

Information for Prospective Members

The Alexandria Singers are a mixed vocal pops chorus. Founded in 1975, we are the only group in the Washington DC area that sings predominantly American popular music, including Top 40, show tunes, 'golden oldies', and jazz. We are proud of our distinct sound. Our revenue is generated from concert ticket sales, contract performances, fundraisers, funding from the City of Alexandria, and donations (both private and corporate). A Board of Directors (elected annually by the membership) sets policies and guides the organization. Our Music Director, Creative Director, and Accompanist are salaried. The group's membership consists of volunteer singers from a wide range of ages and backgrounds, but we all have one thing in common -- a love of singing!



About Auditions

Open auditions are held on select Tuesdays at the beginning of our Fall and Spring seasons in conjunction with our Guest Nights. Off cycle audition dates are available by appointment at the discretion of the Music Director. Please visit: www.alexandriasingers.com for specific details and dates. We ask that you make an appointment to audition with Membership VPs by contacting: audition@alexandriasingers.com

The audition process takes approx. 15 minutes and has two components: singing and choreography. After the full audition cycle is complete, you will be notified by the Membership VPs as to whether you have been accepted as a member of The Alexandria Singers.

For the singing portion, the Music Director requests that you bring a prepared song to sing, with a copy for the accompanist (unless choosing to sing a cappella). If you do not have a prepared piece, you may sing "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" or another generally known song. The Music Director will also test your vocal range and sight-reading skills.

For the choreography segment, you do not need to prepare anything. The Creative Director will teach you some basic choreography steps, and will help you by placing them to specific parts in our music.
* Please note: For the sake of time, the choreography portion is typically done in groups rather than one-on-one; in some circumstances it is done among the chorus as we learn or refresh a performance piece.

Rehearsals

Singers rehearse from 7-9:30 p.m. every Tuesday Sept-June, at Convergence: 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA (just off the Quaker Lane exit of 395). Once a month a Saturday rehearsal is held from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (location may vary, check our calendar). In preparation for a major performance, additional rehearsals may be scheduled at the discretion of the Creative Team (Music and Creative Directors).

CONTACT OUR MEMBERSHIP VPs TODAY:

audition@alexandriasingers.com
www.alexandriasingers.com

The Alexandria Singers
PO Box 16093
Alexandria, VA 22302



Music

Music is purchased through the Singers. The Singers have a small standing repertoire as well as additional music for each major production. Music fully memorized and a portion of our performance set is fully choreographed.

Expectations

As the DC area's premier pops chorus, we all bear a responsibility to learn and memorize our music, learn and perfect the choreography movements, and develop a solid stage presence. Every effort will be made to assist you with these goals. Evaluations of individual abilities are crucial and will be conducted at the discretion of the Creative Team before every major production. Each Singer should be prepared to be evaluated by our Directors, in either a large- or small-group setting. Feedback from these evaluations is not meant to be critical or personal, but may lead to additional tutorial assistance or, in extreme cases, discussion of alternate performance options for a specific production or song. The support network of Singers and the Creative Team will do their utmost to ensure that EVERYONE succeeds.

Concerts/Productions

We have an active concert schedule - with 3 large scale productions each year in addition to City and private gigs! The Singers have a goal as an organization to be financially self-sufficient through the one thing we love to do and truly claim as ours, performing! Though we have a few major fund raisers throughout our fiscal years, we've scaled back in asking Singers members to participate in selling items as we and many organizations have in the past used as primary sources of additional income. Instead, we seek out paid performance opportunities throughout the year. As a Singers member, we expect you to make all possible arrangements to attend as many gigs as possible. Without each individual member, we cannot be our best as an organization, and our joy and hard work being our "bread and butter" is really the best of all worlds as individuals and as an organization.

Fund-Raising

As mentioned above, we have a few major fund raising events each year. The two biggest include Spring2ACTion, a City-wide online day of giving event, and the auction event at our Winter Cabaret. We ask each member, under the guidance of our Development VP, to help us reach our budgeted goals for these two major events through sharing of all marketing tools, contacts, auction items, and your volunteer efforts. To avoid multiple sales efforts throughout the year that burden our membership, additional funds are raised through: production ticket sales, honoraria from contracted performances, corporate and individual donations, membership dues, sponsorship/ad sales, and grants (including an award from the City of Alexandria through the Alexandria Commission for the Arts). Additional ideas and resources are always being sought out; if you'd like to assist with fund raising or have connections with corporate or private grants, please speak with our Development VP or contact: development@alexandriasingers.com

Member Expenses

Dues: \$125.00 per year (pro-rated by quarter based on the date you join).
\$75.00 per year for members 25 years old and under (pro-rated by quarter based on the date you join).

Music: Approximately \$20-\$25 each season (September and January) for returning Singers. First year Singers will be purchasing more music, including repertoire pieces, for a cost of approximately \$35-\$40.

Costumes: Costume requirements will vary for each performance at minimal cost, if any, to Singers members. *Pro-tip:* Our signature color is a Royal/Cobalt blue we refer to as "Singers blue." A majority of our performances are made up of items of this color, should you see some in season or on sale it's wise to have a few pieces ready to go!

Concert Ticket Sales: Each Singer must sell \$100 worth of tickets for each major production. This helps us achieve our minimum budgeted goal and offsets membership expenses without an increase in dues.

Our goal is to provide an opportunity for all to sing. If these expenses are a hardship, feel free to speak with the President or Membership VP to discuss alternatives/arrangements.