



PIONEER VALLEY
S Y M P H O N Y

C H O R U S

Welcome to the **86th** season of the Pioneer Valley Symphony, and the **62th** 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.

COVID-19 Safety

- As of August 2023, we welcome, but do not require, face masks. We reserve the right to change this policy as community viral loads shift.
- It's critical that we continue taking care of each other through precaution and communication. If you or anyone in your household has a fever or other potential symptoms of COVID or flu, or tests positive for COVID, do not attend rehearsal until you have had a negative COVID test or 5 days have gone by with no symptoms. Inform the Chorus Director immediately.
- 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, Henry Gibson (Tenor), or email PVS board president Kara Peterman at president@pvso.org.

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/chorus for the most updated rehearsal schedules.

Attendance of every singer at all rehearsals is vitally important. Your voice matters! As a general rule, singers should miss no more than one rehearsal before the November concert, and no more than three rehearsals per semester. Please contact your Section Leader in advance. If you have unusual circumstances that affect your attendance, consult with the conductor directly.

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 practice the music outside of the weekly rehearsal. The conductor will provide you with practice resources.

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.

Check your email for weekly updates from Allegra and Jae on rehearsals schedule, repertoire, learning resources, and more.

Cancellations

Cancellations are rare and usually due to significant illness or dangerous weather. Cancellation notices will be sent by email.

Membership Dues & Fees

Staff and volunteers fundraise year-round to support the PVS, and many sponsors, donors (some PVS members among them), and funders answer the call. But there is still a big gap. All members of the PVS Orchestra & Chorus pay dues to sustainably defray the cost of their ensemble's rehearsals. Your membership dues help the Chorus pay for our stellar director and accompanist, rehearsal venue, insurance, administrative support, and more. We strive to ensure accessibility of our programs to all members of the community. Dues are now offered on a sliding scale. Please choose the dues rate that is right for you.



\$100 EQUITABLE RATE: Help us keep PVS programs accessible to all.

\$80 SUSTAINABLE RATE: The per-musician cost to sustain orchestra rehearsals.

\$60 ACCESSIBLE RATE: Discounted dues to support access to music for all.

You can pay Dues with your credit card at pvsoc.org/chorus or give a check or cash to the Chorus Committee Treasurer at rehearsal, or mail to 239 Main St Rear, Greenfield MA 01301. *No one is turned away from the Chorus for lack of funds!* To learn about more other options, contact billing@pvso.org or (413) 773-3664.

Music Costs

This fall, we're asking PVSC members to pay \$30 for sheet music in addition to their dues. Having chorus members keep up with their own music will ease the administrative burden on the PVS staff. If this creates a hardship for you, please email chorus@pvso.org to let us know. We'll have a limited amount of sheet music to lend out, but not enough for everyone. **Please plan to pay \$30 via cash or check at the second rehearsal on September 3. You can also pay online with a card if that's easier. Thank you!**

There are three options for paying for your dues and sheet music

- With a debit or credit card on our website
- Give a check or cash to a PVS staff member at the second rehearsal on September 3, or
- Mail a check to the PVS at 239R Main Street, Greenfield MA 01301.

No one is turned away from the Chorus for lack of funds. To learn more about financial aid options, contact us at chorus@pvso.org or (413) 773-3664.

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, 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 (annual elections held in rehearsal) or the PVS board of directors (elections held annually in August).

PIONEER VALLEY SYMPHONY CHORUS CONCERTS 2024 - 2025

Subject to change

Date			Concert	Venue	Conductor
Saturday	November 2, 2024	4:00 PM	Visions of Utopia	Episcopal Church of Saints James and Andrew, Greenfield	Dr. Allegra Martin
Saturday	December 14, 2024	4:00 PM	Holiday Pops	Greenfield HS Auditorium	Dr. Allegra Martin Tianhui Ng
Saturday	February 22, 2025	4:00 PM	Alice Parker Collaborative Concert with other regional choirs	Abbey Chapel at Mount Holyoke College	Dr. Allegra Martin & conductors of participating choirs
Saturday	April 26, 2025	7:00 PM	Season Finale: Carmina Burana	Greenfield HS Auditorium	Tianhui Ng

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Chorus Director	Dr. Allegra Martin	allegra@pvso.org
Production & Personnel Manager	Jae Kawai	chorus@pvso.org
Accompanist	Larry Picard	ldpicard@hotmail.com
Chorus Committee	President: Gretchen Plotkin	gretchenplotkin@yahoo.com
	Secretary: Nancy Slator	nslator@protonmail.com
	Treasurer: Pat Powers	pepowers76@gmail.com
	Librarian: Kirsten Hipsky	khipsky@gmail.com
	Social Chair: Julie Orvis	julie_orvis@yahoo.com
	Board Liaison: Henry Gibson	henrygibson@comcast.net
	At large member: Hetty Startup	hms1815@gmail.com
Section Leaders	Soprano: Nina Korza	(413) 537-9167 ninakorza@gmail.com
	Alto: Kay Holt	(413) 536-1753 kholt13@comcast.net
	Tenor: Lisa Evans	(413) 527-1374 evansquilt@gmail.com
	Bass: Daniel Grubbs	(413) 253-3208 danggrubbs@gmail.com
Pioneer Valley Symphony Administration	Board of Directors: Full list of names at pvsoc.org/team	board@pvso.org
	Music Director: Tianhui Ng	tian@pvso.org
	Executive Director: Joanna Faraby Walker	joanna@pvso.org
	Music Education Director: Julie Carew	julie@pvso.org
	Registrar & Community Engagement Coordinator: Lily Ruderman	lily@pvso.org
	Financial Administrator: Meegan Schreiber	billing@pvso.org
	Production & Personnel Manager, Sponsorship Coordinator, Librarian: Jae Kawai	jae@pvso.org

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