

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, winners of the the Children's Choir category of the 2010 Association of Choral Communities/CBC Choral Competition . Under the leadership of Artistic Director, Thomas Bell, the MCC has developed an international reputation for musical excellence.

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. Your audition will determine which choir is best suited for you to enter.

The Choirs of the MCC

The Training Choir provides a stimulating musical environment for our youngest singers, grades 1-3. Members rehearse on Mondays 4:30-5:30pm under MCC's assistant conductor Margaret Stanfield and participate in concerts throughout the year.

The Junior Choir is for choristers in grades 3-5. This ensemble rehearses on Mondays 5:30 –7:00pm under the leadership of Margaret Stanfield and participates in concerts throughout the year. Training in choral singing continues and a more formal theory program is introduced. Members participate in an afternoon Saturday workshop in September.

The Intermediate Choir provides an excellent music education for more experienced singers, grades 4 and up. Rehearsals are held on Mondays 6:30-8:15pm. Choristers receive instruction on choral / vocal techniques and theory. Many performing and singing opportunities prepare our younger members for entry to the Concert Choir and their musical future. Members participate in a day long choral retreat on Saturday October 1st.

The Concert Choir is our advanced and touring choir of the MCC. Choristers in this ensemble have advanced singing skills. This choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings 6:30 – 8:30pm and each section meets once every three weeks on a Monday 6:30 – 7:30pm. The Concert Choir attends an overnight choral retreat weekend Friday Sept. 23rd evening until noon on Sunday Sept.25th, in order to prepare the season's music and to strengthen musical/social bonds with in the choir.

The Boys Choir is comprised of all the boys enrolled our 4 choirs under the direction of Thomas Bell. They meet on Tuesdays from 5:30 – 6:20 for approximately 6 weeks leading up to our Living Arts Centre concerts. There is no additional fee for this choir.

Your Attendance

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

Rehearsal / Audition Location

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

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 to the choir or contact us by email. There is a \$10 audition fee required when booking.

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 directors a greater knowledge of your musical background.
4. Please bring a photo of yourself with your name printed on the back

Audition Day

Location: Westminster United Church, 4094 Tomken Road.

An audition takes approximately 10 minutes. You will be asked to sing your song, perform some simple musical tests and to talk a little about yourself and your singing. Members of the MCC will greet families 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 2010-2011 fees schedule: Concert Choir \$550; Intermediate Choir \$500; Junior Choir \$450 and Training Choir \$400. In addition new choristers submit a one-time refundable \$100 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. Further details will be available at the audition.