

**2019-2020
CONCERT SEASON**



CHORALE MEMBER HANDBOOK

www.northvalleychorale.org

"THE CHOIR THAT CARES"

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ABOUT THE NORTH VALLEY CHORALE

Our Vision. We are dedicated to the cultural, musical and social enrichment of the Valley of the Sun.

Our Mission. We serve the community by providing affordable and accessible performances of choral music from many traditions, eras, and cultures. We work with joy and passion to perform these works at the highest possible level of personal and collective musicianship.

About Us. The North Valley Chorale (NVC) is a voluntary, non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization established in 2008 by a group of Valley singers who wanted to make beautiful music together and use their time and talents to positively impact the community.

What we do. Led by Eleanor Johnson, Artistic Director since its inception, we have grown to over seventy (70) members from all areas of metropolitan Phoenix. Each year we perform 2 or 3 local concerts as well as outreach events throughout the Valley. Our repertoire reflects the diversity of our members and audiences, ranging from classical and sacred to Broadway, pop and patriotic music. The NVC has been a proud Community Arts partner of UMOM Shelters, the Arizona State Veteran's Home, Banner Alzheimer Institute and several local senior communities.

We have performed in national and international festivals, appear regularly on live television and just returned from a second European concert tour. In 2017 we visited New York City to perform Handel's *Messiah* in Carnegie Hall and as the warm-up entertainment for the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall. In Phoenix, we headlined at the Herberger Theater, performed as the chorus for *Music Man in Concert* at the Orpheum Theater and at the Mesa Center for the Arts with the Symphony of the Southwest singing *Carmina Burana*.

Our Concert Season. Our new 2019-2020 concert season opens October 13, 2019 with *Broadway at the Madison* at the Madison Center for the Performing Arts. On December 7, 2019 we will host our first-ever *Messiah Singalong* at the Camelback Bible Church. We will return to Camelback Bible Church on April 3, 2020 for the *Brahms Requiem*. What a season this will be!

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

On behalf of our Board and members, I welcome you to the eleventh season of the North Valley Chorale. Serving as the founding Director has been a great honor for me. Each year we raise the bar and grow together. You'll find this season will include many new and thrilling musical experiences.

We have an ambitious program planned for this season, but I have no doubt that with hard work during rehearsals, listening to the practice tracks, and practicing at home and with friends, the repertoire I've selected is well within our capabilities.

My personal goals for this new season are:

- Know each singer and their voice so I can maximize their contribution to the group.
- Begin and end each rehearsal ON TIME.
- Lead each rehearsal with inspiring enthusiasm.

Music is not only the universal language; it has the power to transform and heal. Make each rehearsal a good reason to leave your home and return with a song in your heart!

Eleanor

CODE OF CONDUCT

Be prompt and consistent.

- “Early” is really *on time*—arriving at start time is actually *late*.
- If you will be absent or late, notify the Director before rehearsal by email (northvalley-chorale@gmail.com).

Be quiet.

- No talking during rehearsal unless for a brief clarification.
- Remain silent and attentive when other sections are singing.
- Simply say "Let's talk about this later" when a fellow member starts a rehearsal-time conversation.
- Raise your hand to be acknowledged by the Artistic Director if you have a question.
- Listen to the Artistic Director's response.

Be considerate.

- Turn off or silence your cell phone.
- Step out discreetly for emergencies or “bio-breaks”.
- **No** perfumes, scents or aerosols in rehearsal or concert space.
- If you have a contagious illness, please do not attend rehearsal.

Be organized.

- Keep music in alphabetical order in a 3-ring black binder or in concert order when directed.
- Have a pencil ready to make notes on music. (Do not use ink!)
- Bring your "singer pack" every week - Kleenex, cough drops, and pencil with eraser.
- Bring water to practice and stay well-hydrated.

Be a team player.

- Share concert dates with family, friends and co-workers.
- Sell or purchase your per-concert ticket allocation (usually 7-10 tickets).
- Return NVC-owned music, props and wardrobe items promptly following each concert. Otherwise, you will be responsible to reimburse the NVC for any unreturned items issued to you.

CONCERT SEASON

The NVC Concert Season. Our Concert Season begins in August and continues through May. The season commences with a mandatory Workshop in late August-early September and then another in January.

Regular Rehearsals. We rehearse weekly on Wednesday evenings, starting promptly at 6:30 pm and ending at 9:00 pm and on one Sunday afternoon per month from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Unless otherwise notified, the regular rehearsal location is:

Phoenix Boys Choir Building

1131 E Missouri Ave
Phoenix, Arizona, 85014

Special Rehearsals. Technical and Dress Rehearsals are scheduled at the performance venue. Rehearsal extensions (starting before 6:30 pm or ending after 9:00 pm) additional rehearsals, and sectional practices may be added at the Artistic Director's discretion. The time and location of Special Rehearsals are communicated via email and posted to the website calendars (see below).

Concerts/Tours. See www.northvalleychorale.org/concerts for the dates and locations of this season's concert performances (see also back cover.) Tell your family and friends, then sell or gift them with tickets! NVC also participates in local, national and international choral festivals. You'll be notified as these opportunities are presented.

Outreach Performances. Our members fulfill NVC's organizational mission by participating in a variety of performances throughout the year. NVC also partners with community service groups, senior communities, local media and others to bring the joy of music to those who are less fortunate.

Website Calendar. Consult [the NVC website](http://www.northvalleychorale.org) to find the most up-to-date information about our rehearsals and concerts. For the interactive calendar, as well as a link to a printer-ready calendar document, visit www.northvalleychorale.org/calendar.

ATTENDANCE

You are important. Chorale membership is an honor as well as a commitment. Regular rehearsal attendance by every member is fundamental to creating choral music of exceptional quality. Every voice is important as part of the planning, rehearsal and performance. Your absence affects the Chorale as a whole.

Outreach and activities. Choir members are expected to participate in outreach and other activities. As “the choir that cares” it takes the efforts of all of us to make our outreach events successful. *We need you!*

Missing a performance. If you are unable to sing in a concert or major outreach performance, please inform the Artistic Director as soon as possible by email. Our music and choreography are planned with your participation in mind! We may need to make modifications based on your absence.

Not singing? Lend a hand! If you’re not singing, consider helping out during the performance. Knowledgeable stage hands and front house volunteers are always needed and greatly appreciated. Just ask any Board member. We need you!

Three strikes. Rehearsal absences due to illness, family emergencies or planned vacations must be communicated to the Artistic Director (Eleanor) in advance. Missing more than two rehearsals, however, might mean you are not sufficiently prepared to sing in the concert and may jeopardize your participation in upcoming performances. When three or more absences are noted, the Artistic Director may schedule a conference with you to gauge your ongoing commitment to the organization.

Illness and disability. If your illness is contagious or you are too ill to attend rehearsal, please notify the Artistic Director. If your illness is not contagious, but you are temporarily unable to sing, please attend rehearsal to capture notes and instructions. Do you need a ride or a little extra help due to an illness or disability? Talk with the Artistic Director or a member of the Board so we can try to arrange assistance for you.

COMMUNICATION AND PRIVACY POLICY

Official Correspondence. The primary NVC communication is a weekly email update, usually from NVC Vice President, Charles Hudson. READ IT!

Please read and respond to NVC emails promptly. If you have a message you feel should be shared with NVC members, such as special news, an event, etc., please send a draft to northvalleychorale@gmail.com for review, clarification and approval.

Website. The site www.northvalleychorale.org is our external site AND the repository for key information and events, including the official calendar. The password protected “**Members Only**” section houses event photos, organizational information, practice audio tracks, video instruction, etc. Use the password “**NVC**” for access. Check the website regularly and let us know how we can make it better.

Newsletter and E-Blasts. Special single-topic news is shared by the *NVC e-Blasts*. *NVC Notes*, the official Chorale newsletter, is published annually and disseminated to members and *Friends of NVC*.

Social Media. Private *Vimeo* videos may be shared with members only as a rehearsal aid. NVC also maintains Twitter (@northvalleychorale) and Facebook accounts.

Privacy Policy. Your personal registration information is confidential and will not be used outside of NVC. Members sign a “media release“ granting NVC permission to use your voice and image in organizational activities. NVC will not release your personal information to external parties without your explicit permission.

With your permission, NVC provides a membership roster to all members. It contains your name, voice part, address, phone numbers, e-mail address and birthday (not year.)

Members are required to keep membership information confidential. Members are NOT PERMITTED to use member information for solicitation or any other non-Chorale-related communication.

CHORAL ATTIRE

NVC Attire. Members are responsible for the purchase and maintenance of the gender-specific items listed below. The Chorale provides most other wardrobe and props.

Members also receive an official NVC polo shirt for informal NVC outreach events and other activities. See www.northvalleychorale.org/concert-attire in the Members Only site for complete details.

NOTE: NVC accepts re-usable attire items such as ladies' dresses, as donations from former members or those with new sizes. Don't need it? Donate it!

Ladies. Attire includes the following **uniform items**: Formal Fashions black V neck performance top, scoop neck black Hanes and white Hanes knit top, and full-length black Formal Fashions dress. Ladies supply their own black dress pants, black hose, plain black closed-toe dress shoes and simple, non-dangling jewelry. The NVC Wardrobe Director will assist you with orders. See **Members Only** site for complete ordering details.

Men. Black tuxedo, wing-tipped tuxedo shirt, white undershirt, black bowtie, black cummerbund, black socks, black dress shoes and black dress shirt. The NVC Wardrobe Director will provide guidance on tuxedo selection and purchase of the black dress shirt. See **Members Only** site for complete ordering details.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Work hard, play hard. Rehearsals are focused, intense and dedicated to singing. The pace of rehearsals leaves members with minimal time for socializing...so we get together a few times each year, just for fun! These events give us an opportunity to get to know each other, our spouses, significant others and family - to establish and nourish the Chorale friendships we have come to cherish.

Planned AND spontaneous. The NVC Social Committee hosts a variety of events such as monthly birthday celebrations, bowling, concerts, sporting events, Christmas caroling and seasonal parties. Would you like to help plan an event? Let us know!

FINANCE SUMMARY

Balanced Budget. The NVC, like most community choirs, is self-financed. Last year's operating budget was just over \$60,000. Ticket sales and donations allowed us to offset expenses and our many volunteers donated hundreds of hours of personal time.

Income. Our income comes from five main sources: ticket sales, donations, dues, program advertisements, raffles/fundraising events. Last season's ticket sales for the two concerts totaled \$20,326; member dues contributed \$13,020, fundraising \$16,421 and donations added \$17,309. The donations from members and NVC patrons were essential to our bottom line. The pie graph below on the left illustrates the percent of income by source.

Expenses. The two major categories of Chorale expenses are *Concerts* and *Administration*. *Concerts* includes payments for rehearsal facility, accompanists, section leads, technical equipment, venue rental, props and costumes, staging and production, musician fees, ASCAP performance fees and publicity. *Administration* includes office supplies, banking fees, insurances, copying, postage, storage, internet site, subscriptions, marketing, merchandise, and hospitality, as well as scholarships for the European tour.

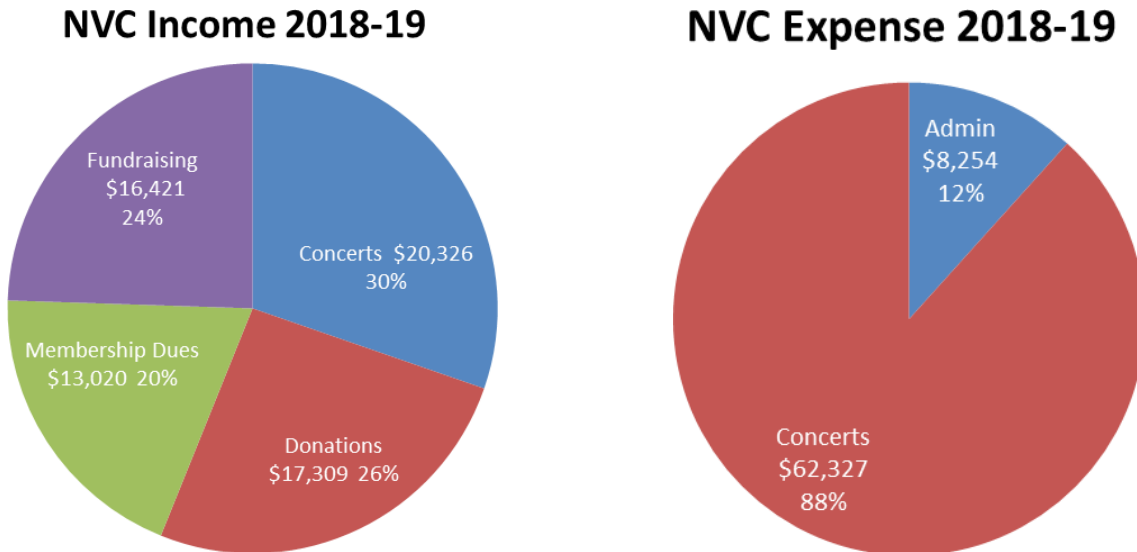


FIGURE 1. SUMMARY OF NVC EXPENSES VS. NVC INCOME, 2018-19

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues. To help defray rehearsal space and music expenses, all NVC members are assessed yearly membership dues. The NVC membership dues remain at **\$200 per member yearly**, payable in full at the start of each concert season.

Dues are the same for all members. Dues are not reduced, refunded or prorated based on the number of rehearsals or performances you attend. If necessary, payment arrangements can be made with the Treasurer. Financial assistance may be available from donors – if you need help or want to provide support, ask the Artistic Director.

SUPPORT YOUR NVC

Tickets. Audience is a key component of a performance. Tell your friends, family and co-workers! Each member is responsible for 8 tickets per concert. You may sell directly, purchase and gift your tickets or direct purchase via website (ask the purchaser to list you as referral.)

Program Ads and Personals. Ask your favorite business or service to advertise in the NVC concert programs. It's a great way to help the community and reach over 500 music-lovers at each concert. You can also purchase ad space to send a special message to that special someone!

Join our Loyal Advertisers. Tui Pool Service, Milligan Lawless, Knights of Columbus, ASU Biomedical Informatics, Gia Wellness, Sky Mountain Mi-Kis, Mike Prosek, Michael Frassetto, Church of the Beatitudes, and Arthritis Health have supported every NVC concert for the last 3 years. How about you?

Partners. Businesses that donate a percentage of goods or services from NVC affiliation are greatly appreciated. Share partnership leads and ideas with a board member.

Support your NVC! Sell or buy a program advertisement or personal message or make a donation. Download the *Program Ads and Personals* form or the *Donor Form* from the website and submit online or via US mail. You can submit forms and checks to any NVC Board member.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Mission. In addition to Outreach Concerts, the NVC Outreach Director organizes member participation in charitable activities ranging from food, water and supplies collections to group visits to local non-profit organizations such as Feed My Starving Children and St. Mary's Food Bank. Please join us!

CHORALE COMMITTEES

Teamwork. Each performance is a mini-masterpiece, the result of many hours of planning, time and creative energy. Consider exploring another dimension of NVC through membership on an **NVC Committee**. You can even invite family and friends to work on a Committee and share ideas, special skills and talents. The NVC Committees listed on the next page are each overseen by a member of the Board and are directly linked to NVC's yearly performance and service goals. Committees meet virtually and/or in-person and are task-focused to minimize your time commitment.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NVC Board Facts. NVC is an Arizona non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation. All Board members are volunteers and are not eligible for salary or compensation. The Board has twelve (12) positions elected by the membership in January and serve 2-year terms. Get to know your Board members. (See back page with names and contact information.)

Qualifications. Members who have a history of service and commitment to NVC may apply for Board membership. The Board meets monthly and attendance is mandatory. Each Board member is responsible for a key aspect of NVC operations.

Interested in serving on the Board? Talk with any Board member. Submit a written statement of interest, application form (see *Members Only* site for details.) Send/give your resume to the Vice President at least two months before the announced elections.

Social Media

Social Media. NVC's Twitter account is @northvalleychorale and Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/northvalleychorale/>. Please "follow" and "like" us! Take and post all the photos you want, BUT NO MUSIC posting on YouTube and Facebook due to copyright and performance licensing issues.

NVC Video Archives

Video Archives. NVC maintains a password-protected Vimeo (video hosting) service for both performance and rehearsal videos. You, your friends and family can watch a past performance on demand by accessing the Video Archives from Members Only site. The rehearsal videos are here too. The passwords are provided in periodic email blasts. You must review and adhere to the **NVC Archival Video Access Policy** on the site. Happy viewing!

NORTH VALLEY CHORALE COMMITTEES

Committee	Committee Leader	Description of Committee Role and Tasks
Executive / President & VP	Anita Murcko	Administration, Bylaws, Venues, Meetings, Contracts; Board recruit, oversight
Finance / Treasurer	John Prosek	Bookkeeping, dues, budget, Finance Committee
Membership	Mark Wallace	Recruit, manage on-boarding process, forms, coordinate w/ Social committee; handbook; surveys
Development	Graham Johnson	Sponsor, Patrons and Fundraising events, activities
Marketing/Publicity	Graham Johnson	Write and disseminate press releases, notices, flyers; Coordinate media appearances, Ticket sales
Merchandise	Margaret Neno	Select and sell NVC articles mugs, shirts, CDs
Social	Margaret Neno	Coordinate membership retention events, rehearsal refreshments, birthdays; events recognition
Outreach/Audience Development	Barbara Lafford	Identify and organize outreach. Ongoing liaison with organizations and communities;
Website/ Programs	Charley Hudson	Maintain site content currency and posting procedures
Membership/Ads / Blasts	Mark Wallace	Editorial calendar creation; Coordinate articles, and web publish
Volunteers/ Audience Hospitality	Gary Thomson	Volunteer recruitment and oversight; audience hospitality
Technical/Production	Gary Thomson	Coordinate production, lights, staging and sound
Artistic Committee	Shannon Barrett	Concert planning and choreography with Director.
Wardrobe/Props	Mary Ann Iagulli	Identify costuming needs; Order, purchase , design and sew costumes; select and create props
Communications	Charley Hudson	Prepare and send weekly updates, surveys, etc.
Historian	Peter Lafford	Guide & assist in organizing NVC artifacts
Social Media	Graham Johnson	Write, post and maintain Facebook and Twitter
Grants	Margaret Neno	Write and submit grant applications
Music Librarian	Carol Rosales	Manage music library, music assignments, tracks and practice CDs

ARE YOU A “FRIEND OF THE NVC”?

Donors are “*Friends of the NVC.*” NVC is a 501(c)(3) corporation, so contributions to the NVC are tax-deductible. The individuals, businesses and corporations who generously donate each year are recognized in our concert programs and on our website. Donor contributions make up nearly **20% of our annual revenue!** We want to thank all of our donors from last season:

Singer's Circle (\$2500 to \$4599)

Ben Budzowski	Graham and Eleanor Johnson Anita
Murcko and Mark Wallace	Gervais and Margaret Neno
John and Jane Prosek	Gary and Karen Thomson

Benefactor (\$1000 to \$2499)

Mike and Marty Murphy	Edward and Bernadette Murcko
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Angel (\$500 to \$999)

Anonymous	Jennifer Gibson
Vince Lane	Catherine Le
John T. McDonough	Mary Neuman
Craig and Susan Metzger	Randy Weiss

Patron (\$100 to \$249)

Glenn Bagwell	Grant Deger
Christine Dermanelian	Mike Frassetto and Irene Seubert
Elaine Graber	Jim and Cindy Hisrich
Charley Hudson	Peter Johnson
Kelly Karbon	Katherine Krietor
Peter Lourie	Sharon Namie
Rex Ragsdale	Gilbert J Rutz

Supporter (\$25 to \$99)

Regina Coleman	Karen Daneman
Fiona Higgs	Mary Ann Iagulli
Valerie Vousden	Col. Joseph and Susan Mullane
Beverly Zduniak	

Board Members & Council - Contact Information

Anita Murcko	President	602-549-8610 acmurcko@cambiare.us
Charley Hudson	Vice President	480-390-6572 chudson@compuserve.com
John Prosek	Treasurer	602-513-9755 johnpr20@cox.net
Margaret Neno	Secretary	480-213-3459 margaret.neno@gmail.com
Eleanor Johnson	Artistic Director	602-992-7095 emjphx@gmail.com
Mark Wallace	Membership/Ads	602-509-2443 pim@cox.net
Graham Johnson	Development/Tour	602-370-5231 gajphx@gmail.com
Carol Rosales	Music Librarian	602-434-9687 canneros@yahoo.ca
Gary Thomson	Volunteers	602-788-6726 grthomson26@gmail.com
Shannon Barrett	Choreography	480-219-8699 tomshanb@cox.net
Peter Lafford	Historian/Media	480-330-1461 plafford@asu.edu
Mary Ann Iagulli	Wardrobe	419-944-3139 iagullima@gmail.com
Council : Bobbie Lafford Gervais Neno	Outreach Coordinator Special Projects	480-703-1461 blafford@asu.edu 480-213-3995 gervais.neno@gmail.com

2019-2020 CONCERT SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

BROADWAY AT THE MADISON

Madison Center for the Performing Arts
5601 N. 16th St. Phoenix, AZ 85016
Sunday, October 13, 2019 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm

MESSIAH SINGALONG

Camelback Bible Church
3900 E. Stanford Dr.
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253
Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 3:00 pm

BRAHMS REQUIEM

Camelback Bible Church
3900 E. Stanford Dr.
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253
Friday, April 3, 2020 7:00 PM

