



## 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, 517.627.6202, [e\\_macklady@comcast.net](mailto:e_macklady@comcast.net) 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 which 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 2023 and Spring Session 2024—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 federal Centers for Disease Control, 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/Artistic 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 they relate to rehearsal/performance.
- Adhere to proper etiquette and legal expectations on social media.
- Be compliant with DCC Policies and Procedures (e.g., managing conflict). See [deltacc.org](http://deltacc.org) for further information.
- Reimburse DCC for lost music and folders, folders and music damaged beyond ordinary use, lost uniform attire provided by DCC.

*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 with a 15-minute intermission. 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.
- Provide own 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 with more than four absences in the scheduled performance for that Session, please contact the Music/Artistic Director at 517.627.6202 or [mailto:e\\_macklady@comcast.net](mailto:e_macklady@comcast.net).

**Performance/Concert Attire**

Members are required to provide their own concert attire.

Women

- Black/gold/white sleeveless camisole; black jacket--ordered by DCC. Members own both pieces. Members split the cost with DCC 50/50.
- Black skirt or slacks.
- Black dress shoes with nude-colored nylons.

Men

- Long-sleeved black dress shirt with black buttons (no button-down collars, turtlenecks, polo shirts, or sweaters). Members purchase and own. Members split the cost with DCC 50/50.
- Black dress slacks.
- Black dress shoes with black socks.

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

**Registration:**

New/returning members must complete a Membership and Commitment Form. Forms may be obtained at [e\\_macklady@comcast.net](mailto:e_macklady@comcast.net) or by calling 517.627.6202 or through “Contact Us” at the DCC website: [deltacc.org](http://deltacc.org). Completed forms for *new* members are to be sent to:

Music Director,  
7135 Rock Bridge,  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

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. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please contact the Music Director to inquire about applying for a Member Sponsorship. All inquiries are confidential.

Please make checks (no cash) payable to Delta Community Choir and mail to:

Delta Community Choir  
Attn: Treasurer  
PO Box 80994  
Lansing, Michigan 48908

The deadline for registration for Fall, 2023 is September 1, 2023. The deadline for Spring, 2024 is December 31, 2023.

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))
- ❖ **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 her doctoral course work at Michigan State University. Christy loves to make singing accessible and joyful for people of every age and skill level.
- ❖ **Ellen McKenzie, Music Director.** Ellen is a retired teacher of vocal/theater arts at Eaton Rapids Public Schools and a former director of adult/children church choirs. She received her Bachelor of Music Education from Olivet College and master's degree work at Calvin University.
- ❖ 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.

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