Naples Philharmonic Youth Chorus
Membership Policies and Procedures, 2019-20 Season

Welcome to the 2019-20 season of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Chorus!

Program Policies
The Naples Philharmonic Youth Chorus (NPYC) is an Artis—Naples educational program. The NPYC provides a pre-professional choral experience for young musicians between the ages of 7 and 17. Policies are established to maintain the highest possible standards for the program. Compliance with these policies is vital to the musical integrity of the NPYC.

Artistic Standards
The Naples Philharmonic Youth Chorus is one of four performing student ensembles at Artis—Naples. Its purpose is to provide an environment that challenges and inspires young musicians to excel musically. It is our expectation that each member also endeavors to reach his/her full musical potential. As a part of the program, the director and/or the coaching staff will provide members with instruction about areas of musical deficiencies that require improvement and will work with members to reach their potential. If members do not work to improve and do not demonstrate a desire to improve, this will be grounds for dismissal from the NPYC. Members should conduct themselves in a professional manner during rehearsals, performances (on and off stage) and other NPYC functions. This means alert, observant and courteous attention; enthusiasm; cooperation; respectful good manners; punctuality; and attention to all directions given by the director, conductor, Artis—Naples staff and/or parent volunteers. Disruptive verbal or physical behavior, bullying, sexual harassment and drug or alcohol usage will not be tolerated. Behavior problems and the refusal of a member to improve his/her behavior may result in dismissal from the NPYC at the discretion of Artis—Naples staff. These policies have been established to support and maintain a healthy learning environment.

Rehearsals and Performances Season 2019-20
Students must refer to the NPYC 2019-20 rehearsal and performance schedule for all audition, rehearsal, performance and event locations and dates. Weekly reminders and any changes to the schedule will be announced in group emails from YouthChorus@artisnaples.org.

Rehearsals normally take place on Monday evenings from 5-7:30pm at Artis-Naples.
  - Training chorus: 5-6pm
  - Select Chorus: 6-7:15pm
  - Chamber Chorus: 7-7:30pm
  - TUTTI Rehearsals: both choruses rehearse together from 5-6pm

Mandatory Chorus Dress Rehearsal and Performance Dates

**First Concert Cycle:** September 9- November 22, 2019
Monday, November 18, 2019
  - Dress Rehearsal, 5-6pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall
  - Winter Performance, 7pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall

**Holiday Pops:** December 2-December 22, 2019
Monday, December 9, 2019
  - Performance at the Naples Botanical Gardens, 6:30-8pm (Chamber Chorus ONLY)
Monday, December 16, 2019
  Mandatory Dress Rehearsal, 6:30-8pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall
Tuesday, December 17, 2019
  Mandatory Dress Rehearsal, 6:30-8pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall
Thursday, December 19, 2019
  Mandatory Concert, 8pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall
Friday, December 20, 2019
  Mandatory Concert, 8pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall
Saturday, December 21, 2019
  Mandatory Concerts, 2pm and 8pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall
Sunday, December 22, 2019
  Mandatory Concert, 7pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall

**Second Concert Cycle**—January 13-May 18, 2020
Saturday, January 25, 2020
  Princeton Glee Club Workshop, 3-4:30pm, Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church
Thursday, May 14, 2020
  Soloist’s Dress Rehearsal, 5-5:30pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall
  TUTTI Dress Rehearsal, 5:30-6:30pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall
Saturday, May 23, 2020
  Spring Concert, 4pm, Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall

**Attendance Policy**

- **Three** absences, including excused and unexcused, are permitted per concert.
- Students with three or more absences are not eligible to participate in the upcoming concert.
- If a student misses a mandatory rehearsal, they will not be permitted to perform at the concert.
- Two late arrivals or early dismissals equals one absence
- Any exceptions to this policy will be determined on a case-by-case basis by Artis—Naples staff.

**Promptness**

All students should arrive at least 15 minutes prior to rehearsals, auditions, and performances. Students need this time to sign-in, find their place, warm up, open their music and be ready to sing. **Students should be fully prepared and in place 5 minutes before rehearsal begins.** If students arrive when the rehearsal begins, they will be considered late.

**Excused Absences**

- Illness or family emergency: If you are ill, or a member of your family is hospitalized, email youthchorus@artisnaples.org or call 239-821-2085 as soon as possible
- School events, only if you are a performer or competitor
- College visits, only if you are in your senior year
- Religious events specific to your faith

**Excused Absence Requests**

To request an excused absence, please submit an “Excused Absence Request” online at least one week prior to the rehearsal you will miss. Excused late arrivals and early dismissals must also be requested in advance. The Excused Absence Request form can be found on the Naples Philharmonic Youth Chorus webpage. Text message or voicemail excuses will not be accepted.

In emergency, or on the day of a rehearsal, audition, or performance, please call the Youth Ensembles Cell Phone **239-821-2085**.

**Unexcused Absences**

- Missing NPYC dress rehearsals or concerts.
- Studying for a test or attending a non-school function
- Any absence without notification via email or phone is considered unexcused
- Aside from illness or family emergency, any notification via email or phone less than one week prior to the rehearsal you will miss is considered unexcused
Performance Attire

- NPYC logo polo shirt, $25 purchase
- Black dress pants or a floor length black dress skirt
  - No form-fitting pants (yoga pants, leggings, etc.)
- Black closed-toe dress shoes
- Black socks or stockings
- No statement or sound producing jewelry
- No hair accessories (ex. Bows, scarves)
- No cologne, perfume, or fragrant deodorant

Concerts

Parents and teachers are not allowed backstage before or after concerts unless given permission.
- Arrive promptly. Students must be checked in at least 15 minutes prior to the start of rehearsal.
- Bring all music and music folder.
- Bring or come dressed in concert attire.
- Keep quiet in the backstage area.

Concert Recording Policy

Silent video recording and non-flash photography from your seats is only permitted during Youth Chorus that do not include the Naples Philharmonic. Flash photography is never permitted.

Some performances will also be recorded by Artis—Naples staff and these audio recordings may be shared with students. Recordings will be available to download for a limited time after each performance and are not to be shared online or used for any other purpose beyond the personal use of the student musicians.

Music

One-Time Music Fee

A one-time music and binder fee of $35 is charged to all NPYC members. If music is lost or damaged during the season, the member will be re-charged $35.

Music Care

Markings made on the music are to be done in No. 2 pencil only. Bring a pencil and eraser to all rehearsals.

Missing Music

If music is lost or if student did not receive a piece of music in their folder, please contact YouthChorus@artisnaples.org as soon as possible. Do not wait until the next rehearsal to obtain missing music.

Private Study/School Music Programs

NPYC members are strongly encouraged to take private lessons. A list of private teachers will be provided upon request by emailing YouthChorus@artisnaples.org. It is also recommended that NPYC members participate in their school music programs. NPYC members must practice at home and come to rehearsals prepared.

Participation in Artis—Naples youth ensembles is meant to supplement, not replace, school music ensembles. Artis—Naples believes that music students benefit from daily ensemble instruction and rehearsal. Therefore, Artis—Naples youth ensemble students are required to participate in their relevant school music ensemble, should one exist. A student who is unable to participate in their school music ensemble may join an Artis—Naples youth ensemble with permission from the school music director.

Every student will be required to submit a completed “School Participation Form” at the beginning of each school year.

Community Service Hours

NPYC will honor community service hours for concerts, select community performances, or volunteering to set-up or tear down before or after NPYC rehearsals. Service learning hours will not be
granted for participation in weekly rehearsals. Please discuss community service hours and submit any forms to YouthChorus@artisnaples.org.

**Recommendation Letters**

If a student would like to request a recommendation letter from the NPYC Director or another staff member, requests must be made **at least two weeks prior to the due date**. However, earlier is always better. To request a recommendation, please submit all necessary information and application deadlines to YouthChorus@artisnaples.org.

**Auditions**

Membership in the NPYC is by invitation only following competitive auditions. Renewal of the invitation each season is not automatic but is determined by Artis—Naples staff. Members will be moved from Training Chorus to Select Chorus as determined by the NPYC Directors.

If a student accepted to NPYC demonstrates poor performance during rehearsals or concerts, they may be asked to re-audition for the ensemble during the season.

**Dismissal Policy**

Immediate dismissal from the Naples Philharmonic Youth Chorus could result for any of the following reasons:

- Not adhering to our Artistic Standards policy, including members who do not demonstrate a desire to improve
- Re-audition results
- Missing 3 or more rehearsals without proper notification
- Missing a concert, with or without proper notification
- Lack of participation in a school music ensemble
- Behavioral/disciplinary reasons

**Disability Statement**

Students with disabilities are encouraged to participate in Artis—Naples youth ensembles. Upon acceptance into the ensemble, if your child has any special educational needs or requires an accommodation in order to participate, please notify any of the following to discuss potential assistance or modifications: the Director of Education and Community Partnerships, Bonnie Thayer, and/or the Youth Ensembles Coordinator, Katie Moilanen.

**Fees**

- Audition Fee $15
- Music Fee $35
- Annual Tuition $175
- Polo shirt $25
- Music Makers Youth Chorus Camp (optional) $150

*Financial assistance for tuition is available based on need. To request financial assistance, a scholarship application is required.*

**Contact Information**

**Katie Moilanen, Youth Ensembles Coordinator**
YouthChorus@artisnaples.org
Office: 239-254-2672
Youth Ensembles Cell Phone: 239-821-2085

**Keith McCall, Education Coordinator**
kmcall@artisnaples.org
Office: 239-254-2642
Bonnie Thayer, Director of Education and Community Partnerships  
BThayer@artisnaples.org  
Office: 239-254-2643

Jim Cochran, Chorus Director  
Michele Byrd, Vocal Skills Instructor  
Brice Gerlach, Assistant Director/Pianist

Any questions for Dr. Jim, Brice, or Michele should be directed to YouthChorus@artisnaples.org.