



## Delta Community Choir Handbook

“Delta Community Choir promotes building community through song by providing individuals in Delta Township and surrounding communities a forum for community service, music education, and self-expression through the choral arts.” A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Please read the following expectations to ensure your success and that of DCC. If you require further information, contact the Music Director at [zacheverly.dcc@gmail.com](mailto:zacheverly.dcc@gmail.com) or through “Contact Us” at the DCC website: [deltacc.org](http://deltacc.org)

### **Prospective Membership:**

DCC is an adult (age 15 on up) non-auditioned SATB (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) choir that combines beautiful singing and community service in a safe community environment. While being able to match pitch or read music is not a requirement, it is helpful (along with a pleasant voice and a sense of humor). Membership is for one session at a time—Fall Session 2025 and Spring Session 2026—one “formal” concert each session with additional performances voted by the General Membership.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the DCC Board of Directors has made decisions to ensure the safety of its members and audiences in compliance with federal and local government mandates, regulations, and recommendations, including the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), local health agencies, and rehearsal and performance venues. The Board of Directors will continue to monitor updates to regulations and recommendations regarding public health issues and will inform its members accordingly as to how they relate to membership requirements.

### **Rehearsal/Performance Venues:**

Required rehearsals are Monday evenings, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at St. David’s Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing, Michigan, unless otherwise noted. There is an additional mandatory rehearsal the week prior to performance, time and place to be announced.

Additional *voluntary* rehearsals are held at the discretion of the Music Director—dates, times, place to be announced.

Performance venues, dates and times will be announced 4 weeks prior to each session. Check DCC website ([deltacc.org](http://deltacc.org)) for updated information.

### **General Expectations:**

- Be respectful of yourself and others—voices, capabilities, differences.
- Be positive and bold—take risks for the benefit of yourself and the choir.
- Take ownership of your learning and ownership of the ensemble.
- Have reliable transportation and method of communication.
- Be capable of working successfully within a large group.
- Consider your personal physical and mental endurance as it relates to rehearsal/performance.
- Adhere to proper etiquette and legal expectations on social media.

- Be compliant with DCC Policies and Procedures. Such policies and procedures--e.g. membership and member conflict and resolution--are included in the DCC Organizational Handbook and can be obtained through the DCC Secretary.
- Reimburse DCC for lost music and folders, folders and music damaged beyond ordinary use, and/or lost uniform attire provided by DCC.

*Please note: Rehearsal or performance under the influence of drugs/alcohol is grounds for dismissal.*

#### **Rehearsal Expectations:**

- Attend regularly scheduled rehearsals. (See **Attendance Policy**)
- Notify the Director **in advance** if you are unable to attend a rehearsal.
- Arrive a few minutes early prepared with folder and pencil.
- Be willing to help set up and clean up as you are able.
- Contact the Director at times **other than rehearsals** about non-rehearsal concerns/needs.
- Socialize prior to, during breaks, and after rehearsals and performances—not during. Talking during rehearsal, when not related to the success of the rehearsal itself nor the members, as well as negative talking inside and outside of rehearsals may be cause for non-return in future sessions.
- Be respectful of the rehearsal space. Leave it as we found it.

Rehearsals will be automatically cancelled if **BOTH** the Grand Ledge Public Schools **and** Waverly Community Schools are closed due to inclement weather. An e-mail will be sent to members and a phone call made to those not accessing e-mail. It is the responsibility of the member to check radio/tv/social media for closings and to **use good judgment**.

#### **Performance Expectations:**

- Participate in the published required dress-rehearsal/performance (one per Session) unless otherwise announced. A performance is approximately 1 ½ hours. A rehearsal/dress rehearsal/performance schedule with amendments as necessary will be published each session.
- Have music in performance order and be knowledgeable of riser positions **PRIOR** to the performance.
- Assist with set-up/clean-up, as you are requested and able.
- Be compliant with DCC concert attire. (See **Concert/Performance Attire**.)

#### **Attendance Policy:**

DCC members are required to attend rehearsals regularly and on time with a **FOUR-ABSENCE MAXIMUM** per Session. To take part in the scheduled performance with more than four absences performance for that Session, please contact the Music Director at [zacheverly.dcc@gmail.com](mailto:zacheverly.dcc@gmail.com)

#### **Performance/Concert Attire:**

Members are required to provide their own concert attire.

##### **Women**

- Black/gold/white reversible sleeveless camisole; black jacket--**ordered by DCC**. Members split the cost of these uniform items with DCC 50/50. Member owns both pieces. The replacement cost of lost uniform pieces is 100% the responsibility of the member.
- Black skirt or slacks.
- Black dress shoes with nude-colored nylons.

##### **Men**

- Long-sleeved black dress with black buttons (no button-down collars, turtlenecks, polo shirts, or sweaters). Member purchases and owns.  
Member splits the cost with DCC 50/50.
- Black dress slacks.
- Black dress shoes with black socks.

DCC will provide scarves and bowties as needed. It is the responsibility of members to return scarves/bowties to the DCC inventory immediately following a performance.

### **Registration:**

New and returning members must complete a Membership and Commitment Form. Forms may be obtained under the "How to Join" tab on the DCC website: [deltacc.org](http://deltacc.org). Completed forms for *new* members are to be sent to the Music Director, at [zacheverly.dcc@gmail.com](mailto:zacheverly.dcc@gmail.com) or Board President at [Elizabethwriter@gmail.com](mailto:Elizabethwriter@gmail.com) by the deadline of the Fall or Spring session. The deadline for *returning* members is the date of the first scheduled rehearsal for that session.

Membership fees are \$60 per session. The fee includes the cost of doing business: venue, music, folder, accompanist, instrumentalists, liability insurance, etc. For NEW members, there is an additional fee covering 50% of the cost of specific pieces of concert attire (see **Performance/Concert Attire** section.) If you are experiencing financial hardship, please contact the Board President to inquire about applying for a Member Sponsorship. All inquiries are confidential.

The registration deadline for new and returning members is one week prior to the first rehearsal of the session, in order to prepare an accurate number of folders. These dates are: September 1, 2025 for the Fall 2024 Session and December 29, 2025 for the Spring 2026 session. Membership fees may be paid in cash or check made payable to **Delta Community Choir**, online at [deltacc.org](http://deltacc.org). The DCC Treasurer will collect fees in person during the **first three rehearsals** of each session. Checks may also be mailed to: Treasurer, Delta Community Choir, PO Box 80994, Lansing, MI 48908.

Refunds of membership fees depend upon the timeliness of the request and the financial ability of DCC to comply. Request for Membership Fee Refund forms are available from the Treasurer. Completed forms should be submitted to Treasurer, Delta Community Choir, PO Box 80994, Lansing, MI 48908. Refunds are considered on a case-by-case basis by the DCC Board of Directors.

### **How Are You Supported as a Member?**

Rehearsals include warm-ups, the practice of selected music literature by section (soprano, alto, tenor, bass), and rehearsal as the entire ensemble.

A Board of Directors to support your concerns and ideas. (See [deltacc.org](http://deltacc.org))

**Zach Everly - Music Director** Zach is Director of Choirs at Grand Ledge High School and Secretary of Michigan School Vocal Music Association Board of Directors. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Alma College, and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Michigan State University.

**Christine (Christy) English, Accompanist/Vocal coach.** Christy (Leonard) English is a lifelong choral director, accompanist, music educator and church musician, with degrees from Indiana University and Southern Methodist University. She completed doctoral course work from Michigan State University. Christy loves to make singing accessible and joyful for people of every age and skill level.

Published rehearsal schedule/updates and membership roster.

Free admission to audiences to performances (as the venue allows). Free-will donations at performances collected to support a chosen non-profit.

Updated July 2025