

# Platteville Children's Choirs

## 2011-2012

### Season at a Glance

(More information on all events on pages 4 & 5)

September 12, 2011: Season Begins; Welcome Meeting  
September 19: Live Uniform Exchange in CFA lobby  
October 3: Ice Cream Night after rehearsals  
November 7, Uniform Evaluation night  
November 13: Afternoon Concert with Chorale  
November 28: Nova Singers Ends  
December 6: Choristers Concert at Museum  
December 10: Choristers at UWP Holiday Gala  
December 11: Apprentice Singers and Cantabile at Gala  
December 12: Cantabile Concert at Museum  
December 13: Apprentice Singers Concert at Museum  
Winter Break: December 14 through January 15  
January 16: Rehearsals Resume/Training Choir Begins  
February 13: Invite a friend to rehearsal in all choirs  
March 5: Open Rehearsal; Parents welcome  
March 19: UW Spring Break, No Rehearsals  
April 25: School Tour Day  
April 29: Spring Concert at Platteville High School  
April 30: Vocal hearings for TC, Nova and Choristers  
May 5: New Singer Auditions

# Platteville Children's Choirs

## 2011-2012 Family Guide

*Developing the whole child through the choral music process*

Congratulations and welcome to the Platteville Children's Choir (PCC)! This membership guide provides some basic information for you to peruse before the first rehearsal on September 12th. We will not be holding the traditional administrative meeting on opening night. The information in this guide will be very important to you throughout the entire PCC season. Please read it carefully. We will hold a brief (15 minute) welcome program in the Center for the Arts, UW-Platteville campus at 6:30PM to introduce the staff and all singers. Parents are urged to attend this meeting and stay afterward to ask questions after the choirs disperse to rehearse.

In addition to this guide, PCC will communicate with you regularly through the following three methods:

**WEBSITE:** Our most detailed and up to date communication is available on the Platteville Chorale website, [www.pchorale.org](http://www.pchorale.org). As detailed later in this guide, this will be your source for electronic copies of schedules, handouts, forms, and weather related cancellations.

**EMAIL:** PCC will occasionally send emails from [pccchoir@centurytel.net](mailto:pccchoir@centurytel.net). Please add this and your director's email address to your email address book. These emails are a critical communication link containing important news, updates, volunteer opportunities, and the schedule reminders. It is important that we have your current email address; if your email or other contact information changes during the year, please provide us with updates.

**MUSIC BAG:** Occasionally, non-urgent but important information will be sent home with your child in their music bag. Please check this bag following each week's rehearsal.

Inside Cover.....	Contact Information
Page 1.....	Introduction
Page 2, 3 .....	About PCC
Page 4.....	Rehearsal Times and Locations
Page 5.....	Concert Information
Page 6, 7.....	Fees, Scholarships, Fundraising
Page 8 .....	Auditions, Choir Assignments, Promotions
Page 9 .....	Code of Conduct      NEW!
Page 10, 11.....	Attendance Policy/Absence Notification    NEW!
Page 11 .....	School Participation    NEW!
Page 12 .....	Weather Cancellations & Uniform Information
Page 13.....	Uniform purchase options
Page 14.....	Attendance Planning Worksheet    NEW!
Page 15, 16.....	Your Copy of Agreement      NEW!

## 2011-2012 Platteville Children's Choir Contact Information

### Main Mailing Address:

c/o Dwight Klaassen  
4905 County Road D  
Platteville, WI 53818

### Main Phone Number:

(608) 348-2150

### Main Email Address:

[klaassen@uwplatt.edu](mailto:klaassen@uwplatt.edu)

### Web Site:

<http://www.pchorale.org>

**Staff:** Dwight Klaassen: President and Administrator  
(Contact Information above)

Shelly Black, Administrative Assistant

Email: [pcchoir@centurytel.net](mailto:pcchoir@centurytel.net)

Phone: (608)776-4321

Jill Hasker, Director, Training Choir & Nova Singers

Email: [haskerj@gmail.com](mailto:haskerj@gmail.com)

Phone: (608)348-3128

Luanne Rogers, Director, Apprentice Singers

Email: [ranlurogers@gmail.com](mailto:ranlurogers@gmail.com)

Phone: Home: (608)348-4158, Cell: (608)732-7075

School: (608)342-4040 or (608)342-4050 Ext 2417

Kelly Nash, Assistant Director, Apprentice Singers

Email: [kelly6music@gmail.com](mailto:kelly6music@gmail.com)

Phone: (608)331-8019

Marcy Russell: Director, Choristers

Email: [russell@platteville.k12.wi.us](mailto:russell@platteville.k12.wi.us)

Phone: Home: (608)348-9838, Cell: (608)778-9838

School: (608)342-4010 ext. 2332

Heidi Johnson: Director, Cantabile

Email: [hjej@hotmail.com](mailto:hjej@hotmail.com)

Phone: Home: (608)348-6145 Cell (608)642-3751

Kathy Wagner, Apprentice Singers Accompanist

Bev Mattingly, Choristers Accompanist

Terri Ellis, Cantabile Accompanist

Amanda Parker, Apprentice Singers Intern

Email: [parkerama@uwplatt.edu](mailto:parkerama@uwplatt.edu)

Allison Pohlman, Choristers Intern

Email: [pohlmana@uwplatt.edu](mailto:pohlmana@uwplatt.edu)

Emily Hackl, Cantabile Intern

Email: [hackle@uwplatt.edu](mailto:hackle@uwplatt.edu)

Elizabeth Whitford, Training Choir/Nova Intern

Email: [whitorde@uwplatt.edu](mailto:whitorde@uwplatt.edu)

Rob Hasker, Website Manager

Email: [hasker@uwplatt.edu](mailto:hasker@uwplatt.edu)



**JILL HASKER, Director of Training Choir since 2007 and of Nova Singers since 2009**, earned her Bachelor of Music Education degree from Wheaton College and a Master of Science in Secondary Education from Indiana University (IPFW) and later completed Orff level training at Memphis State University. In the past, Jill has taught K-12 students in various public and private schools in Illinois and in Wisconsin and also taught piano students for several years. Currently, she is the piano accompanist for two University of Wisconsin Choirs (Singing Pioneers and Coro D'Angeli) and an accompanist for UWP voice majors for lessons, performances and recitals. In addition, Jill is the choir director at Platteville United Methodist church, is a frequent accompanist for the Platteville public schools, and is a member of several quilting groups. She and her husband, Rob, have two children and have lived in Platteville since 1996. Jill has been the director of PCC's youngest choirs since their development.

**LUANNE ROGERS, Director of Apprentice Singers** since 1998, received her Bachelor of Music Education degree from Valparaiso University and her Master of Arts in Education degree from Viterbo University. She taught vocal/general music in Warren, Illinois for two years before beginning her twenty seven year career with the Platteville School District. Luanne taught vocal/general music at the Platteville Middle School for twenty years and currently teaches K-3 general music at Neal Wilkins and Westview Elementary Schools. She and her husband Randy have three children, Laura (Paul), Katie (Noah), and Matt and have two granddaughters, Claire and Ellie. Luanne has been the director of the Apprentice Singers since the expansion to multiple choirs in 1998.

**MARCIA RUSSELL, Director of Choristers since 1998**, has taught choral music in the Platteville School District since 1997, teaching seven years at Platteville High School before making the move to Platteville Middle School in 2004. She received her Bachelor of Music Degree in Voice Performance and General/Choral Music Education from Lawrence University. Ms. Russell also conducts one of the nine choirs in the Madison Youth Choirs and is an active member of ACDA and MENC. She has held many leadership roles as committee member, chairman, and coordinator for groups in the Wisconsin School Music Association and the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association. In February of 2012, she will chair the Middle Level Boys Honor Choir for the North Central region of the American Choral Director's Association biennial convention. In addition to being an active clinician and Master Adjudicator for district, regional and state Vocal competitions, Ms. Russell performs with the Heartland Singers, and has recently completed her 8<sup>th</sup> season with the UW Platteville Heartland Festival. Marcia has been a director with the PCC since the expansion to multiple choirs in 1998.

**HEIDI JOHNSON, Director of Cantabile since 2003**, received her Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Northwestern College in Roseville, MN. For two years upon graduation, Heidi maintained a vocal/piano studio and taught elementary music in the Twin Cities. Upon moving to Platteville in 2001, she began accompanying for various choirs and teaching voice and piano at the Northeast Iowa School of Music. Heidi also served as adjunct faculty in the Music Ministry department at Emmaus Bible College teaching voice, class voice and music history. Besides directing Cantabile, Heidi currently maintains a vocal and piano studio and is an active church musician. Heidi and her husband Ethan spend the majority of their time with their three children, Amelie, Isaiah, and Alaina.

## **WHAT IS PCC?**

### **HISTORY**

The Platteville Children's Choir (PCC) was established in 1989 by the Platteville Chorale and is governed by the bylaws of that organization. The Platteville Chorale is a community chorus initiated in 1975 by Dr. Gerald Darrow, the Director of Choral Activities in the Music Department at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville at that time. He, together with his wife Sarah and the officers of the Chorale, envisioned the need and the opportunity to begin something important for the Platteville community as well as all of southwestern Wisconsin. The initial choir was composed of about sixty 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> students from the general area. The Choir was expanded in the fall of 1998 with the guidance of Dr. Christina Shields to three choirs: the Training Choir, the Treble Choir and the Youth Ensemble. Currently these three auditioned choirs are called the Apprentice Singers (primarily 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade children), Choristers (primarily for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade singers) and Cantabile (primarily for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade singers.) With the expansion came the motto "Developing the whole child through the choral music process".

For a number of years the annual calendar has included: auditions in May or August, a concert in late November together with the Chorale, singing at the University's Holiday Gala in early December, informal holiday concerts at the Rollo Jamison Museum in mid December, an informal performance with family potluck in early March, a whole-day tour of area schools with one-half hour concerts in late April, and a final spring concert in late April. Every other year, Cantabile makes a weekend tour. In 2005, 2007, and 2011 the tour was to the Twin Cities area in Minnesota, singing with the Northfield Youth Choir. In 2009, Cantabile traveled to Milwaukee, giving a concert together with the Milwaukee Children's Choir.

In January of 2007, a new Training Choir was initiated. It is designed to give children a foundation for choral music with an emphasis on the development of musical skills using the Orff Approach. This choir is open to all first and second graders without audition and we currently offer a similar Nova Singers program to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the fall.

Through the years, the organization has continued to grow. It has been blessed with excellent leaders who are both outstanding musicians and persons. In 2009, the Platteville children's Choir celebrated 25 years with a reunion program which included many "alumni" of the program.

Dwight Klaassen, president of the Chorale since 1994, has led the Children's Choir program since then and has faithfully volunteered his administrative and visionary guidance as well as visiting all of the choirs on a weekly basis throughout the season. Hundreds of young singers throughout southwestern Wisconsin have been impacted by his dedication to excellence.

## CURRENT ACTIVITIES

PCC has 5 choirs which rehearse approximately 27 Mondays during the season.

Training Choir: Spring semester, 20 non-auditioned, non performing first and second graders

Nova Singers: Fall Semester, 14 non-auditioned, non performing third and fourth graders

Apprentice Singers: Both Semesters, approximately 40 auditioned and performing, primarily second, third and fourth graders

Choristers: Both Semesters, approximately 50 auditioned and performing, primarily fourth, fifth and sixth graders

Cantabile: Both Semesters, approximately 30 auditioned and performing, primarily sixth, seventh and eighth graders

PCC normally presents four major concerts during the season.

Fall Concert with Platteville Chorale

University Holiday Gala Concerts

Museum Holiday Concert and Sing-along

Southwest Wisconsin School Tour Concerts

Spring Concert

Cantabile Weekend Tour Concerts, every other year

→ Additional optional concerts may be scheduled from year to year.

→ Participation in all rehearsals and concerts and tours is expected.



## **REGULAR REHEARSAL TIMES AND LOCATIONS**

**Apprentice Singers, Choristers, Cantabile Rehearsals are Mondays, 6:30 PM to 7:40 PM**

**→ Participation in all rehearsals and concerts and tours is required.**

Training Choir and Nova Singers: (6:30 PM to 7:30 PM)

Music Room/United Methodist Church, 1065 Lancaster Street, Platteville

Apprentice Singers: (For parking lot safety, drop and pickup singers in main UWP commuter lot) Room 174 Doudna Hall, UW Platteville Campus

Choristers: (For parking lot safety, drop and pickup singers in CFA circle drive.) Room 108/Choral Rehearsal Room, Center For the Arts (CFA), UW Platteville Campus

Cantabile: (Parking available in front, back or across the street from FELC) Sanctuary of First English Lutheran Church (FELC), 215 West Pine Street, Platteville

## **SCHEDULE FOR THE 2011-2012 SEASON**

**REHEARSAL DATES: required (see policy on page 10)**

September 12, 19, 26

January 16, 23, 30

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

February 6, 13, 20, 27

November 7, 14, 21, 28

March 5, 12, 26

December 5

April 2, 9, 16, 23

### **NO REHEARSAL DATES:**

PCC does not have rehearsal on the following Mondays:

Winter Break Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan 2, & 9.

and UW Spring Break: Mar 19.

### **SPECIAL REHEARSALS Information**

September 12, 2011:

Opening welcome meeting in Center for the Arts Hall: 6:30 PM to 6:45 PM followed by rehearsal in regular locations (Cantabile will remain in CFA Hall.) Nova Singers will meet in regular location entire time.

September 19: Live Uniform Exchange in CFA lobby for interested parents only

October 3: Ice Cream Night @ 7:30pm in all choirs

November 7, Uniform Evaluation night, Come in complete uniform including socks, belts, tights, shoes, etc. See page 12.

February 13: Invite a friend to rehearsal in all choirs

March 5: Open Rehearsal, Informal Performance, Parents Welcome. Watch for location change.

April 30: Vocal hearings for Training Choir, Nova Singers, and interested Choristers

**Attendance at all concerts and tours is required. See policy on Pg. 10**

**Fall Concert Information**

Sunday, November 13, 2011,  
Center for the Arts Hall, Advance Ticketing  
1:30 PM All singers report in uniforms  
3:00 PM Concert with Platteville Chorale

**University Holiday Gala Concert Information**

Saturday, December 10, 2011,  
Center for the Arts Hall, Advance Ticketing  
4:30 PM All Choristers report in uniforms  
5:00 PM Choristers Concert  
Sunday, December 11, 2011,  
Center for the Arts Hall, Advance Ticketing  
1:30 PM All Apprentice Singers & Cantabile  
report in uniforms  
2:00 PM Apprentice Singers & Cantabile Concert

**Rollo Jamison Museum Concert: No Admission Fee**

Tuesday, December 6, 2011, 7:30 PM Choristers only  
All Choristers report in uniforms @ 7:00pm  
Monday, December 12, 2011, 7:30 PM Cantabile only  
All Cantabile report in uniforms @ 7:00pm  
Tuesday, December 13, 2011, 7:30 PM Apprentice Singers only  
All Apprentice Singers report in uniforms @ 7:00pm

**Spring School Tour Information**

Wednesday, April 25, 2012  
Arrival Location to be Determined  
8:00 AM All singers report in T-shirts and jean shorts or pants  
3:30 PM Return to CFA parking lot

**Spring Concert Information**

Sunday, April 29, 2012  
Platteville High School, General Ticketing  
2:00 PM All singers report in uniforms  
3:00 PM Concert and Closing Ceremony



## **FEES, PAYMENT DATES AND REFUND POLICIES**

### **TUITION FEES FOR THE 2011-2012 SEASON**

\$110 Apprentice Singers, Choristers, Cantabile; with multi family member discount of \$10 per additional members. Oldest singer pays full fee.

\$75 Training Choir (Spring only) or \$75 Nova Singers (Fall only)

### **PAYMENT DUE DATE**

Full payment and Letter of Agreement must be postmarked by Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Mail to 4905 County Road D, Platteville, WI 53818, or use stamped envelope provided.

### **PAYMENT POLICY**

- PCC accepts personal & cashier checks, money orders, or cash for tuition payment. No Credit Card payments.
- Payment arrangements different from the above plan must be confirmed with PCC.
- If no payment or payment arrangements have been made by August 20th, the PCC member will be removed from the roster and their position assigned to another singer.

### **REFUND POLICY**

- Drop on or before Friday, September 9, 2011: Refund of total tuition paid minus a \$20 fee.
- Drop on Saturday, September 10, 2011 through Saturday, November 12, 2011: Half tuition refunded.
- Drop after Saturday, November 12, 2011: No tuition refund.
- At any time, if singer is dropped from program due to attendance or conduct policy violation, no refunds will be given.

### **OTHER FEES AND EXPENSES**

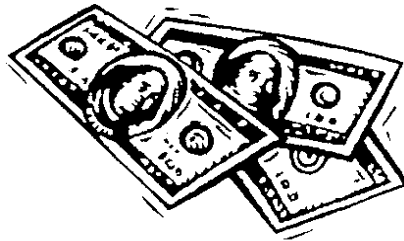
- Concert Tickets: \$6 Adult, \$3 Students
- Cantabile Tour (Biennial: 2013): Approx \$125/singer with fundraising options available
- Apprentice Singers Uniform: Approximately \$40 new, \$15 used on Uniform exchange website
- Choristers Uniform: Approximately \$60 new, \$20 used on Uniform exchange website
- Cantabile Uniform: Approximately \$60 new, \$20 used on Uniform exchange website; vest for Cantabile provided by PCC)
- (Black shoes, black belt, black socks, white tights, natural color hose additional)

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Platteville Chorale Board of Directors is dedicated to ensuring that PCC is affordable for every member. PCC encourages members with financial need to request a scholarship. Full and partial scholarships are awarded and amounts awarded are based on need, available funds, and the number of requests. Scholarships are not based on musical merit. Submit your request verbally or in writing to Dwight Klaassen. Requests are kept confidential.

## **FUNDRAISING**

There are no fundraising activities required or requested from singers in the program. Each year, tuition covers less than 60% of the cost of PCC programs. Concert ticket sales, donations, and community grants and support funds from the Platteville Chorale, Inc. make up the balance of the program costs. Since Platteville Children's Choir is an operation of the Platteville Chorale, Inc., you will be offered an opportunity to make a tax deductible donation to the Chorale in the fall. When additional semiannual tour costs are required for Cantabile, an opportunity is offered to its members to sell community restaurant cards which directly offset their tour fees.



## **AUDITIONS, CHOIR ASSIGNMENTS, AND PROMOTIONS**

### **TRAINING CHOIR and NOVA SINGERS**

Children do not need to audition to participate in the Training Choir or the Nova Singers. These choirs help children develop basic musical skills through the Orff approach of singing, dancing, playing instruments, and improvising music. They are filled on a pre-paid basis. Currently, the first twenty Training Choir members to submit payment and the first ten Nova Singers to submit payment are automatically enrolled. At the end of the programs students will be prepared, if they choose, to audition for entry into the Apprentice Singers or Choristers depending on vocal and maturity levels.

### **AUDITIONS**

All singers in the Platteville Children's Choir, except the Training Choir, are admitted by audition. Singers in grades 1 through 7 may audition. Those who are members of the choir may remain in the program until they complete grade 8 without re-auditioning. Auditions are held in the beginning of May each year. Those accepted into the Choir must sign a contract with the choir stating their understanding and agreement with the expectations of the choir. We are a choral music education organization and we teach children how to sing chorally, not soloistically. Potential singers are often nominated by their school music teacher.

The directors who do the auditions are teachers, know and love children, are kind and gentle, and will be very supportive. A parent or guardian may accompany the singer for the audition at the discretion of the singer, but siblings and friends are not allowed in the room. At the audition, the directors will have the child sing some familiar songs with and without piano accompaniment and will check the singer's voice range. The total audition is about 10 minutes long. No preparation for the audition is required. However, it is useful for the singer to practice singing with someone, become comfortable singing by themselves, and practice singing their own part in a round like "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." The directors will rate the singer's ability to match pitch, remember rhythms, read words, follow instructions and read music. They will also observe the singer's breath support, posture, vocal technique, and tonal memory. This does not mean the singer must be greatly advanced in any of these areas, but it does help the teacher know in which areas learning is required and helps with the proper choir placement.

The most important qualities children need are a clear and pleasant singing voice, a love to sing and an ability to match pitch. Everyone who auditions will receive a written notice giving the audition results and possible choir placement for your child within two to three weeks of the audition.

## **PROMOTIONS**

The Platteville Children's Choir program consists of over 150 children in five groups. They differ in the singer's ability and experience, generally based on age and grade level. Progression from choir to choir is based mainly on vocal and skill level. Commitment, behavior and musical knowledge are also considered, though as secondary factors. The Apprentice Singers' Director will make promotion decisions based upon observation of the singers within the choir season. The Training Choir/Nova Director will schedule group vocal hearings for all singers at the conclusion of the season. Advancement to the performing choirs will be determined based upon this hearing and observations throughout the season. The Chorister Director will schedule individual vocal hearings for interested singers at the conclusion of the season. Advancement to Cantabile will be determined based upon this hearing and observations throughout the season.

## **PCC CODE OF CONDUCT**

As a member of the Platteville Children's Choir, members are "ambassadors" for the entire organization and behavior reflects upon the entire group. Members are expected to use good manners, display common courtesy, show consideration for others, and respect the staff and facilities. Members understand that a successful PCC experience requires a cohesive group wherein each individual accepts and follows the same standards of behavior. PCC is dedicated to educating a diverse student body. PCC affirms its commitment to a community in which all students and staff are accepted as individuals.

1. Members will respect the guidance and authority of the PCC staff at all times
2. It is a privilege for PCC to use the facilities of the University of Wisconsin – Platteville, the First English Lutheran Church, and the United Methodist Church. Members will respect them as guests.
3. Members will be required to act appropriately during rehearsals. Although the directors acknowledge the appropriate energy and enthusiasm children are known for, if a member disrupts the musical process with inappropriate behavior, the directors will act to modify that behavior with verbal warnings, time away from the ensemble and/or removal for the rehearsal followed by parent conference prior to readmission to rehearsal. Two such instances may result in permanent dismissal from the choir.
4. Members are expected to arrive at choir events on time, having used the restroom just prior to rehearsal. Members may bring a water bottle and a pencil to rehearsal.
5. Cell phones and other electronic equipment must be turned off during rehearsals; consequently, no texting is allowed.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY – NEW!**

PCC singers are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances and tours scheduled for their choir. Each singer holds a valuable place in the choir. Absences affect not only the individual singer's progress, but also that of the entire ensemble. PCC's attendance policy exists to ensure a safe and positive experience for all members. It is expected that all dates for rehearsals, performances and tours will be placed on your yearly calendar as a priority commitment.

### Why is attendance important?

In order to maintain standards of musical excellence, PCC requires a commitment to consistent and punctual attendance of rehearsals, performances and special events by all of its members. Since the choir is a team with equal, balanced sections, absences and tardiness disrupt the progress and quality of rehearsal and performances.

### How are absences handled?

Absences exceeding two (2) rehearsals per semester will be probable cause for dismissing the member from singing in that concert. The member will still be expected to attend all remaining rehearsals. Failure to do so will be probable cause for dismissal from PCC. Tardiness or leaving early will be noted, with every three (3) occurrences counted as a single absence.

### How should I report an absence?

- All planned absences must be reported to the Administrative Assistant, [pcchoir@centurytel.net](mailto:pcchoir@centurytel.net), at least one week in advance of an absence. Directors appreciate being notified as well.
- Last minute absences due to illness or emergency should be emailed to the Administrative Assistant, [pcchoir@centurytel.net](mailto:pcchoir@centurytel.net), or by phone at (608) 776-4321. Directors should also be directly contacted concerning last minute absences. (See inside front cover for contact information.)
- When reporting any absence by email or phone, the following information must be included: 1) Singer's Name, 2) Choir, 3) Date of absence, 4) Reason for absence.
- A formatted absence form can be found on the [pchorale.org](http://pchorale.org) website by following the "Report an absence" link. Copy and paste to your email with Subject: PCC ABSENCE.
- Expect a phone call from the choir intern or Administrative Assistant if you do not follow the above procedure.

What about Concert and Tour attendance?

Attendance is required at all PCC concerts and tours in which your choir is performing. A reason for absence from a concert must be given to the Administrative Assistant and your director as far in advance as possible. Following that notification, issues related to absences and participation determinations will be handled by the Platteville Children's Choir Administrative Committee composed of Directors and Administrative personnel. Sports practices and games are not considered reasonable excuses to miss a concert.

Planning for the year

A worksheet on page 14 of the Family Guide can assist you in planning your attendance. Keep in mind that planned absences should be kept to a minimum to allow for unexpected conflicts. Please work as a family at the beginning of the year to set priorities regarding your extracurricular activities, family events, and school music activities. This is possible with some effort and advance planning. If you have a conflict, directors request you attend any part of the rehearsal you are able.

Who keeps track of absences?

The PCC staff carefully tracks absences, tardiness and early departures from rehearsals to ensure everyone's safety and to ensure that PCC's absence policies are consistently and fairly enforced. It is the member's responsibility to check in with the attendance taker at the beginning of EVERY rehearsal. If the member must leave early or arrive late, it is his or her responsibility to let the director know in advance.

### **SCHOOL MUSIC PARTICIPATION POLICY**

As a PCC member, you are strongly encouraged to participate in your school choir/music program. School music programs provide regular singing technique/musicianship building, experience singing additional literature, the chance to learn from different music directors, additional singing opportunities (all-state groups, solo/ensemble festivals, tours, competitions, musicals, community events), opportunities for leadership, and the opportunity to serve as role models. Involvement in your school choir and the training and experience you gain there, along with the support you receive from your music director will make you a stronger member of PCC. In turn, your school music program will benefit from the technical, musical and leadership skills you develop as a PCC member. Our area music educators are an important part of the support network for PCC.

## **WEATHER CANCELLATIONS:**

### **(Check [www.pchorale.org](http://www.pchorale.org) after 4pm on Mondays)**

Since many members of our choirs travel some distance to participate, PCC is sensitive to weather related travel safety and we usually cancel rehearsals/concerts if travel is questionable. Generally, if public school in Platteville has been cancelled or released early due to weather issues, PCC will also be cancelled. You should ALWAYS check the PCC website after 4:00pm to verify that rehearsal has been cancelled before travelling. These cancellations will not count toward your absence quota. If you should decide that travel is not acceptable for you but the PCC event is being held, this will count toward your semester absence quota.

## **WHAT YOU NEED FOR PCC:**

**Note that complete uniforms are needed by the November 7<sup>th</sup> regular rehearsal.**

Provided:

- T-Shirt (worn at all rehearsals and required on School Tour in April)
- Black PCC Music Bag and All Music: \$15 fee for loss or damage
- Cantabile only: Vests provided at concert or on weekend tour

You will need to provide:

(see more detailed information on website. LE is "Lands End")

- **All Choirs:** Nice-looking Jean shorts or pants for School Tour in April
- **Apprentice Singers:**  
Girls – chambray blue LE polo dress w/Logo, black low heeled, closed toe shoes, opaque white tights  
Boys - navy pants and light blue LE polo shirt, black shoes, black socks, black belt
- **Choristers:**  
Girls - blue plaid A-line skirt and  $\frac{3}{4}$  sleeve oxford blue LE shirt, black low heeled, closed toe shoes, opaque white tights  
Boys - navy pants and chambray blue LE mesh Polo shirt, black shoes, black socks, black belt
- **Cantabile:** (vests provided)  
Girls - navy pleated LE skirt and chambray blue LE shirt, black low heeled, closed toe shoes, flesh colored tights  
Boys - navy pants and long sleeve oxford blue LE Polo shirt, black shoes, black socks, black belt

Purchasing a new Land's End uniform: You may order by mail, phone or online:

Online Ordering is available through [www.landsend.com](http://www.landsend.com). Our School uniform code is 900129560. This number allows us to get a small rebate on all items ordered which is returned to the PCC program. When ordering by phone or mail or online, use item descriptions as above. Item numbers change from time to time however the descriptions remain constant. Note that our color is "chambray blue" for shirts and dresses. Costs are approximately: Apprentice Singers - \$40, Choristers - \$60, Cantabile - \$60.

Purchasing a used uniform through the online PCC exchange

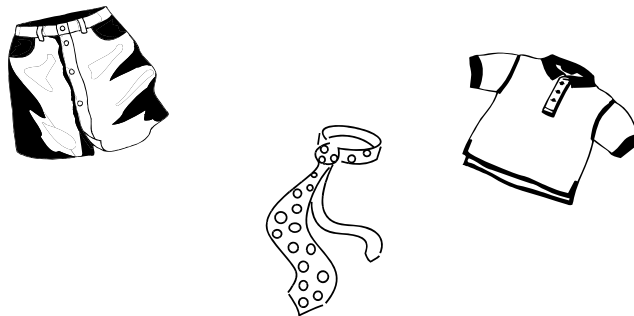
Platteville Chorale has set up a website to facilitate reselling uniforms to other parents. This site provides a way to list any children's choir clothes you might have for sale and to search the available items for clothes you might need. You will then contact the parent directly to make the actual sale. The sale itself does not go through the website.

To use the service, please visit the website, [www.pchorale.org](http://www.pchorale.org) and click on "Uniform exchange" in the menu. It's just below the "Concert dress" link. You will then log in using the email address through which you have listed as your primary email. Leave the password field blank at first use.

You can contact the Web Manager or the Administrative Assistant with questions or problems. See contact page for email addresses. Note: After you have sold an item, please list it as such, so other parents don't contact you about it.

Purchasing a used Land's End uniform through the Live Exchange

During the second rehearsal of the season a live exchange will be facilitated in the lobby of the Center for the Arts. To sell an item, bring it at 6:30pm and return at 7:30 to receive payment or retrieve unsold item. Labels for size and payment information will be provided. To purchase an item, come shortly after 6:30pm and check for availability of the item you need. Online Uniform Exchange and ordering assistance will also be provided at this event.



**WORKSHEET to help in planning your attendance:**

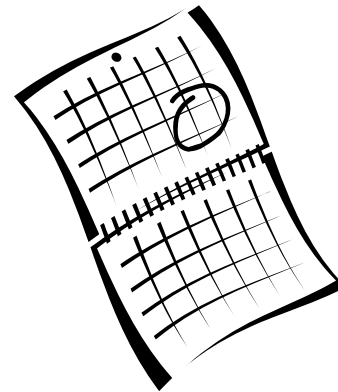
Remember that absences exceeding two (2) rehearsals per semester will be probable cause for dismissing the member from singing in that concert. See full policy on page 10 of this guide. Attendance is required at all PCC concerts and tours in which your choir is performing. An absence from a concert without reasonable excuse is probable cause for dismissal from the PCC program. All absence issues and participation determinations will be handled by the Platteville Children's Choir Administrative Committee composed of Directors and Administrative personnel.

**SEMESTER I**

- September 12 \_\_\_\_\_
- September 19 \_\_\_\_\_
- September 26 \_\_\_\_\_
- October 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- October 10 \_\_\_\_\_
- October 17 \_\_\_\_\_
- October 24 \_\_\_\_\_
- October 31 \_\_\_\_\_
- November 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- November 13 \_\_\_\_\_ FALL CONCERT
- November 14 \_\_\_\_\_
- November 21 \_\_\_\_\_
- November 28 \_\_\_\_\_
- December 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- December 6, 12, or 13 \_\_\_\_\_ MUSEUM CONCERT
- December 10 or 11 \_\_\_\_\_ GALA CONCERT

**SEMESTER II**

- January 16 \_\_\_\_\_
- January 23 \_\_\_\_\_
- January 30 \_\_\_\_\_
- February 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- February 13 \_\_\_\_\_
- February 20 \_\_\_\_\_
- February 27 \_\_\_\_\_
- March 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- March 12 \_\_\_\_\_
- March 26 \_\_\_\_\_
- April 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- April 9 \_\_\_\_\_
- April 16 \_\_\_\_\_
- April 23 \_\_\_\_\_
- April 25 \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL TOUR w/CONCERTS
- April 29 \_\_\_\_\_ SPRING CONCERT



# LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN Platteville Children's Choir and 2011-2012 MEMBER

## Attendance Policy (See full policy on page 10 of Family Guide)

*I understand that PCC singers are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances and tours scheduled for their choir. I have placed all dates for rehearsals, performances and tours on my yearly calendar as a priority commitment. Absences exceeding two (2) rehearsals per semester will be probable cause for my dismissal from singing in that concert. I will still be expected to attend all remaining rehearsals. Failure to do so will be probable cause for dismissal from PCC. Tardiness or leaving early will be noted, with every three (3) occurrences counted as a single absence. MY attendance is required at all PCC concerts and tours in which my choir is performing. A reason for absence from a concert must be given to the Administrative Assistant and my director as far in advance as possible. Following that notification, issues related to absences and participation determinations will be handled by the Platteville Children's Choir Administrative Committee composed of Directors and Administrative personnel. It is my responsibility to check in with the attendance taker at the beginning of EVERY rehearsal. If I must leave early or arrive late, it is my responsibility to let my director know in advance.*

## School Participation (See full policy on page 11 of Family Guide)

*I understand that as a PCC member, I am strongly encouraged to participate in my school choir/music program. Involvement in my school choir and the training and experience I gain there, along with the support I receive from my music director will make me a stronger member of PCC. In turn, my school music program will benefit from the technical, musical and leadership skills I develop as a PCC member. Our area music educators are an important part of the support network for PCC.*

## Code of Conduct (See full policy on page 9 of Family Guide)

*I understand that as a member of the Platteville Children's Choir my behavior reflects upon the entire group. I am expected to use good manners, display common courtesy, show consideration for others, respecting the staff and facilities.*

## Publicity

*I understand that PCC may use my name and/or photos in print or on its website and also may authorize others to do so for purposes of communication or publicity. If I choose NOT to release my name and likeness for these purposes, I will send a written statement under separate cover indicating my wishes by September 12, 2011.*

## Music/Uniforms

*I understand that I am responsible for the music I am given. An undamaged bag and undamaged copies must be returned at the time the Director calls for them or I am responsible for a \$15 fine. I understand I should arrive at concerts in approved concert dress. (Singers without concert dress will not sing at that event.)*

## Consent

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Member Name), have read the Platteville Children's Choir Family Guide and the statements in this agreement and agree to accept each policy as a condition of my membership in the Platteville Children's Choir program. I understand that if I fail to meet any of the above policies, I may be dismissed from the program.

Participating Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_