



MURRAY CONCERT CHOIR

“Enrichment through choral music”

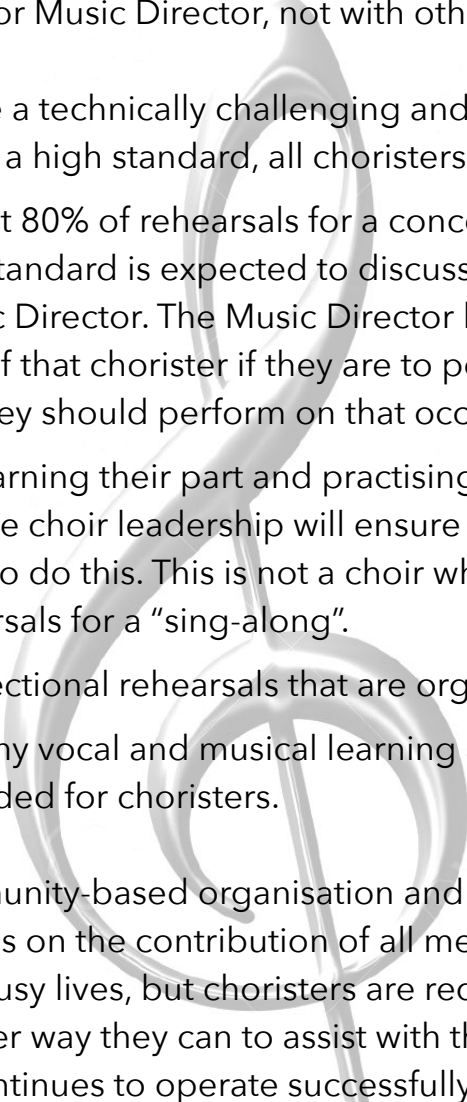
CHORISTER EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, 2021

OUR VISION:

The Murray Conservatorium Choir is a versatile, diverse, inclusive choir committed to working collaboratively to learn, grow and achieve a high standard of performance across a broad repertoire, for the enjoyment of our members and appreciation of the communities of our region

In order to achieve this vision, our Strategic Plan contains the objectives of attracting and maintaining choristers who are passionate about the power and joy of choral music, are committed to continually learning and improving and who embrace a repertoire that is technically and aesthetically challenging. This places the following expectations and responsibilities on choristers - and on the choir leadership:

1. To be welcoming to, respectful of and encouraging to all members of the choir, regardless of any perception of musical or other capabilities. No chorister should be publicly discouraged or embarrassed by any criticism of their voice or ability - musical or otherwise.
2. New members will be auditioned by the Music Director, with the assistance of the Section Leaders, in order to ensure they are placed in the appropriate vocal part and to identify any assistance the choir can provide new members in improving their skills; new members can expect this process to be supportive, comfortable and encouraging.
3. As we are a “learning choir”, music reading skills are desirable but not compulsory to join the choir. However, it is a requirement that choristers are able to sing reliably and consistently in tune. Choristers who are not confident music readers or otherwise lacking in musical proficiency are expected to commit to learning and improving their skills as much as possible. They can expect to be provided with every support and encouragement in doing so, from the Music Director, their Section Leader and other choristers. Choristers may approach their Section Leader or the Music Director with any specific requests they have for improving their vocal and music skills.

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4. All choristers are expected to be committed to continually learning and improving their vocal and musical skills and to encouraging and assisting others to do so. Any feedback and instruction given to an individual chorister by the Music Director or Section leader should be received and acted upon in a positive, productive and collegial spirit. Any disagreement with such an instruction from the Section Leader or Music Director should be taken up privately and in person with the Section Leader or Music Director, not with other choristers.
 5. In order to embrace a technically challenging and aesthetically pleasing repertoire and perform that to a high standard, all choristers are expected to:
 - a. Attend at least 80% of rehearsals for a concert season. Any chorister unable to meet this standard is expected to discuss this with their Section leader and the Music Director. The Music Director has the discretion as to what will be required of that chorister if they are to perform in a forthcoming concert, or whether they should perform on that occasion.
 - b. Commit to learning their part and practising outside of and between rehearsals. The choir leadership will ensure that all possible support is given to choristers to do this. This is not a choir where singers can just come to weekly rehearsals for a "sing-along".
 - c. Attend any Sectional rehearsals that are organised.
 - d. Take part in any vocal and musical learning and development opportunities that are provided for choristers.
 6. The choir is a community-based organisation and its success and effective functioning depends on the contribution of all members to the operation of the choir. We all have busy lives, but choristers are requested to contribute their time and skills in whatever way they can to assist with the various tasks needed to ensure the choir continues to operate successfully.