

January 9, 2017

Dear One Voice Friend,

Thank you for your interest in becoming a singing member of One Voice Mixed Chorus. We have an exciting spring season ahead so be sure to read through the details below before your audition.

One Voice Mixed Chorus is Minnesota's only --- and the nation's largest --- lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight allies (LGBTQA) chorus. With 125 singing members ranging from ages 17 to 77, and nearly 50 non-singing "Fifth Section" volunteers, One Voice inspires transformation through passionate, vibrant, and creative performances before thousands each year at concerts, during outreach tours, through our pioneering OUT in Our Schools program now in its 18th year, and with innovative collaborations. One Voice is known for musical excellence, diverse programming, and deep commitment to community outreach, and is described by Chorus America as "**one of the region's best ensembles.**"

One Voice's Spring 2017 season **begins in late January** and includes community concerts, a March concert with New York City's [Well-Strung](#) and a gender-bending performance of the Pirates of Penzance. See page two of this document for a description of our programming.

Our audition process works like this:

Tuesday, January 24: 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm –auditions by appointment

See details below to sign up and prepare for your audition. **PLEASE NOTE:** This spring we will have openings primarily for tenor and bass singers. Our soprano and alto sections have very limited openings.

Location for rehearsals and auditions: Unity Church Unitarian, 732 Holly Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55104

Please review the rest of this document, especially the calendar and attendance requirements. **Then email the operations coordinator, Alicia Pedersen, at Operations@OneVoiceMN.org** or call 651-298-1954 to **schedule your audition time.** If you get our voicemail, please leave a message with your name and complete contact information so we can return your call.

Thanks for your interest and I look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,



Jane Ramsey Miller, Artistic Director

P.S. If you decide not to audition but want to connect with One Voice you may consider joining our Fifth Section of volunteers. Being part of the Fifth Section is a great way to get connected! Look for more details on page 3.

Preparing for your Audition

Your audition will take approximately 15 minutes. **Please bring a prepared solo no more than two minutes in length.** Choose a song that you are comfortable singing – a simple song is fine (folk song, hymn, pop tune, or classical piece, etc.). An accompanist will be provided for your solo; **please bring extra printed music for the accompanist.** In addition to your solo, the audition will check your vocal range, ability to carry a vocal part, tonal memory, and music reading skills.

At the audition you will meet singers from our Membership Committee, review the calendar and have a chance to ask questions about the chorus.

2016-2017 Programming

Our 2016-2017 season is One Voice's biggest and best to date, filled with powerful new music and our signature message of positive social change. Every year, the full chorus and our a cappella ensemble OVation, perform multiple concerts including performances in middle and high schools, faith communities, corporate diversity events and community gatherings, in addition to the regular concert series. Last year, more than 11,000 people experienced the music of One Voice!

This spring we continue our season with **Well-Versed** in March. For this concert we are collaborating with guests, [Well-Strung](#) and youth poets from RECLAIM for an OUT in our Schools performance and a concert at the Ordway! Then One Voice performs with [Cantus](#) in April. Our season concludes with a gender-bending Pirates of Penzance staged on St. Paul's Raspberry Island during LGBT Pride weekend!

One Voice Calendar

Check out the calendar on page 5 for concert dates and community outreach performances. We want our performances to be strong and hope that you will be able to attend as many as possible. Each season we schedule several community outreach performances and we ask that singers participate in at least 50% of these performances. You'll have a chance at rehearsals to sign up in for the performances that fit your schedule. There will be more outreach performances added in the next several months as requests continue to come in but we want to give you these dates in advance.

Rehearsals and Attendance

One Voice rehearses **every Monday night from 7:00-9:30 pm** at Unity Church Unitarian (732 Holly Avenue in Saint Paul). We also have several Saturday retreats and potlucks during the year. These are times to dig into the music, eat some great food and get to know other chorus and Fifth Section members. Check out the calendar on page 5 for those dates.

In addition to being a chorus that has a lot of fun, we also strive for musical excellence. The chorus attendance policy permits a maximum of four absences during each concert season (there are two concert seasons to our year: Sept-Dec and Jan-June). This includes attendance at the Saturday rehearsals. Attendance at one outside sectional is also required. Attendance at three of the last four rehearsals before a major concert as well as the tech rehearsal is mandatory. Please consider these attendance expectations before joining the chorus! Members who cannot meet the attendance requirements for a particular season may take a leave-of-absence and re-join us the next season.

Membership Dues

Your financial contributions assist with the cost of music, staff costs, venue rental, and production expenses. Membership dues are \$95 per concert season and may be paid in full at the beginning of each concert season, or in installments. Note that your dues may be matched by your employer as a donation to One Voice. One Voice does not turn away singers because of an inability to pay dues. A work exchange program can be established to assist with dues if need is apparent. Call or email the Operations Coordinator for more information about the volunteer work exchange program.

Volunteer Opportunities as a Singer

In addition to singing, there are many ways to get involved with One Voice. Each concert season includes choreographed number(s) for members who like to dance. Singing and non-singing members assist with many creative aspects of programming from program design to production to marketing and development. Other members help organize and plan events, or select music for upcoming concerts. All gifts and contributions are welcomed and encouraged!

Fifth Section Volunteers

If you are not able to participate as a One Voice singer, we wholeheartedly welcome you to join our Fifth Section. The Fifth Section is a group of non-singing volunteers who help with One Voice events and concerts, serve on committees, and assist with production areas. This is a great way to be a part of the One Voice community and join in the fun!

Organizational Structure, Board and Staff

One Voice is a non-profit organization with 125 singing members and a Fifth Section of approximately 50 volunteers. The Board of Directors meets monthly to guide One Voice Mixed Chorus operations and long-range planning. These meetings are open to all singing and non-singing members.

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|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Artistic Director | Jane Ramseyer Miller | Accompanist | Mindy Eschedor |
| Executive Director | Christopher Taykalo | OVation Vocal Coach | Gary Ruschman |
| Operations Coordinator | Alicia Pedersen | | |
| Office Assistant | Jen Rivera | | |

One Voice Spring 2017 Calendar

Updated 1/5/2017



Tues, Jan 24 One Voice New Singer Auditions (7:00-9:30 pm) *Unity Unitarian: Choir Room*
Mon, Jan. 30*-June 19* Regular Rehearsals - Monday evenings (7:00 – 9:30 pm) *Unity Church: Parish Hall*
Sat, Mar 4* **One Voice Retreat (9:00 am – 1:00 pm) *Unity Church: Parish Hall***
 Mon, Mar 13* Concert Tech Rehearsal (6:30 pm-9:30 pm) *Unity Church: Parish Hall*
 Thu, Mar 16* Concert Tech Rehearsal (6:30 pm-9:30 pm) *Location TBD*

Fri, Mar 17* **OUT in Our Schools – GSA Youth Concert** 11:30am (tentative time) *Location TBD*
Sat, Mar 18* **Well-Versed: with Well Strung & Reclaim Poets, 7:30pm** *Ordway Concert Hall*
 (4:00pm singer call)
Ordway Concert Hall 345 Washington Street, Saint Paul, 55102

Mon, Mar 20 No Rehearsal – take the night off!
 Mon, Mar 27 Regular Monday rehearsals resume (7:00 – 9:30 pm) *Unity Church: Parish Hall*
 Mondays, April... Regular Monday rehearsals (7:00 – 9:30 pm) *Unity Church: Parish Hall*
 Sat, April 8 (tentative) *OV Strategic & 30th Anniversary Planning Retreat (9:00 am–1:00 pm) Unity Church*

April 8 or 9 Perform with Cantus “America Will Be” Concert

Sun, April 23 Sing for Unity Worship 9:00 am & 11:00 am *Unity Church Sanctuary*

Mondays, May*... Regular Monday rehearsals (7:00 – 9:30 pm) *Unity Church: Parish Hall*
 Thurs, May 11 One Voice Leader Gathering: (7:00-9:00 pm) *Unity Church: Robbins Parlor*
Sat, May 20* **One Voice Retreat - Singers and all Leads** (10:00 am – 3:00 pm) *Unity Church*
 Mon, May 29 No Rehearsal – Memorial Day – take the night off

Sun, June 4 QMC Concert 3:00-5:30 pm *Como Pavilion 1360 Lexington Pwky N, Saint Paul*
 QMC After Party – TBD

Mondays, June... Regular Monday rehearsals (7:00 – 9:30 pm) *Unity Church: Parish Hall*

Thurs, June 22* **Pirates of Penzance - Preview Show, 7:30pm** *Raspberry Island*
Sat, June 24* **Pirates of Penzance, 3:30 pm** *Raspberry Island*
 2 Wabasha Street, Saint Paul, 55107
Sun, June 25* **Pirates of Penzance, 2:00pm AND 5:30 pm** *Raspberry Island*
 2 Wabasha Street, Saint Paul, 55107

Mon, July 17 ShowTune Showdown 7:30 – 10:00 pm *Women’s Club of Minneapolis*
 410 Oak Grove Street, Mps 55403

Directions and Map to location for Auditions & Rehearsals

Location: **Unity Church Unitarian, Parish Hall**
732 Holly Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55104
Please enter through main entrance at Portland & Grotto

Parking: You may park on the street or in the lot at Portland Ave & St. Albans St N (just one block east of the Portland & Grotto entrance). You will find handicapped parking in the lot immediately east of the church on Holly Avenue.

Driving Directions: From Interstate 94, exit south on Dale Street
Travel 10 blocks, turn right on Holly Avenue
Or for the parking lot, continue 1 block past Holly,
Turn right on Portland Avenue (sign not visible) and
Travel 1 long block to the parking lot at Portland & St. Albans
Or 1 block further for street parking

Bus Info: Metro Transit bus routes 21A, 63 & 65 service this area

Note: **If you are running late or cannot make your audition slot on the day scheduled, please call ahead to let us know: 651-298-1954**

