

## PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

### Attendance Expectations—Concerts, Tech Rehearsals, Weekly Rehearsals

- Choristers are expected to participate in all Northwest Girlchoir concerts during the year. Choristers are part of a team; a team is only successful if everyone participates. Missing voices at concert times is very difficult for the remaining choristers.
- Arrive on time for rehearsals. Late arrivals interrupt the learning process for everyone in the room. Plan to arrive five minutes early; younger choristers should have a snack before arriving and should use the bathroom before rehearsal begins.
- When one joins a choir, one makes a commitment to their peers and to musical excellence. Choirs depend upon each member to participate regularly to facilitate group learning. Think of choir as a team sport – we must practice together regularly in order to be successful. Practicing on one's own is useful to reinforce learning but is not a suitable replacement for missing a group rehearsal.

**o Choirs that rehearse once per week are allowed two absences per concert cycle; choirs that rehearse twice per week are allowed five absences per concert cycle.**

o After the second (once/week) or fifth (twice/week) rehearsal, a chorister must demonstrate readiness by singing their part for a teacher-conductor in order to sing in the concert.

o Choristers who miss more than two (once/week rehearsals) or more than five (twice/week rehearsals) are invited to continue to participate in rehearsals to facilitate their learning. In deference to the needs of the group, however, they will not perform in the upcoming concert.

o Older choirs may have additional performances or tours; more stringent attendance rules may be applied in order for choristers to participate.

- **Attendance at Tech rehearsals is mandatory to sing in all concerts.**
- If a concert absence is unavoidable, please communicate with your teacher-conductor by email at least two months in advance.
- Northwest Girlchoir will not hold rehearsals, concerts, or organizational events (tech rehearsals, guest artist collaborations, auditions, Board meetings, etc.) on these holidays:
  - o Rosh Hashanah (day plus evening before)
  - o Yom Kippur (day plus evening before)
  - o Diwali
  - o Christmas Eve
  - o Christmas Day
  - o Lunar New Year
  - o Holi
  - o Passover (first night)
  - o Easter
  - o Eid al-Fitr
  - o Eid al-Adha
  - o Krishna Janmashtami

An excused absence would be appropriate if your child observes a cultural or religious holiday not included on this list. Please contact your teacher-conductor well in advance to plan for the absence.