

The Rapid City Children's Chorus



2019-2020

**PO Box 1528
Rapid City, SD 57709**

**www.rapidcitycc.org
rapidcitycc@gmail.com**

Thank you for your interest in the Rapid City Children's Chorus. We are so happy that you are here today to audition to be a part of our musical family. This booklet contains answers to frequently asked questions. You may wish to keep this booklet after the audition.

Rehearsal Schedule –Performing Arts Center of Rapid City:

Choraliers – Mondays only from 4:15 PM – 5:15 PM

Cadet Choir – Mondays and Thursdays from 4:15 PM – 5:15 PM

Camerata Choir – Mondays and Thursdays from 4:15 PM – 5:15 PM

Concert Choir – Mondays and Thursdays from 4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

One week prior to a concert performance all choirs rehearse from 4:15 PM – 5:30 PM. The last rehearsal before a performance is mandatory dress rehearsal and is scheduled from 4:15 PM – 6:00 PM. Our winter concert is December 9, 2019, and our spring concert is Sunday, May 3, 2020.

Attendance:

RCCC is a Season-Long Commitment.

The Rapid City Children's Chorus is a performing arts organization. Music and events are scheduled for the entire season. Choristers must agree to participate for a complete season so RCCC may fulfill its musical obligations. Therefore, enrollment in RCCC is for the entire season, which begins in September and concludes with the final concert in May. Each member is expected to remain active and committed to the program for the entire season.

RCCC Attendance Policy:

In establishing the RCCC attendance policy, two considerations were paramount. Recognizing that the commitment required for participation in RCCC is significant; **we want to make every reasonable accommodation for our active, involved students and families.** At the same time, it is essential that RCCC's tradition of excellence in both

education and performance not be compromised by excessive absenteeism. To this end, a team of experienced RCCC parents, teachers and directors have established a policy that is reasonable and flexible, and at the same time reflects and sustains our commitment to excellence.

Number of Absences Allowed:

Students will be allowed a maximum of four (4) absences during the Fall Semester and six (6) absences during the longer Spring Semester. We ask that students minimize absences as a student's quota of absences is likely to be needed for illness and family events. The number of allowable absences will not be carried over from semester to semester.

A Note about Absences near Concert Dates:

One of the difficulties in formulating an absence policy is that not all rehearsals are of equal importance. As concert time approaches, rehearsals become more critical, and the opportunity to catch up on missed material diminishes. While it is not currently the RCCC policy to assign greater weight to some absences than others (except in the case of Grand Rehearsals), we ask that you be mindful of the fact that as the concert nears your child's presence becomes increasingly important. Your efforts to avoid schedule conflicts in the latter part of each semester will be greatly appreciated. RCCC offers periodic make-up sessions for its choristers. At the discretion of the Artistic/Education Director, a student may be required to attend a make-up session or sessions, to compensate for excessive absences.

Lateness and Early dismissal:

Rehearsals and classes begin punctually. Choristers who arrive after classes or warm-ups begin will be considered late. Every three- (3) late arrivals/early dismissals will be counted as one (1) absence. **In the event that regular punctuality is not possible due to work or other schedule conflicts, please contact the chorus to discuss your situation. We will make every effort to work with you.**

Excessive Absences:

Absences in excess of the number allowed, even if procedures have been followed correctly, will preclude participation in the performance. This is not intended to be punitive, but is necessary in order to produce a quality concert. RCCC classes do more than simply teach the students the music. During each practice, nuances are refined, precision entrances and cut-offs are perfected, intonation is mastered, the balance of the ensemble is adjusted, voice parts and seating are optimally arranged, etc. Beyond a certain point, it is impossible for even the most conscientious student to be adequately prepared unless they have been present for these adjustments. In addition, it becomes impossible for the Artistic/Education Director to make the best choices for the ensemble, unless all voices are present.

Grand Rehearsal Attendance:

Grand Rehearsals are **NOT** included in a student's absences. **Absence from a Grand Rehearsal is never acceptable for any reason, and will preclude participation in the performance, regardless of the reason.** Again, this is not intended to be punitive. The purpose of a Grand Rehearsal is, in part, to make the final adjustments and refinements before the performance. For this to be successful, ALL performers must be present, without exception. No late arrivals or early dismissals will be granted. This policy is strictly enforced.

Concert Absences:

At the beginning of each season, RCCC distributes a list of tentative concert dates and students and their families sign a Commitment Form agreeing to their availability. Except in the event of extreme illness or family emergency, absences will subject the chorister to dismissal from future RCCC performances. As additional performance opportunities arise throughout the year, students will again be surveyed for their availability and asked to make a commitment. Once a student has committed to a performance, it is **ESSENTIAL** that he/she be present for that performance and its dress rehearsal(s). Last minute changes to the ensemble create a burden on the Artistic/Education Director and the attending choristers and adversely impact the quality of the performance. In a finely tuned, well-trained ensemble like RCCC, every voice is important. Please be conscious of this as you make your plans for the year.

Notification Procedure:

At least one (1) week before a scheduled absence (and earlier if at all possible), students are asked to submit an Absence Notification Form to the Attendance Committee via the RCCC office. The purpose of this form is not to approve or disapprove particular reasons for absences, but to allow the teachers and the Artistic/Education Director to plan accordingly and to help us maintain records. Absence Notifications must be mailed or delivered directly to the RCCC office or given to the attendance monitor. In the event of an unforeseeable illness or other emergency, students are asked to notify the RCCC office prior to the absence, if at all possible, and to follow up with a note of explanation.

Tuition Assistance:

Tuition assistance is available for any member of the chorus who may need assistance. Forms for application may be requested from the Financial Director. Up to 50% of the total fee will be available dependent upon number of requests and funds available.

Sibling Discount:

Families with more than one child enrolled in RCCC qualify for a 10% discount (of lesser amount) for the second sibling and a 20% discount (of lesser amount) for additional siblings.

Early Bird Discount:

Tuition that is paid in full on August 1 will receive a \$25 Early Bird Discount off the total registration fee. Funds must be postmarked August 1st or submitted to Paypal by that date in order to be eligible.

Choralier Program: We will bring our non-auditioned Choraliers program in the fall. Second grade students may register to participate in a 12-week music exploratory class, with an emphasis on singing. The first semester Choralier session runs from September to December and is an \$80 registration fee. Choraliers will receive a t-shirt, instruction and use of music. Spring Semester Choraliers will run from February to May, and is also an \$80 registration fee for the 12-week program.

Questions: If you have additional questions, contact Gloria Harrison, 545-1948 or rapidcitycc@gmail.com.

Tuition and Fees for 2019-2020**Choraliers**

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| Tuition** September, 2019 through May, 2020 | \$80 for Fall Choralier Term, \$80 for Spring Choralier Term. Each term includes 12 music lessons, T-shirt. |
| Informal Attire Red RCCC T-shirt Black Dress Slacks Black Dress Shoes and Black Socks | Included in Tuition Provided by the chorister Provided by the chorister |
| Music, Music Folder, and Music Bag | Use Included in Tuition To be returned on the final day. Failure to do so will result in an additional \$25 fee. |

Cadet Choir

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| Tuition** September, 2019 through May, 2020 | \$325 (see above for \$25 Early Bird discount) Includes approx. 50 music lessons, red T-shirt, and use of performance attire. |
| Fall Day Camp September 14, 2019 Mid Winter Day Camp January 11, 2020 | All choristers will be required to participate as it provides a strong beginning to the season's programming. Includes lunch and activities. |
| Formal/Informal Attire Red RCCC T-shirt Tuxedo Shirt Black Slacks Formal Vest Black Dress Shoes and Black Socks | Included in Tuition Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Provided by the chorister |
| Music, Music Folder, and Music Bag | Use Included in Tuition To be returned on the final day. Failure to do so will result in an additional \$50 fee. |
| Choir Tours – 1. Christmas at the Capitol-December TBD 2. Black Hills Tour—March, 2020 | Estimated Cost 1. Approx. \$50 2. Approximately \$60 |

****Tuition Payment Schedule:**

July 1-\$75 Non-refundable Deposit with Registration

August 1 - \$125 or \$225 to receive Early Bird Discount

September 1 - \$125 (All fees must be paid by this date. No refunds after September 1.)

Camerata Choir

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| Tuition** September, 2019 through May, 2020 | \$325 (see above for \$25 Early Bird discount) Includes approx. 50 music lessons, red polo, and use of performance attire. |
| Fall Day Camp September 14, 2019 Mid Winter Day Camp January 11, 2020 | All choristers will be required to participate as it provides a strong beginning to the season's programming. Includes lunch and activities. |
| Formal/Informal Attire Red RCCC T-shirt Black Slacks Tuxedo Shirt Formal Vest Black Dress Shoes and Black Socks | Included in Tuition Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Provided by the chorister |
| Music, Music Folder, and Music Bag | Included in Tuition To be returned on the final day. Failure to do so will result in an additional \$50 fee. |
| Choir Tours – 1. Christmas at the Capitol-December TBD 2. Black Hills Tour—March 2020 | Estimated cost 1. Approx. \$50 2. Approximately \$60 |

****Tuition Payment Schedule:**

July 1-\$75 Non-Refundable Deposit with Registration
 August 1 - \$125 or \$225 to receive Early Bird Discount
 September 1 - \$125 (All fees must be paid by this date. No refunds after September 1.)

Concert Choir

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| Tuition** September, 2019 through May, 2020 | \$350 (see above for \$25 Early Bird discount) Includes approx. 50 music lessons, red polo, and use of performance attire. |
| Fall Day Camp September 14, 2019 Mid Winter Day Camp January 11, 2020 | All choristers will be required to participate as it provides a strong beginning to the season's programming. Includes lunch and activities. |
| Formal/Informal Attire Red RCCC T-shirt Tuxedo Shirt Black Slacks Formal Vest and Bow Tie Formal Dress and Pearls Black Dress Shoes and Black Socks | Included in Tuition Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Use included in Tuition- <i>To be returned on final day</i> Provided by the chorister |
| Music, Music Folder, and Music Bag | Use Included in Tuition To be returned on the final day. Failure to do so will result in an additional \$100 fee. |
| Choir Tours – 1. Christmas at the Capitol-December TBD 2. Black Hills Tour-March 2020 | Estimated cost 1. Approx. \$50 2. Approximately \$60 |

****Tuition Payment Schedule:**

July 1-\$75 Deposit with Registration
 August 1 - \$125 or \$250 to receive Early Bird Discount
 September 1 - \$150 (All fees must be paid by this date. No refunds after September 1.)