

Valley Women's Ensemble Annual Member Contract

Welcome to Valley Women's Ensemble, founded in 2013. "Ensemble" may be defined as "a group of complementary parts which contribute to a single effect." The women of Valley Women's Ensemble are diverse, yet complimentary, and we believe that working together in song is good for the soul of both individual participants and the soul of our Valley. Our goal is to support a vibrant arts community and to provide women vocalists with a quality choir in which to participate.

Contact info:

- Email choir@valleywomensensemble.org to contact leadership.
- Singers will be provided with a printed choir roster containing contact information for choir members and staff

Social Media:

- Please 'like' our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/valleywomensensemble/>
- Only post recordings/videos of any VWE performance that have been approved by the artistic director

Rehearsals:

- Rehearsals are held Tuesdays, 7-9pm.
- Rehearsals may be extended to 9:30 in the last weeks leading up to concerts.
- Rehearsals and concert series performances are held at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1212 E. Glendale Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85020.
- There will be at least one Saturday morning rehearsal per concert preparation period. These dates are provided to singers well in advance.
- During concert week there will be a Technical rehearsal on Thursday evening
- Given that VWE rehearses only once per week singers are expected to supplement that rehearsal with individual study between rehearsals. Performance examples and practice tracks will be provided to each singer via email as well as being available on Google Drive.

Concerts:

- Concert series are scheduled for consecutive Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30pm with a choir call time of 6:00pm.

- In exchange for the use of their facilities we perform during Sunday morning services at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church one Sunday in fall and one in spring. All singers are expected to perform at these services.
- Other performances may be scheduled at the discretion of the Artistic Director in conjunction with Choir Leadership. Every effort will be made to provide dates for any additional performances well in advance.

Attendance:

- If you are going to be absent please send an email to choir@valleywomensensemble.org
- Please limit absences to three per concert preparation period (Aug-Dec/Jan-May). More than three absences may jeopardize a singer's eligibility to perform. Absences have an effect on the success of your section, every voice matters in rehearsals as well as performances.

Membership Dues and other costs:

- Dues for VWE are set at \$175 per year. Most singers join in either August or January but dues are renewable one year from whenever a singer joins. Dues cover the cost of music and facility insurance. They do not cover the operating costs of the choir. Other costs are covered by fundraising activities and donations.
- You should be prepared to pay the full amount of \$175.00, or make payment arrangements, at the first rehearsal you attend.
- We don't want finances to be an obstacle. Financial arrangements can be made on a case by case basis. Supporting documents may be required. Please see our Accounting Representative.
- ALL MUSIC MUST BE RETURNED at the end of each concert series. Failure to turn in music as requested will cause VWE to replace the music at the singer's expense.
- Each singer is required to provide an appropriate black folder for use at concerts.

Concert Tickets:

- Tickets will be handed out well in advance of each concert series.
- Singers are encouraged to sell 10 tickets.
- Prepaid Admission is \$10 for ages 13 and up. Children age 12 and under are admitted free. Day of the Event tickets will cost \$15 at the door.

Concert Attire:

Formal Concert Black: black on black; blouses and pants/skirts or dresses to the knee or longer, with closed toed shoes. No sneakers, Ked's Van's or Crocs. Blouses should have sleeves which reach to at least half way between the shoulder and elbow. Dress pants are to

reach the ankles – no capris or jeans.

Informal Concert: three quarter length sleeved blouses in an assortment of pre-approved colors will be worn with black dress pants. Occasionally dark jeans may be substituted for dress pants at the discretion of the Artistic Director. Jeans must be full length, free of holes or any distress. Closed toed shoes will be worn for informal events

Any changes or alterations to the above stated dress code will be announced in advance of any appearance.

If you're not sure – ask someone on the Leadership Team for specifics.

Assigned Music Folder

Purchasing music is one of the most costly parts of running a choir. Music is EXPENSIVE. VWE believes in a composer's right to be compensated for their work and makes every effort to purchase "real" music rather than using photo copies, unless specified by the publishing house. Given those facts please adhere to the following:

Each singer is assigned a folder number. This number does not change season to season. Each piece is marked with a folder number and distributed to singers by the Music Librarian.

Please mark your music according to the conductor's instructions, but use ONLY pencil.

ALL MUSIC MUST BE RETURNED at the end of each concert series. Any music lost, damaged or not returned will be replaced at the individual singer's expense.

Board of Directors:

- James E. Alexander – Artistic Director
- Leslie Hendricks – President
- Sue Bartz – Vice President
- Carole MacLean - Secretary
- Autumn Wright - Treasurer

Staff:

- Artistic Director: Jim Alexander
- Social Media Manager: Anya Morrison
- Webmaster/PR Manager: Sarah Maschoff
- Music Librarian: Jane Murdock

Annual Valley Women's Ensemble

Member Contract

(Please retain pages 1-3 and submit only this page to
VWE Leadership Team)

I have read and agree to the terms of the Annual Valley
Women's Ensemble Contract on the previous three
pages.

Printed Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____