For detailed information on promotion criteria, see Appendix I

TUITION

Tuition is based on the budgeted number of choristers that will attend for each chorus level. **Tuition covers only about half of the cost of SCCC's programs. Accordingly, the various fundraising activities SCCC administers throughout the year are vital to its continued existence. EVERY chorister is expected to participate in one or more of SCCC's fundraising activities.**

Tuition is paid by cash, check, or credit card.

Tuition is a full choral year commitment. *Please note, tuition will not be refunded if a chorister discontinues participation in SCCC for any reason, including removal of a chorister at the decision of the director.* If a chorister drops mid-year, full payment of tuition is required.

The tuition fee includes instruction and the use of published music. Concert Chorus tuition includes the mandatory retreat weekend fees.

Additional costs may include, and not be limited to, tuition late charges, wardrobe cleaning fees, Performance attire, and some other uniform items-such as shoes, concert tickets, fundraisers, scrip and Sees candy, and other social events.

Payment is due at the beginning of the choral season, unless a payment plan is in place. Late fees will be applied if tuition is not received as scheduled.

SCHOLARSHIPS

SCCC provides financial assistance to families who might otherwise not be able to afford their chorister's participation in our program.

A limited number of scholarships are available each year, based on demonstrated financial need.

To request a scholarship application, call the SCCC office during the registration period.

Scholarship applications are reviewed in confidence and awards on a need-based basis. Decisions are communicated to parents as soon as possible.

To qualify scholarship applications must be received by the October 1, or one month after beginning SCCC rehearsals-whichever is latest.

Late applications will not be considered.

Scholarship families are strongly encouraged to participate in fund raising activities and be parent "helpers".

CURRENT RATES

Rates for Choral Season Sept. 2018 – May 2019 are:

KinderChorus	\$505.00
Primary	\$505.00
Apprentice	\$650.00
Intermediate	\$700.00
Advanced	\$765.00
Concert	\$955.00
Ensemble	\$700.00

REGISTRATION

Registration forms must be received as soon as possible. A chorister cannot participate in performances until SCCC has received all paperwork, tuition or tuition payment plan, and a current copy of the Entertainment Work Permit.

Registration period begins prior to the choral season. Reminders are sent as often as possible to parents who are out of compliance.

ENTERTAINMENT WORK PERMITS

California law requires an individual Entertainment Work Permit (EWP) for each chorister. **Every chorister must obtain an EWP as a condition of participation in all SCCC performances.**

Thorough instructions are located on the SCCC website to obtain an EWP.
<https://scchorus.org/membership/resources>

Applications are available online at the DLSE website: <https://permits.dir.ca.gov/ewp/>

It is the responsibility of the minor or the parents (8 CCR 11752) to apply and renew the EWP. *As a courtesy*, a reminder may be sent to parents telling them to renew their chorister's EWP before the permit expiration date.

For detailed information on Entertainment Work Permits, see Appendix II

BEHAVIOR STANDARDS

Consistent with its mission, The Southern California Children's Chorus requires very high behavioral standards of its members.

- Choristers shall be respectful of their director and one another at all times
- Choristers shall obey directions from SCCC directors, staff and choir assistants at all times.
- Unless specifically instructed otherwise by their choral director, choristers may NEVER use cell phones during a rehearsal or a performance for ANY reason or purpose other than to respond to or report a personal emergency.
- A natural, healthy appearance is required during all public appearances. Examples of this standard include, without limitation:
 - Choristers will not be permitted to attend rehearsals or performances with hair dye or nail polish other than a natural color.
 - Piercings other than a singular, simple, traditional earring are not permitted.
- Choristers should be mindful of personal hygiene and use deodorant and mouthwash when necessary.

The Southern California Children's Chorus reserves the right to dismiss from its membership any chorister at any time for conduct or behavior that jeopardizes the safety or well being of any chorister, volunteer or staff member or that reflects negatively on SCCC as an organization. The determination to dismiss a chorister shall be made at the sole discretion of the music director upon consultation with Lori Loftus, without prior notice to the chorister.

While we would like to be able to accommodate every child with a sincere desire to sing, including children who face medical and psychological or other behavioral challenges, the best interests of the organization supersede individual or special needs. SCCC will endeavor to provide encouragement and reasonable accommodation for children with special needs, but behavior that distracts the director and other children, inhibits the progress of the choral rehearsal, or jeopardizes the safety of any participant may be grounds for dismissal.

REHEARSALS

A parent or guardian must supervise all children arriving before the beginning of rehearsal and immediately upon the conclusion of rehearsal.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is required at all rehearsals.

While we understand that schedule conflicts arise, we expect and encourage choristers to make SCCC a priority in their weekly schedule.

Any conflicts should be reported as soon as possible to the parent volunteer so that the director knows who will be absent *before* each rehearsal.

Should a chorister's attendance become a concern to the director, the chorister will be put on probation.

When a chorister misses many rehearsals for other than medical reasons, the director may decide to have the chorister dismissed from SCCC.

**ARRIVAL
EXPECTATIONS**

A vast amount of repertoire must be learned each season in a short period of rehearsal time. Therefore, it is essential that every minute of the rehearsal be used wisely.

The choristers must arrive in plenty of time to use restrooms, have a snack, & get a drink as needed.

Choristers must be seated and ready to begin rehearsing promptly at the scheduled start time.

Do not bring food or drinks into the rehearsal room: a water bottle is acceptable.

Choristers should have their music organized and always have their assigned music folder and pencil with them at rehearsal.

To repeat - no cell phones are to be used during any rehearsal or performance except for purposes of responding to or reporting a personal emergency.

**DISMISSAL
EXPECTATIONS**

At the end of rehearsal, choristers should make sure that they have all belongings and all music is in their folder. The Director will dismiss choristers when rehearsal is ended.

SAFETY

Choristers must be picked up promptly.

SCCC is responsible for the chorister during scheduled rehearsal times while in the rehearsal room.

Parents are responsible for delivering the chorister to, and picking him/her up from, the rehearsal room.

A chorister may be dismissed from SCCC after two occurrences of an early or late pickup.

VISITORS

During rehearsal, parents are welcome to wait in the lobby or in the cafe. Space permitting, parents are welcome to quietly observe rehearsals.

All choristers and families must show respect for the rehearsal facility's property at all times. Siblings and other visitors must be accompanied by a parent. Younger children must be kept quiet and under control. Our facilities have a variety of other learning opportunities ongoing in the building. Lack of respect will be grounds for dismissal or asking family members to vacate the premises during rehearsal times.

At various times of the year, we have many visitors who come to observe our rehearsals. They are usually accompanied by a staff member or directed to a rehearsal room and hosted by the chorus parent. These visitors may include other chorus personnel, grant and fund-raising people, potential chorister families who wish to observe or music students observing for a university class.

PERFORMANCES

ATTENDANCE Attendance at the Holiday and Spring Concerts, as well as recording sessions and Concert and Advanced retreats are *mandatory*.
There may be other performances deemed to be mandatory, based on the chorus level.

You are encouraged to sing at all other performances since performance is a primary goal of SCCC.

Some concerts are for volunteer ensembles consisting of only a few singers. In this case, the director will invite individual choristers to perform, depending on exact voice parts and voice colors needed. Only those choristers that are invited or agree to sing will be expected to be present.

Performing is very demanding physically, mentally and emotionally. Please avoid over-scheduling your child on the day of a major rehearsal or performance.

ARRIVAL It is extremely important that you arrive **ON TIME** at the scheduled call time.
EXPECTATIONS

Plan for traffic situations, and other delays to ensure that your chorister is not late.

Check that your chorister is wearing the correct and complete attire.

For public functions, parents are usually invited. There may or may not be a cost involved, depending on the venue.

For private functions, there will be chaperones to assist with the choral group.

RESPONSIBILITY Choristers must know the repertoire in order to perform.

Choristers must attend the rehearsal immediately before each performance.

DISMISSAL At the end of a performance, choristers should make sure that they have all belongings. The
EXPECTATIONS Director will dismiss the group when the performance is completed.

Choristers must be picked up promptly. SCCC does their best to communicate the ending times with parents. These times are approximate, due to the nature of performing. SCCC prefers to have parents waiting for their children for an efficient and timely pick up.

Your chorister may be dismissed from SCCC after two occurrences of an early drop-off or late pickup.

CARPOOLING Due to liability concerns, SCCC will not be responsible for establishing carpools for any event including rehearsal and performances.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

SOCIAL EVENTS

From time to time, the choirs will have a special social event. Pizza parties, ice cream socials, and holiday parties are all part of the social life of our choruses. The website will give information and the cost, if any, for every event. We encourage all choristers to attend these functions, as friendships and deeper relationships are nurtured during these times.

RETREATS

Advanced and Concert Choruses hold a retreat each year to bolster our musicality, strengthen relationships, and teamwork. This time is spent learning repertoire and enjoying camaraderie in a different rehearsal setting.

CONCERT

For the Concert Chorus, an annual Music Retreat each autumn is considered a vital component of the choral experience. **Retreat is mandatory** for all Concert Chorus members.

Repertoire, musicianship skills, vocal development, theory lessons and sight singing will be intensely studied during the retreat. It provides an opportunity for veteran and new choristers to get acquainted and interact early in the choral year.

The retreat typically takes place in October.

Parent chaperones care for a small group of choristers while on retreat.

Exact times and locations are announced on our website and during rehearsal.

ADVANCED

Advanced Chorus holds a **mandatory** Saturday afternoon retreat. This gives choristers an opportunity to get acquainted as well as to learn music skills. Parent volunteers assist as needed during the day. Exact time and location is announced on our website and during rehearsal.

AWARDS

Awards are top priority to our directors to ensure that our choristers realize how much they are appreciated. Discipline, attitude and hard work are attributes that are highly encouraged in the SCCC.

Each chorus will hold an annual awards ceremony at the conclusion of the season. These awards are given at the discretion of the directors and are based on attitude and attendance.

DIRECTOR'S AWARD

This is the highest honor bestowed by SCCC. - This award recognizes special achievement beyond expectation, in attitude, attendance, leadership, and influence on other choristers to excel.

EXEMPLARY ATTENDANCE

Attendance is considered exemplary when a chorister is in attendance at all weekly rehearsals and all SCCC concerts.

Other performances are attributed towards exemplary attendance, when the chorister is present to perform, in addition to the above.

Any retreat dates for any Chorus level are considered mandatory.

HONOR ATTENDANCE

Attendance is considered honor when choristers have extremely few absences. This is particularly important for major concerts and other performances. SCCC will give Honor Attendance should there be very, very, few misses of weekly rehearsals and scheduled performances. It is VERY critical that you notify your director or choir mom in advance if you must miss a rehearsal or performance of any kind.

Retreat dates for any Chorus level are considered mandatory.

CHORUS PINS AND YEAR BARS

While not an award, chorus pins and year bars have become extremely important to choristers as they commemorate each year that a chorister has participated in SCCC. Pins are available at rehearsal for purchase. Year bars denoting the participating year are given to the chorister upon completion of a choral season. Our choristers are encouraged to wear the choir pin and year

bars on their concert uniforms.

MUSIC ASSIGNMENTS

Each chorister is assigned a numbered music folder, which contains the repertoire for that semester. The chorister is responsible for the folder and contents during that year.

Exceptions are:

- KinderChorus and Primary Chorus – do not use folders.
- Apprentice Choristers – can be loaned folders upon request and if the director feels it is needed.

Choristers must be responsible for their own music, including financial responsibility.

A replacement fee equal to the cost of replacement +\$50.00 will be collected if music is lost or not returned to SCCC at the end of the choral season.

Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Music or folders that are lost or damaged must be replaced by the chorister and/or parent
- Never write on or tear music folder.
- Never fold a piece of music incorrectly or bend it.
- Mark your score in **pencil only**.
- Always put music back into your music folder carefully.
- Music may be loaned for study at rehearsal (red folders), only if it is checked out with the Chorus parent. The “loaner” folder must be returned at the conclusion of that rehearsal.
- All music and folders will be returned by the stated date to SCCC at the end of the season.

PARENT INFORMATION

VOLUNTEERING

Parent volunteers are a precious and vital part of the SCCC. If you are interested in being a volunteer, we encourage contacting a choir parent or the SCCC office.

Please consider helping our chorus by being involved when you are able.

Parent chaperones are necessary and appreciated. Special events, concert performances, tours and camps run most efficiently when we have parent volunteers.

At the conclusion of concert performances or other special events, two chaperones must remain until all choristers have been picked up.

FUNDING AND FUNDRAISERS

A variety of fundraising programs are necessary to ensure that the SCCC remains in a solid financial position and to keep tuition as low as possible.

Two of these fundraisers involve Scrip and See’s Candy sales. Participants in the Scrip and See’s Candy fundraisers not only benefit SCCC but also accumulate credit which may be applied to tour payments and/or next year’s tuition. Of the profit earned from these programs, 75% is credited to the individual chorister’s account. Upon leaving SCCC, any unused credit is forfeited back to the general budget of the SCCC.

Separate information regarding general fundraisers will be communicated. These events offset the additional costs of the SCCC which are not covered by tuition. We appreciate the participation of all chorister families in this vital area.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

SCCC prohibits the distribution of outside promotional materials. Any distribution of flyers or other promotional communication materials among choristers or parents, while at the rehearsal

site or performance site, and prohibits the use of any SCCC e-mail list for the same purpose.

DRESS CODE AND UNIFORMS

All SCCC events throughout the year require Choristers to conform to the SCCC dress code. This includes retreats, tours, and any other SCCC activities. Choristers must dress modestly to project the image that SCCC requires.
See Appendix III for detailed wardrobe information.

You are responsible for your own uniform during the choral season. Uniforms must be clean, neat and not needing any repairs. Individual alterations to dresses/jumpers or laundering of uniforms owned by SCCC are NOT permitted.
If your uniform becomes soiled, please have it **dry cleaned** as needed during the year.

CASUAL UNIFORM FOR REHEARSALS

Rehearsal Attire – Must be in keeping with the dress code.

- All choristers are required to wear their SCCC polo shirts. SCCC Polo shirts are purchased separately at rehearsal.
- Long pants preferred, shorts are acceptable but must be long enough to cover half of the thigh. No “short shorts.”
- Hats are not to be worn.
- Full-length pants, cropped pants and straight-legged Capri pants are permitted. Pants, capri pants, and shorts must be dress-style or casual dress-style (e.g. Dockers ®).
- NO tight fitting pants such as yoga, leggings, sweats, etc.
- No backless tops, bare midriffs, or visible cleavage.
- No pajamas or slippers.

CASUAL UNIFORM FOR PERFORMANCES

Performance Attire – Any performance using Casual Uniform

- SCCC Polo shirt
- Full-length black pants - Must be dress-style or casual dress-style.
- NO tight fitting pants such as skinny jeans, yoga, leggings, sweats, etc.
- All black shoes
- All black socks extending past the ankle

Also,

- Hair should be pulled away from the face with any clips hidden. No hair accessories including feathers, tinted extensions, or other distracting hair ornamentation is allowed. Hair must be natural color, extremes in dyeing, bleaching or tinting are not allowed. Girls, a small black hair bow is permitted but not necessary.
- One pair of stud earrings can be worn by girls only. Ear plugs and multiple earrings are not to be worn.
- No other jewelry is allowed including rings, and bracelets.
- Modest, natural make up worn by girls only – heavy make up including thick eyeliner, and extremes in makeup such as glitter, on hair, face and body are NOT allowed.
- Visible tattoos are not acceptable.
- Visible body piercing of any kind, except for earlobe earrings, is NOT permitted.
- NO perfume.
- Fingernail polish must be light, natural or clear colored worn by girls only.

PERFORMANCE UNIFORM

See the individual information for each chorus level in Appendix III

APPENDIX I – PROMOTION CRITERIA

GENERAL CRITERIA Required musical skills increase at each level.

- Voice quality and health of the voice
- Vocal skills: breath management, tone production, diction
- Intonation: singing in tune, keen listener
- Theory skills: acceptable level of proficiency in theory and sight-singing, ability to follow a score, ability to sing in harmony
- Knowledge of all of the Choral literature at their current chorus level.

Personal growth, self-discipline

- Regular and prompt attendance at rehearsals and performances
- Demonstrated commitment to SCCC, placing SCCC in high priority so as to be dependable for performances
- Excellent attitude and behavior
- Performing skills
- Peer interaction in rehearsals, performances, camp, tours

APPRENTICE TO INTERMEDIATE Promotions from Apprentice to Intermediate Chorus are generally made when it is felt that the maturity level of a member is such that:

- the singer can adapt to a longer rehearsal
- a more academic approach in teaching methods
- has acquired the necessary musical skills to participate at a performing level.

This generally takes place at approximately the age of ten years old, or the fourth grade.

An audition before the music staff is required in which the singer may be asked to perform a solo or sing from their current chorus repertoire, and sight-read.

INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED Promotions from Intermediate to Advanced Chorus are generally made at the end of a performing season.

An audition before the music staff is required in which the singer may be asked to perform a solo or sing from their current chorus repertoire, and sight-read.

A careful assessment of the chorister's ability, commitment, theory aptitude, rehearsal and performance abilities, and attendance record is made before promotion.

ADVANCED TO CONCERT Promotions from Advanced to Concert Chorus include the same requirements as being promoted to Advanced, however it also includes the following:

- Singers are qualified to audition for the Concert Chorus when they are vocally and musically prepared. The audition is extensive, with sight singing required.

EXAMPLES OF CRITERIA USED FOR PROMOTION SIGHT SINGING THEORY GOALS

Sight singing, ear training and theory lessons are considered crucial to the quality of the choirs. The sight singing/theory component is incorporated in the chorus rehearsals. At times, rehearsal of the music, text and memorization may be required to be done outside of rehearsals. Diagnostic exams and evaluations may be given during the chorus year and contribute to the promotion evaluation.

Any chorister, at the discretion of the choir director, may be required to take additional music

lessons, including sight singing and vocal coaching, at the chorister's expense.

- LEVEL ONE GOALS** Solfege skills; Treble clef note names; Notation skills; Rhythmic values [whole, half, quarter, eighth, 16th, dotted notes, rests]; Meters-simple beat placement; Introduction to intervals; Rhythmic and melodic dictation; Vocabulary.
- LEVEL TWO GOALS** All previously covered skills; Solfege diatonic melodies; Major, minor scales; Key signatures; Rhythms-aug., dim; Meters-compound; Intervals; Primary triads; Sight singing melodies; two part Vocabulary Dictation skills.
- LEVEL THREE GOALS** All previously covered skills; Solfege-modulations; Dictation skills; Rhythms-ties, syncopations; Meters-reinforce; Triads-major, minor; Perfect intervals; Key signatures-relative, parallel; sight singing 2, 3 part music; Vocabulary; Chromaticism.
- LEVEL FOUR GOALS** All previously covered skills; Rhythm-32ns, triplets; Key signatures; Meter-mixed, complex; Scales-modes; All intervals; Oral/written identification of triads in all positions; Seventh chords; Bass clef; Sight singing 3-4 part music; Vocabulary.

APPENDIX II – ENTERTAINMENT WORK PERMIT INFORMATION

Entertainment Work permit renewals may be done online or submitted by mail. *However, SCCC strongly recommends online processing.*

California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE)
6150 Van Nuys Blvd # 100 Van Nuys, CA 91401-3308 (818) 901-5484

Entertainment Work permits are only valid for six months and must be renewed to remain current.

Due to delays in the renewal process, SCCC strongly recommends that you renew your EWP online as soon as permitted before the current one expires.

Once approved, they are emailed or mailed to parents immediately, however approval process can take up to 8 weeks.

Upon receipt of the new EWP, please keep the original for your files.
An emailed or printed copy of the EWP will be given by parents to SCCC.

A current EWP must be on file with SCCC. Any child who does not have a current EWP on file with SCCC will not be permitted to perform at SCCC concerts or any affiliated performance.

Labor Code section 1308.5(b) provides that “Any person employing either directly or indirectly through third persons, or any parent or guardian of a minor who permits any minor to be employed in violation of any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. Failure to produce the written consent from the Labor Commissioner is prima facie evidence of the illegal employment of any minor whose written consent is not produced.”

COMMON QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1 Why does my child need an EWP? Don't they have to be 16 years old?

ANSWER 1 It is the law.
The California Code of Regulations provides that “A minor desiring to be employed in the entertainment industry must obtain an Entertainment Work Permit.” (8 CCR 11752)

Entertainment work permits are different than work permits. Work permits are obtained by students to work in retail, or other industries while going to school. Entertainment work permits are specifically for minors in the entertainment industry.

QUESTION 2 Why is SCCC in the “entertainment industry”?

ANSWER 2 The Regulations broadly define “Entertainment Industry” to include “any organization, or individual, using the services of any minor in: musical performances; and any other performances where minors perform to entertain the public” (8 CCR 11751). Thus, each chorister who wishes to perform in SCCC concerts must obtain an EWP.

QUESTION 3 Where are the instructions to obtain an entertainment work permit?

ANSWER 3 Detailed instructions are found on our website at:
<https://scchorus.org/membership/resources>

APPENDIX III – WARDROBE ATTIRE

Wardrobe for Kinder and Primary Chorus

There is no performance uniform for Kinder and Primary choristers.
Usually parents like to dress their children in “party” attire.

Casual Uniform Item		Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Shoes				
	Boys	Plain, black matte, flat-no high heel	Bought at store of choice	
	Girls	Plain, black matte dress shoes with no more than a one inch heel.		
Socks			Bought at store of choice	
	Boys	Plain black, must cover ankle		
	Girls	Plain black, must cover ankle OR tights to match dress		
“Docker style” pants		Black-not faded	Bought at store of choice Also approved choices available at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
SCCC choir shirt		Color of choice	Bought through SCCC	\$15 approx.

For rehearsals, all choristers are required to wear SCCC choir shirts.



Wardrobe for Apprentice Chorus - Girls

Performance Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement, Damage, or Non-returned items
Black jumper		Available through SCCC or at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
White Wing Collar shirt		Property of SCCC	\$30.00
Tights	White PLAIN	Bought at store of choice	\$10.00
Bow Tie and Button stud	Red Silver	Property of SCCC	\$12.00
Shoes	Plain, black matte dress shoes with no more than a one inch heel	Bought at store of choice	

Casual Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Socks	Plain, black, must cover ankle	Bought at store of choice	
Shoes	Plain, black matte dress shoes with no more than a one inch heel	Bought at store of choice- can also be used for Performance attire	
“Docker style” pants	Black-not faded	Bought at store of choice Also approved choices available at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
SCCC choir shirt	Color of choice	Bought through SCCC	\$15 approx.

Wardrobe attire belonging to SCCC may not be altered in any way. It must be returned at the end of the season.



Wardrobe for Apprentice Chorus - Boys

Performance Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Tuxedo Pants		Property of SCCC	\$50.00
Tuxedo Shirt		Property of SCCC	\$30.00
Cummerbund	Red	Property of SCCC	\$25.00
Bow Tie And Studs	Red Silver	Property of SCCC	\$12.00
Men's dress shoes	Plain, black, flat-no high heel See picture for sample	Bought at store of choice	
Men's dress Socks	Plain black-must be calf length	Bought at store of choice	

A wardrobe cleaning fee of \$15 is due upon receiving dress uniform

Casual Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Men's dress shoes	Plain, black, flat-no high heel See picture for sample	Bought at store of choice	
Men's dress Socks	Black-must be calf length	Bought at store of choice	
"Dockers style" pants	Black-not faded	Bought at store of choice Also approved choices available at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
SCCC choir shirt	Color of choice	Bought through SCCC	\$15 approx.

Wardrobe attire belonging to SCCC may not be altered in any way. It must be returned at the end of the season.

Boys' shirts must be professionally laundered. Also, tuxes and accessories must be dry-cleaned ONLY. A dry-cleaning fee is assessed when wardrobe is picked up to clean the attire at the end of the choral season. If needed, parents are responsible for additional cleaning during the season.



Wardrobe for Intermediate Chorus - Girls

Performance Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement, Damage, or Non-returned items
Formal black tea-length concert dress with lace collar	9" from floor	Purchased from SCCC or specified supplier	
Panty hose or knee highs – black	Tights are not allowed	Bought at store of choice	
Shoes	Plain black matte character shoes with no more than a 1-1/2 inch heel	Bought at store of choice	

Casual Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Socks	Black, must cover ankle	Bought at store of choice	
Shoes	Plain black matte character shoes with no more than a 1-1/2 inch heel	Bought at store of choice- can also be used for Performance attire	
"Dockers style" pants	Black-not faded	Bought at store of choice Also approved choices at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
SCCC choir shirt	Color of choice	Bought through SCCC	\$15 approx.

Wardrobe attire belonging to SCCC may not be altered in any way. It must be returned at the end of the season.

Girls' dresses must be dry-cleaned ONLY. If needed, parents are responsible for additional cleaning during the season.



Wardrobe for Intermediate Chorus - Boys

Performance Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Tuxedo Pants		Property of SCCC	\$50.00
Tuxedo Shirt		Property of SCCC	\$30.00
Studs		Property of SCCC	\$10.00
Tuxedo vest and Bow tie		Property of SCCC	\$35.00
Men's dress shoes	Plain, black, flat-no high heel See picture for sample	Bought at store of choice	
Men's dress Socks	Plain black-must be calf length	Bought at store of choice	

A wardrobe cleaning fee of \$15 is due upon receiving performance uniform

Casual Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Men's dress shoes	Plain, black, flat-no high heel See picture for sample	Bought at store of choice	
Men's dress Socks	Plain black-must be calf length	Bought at store of choice	
"Dockers style" pants	Black-not faded	Bought at store of choice Also approved choices at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
SCCC choir shirt	Color of choice	Bought through SCCC	\$15 approx.

Wardrobe attire belonging to SCCC may not be altered in any way. It must be returned at the end of the season.

Boys' shirts must be professionally laundered. Also, tuxes and accessories must be dry-cleaned ONLY. A dry-cleaning fee is assessed when wardrobe is picked up to clean the attire at the end of the choral season. If needed, parents are responsible for additional cleaning during the season.



Wardrobe for Advanced Chorus - Girls

Performance Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement, Damage, or Non-returned items
Formal black tea-length concert dress	9" from floor	Purchased from SCCC or specified supplier	
Panty hose or knee highs – black	Tights are not allowed	Bought at store of choice	
Shoes	Plain black matte character shoes with no more than a 1-1/2 inch heel	Bought at store of choice	

Casual Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Socks	Black, must cover ankle	Bought at store of choice	
Shoes	Plain black matte character shoes with no more than a 1-1/2 inch heel	Bought at store of choice- can also be used for Dress attire	
"Dockers style" pants	Black-not faded	Bought at store of choice Also approved choices at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
SCCC choir shirt	Color of choice	Bought through SCCC	\$15 approx.

Wardrobe attire belonging to SCCC may not be altered in any way. It must be returned at the end of the season.

Girls' dresses must be dry-cleaned ONLY. If needed, parents are responsible for additional cleaning during the season.



Wardrobe for Advanced Chorus – Boys

Performance Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Tuxedo Jacket and Pants		Property of SCCC	\$150.00
Tuxedo Shirt		Property of SCCC	\$30.00
Studs		Property of SCCC	\$10.00
Bow Tie and cummerbund		Property of SCCC	\$35.00
Men's dress shoes	Plain, black, flat-no high heel See picture for sample	Bought at store of choice	
Men's dress Socks	Plain black-must be calf length	Bought at store of choice	

A wardrobe cleaning fee of \$15 is due upon receiving performance uniform

Casual Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Men's dress shoes	Plain, black, flat-no high heel See picture for sample	Bought at store of choice	
Men's dress Socks	Plain black-must be calf length	Bought at store of choice	
"Dockers style" pants	Black-not faded	Bought at store of choice Also approved choices at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
SCCC choir shirt	Color of choice	Bought through SCCC	\$15 approx.

Wardrobe attire belonging to SCCC may not be altered in any way. It must be returned at the end of the season.

Boys' shirts must be professionally laundered. Also, tuxes and accessories must be dry-cleaned ONLY. A dry-cleaning fee is assessed when wardrobe is picked up to clean the attire at the end of the choral season. If needed, parents are responsible for additional cleaning during the season.



Wardrobe for Concert Chorus and Ensemble - Girls

Performance Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement, Damage, or Non-returned items
Formal black concert dress	2" from floor	Purchased from SCCC or specified supplier	
Pearls	Must be bought from SCCC	SCCC	\$10.00
Panty hose or knee highs – black	Tights are not allowed	Bought at store of choice	
Shoes	Plain black matte character shoes with no more than a 1-1/2 inch heel	Bought at store of choice	

Casual Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Socks	Black, must cover ankle	Bought at store of choice	
Shoes	Plain black matte character shoes with no more than a 1-1/2 inch heel	Bought at store of choice- can also be used for Performance attire	
"Dockers style" pants	Black-not faded	Bought at store of choice Also approved choices at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
SCCC choir shirt	Color of choice	Bought through SCCC	\$15 approx.

Wardrobe attire belonging to SCCC may not be altered in any way. It must be returned at the end of the season.

Girls' dresses must be dry-cleaned ONLY. If needed, parents are responsible for additional cleaning during the season.

A pearl necklace which is purchased through SCCC is to be worn. No other pearls are used, as SCCC pearls are all uniform in size and color.



Wardrobe for Concert Chorus and Ensemble - Boys

Performance Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Tuxedo Jacket and Pants		Property of SCCC	\$150.00
Tuxedo Shirt		Property of SCCC	\$30.00
Studs and Cufflinks		Property of SCCC	\$10.00
Bow Tie and cummerbund		Property of SCCC	\$25.00
Men's dress shoes	Plain, black, flat-no high heel See picture for sample	Bought at store of choice	
Men's dress Socks	Plain black-must be calf length	Bought at store of choice	

A wardrobe cleaning fee of \$15 is due upon receiving dress uniform

Casual Uniform Item	Info	Where do I get these?	Cost of Replacement if damaged, or Non-returned items
Men's dress shoes	Plain, black, flat-no high heel See picture for sample	Bought at store of choice	
Men's dress Socks	Plain black-must be calf length	Bought at store of choice	
"Dockers style" pants	Black-not faded	Bought at store of choice Also approved choices at French Toast – Use source code QS5ZWWC	
SCCC choir shirt	Color of choice	Bought through SCCC	\$15 approx.

Wardrobe attire belonging to SCCC may not be altered in any way. It must be returned at the end of the season.

Boys' shirts must be professionally laundered. Also, tuxes and accessories must be dry-cleaned ONLY. A dry-cleaning fee is assessed when wardrobe is picked up to clean the attire at the end of the choral season. If needed, parents are responsible for additional cleaning during the season.

