

Spring 2026



Thank you for your interest in Women's Voices Chorus. We hope you will decide to audition. Read on for information about some of our policies and expectations. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our Artistic Director, Laura Sam, or any chorus.

Who we are: Women's Voices Chorus is the Triangle's only community-based classical chorus for sopranos and altos. We sing classical sacred and secular music, folk song settings, spirituals, and a little bit of jazz. Much of our repertoire is by female composers. We generally have about 65 to 70 singers. We welcome women of all ages—high school through retirement.

Here's why we love to sing: By delving into historic repertoire, we revive and relive our choral history. Learning new works stretches us musically and revives us mentally and spiritually. We work hard and laugh a lot at our rehearsals, forging a close-knit community where each member cares for her fellow singers. We strive for the highest levels of musical excellence and revel in the chance to create something beautiful as part of a greater whole.

Music Styles: Women's Voices Chorus sings many styles and genres of music with our primary focus on formal, contemporary choral repertoire. We seek singers who can match pitch accurately and sing complex rhythms, while also singing with rounded, resonant vowels and clear, precise consonants. Together we strive for a unified, resonant tone which calls for singers to actively listen, adjusting their individual voices to achieve balance and blend within the ensemble. We strive to communicate the meanings of the texts of our pieces with attention to diction, articulation, dynamics, and phrasing.

Schedule: We rehearse on Monday evenings 7:30-9:30 pm at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Chapel Hill, hold a one-day retreat each semester, and give concerts in January and April or May in Durham and Chapel Hill. For Spring, rehearsals begin on **Monday, February 2**, the retreat will be on **Saturday, April 11**, and the concert is scheduled for **Saturday, May 2**.

Attendance: Regular attendance is vital to the health of any chorus. Members who miss a technical rehearsal or miss more than four rehearsals during the winter semester or three rehearsals during the spring semester may not be allowed to sing in the concert. Details about retreat and zoom attendance are in our handbook.

Dues & Music: Dues are \$90 for singers who join the chorus for spring semester plus a suggested donation of \$12 for a concert scarf. However, no one should feel the need to leave or hesitate to join the chorus for financial reasons. When paying online, an option is available to pay what you can, no questions asked. As always, you can also contact the Treasurer about scholarship help or to set up an alternate payment schedule or amount. All financial arrangements are confidential. You will not need to purchase music; it is provided to you on loan from WVC.

Practice: Most chorus members find it essential to practice their music between Monday sessions. Even the best sight-readers can benefit from some review at home. Practice files are available online for members.

Concerts: Concert dress is all black, from neck to toe, including pants or floor-length dress or skirt, top, shoes, and black, opaque stockings/tights/socks. We also wear solid-colored scarves that will be provided by WVC. A few weeks before the concert, each chorus member receives five tickets to sell.

Get Involved! Women's Voices is a member-run organization. Every member is encouraged to do some volunteer work. Announcements will be made at rehearsals and via e-mail when volunteers are needed. Please consider ways you may be able to help.

For more information about the chorus, email us at contact@womensvoiceschorus.org or visit our website at www.womensvoiceschorus.org

Audition Information

We look forward to hearing you sing. Here's everything you need to know about auditioning.

- Open Rehearsal:** **Monday, February 2, 2026, 7:30p** – We strongly encourage you to come try a rehearsal, meet our members, and find out what we'll be singing this semester.
- Date:** Auditions are by appointment on **Thursday, February 5, 2026**
- Time:** See which slots are available and sign up for your [Audition Time here](#).
- Location:** Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in the Ministry Center (older building)
300 E Rosemary St, Chapel Hill; for auditions, please use the entrance at the top of the ramp/stairs as shown in the map below.

For your 10-minute audition, please be prepared to:

- Tell us a bit about your previous choral or other musical experiences.
- Sing some vocal exercises.
- Sing a short solo piece or an excerpt of a solo piece (a minute and a half or two):
 - This might be a folk song, art song, hymn, aria, etc.
 - You may sing a cappella or accompanied. If accompanied, please bring a copy of your music for our pianist or a recorded track and your own playback device.
 - You do not need to memorize your piece.
- Demonstrate tonal and rhythmic memory. To do this, you'll echo-sing a short series of pitches and rhythms.
- Sight-read an 8-measure melody. If reading music is not a current strength, please do not hesitate to audition – we affirm that singers learn music both by ear and by reading.

In the audition room with you will be the Artistic Director, Director's Assistant, and Pianist. For review purposes, we will record your audition (audio only). The recording won't be made public or shared with anyone beyond the people in the audition room, and it'll be deleted after audition decisions are made.

Acceptance is based on audition performance and the number of spaces available in each voice section. We'll be in touch by email within 48 hours of your audition with the audition results.

Any questions about auditioning?

Please email Artistic Director Laura Sam at director@womensvoiceschorus.org.

