

## *Sing with the Mississauga Children's Choir!*

### A Helpful Guide to Auditions

We are thrilled that you are considering joining the Mississauga Children's Choir. You will certainly find the MCC to be a wonderful, healthy, musical, educational and social experience for youth who love to sing. Weekly rehearsals provide training in vocal technique, repertoire, theory and sight-singing. Under the leadership of Music Director, Thomas Bell, the MCC has developed an international reputation for musical excellence.

#### The Choirs of the MCC

**The Training Choir** provides a stimulating musical environment for our youngest singers, grades 1-3. Members rehearse on Mondays 4:20-5:20pm under MCC's assistant conductor and participate in concerts throughout the year.

**The Junior Choir** is for choristers in grades 3-5. This ensemble rehearses on Mondays 5:30 – 6:30pm under the leadership of MCC's assistant conductor and participates in concerts throughout the year. Training in choral singing continues and a more formal theory program is introduced.

**The Intermediate Choir** provides an excellent music education for more experienced singers, grades 4-8. Rehearsals are held on Mondays 6:45-8:15pm. Choristers receive instruction on choral / vocal techniques and theory. Many performing and singing opportunities assist our younger members for entry to the Concert Choir and their musical future. Members participate in a one day choral retreat on Sept 26<sup>th</sup>.

**The Concert Choir** is our advanced choir and the touring choir of the MCC. Choristers in this ensemble have advanced singing skills. This choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings 6:30 – 8:30pm. The Concert Choir attends an overnight choral retreat weekend Friday Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> evening until noon on Sunday Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>, in order to prepare the season's music and to strengthen musical and social bonds with in the choir.

**The Boys Choir** is comprised of all the boys enrolled our 4 choirs. They meet twice a month on Tuesdays from 5:30 – 6:30 under the direction of Thomas Bell. There is no additional fee for this choir. They perform at our Living Arts Centre concerts.

#### Your Attendance

In order for the Choir to maintain its high standard of performance, choristers are required to participate in all choir activities.

#### Rehearsal Location

Rehearsals are held September – June at Westminster United Church, 4094 Tomken Road (Rathburn/Tomken, north of Burnhamthorpe, east of Cawthra).

#### Audition Preparation

Our auditions are designed to be a positive, friendly and affirming experience for youth and parents. They are simply intended to be a way for us to discover as much as possible about a young singer's musical potential. Parents may like to assure their child that the process is a happy one!

Please prepare:

1. A song of your own choice (bring sheet music if possible, so that you can be accompanied).
2. O Canada

3. (optional) If you play a musical instrument, you may prepare a piece to play. This gives our Music Director a greater knowledge of your musical background.
4. Please bring a photo of yourself with your name printed on the back

#### To Schedule an Audition

For an audition, call 905-624-9704. Please leave a message and your call will be returned. Alternately visit our website, download an application form and mail it, along with a \$10 audition fee, to the choir or contact us by email.

#### Audition Day

**Location:** Westminster United Church, 4094 Tomken Road.

An audition lasts approximately 10 minutes. You will be asked to sing your songs, perform some simple musical tests and to talk a little about yourself and your singing. Members of the MCC will greet you and answer any questions you might have about the choir. There will be MCC performances for you to listen to, photo albums to browse through, and information about the upcoming season.

#### Results

All children will receive the results of the audition in the mail shortly afterwards.

#### Membership Fees

The Mississauga Children's Choir 2009-2010 fees schedule: Concert Choir \$500; Intermediate Choir \$450; Junior Choir and Training Choir \$400. In addition new choristers submit a one-time refundable deposit for uniforms and choir music. As with all not-for-profit organizations, the MCC relies upon its volunteer support and parental involvement to operate successfully. Parents must assist at 2-3 bingo sessions per year and participate in fundraising activities.