

Gettysburg CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Brent C. Talbot, *Artistic Director*
Matt Carlson, *Interim Artistic Director*
Jamie Bowman, *Manager & Accompanist*

2019-2020 PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK

Proud member of



PO Box 4178, Gettysburg, PA 17325

visit our website at www.gettysburgcc.org
like us on Facebook at Gettysburg Children's Choir
email us at info@gettysburgcc.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Gettysburg Children's Choir & Chamber Chorale is to provide a choral program of the highest quality to accomplish the following artistic and education goals:

- To achieve a level of artistic excellence necessary to perform challenging repertoire in a variety of settings;
- To ensure that all choir members gain knowledge of music reading, concepts and terminology and understand healthy vocal technique;
- To provide access to the choir for children from all cultural and economic backgrounds;
- To serve as a model for diverse and quality choral literature and vocal training in the field of children's choral music.

MEMBERSHIP

Congratulations on your membership in the Gettysburg Children's Choir & Chamber Chorale. The choirs are open to students in grades three through twelve who are able to match pitch. Our program is an independent, non-profit organization, and is not affiliated with any other organization, church, or school system. If you have friends or family members of this age who like to sing, please invite them to our concerts and to audition with us in January 2020.

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances and to learn music through regular practice outside of rehearsals. An annual participation fee of \$150 is due at the beginning of the year. The annual tuition covers: concert vests and music bags, all music and practice tracks, and instruction by professionally trained music educators and guest musicians. Please bring payment to our first rehearsal or mail to *Gettysburg Children's Choir, PO Box 4178, Gettysburg, PA 17325*. If this fee is a financial concern for you or your family, please speak to the artistic director or president about scholarship opportunities.

MUSIC

Choir members will have some printed music provided by our organization. Most of this music will be housed at Gettysburg College. Students will be provided with black three-ring binders and receive a portfolio bag at no additional cost for transporting and storing their music. Students are expected to come to every rehearsal with their music portfolio bag and a pencil.

UNIFORMS

The choir members wear uniform polo shirts. Please provide size information. A cost of \$15 for the polo shirt is paid in October. Uniform vests and bowties are provided as part of formal concert attire. Families provide white shirts, black dress pants, black dress shoes, and black dress socks.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

The choir will grow with the help of parent volunteers. Being involved with the choir will give you a chance to share in your child's musical experience. Several opportunities are available throughout the year. Please feel free to ask the Artistic Director and President how you may assist.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Members of the Gettysburg Children's Choir and the Chamber Chorale are expected to be at all rehearsals and performances. Review the calendar of rehearsals and performances to discover any scheduling conflicts early in the season. If more than two absences occur the singer may be asked not to perform in the concert. Please notify us in writing by e-mail at least 2 weeks in advance if a conflict prohibits attendance at a rehearsal or performance. Parents are expected to contact Mr. Carlson if a choir member becomes ill and cannot attend a rehearsal or performance. This can be done by emailing mcarlson@bermudian.org. Absences not related to school activities or family emergencies or illness will be considered unexcused and will be considered as a reason for your dismissal from the choir.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Performances are held annually in December and in the spring, with additional dates as scheduled. Performances are held at the Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary Chapel and other regional locations. State, regional, and national honor choir opportunities are available by invitation from the Director.

Sunday, Nov. 17	4:00PM	Gettysburg Children's Choir Fall Concert (Choir & Chorale)
Sunday, Dec. 15	7:00 PM	<i>Music, Gettysburg!</i> Concert; Lutheran Seminary Chapel (Choir)
March 4-7		ACDA Eastern Division Conference in Rochester, NY (Honor Choir Singers)
Friday, April 3	7:30 PM	Young People's Chorus Joint Concert (Choir & Chorale)
Saturday, May 2	7:00 PM	<i>Music, Gettysburg!</i> Concert (Choir & Chorale)
Monday, May 4	6:30 PM	SpiriTrust Lutheran Home Concert (Choir & Chorale)

Rehearsals are Monday evenings from 5:30 – 7:00 PM for the Children's Choir and 7:10-8:00 PM for the Chamber Chorale. Chorale will rehearse from 7:15-8:45 in the spring semester with Dr. Talbot. We meet in Room 214 in Schmucker Hall on the Gettysburg College campus during the months of August through May. Please arrive early to rehearsal so we may begin promptly at 5:30 or 7:10. **In case of poor weather conditions and school closings, a post on our Facebook page and an email will be sent to the membership by 3PM on the day of rehearsal if rehearsal is cancelled. Please drop off your children on the 2nd floor. For safety reasons we DO NOT want them to wander around the building or meet you outside.**

- No rehearsals October 14, November 18, December 16-January 13, February 17, March 9