



PIONEER VALLEY
S Y M P H O N Y

C H O R U S

Welcome to the **84th** season of the Pioneer Valley Symphony, and the **60th** season of the PVS Chorus! The PVS website (pvsoc.org) has lots of information about the PVS organization, and the members' section (pvsoc.org/members) has information for musicians in each of the PVS' ensembles. This Chorus member guide is available to view and print at pvsoc.org/members.

POLICIES

The PVS Chorus doesn't have a long list of "rules and regulations" for its members, but we do have a few policies that have been established over time to help us function as an integrated and well-prepared chorus. Here are important ones for you to note.

COVID-19 Safety

- All PVS singers, instrumentalists, guests, and on-site PVS staff must be vaccinated against COVID-19, unless ineligible due to age or medical exemption.
- All PVS members must wear face masks at all times when indoors. Face masks must fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face, secure with ties or ear loops, and include multiple layers of fabric. We strongly recommend using an N95, KF94, or equivalent mask. Singer's masks with a replaceable filter are also a good solution.
- As allowed by weather, we will open windows and doors to increase circulation of outside air into rehearsal spaces.
- Singers and musicians are encouraged to wash their hands regularly, and hand and surface sanitizers will be available.
- If you or anyone in your household has a fever or other potential symptoms of COVID, or tests positive for COVID-19, do not attend rehearsal until you have had a negative COVID test or 2 weeks have gone by with no symptoms. Inform the Chorus Director immediately.

This policy is reviewed monthly, or as needed, by the PVS board of directors. The board needs to hear about your experience so they can make informed decisions. Share your comments and questions at chorus committee meetings, speak with the Chorus Liaison (to be elected in September), or submit an anonymous message at pvsoc.org/members. Updates to the safety policy are posted at pvsoc.org/members and sent by email.

Rehearsals and Attendance

Regular rehearsals are held on Tuesday nights from 7-9 pm at Most Holy Redeemer Church in Hadley. During the week of a given concert we will usually include at least one additional dress rehearsal in the performance venue. When we perform with the PVS orchestra, we usually have at least two rehearsals, usually on Wednesday and/or Friday evenings. Visit pvsoc.org/members for updated rehearsal schedules.

Rehearsals are fun and a time to socialize and get to know our fellow singers, but rehearsals are also critical work times. Attendance of singers at all rehearsals is vitally important, since our conductor needs to monitor the overall sound of voices, assign parts for *divisi* sections, and listen for sections that need additional work. Every singer is important! As a general rule, singers should try to miss no more than one rehearsal in a short concert cycle or three rehearsals in a long cycle. If it's necessary to miss a rehearsal, please contact your Section Leader in advance. If you have unusual circumstances that affect your attendance, you should consult with the conductor.

We pride ourselves on performing a varied and challenging repertoire. To do so well means using our limited rehearsal time efficiently and effectively. We ask our members to commit not only their love of music and their musical skills to singing in the Chorus, but also to practice the music outside of the rehearsal period. Each week, the conductor will provide you with an outline of the work to be covered the next week and include resources to facilitate outside practice. We hope you will take this part of your commitment to the organization seriously so that we can make beautiful music together.

Out of consideration for our fellow chorus members, **please do not wear fragrances** to rehearsals or performances. This includes scented deodorants, perfumes, hairspray or hand cream.

For rehearsal schedules, music notes, practice recordings and other information, please review your weekly emails from chorus leadership.

Cancellations

Cancellations are rare and usually due to significant illness or dangerous weather. Cancellation notices will be sent by email and included in the voicemail message at the PVS office 413.773.3664.

Membership Dues & Fees

Membership dues from chorus members help cover the cost of rehearsal space, accompanist fees, and director's salary. Suggested dues for the 2022-23 season are \$80/semester or \$20 monthly. If this amount is a burden, please pay what they can. If you are able, consider increasing your contribution. Chorus members can also contribute to PVS by volunteering their time or skills to the organization. Contact Casey Gilman in the office for more information casey@pvso.org or 413.773.3664.

To keep costs down, we often borrow music from other organizations. Your music free to borrow. If you'd like to keep your music permanently, there is an additional fee of \$25.

Payment can be made with cash or check at a rehearsal or sent to the PVS office at 239R Main St, Greenfield MA 01301, or by credit card at pvsoc.org/members.

Chorus Structure

In addition to the Chorus Director, the PVS Chorus is managed by a committee of elected members including a Chorus President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer/Librarian, Membership Chair, Stage Manager, a Board Liaison who also sits on the Pioneer Valley Symphony board of directors, and a Social Chair(s) who leads a subcommittee to plan social events and create a feeling of community among chorus members. The chorus also has Section Leaders who monitor attendance, field questions, remind singers about important information and help with musical instruction when appropriate. Singers are encouraged to become a part of the chorus committee (elections will be held in September this year) or the PVS board of directors (elections held annually in August).

PIONEER VALLEY SYMPHONY CHORUS CONCERTS 2022 - 2023

Date			Concert	Venue	Conductor
Saturday	Oct 8th, 2022	7:00 PM	Metamorphoses in Peace	Greenfield HS Auditorium	Tianhui Ng
Saturday	November 5, 2022	4:00 PM	Let Us Cheer the Weary Traveller! A Celebration of Black Classical Composers	Second Congregational Church, Greenfield	Allegra Martin
Saturday	December 17, 2022	4:00 PM	Holiday Pops	Greenfield HS Auditorium	Allegra Martin Tianhui Ng
Saturday	March 4, 2023	4:00 PM	Spring Choral Festival with other regional choirs	TBD (Hampshire County)	Allegra Martin & conductors of participating choirs
Friday	May 12, 2023	7:00 PM	Mozart Mass in C Minor	Greenfield HS Auditorium	Tianhui Ng

Subject to change

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Chorus Director	Dr. Allegra Martin	allegra@pvso.org
Accompanist	Larry Picard	ldpicard@hotmail.com
Chorus Committee	<i>To be elected in September 2022</i>	
Section Leaders	Soprano: Shirley Pelletier	(413) 369-4064 spell938@earthlink.net
	Alto: Kay Holt	(413) 536-1753 kholt13@comcast.net
	Tenor: Henry Gibson	(413) 441-2160 henrygibson@comcast.net
	Bass: Dan Grubbs	(413) 253-3208 danggrubbs@gmail.com
Pioneer Valley Symphony Administration	Board of Directors: Full list at pvsoc.org	(413) 773 3664 board@pvso.org
	Music Director: Tianhui Ng	tian@pvso.org
	Executive Director: Janna Walters-Gidseg	(413) 773 3664 janna@pvso.org
	Administrative Coordinator & Youth Orchestra Manager: Casey Gilman	(413) 773 3664 casey@pvso.org

