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Welcome to Northwest Girlchoir's 2022-2023 Season!

This Welcome Packet includes the following:

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MISSION/VALUES

Founded in 1972, Northwest Girlchoir's mission is to transform the lives of girls and young women through outstanding music education, dynamic choral performances, and an enduring community.

Northwest Girlchoir is committed to racial equity, creating a welcoming, inclusive, and nurturing experience for all choristers, families, and audiences. We honor each individual's history, heritage, and talents. Our community is strongest when all voices are affirmed and everyone is connected through the joy of singing.

We're guided by the following core values:

- Artistic Excellence: Vibrant music-making of the highest quality.
- Education: Developing each chorister's musicianship, vocal skills, confidence, and potential.
- Equity: Ensuring opportunities for all participants regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic background, or sexual orientation.
- Community: Nurturing friendships, shared values, and pride in belonging.
- Collaboration: Fostering teamwork while valuing each person's contribution.
- Service: Sharing our talents to enrich the greater community.
- Global Awareness: Cultivating understanding of and connections with the world and its people.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions about financial aid:

Jill Clymer

Executive Director

Jill@northwestgirlchoir.org

(206) 527-2900 ext. 3

Attendance issues (absence, tardiness, etc.), questions about chorister progress, rehearsals or concerts:

Charity Rasmussen

Vivace Conductor

Charity@northwestgirlchoir.org

Questions about enrollment, tuition, attendance or COVID protocol:

Ann Selznick

Choir Administrator

Ann@northwestgirlchoir.org

(206) 527-2900 ext. 5

Questions about financial donations:

Kevin Carson

Development Director

Kevin@northwestgirlchoir.org

(206) 527-2900 ext. 2

VIVACE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Mondays and Wednesdays

4:30pm – 6:00pm

North Seattle Church

2150 N 122nd Street, Seattle, WA 98133

If you will miss a rehearsal for any reason, please contact your conductor and ann@northwestgirlchoir.org or call NWGC at (206) 527-2900.



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NORTHWEST GIRLCHOIR VIVACE TUITION RATES 2022 – 2023

VIVACE TUITION: \$1,920

REGISTRATION FEE: \$100

(Registration Fees are 100% NON-REFUNDABLE)

- Tuition includes instruction, uniform, concert costs, sheet music, and a Northwest Girlchoir T-shirt.
- Tuition does not include tours, summer camps or concert tickets.
- **Accounts must be current (no more than 30 days past due) in order for a chorister to participate in rehearsals and concerts.**
- **Severely delinquent accounts may result in a chorister being asked to leave the choir until their account is settled.**

Financial Aid: Northwest Girlchoir believes any chorister who loves to sing should be able to join our choir regardless of their family's ability to pay full tuition. We offer need-based scholarships for choir, tours, and summer camp. Because of our commitment to equity and access – and thanks to the generosity of individual and foundation donors – our total scholarship amount has more than tripled since 2013.

Tuition, tour, and camp scholarship applications are made available at registration time. Decisions are made by our Scholarship Committee, comprised of the Executive Director and members of the Board of Directors. Each application is handled confidentially; neither the names nor the amount of specific awards is shared publicly in any way.

SCHEDULE FOR TUITION REFUND OR REDUCTION 2022-2023

If a chorister withdraws from choir for any reason before the end of the season, Northwest Girlchoir will offer a tuition refund or reduction according to the schedule below. **Parents of choristers must give written notice of their intent.** The tuition refund or reduction will be based on the date that the written notice (email or letter) is sent to the Northwest Girlchoir office. Please note if you are on an installment plan you must continue paying installments until you have paid the required portion. Registration fees are nonrefundable.

- If written notice is given by **September 15, 2022** the family is liable only for the *\$100 nonrefundable registration fee* and any installment fees paid to FACTS.
- If written notice is given **by October 15, 2022**, the family is liable for the *\$100 registration fee, FACTS fees, and ¼ of the annual tuition.*
- If written notice is given **by January 15, 2023**, the family is liable for the *\$100 registration fee, FACTS fees, and ½ of the annual tuition.*
- If written notice is given **AFTER January 15, 2023**, the family is liable for *\$100 registration fee, FACTS fees, and the entire 2022/2023 tuition.*

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

Attendance Expectations—Concerts, Tech Rehearsals, Weekly Rehearsals

- Choristers are expected to participate in all Northwest Girlchoir concerts during the year. We count on all our choristers to be a part of the finished products (concerts) that we have been working so hard to prepare together for months in advance.
- Creating high-quality, captivating public performances is one of our main missions at Northwest Girlchoir, and we can only do so if choristers attend regular/weekly rehearsals and the Tech rehearsals.
 - Choristers are expected to maintain a regular/weekly rehearsal attendance average of 80% in order to sing in mainstage/ticketed concerts.
 - Choristers below 80% prior to mainstage/ticketed concert may be asked to do a part check to show that they are ready for the concert.
 - Choristers whose attendance is below 60% at the time of a concert will not be allowed to perform in that concert.
- **Attendance at Tech rehearsals is mandatory in order to sing in mainstage/ticketed concerts.**
- If a concert absence is unavoidable, please communicate that to your conductor by email at least two months in advance.
- Consistent, reliable attendance at rehearsals/ concerts is one important aspect in deciding a chorister's promotion to the next choir level.

DIRECTIONS

**North Seattle Church
2150 N 122nd St., Seattle, WA 98133**

From the North:

Take I-5 South to exit 173 for Northgate Way, toward 1st Ave NE. Keep right at fork, follow signs for Northgate Way West, then turn right onto N Northgate Way. Turn right again on Meridian Ave N and follow up to N 122nd Ave, turning right. North Seattle Church will be on your left. Drive around the back of the building until you see the signs for East Entrance. The Northwest Girlchoir office is the door next to the East Entrance.

Take WA-99/Aurora Ave South and turn left onto N 125th Ave. Turn right onto Densmore Ave N and follow left onto N 122nd Ave. North Seattle Church will be on your left. Drive around the back of the building until you see the signs for East Entrance. The Northwest Girlchoir office is the door next to the East Entrance.

From the South:

Take I-5 North to exit 173 for 1st Ave NE towards Northgate Way. Turn left on to 1st Ave NE, cross Northgate Way and take the overpass over I-5. Then turn right to stay on 1st Ave NE. Turn left onto N 122nd Ave. North Seattle Church will be on your right. Drive around the back of the building until you see the signs for East Entrance. The Northwest Girlchoir office is the door next to the East Entrance.

Take WA-99/Aurora Ave North and turn right onto N 125th Ave. Turn right onto Densmore Ave N and follow left onto N 122nd Ave. North Seattle Church will be on your left. Drive around the back of the building until you see the signs for East Entrance. The Northwest Girlchoir office is the door next to the East Entrance.



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CHOIRWIRE

Look for Northwest Girlchoir's weekly ChoirWire, an email bulletin just for parents and choristers! The ChoirWire contains all the latest information regarding regular rehearsals, tech rehearsal and concert call times, upcoming events, programs, and performances! **Let the office know right away if you are not receiving yours!** There may also be an occasional emergency notification (rehearsal change or cancellation).

UNIFORM INFORMATION

Members of Vivace wear uniforms for concerts. Uniforms do much more than make our choirs look lovely on the stage. By dressing alike, our choristers come together as a single artistic entity uniting our separate talents into one voice. Many choristers also say that uniforms create a feeling of belonging to the choir family.

General rules of dress that apply to all choirs:

- All choristers in a Northwest Girlchoir uniform **MUST WEAR DEODORANT**. Even if your chorister does not regularly wear deodorant, she needs to with her uniform. This will help to extend the life of her uniform.
- Hair is to be off of the face and shoulders (i.e. ponytail or bun, bangs fastened away from the face) for all choristers.
- Barrettes or headbands should be black or "hair-colored"; no flowers or other adornments that will stand out from the hair.
- No jewelry (beyond stud-sized earrings). No bracelets, wristbands, or friendship bracelets.
- Make-up may be used in small amounts and should be tastefully applied, giving a natural look.
- Shoes should be plain and simple. Remember to check shoes often for fit; children's feet can grow very fast and what fits in December might be too small in June.

Uniform Upkeep

- Choristers are responsible for the maintenance and cleaning of their uniform during the year.
- If a uniform needs to be significantly mended, altered, or exchanged for a larger size, please contact the NWGC office.
- Uniforms will be issued in the early fall or January as singers join or are promoted. **ALL UNIFORMS WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE END OF THE SEASON IN JUNE.**
- If a uniform is lost or irreparably damaged, the chorister will be charged the replacement cost.

MUSIC FOLDERS

- The cost of music purchase and rental is included in tuition. All music and folders used by choristers are the property of Northwest Girlchoir.
- Folders can be taken home for practice but must be brought to every rehearsal. Singers who consistently forget their folders at rehearsal will not be allowed to take them home.
- Music folders must be left at the last rehearsal before each concert, so that old music can be filed and new music distributed before the next rehearsal. If there is an exception, choristers will be notified to turn in their folders at the concert location.
- Treat the folders and music with care—each season's folder and music are worth approximately \$50, which will be charged to the chorister if the music folder is lost or damaged.
- Singers are provided a pencil at the beginning of the year and are expected to have a pencil with them at every rehearsal.



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VOLUNTEER AT NORTHWEST GIRLCHOIR!

You are invited to become part of Northwest Girlchoir's dedicated volunteer team! Please review the opportunities below and consider making time this year to help Northwest Girlchoir achieve its mission to transform the lives of girls and young women through outstanding music education, dynamic performances, and an enduring community. Volunteering is also a great way to get to know other parents and choristers!

Board of Directors	Become an active member of the Northwest Girlchoir community and help make decisions about the direction of the organization as a whole.
Racial Equity	Work with committee to increase access and inclusion for people of color across the organization.
Fundraising	Support fundraising efforts and develop relationships with individual and corporate donors.
Music Library	Help file and organize music as it is distributed and collected.
Office Volunteer	Administrative help with mailings, copying, filing, data entry, and other general office tasks.
Event Helper	Assist with Northwest Girlchoir fundraisers and other events. Help us plan, set up, serve, decorate, and/or clean up.
Finance	Serve on our finance committee; review budgets, monthly financials, and policies.

Do you have a specific skill that you could share with Northwest Girlchoir?

IT/ Web Updates	Photo/Videography	Accounting
Foreign Languages (please specify)	Audio Recording	Graphic Design
Dance/Choreography	Law	Marketing/PR
Sewing	Human Resources	

Send us an email at info@northwestgirlchoir.org if you can help out in any of these areas. Thank you!