



TWELFTH SEASON

2018 - 2019

RAINIER YOUTH CHOIRS

Guiding singers of all backgrounds to a high level of artistry in choral performance and music education.

Changing Lives through Song

RYC's distinguished artistic staff has a joyous, musical 12th season planned, with challenging and fun rehearsals, inspired performances, community outreach, and memorable tours.

All choirs rehearse Monday evenings at Cedar Heights Middle School (19640 SE 272nd in Covington).

_____ **Primo Voce (PV)** (*Italian for 'first entry'*): **Monday, 5:30-6:30 pm**

This group is for treble boys and girls, grades 2 & 3, no prior music training necessary.

Tuition: \$50/month in nine monthly payments or \$450 in full.

_____ **Bella Voce (BV)** (*Italian for 'beautiful voice'*): **Monday, 5:15-6:45 pm**

This group is for treble boys and girls, grade 4 and up, no music training needed.

Tuition: \$61/month in nine monthly payments or \$549 in full.**

_____ **Colla Voce (CV)** (*Italian for 'with the voice'*): **Monday, 5:15-6:45 pm**

This auditioned group is for treble boys and girls, grade 7 and up who have been promoted from Bella Voce and/or have music reading skills and choral singing experience.

Tuition: \$95/month in nine monthly payments or \$855 in full.**

_____ **Consonare (CS)** (*Latin for 'to sound together'*): **Monday, 6:50-8:30 pm**

This auditioned group is for high school mixed voices. Younger singers with requisite skills may be accepted. Strong music reading and singing skills are necessary. The Young Men's Ensemble and the Young Women's Ensemble combine to form Consonare, rehearsing separately and together each week.

Tuition: \$100/month in nine monthly payments or \$900 in full.**

**** Note: An Early Contract Termination Fee equal to two months' tuition will be charged for early withdrawal from the program for these groups.**

Rainier Youth Choirs is a non-profit, community-based organization with no religious affiliations. RYC offers an exceptional, affordable and family-friendly youth choral music education and performance program.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



RAINIER YOUTH CHOIRS

- When does the season begin/end?** RYC's season runs from September through mid-June. Singers may be added in January.
- When and where are performances held?** This season all will be at New Hope Presbyterian Church, Kent. Free: Oct. 15 and June 3. Ticketed: Dec. 15, Mar. 23 and May 18. **Concert participation is required for all singers.**
- How do I get concert tickets?** Tickets may be ordered on our website for advance purchase discounts or by contacting RYC's Executive Director. Season tickets = priority seating.
- What if the weather is bad?** We will use the Kent School District's announcements for school closings or cancelling evening activities. When possible and safe, an alternate location will be used. Be sure to check your email for details.
- What can I do while my child is in rehearsal?** Many parents enjoy visiting in the check in area at CHMS, where free wi-fi is available after you sign in your singer. Shopping is within two miles of CHMS in either direction. Plan to pick singers up promptly afterwards.
- How does RYC communicate with member families?** Most RYC communication occurs via email with twice-monthly *eUpdates* and occasional reminders, including using the 'Remind' app.
- Why/How does RYC raise more money?** RYC strives to keep tuition affordable and as a non-profit, works to break even each season. The annual budget is currently about \$110,000. Grants, donations and ticket sales help provide scholarships and cover other general expenses. No mandatory fundraisers will be held.
- Are additional obligations/expenses expected for members and families?** Yes. On-time attendance with all materials at all rehearsals/performances is crucial. Excessive absences/tardiness will affect, possibly preclude concert participation. Singers must practice at home regularly. We expect singers to participate in our age-appropriate travel opportunities to fully represent RYC's reputation of excellence. Please see the next page for other obligations.
- Is financial assistance available?** Partial, needs-based tuition scholarships are available. Applications may be requested and will be reviewed confidentially by the Finance Committee.
- Is there a sibling discount?** Yes. After paying full tuition for the most advanced family singer, a 20% discount is applied for the first sibling, and 25% for each additional one.
- What's new with tuition payments?** Full tuition may be paid by check at the start of the season with no processing fee. Full payment by credit/debit has a \$25 fee. Biannual and monthly payment plans must be linked electronically to your bank account (no fee) or credit/debit account (\$25 processing fee.) **Checks and cash will not be accepted for partial payments.**

- OTHER EXPENSES:** These costs are not included in tuition.
- Annual registration fee:** \$55 per singer, non-refundable. This fee does not apply towards tuition.
- *Casual Uniform:** \$25 RYC polo; black dress pants, black socks and shoes, supplied by singer
- *Formal Uniform** Cost varies by group/gender, approximately \$60 - \$85 for auditioned groups
The full casual uniform is also Primo Voce's formal uniform.
**Gently used casual and formal items may be available upon request.*
- Music Theory books:** Singers in Bella Voce, Colla Voce and those in Consonare new to RYC must purchase and complete at least one book per season @ \$17.
- RYC music tote bag:** This bag is highly recommended to protect the sheet music that needs to be (\$30, optional) returned or replaced after each concert. Most RYC singers have a bag.
- Tour/Festival Costs:** Travel is part of the curriculum. These opportunities are often life changing and provide bonding experiences for the betterment and enrichment of each singer and the whole ensemble.
- Older groups take an international tour every 3rd year followed by two years of local or domestic performance trips and/or festivals. The last international tour was to Ireland in summer of 2017. Austria/Germany is the 2020 destination for Consonare and Colla Voce singers.
- All singers are expected to plan ahead to participate when possible.*
- Optional fundraising activities are made available to help members bring these costs down and make tours/festival costs more manageable.
- Travel 2018-2019: Consonare:** Spring break Northwest performing tour, either April 5-7 or April 12-14, est. \$500. **Colla Voce and Bella Voce:** Ft. Worden Children's Choir Festival May 24-25, est. \$325; **Primo Voce:** Music in the Parks Festival at Wild Waves, June 1, est. \$65.

OTHER OBLIGATIONS:

Volunteer commitment: in an effort to keep costs down, RYC relies heavily on parent/family volunteers. Volunteer teams, each chaired by a board member, include: Concerts, Development, Marketing, Information and Attendance, Trip Planning, Summer Camp, and Fundraising.

RYC requires one family adult to volunteer an average minimum of one hour per month. As an alternative, we do offer a \$250 buy out.

Safety is a number one concern and background checks are required for all RYC adult volunteers and for any singers 18 and older. We use the easy Washington State Patrol WATCH form.