

2012 – 2013 SEASON MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

This membership form, a signed copy of the Membership Agreement, and dues must be submitted by the third rehearsal of the season to maintain active membership. Members agree to pay for dues, their music for each concert, and dress blacks to wear during performances. If you have financial concerns about any of these expenses, please contact the VCS President directly, either by e-mail to AkersKarenKing@aol.com or during rehearsal break.

The information you provide will be used by the staff, board members and Section Leader to communicate with you. Your name, address, phone number and e-mail address are required; everything else is optional. Knowing more about you is important to help us compile raw data for grant applications, news releases and articles, and that's why we ask you to provide additional information on the Membership Registration form. Please know that we will *never* share the information you provide with any outside sources.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY – WE’LL MAKE FEWER MISTAKES THAT WAY!

Your name, *as you'd like it to appear in the program*: _____

Your name, *as you'd like it to appear on your name badge*: _____

Your street address: _____

Your city, state and zip code: _____

Your preferred phone number, if we need to call you: _____

Your preferred e-mail, for regular communication from VCS: _____

What year did you join VCS? _____

Your profession (current or former): _____

Your special skills or interests: _____

Why did you join Vienna Choral Society? _____

What is your birthday (month and day only)? _____

Anything else you'd like us to know? _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Annual Dues (\$125) _____

Inactive (non-singing) status (\$25, in lieu of Annual Dues) _____

Tax-deductible donation (Thank you!) _____

Total _____

Vocal Placement
Date:
Voice:
Notes:

Records
Payment Rec'd By:
Entered Into Records By:
Notes:

Initials:

Date Complete:

2012 – 2013 SEASON MEMBERSHIP PACKET

Whether you are a new or returning member, we are delighted to welcome you to the 2012-2013 season of the Vienna Choral Society! We're now in our 25th year, and getting better all the time, thanks to your contribution.

Please take the time to read through this packet, and keep it handy throughout the season. Any VCS member is happy to answer questions (your section leader is a great place to start), but you'll find a lot of answers in this packet. If there is any way we can improve it, let us know!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vienna Choral Society
374 Maple Avenue, East
Suite 300
Vienna, Virginia 22180
703/255.5508
www.viennachoralsociety.org

THE SEASON

The VCS Season begins in late August and extends through the end of May. Four choral concerts are scheduled during each season; in addition, VCS regularly performs for community events and activities throughout the year.

This year's concert dates are:

	October 27, 2012	Swing! Family Concert
	December 22, 2012	Welcome Yule! An English Christmas
with May)	March 16, 2013	Opera for the People (concert may be flipped
with March)	May 18, 2013	Concert for a Cause (concert may be flipped

THE SINGERS

We welcome all choral singers who are committed to excellence and improvement, who have experienced the joy of singing and want to come back to it, and who have the willingness and time to devote to preparing for a variety of concerts and outreach activities.

VCS is a *non-audition* choir, but each new member will meet with our Artistic Director for a short placement screening. This screening enables the Director to get to know your timbre, range, and ability to match tones and read music, and will also let her place you in the appropriate vocal section.

REHEARSALS

VCS rehearses promptly at 7:15 each Tuesday evening during the season at the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, in Vienna. Special rehearsals are called as necessary: the time and place of those will be determined when the rehearsal is announced.

We ask members to be on time for rehearsals and to work on music at home each week. Singing is an enjoyable experience, but walking into a concert feeling thoroughly prepared and entirely familiar and comfortable with the music is an *amazing* experience!

The first rehearsal of each concert will be open to anyone who is interested in joining VCS. This season, the Open Rehearsal dates are:

September 4, 2012

October 30, 2012

January 8, 2013

March 19, 2013

Please encourage your friends and colleagues to consider attending an Open Rehearsal to see if VCS is right for them.

ATTENDANCE

In order to develop our best sound as a choir, we need all singers at rehearsals. VCS singers work as a group to learn, refine and polish the repertoire for each concert, and an added benefit is that regular rehearsal allows you to improve your vocal ability. Please plan to attend *every* Tuesday practice and each dress rehearsal, and if you can, any supplemental rehearsals set by the Artistic Director.

We also know that life intrudes, things can get busy, and emergencies happen: if you can't make it to rehearsal, contact your Section Leader as soon as possible.

When you are at rehearsal, help everyone make the most of the time. Arrive on time, ready to sing, with pencils and highlighter for making notes in your music. And VCS members are terrific people, so be sure to make friends!

PERFORMANCES

Concerts: VCS performs four major concerts a year, as well as several community performances. Updated calendar information is available on the VCS website and is included in the Membership Packets.

Community-based performances are scheduled throughout the season in the Town of Vienna and the greater Vienna/Tysons community. Please participate in community outreach performances as your schedule allows: for some audiences, this is their first (or only!) chance to see VCS perform.

REHEARSALS

Although we know that our members are often very busy, we expect attendance at all rehearsals. Leaders monitor attendance: if you are ill or another unforeseen conflict happens, please contact your Section Leader as soon as possible (advance notice is always appreciated).

The Artistic Director can accommodate two absences per concert preparation period, and additional absences will be evaluated on an individual basis. Missing more than two rehearsals may prevent you from participating in the concert.

Practice and prepare! Diligent practice between rehearsals is necessary if we are to sing our best. The Artistic Director will prepare digital recordings of the concert repertoire to help you review the music at home, but even reviewing lyrics, rhythms and rehearsal markings will help you prepare for the next rehearsal.

Respect for rehearsal elements is expected. Please be courteous to your fellow singers by arriving on time, remaining quiet while another section is working on a passage, marking your score, and giving your attention to the musical work at hand.

Sectional rehearsals, though infrequent, may be arranged on an as-needed basis, either within the rehearsal time frame or during the week. We expect members to take advantage of sectional rehearsals as their schedule permits.

Attendance at dress rehearsals is mandatory.

Some of our members are sensitive to scented oils, lotions and perfumes, and to tobacco: please consider their health and avoid using those products when you are with VCS.

Unfortunately, VCS cannot adjust membership dues if you decide you cannot manage the rehearsal schedule.

SECTION LEADERS

Section leaders will communicate with you on changes in practice times (like when the weather is too nasty to have rehearsal) and serve as a point of contact for questions (where's a good place to buy a tux?). They're also responsible for attendance, so *if you can't come to rehearsal, it's important to notify them.*

***PLEASE FIND YOUR SECTION LEADER'S INFORMATION IN THE
"FOR MEMBERS/SECTION LEADERS INFO (MEMBERS ONLY)"
PART OF OUR WEBSITE.
YOU WILL BE GIVEN THE PASSWORD UPON JOINING VCS.***

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In inclement weather (or other unforeseen events), the Artistic Director or VCS President may decide to cancel a rehearsal or performance. The Section Leaders will be notified in time to contact their section members via telephone and e-mail, and the cancellation will also be posted on the VCS website and Facebook page.

If the weather looks bad, please monitor your e-mail and voice mail. Even if a rehearsal or event is *not* cancelled, do not venture out if you feel your safety is in question. We love to see you at rehearsals, but not if you risked your life to get there!

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Registration Form lets you provide information that enables the VCS Artistic Director, Board, or Section Leaders to contact you with important information. VCS also prepares a roster, so you can keep in touch with each other.

In addition, our choir traditionally represents a diverse group of interesting and talented singers, with a broad range of backgrounds. Knowing more about you is important to help us compile raw data for grant applications, news releases and articles, and that's why we ask you to provide additional information on the Membership Registration form. Please know that we will *never* share the information you provide with any outside sources.

We ask new members to submit a completed Registration Form with their Membership Agreement and dues. Returning members will be able to update their information at the beginning of the season; if your contact information changes at other times in the season, please notify your Section Leader.

VCS LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Karen Akers, President
Connie Berger, Vice President
Linda Ferri, Treasurer
Elizabeth Couchman, Secretary
David Helfgott
Aaron Reed
Barthy Setty
Kevin Warner

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: Jennifer Rodgers Beach

ACCOMPANIST: Mark Vogel

SECTION LEADERS: Cynthia Cadden, Soprano
Kathy Tugendhat, Alto
Bob Bruce, Tenor
Jim Whitcomb, Bass

ADMINISTRATOR: David Helfgott

FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

DUES: Annual dues are \$125, payable by cash or check, due no later than the third rehearsal of the season (September 20, 2011). Members joining VCS half-way through the season (after the December concert) will pay \$75.00. Financial aid is available for members who find that dues are a financial burden; please see a member of the Board for more information.

MUSIC: Members purchase sheet music at the first rehearsal for each concert. The price typically ranges from \$15 – 50 per set, and you may pay by cash or check.

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE:

Men = Black tuxedo, white shirt, black bow tie, black socks and comfortable black shoes are required. *No* cummerbund.
Women = Black velvet round-neck top and black elastic waist pull-on satin skirt (ordering information below), comfortable black shoes.

Ordering information for the Women's Top:

Concert Black (www.concertblack.com) – it's best to phone in your order at 1-888-94-BLACK.

Item #101 Velvet Round Neck Top (for Misses size) \$30 + shipping

Item #111 Velvet Round Neck Top (for Plus size) \$40 + shipping

Sized by bust measurement

Identify the order as being for Vienna Choral Society

Allow at least two weeks for delivery

Ordering information for the Women's Skirt:

Formal Wear Outlets (www.formalwear/outlet.com) – it's best to phone in your order at 1-877-837-3888

Item #i225 Elastic Waist Pull-On Satin Skirt \$30 + shipping

Sized by waist and hip measurement

Member responsible for hemming

TICKETS, ADVERTISING AND DONATIONS: Ticket sales, advertising in our programs, and donations are important sources of revenue for VCS.

Ticket Sales: Tickets to VCS Concerts are for sale to the public on the VCS website, at the concert, from the VCS office, and from VCS members. We encourage members to sell as many concert tickets as possible to friends, family, and the public. Each member is issued a specific number of tickets and is accountable for either paying for them or returning the unsold portion – if you have unsold tickets, please consider buying them and donating the tickets to others (it's a great way to introduce friends to Vienna Choral Society!). Please turn in your payment or tickets no later than Dress Rehearsal. You may leave sold tickets at the Will Call desk the day of the concert.

Ticket Prices:

Adults: \$20

Students/Senior Citizens: \$15 [*need ages for students and senior citizens*]

Family Ticket (one or two parents, plus children living in the home): \$35

Season Tickets – Adults: \$70

Season Tickets – Students/Senior Citizens: \$50

Advertising: If you own, work for, or patronize a local business, please consider advertising – or asking the owner to advertise – in the concert program. Rate cards for advertising will be distributed early in the season, or ask one of the Board members to give you a supply.

Donations/Corporate Donors: Please consider seeking out donors, or contact a Board member to coordinate possible donations, and to pass along ideas and contact information. If your workplace has a matching grant, consider making donations to VCS yourself. Any donation amount is helpful, appreciated, and acknowledged.

CD Sales: VCS concerts are recorded by Bandman. A portion of the proceeds from these recordings is donated to VCS, and the CDs make wonderful remembrances of your performance.

2012 – 2013 SEASON MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

This Membership Agreement articulates the commitment between VCS and singers seeking membership. The VCS Membership Packet contains more information on guidelines and VCS policies; the same information is on-line at www.viennachoralsociety.org.

ATTENDANCE

In order to develop our best sound as a choir, we need all singers at rehearsals. Please plan to attend *every* Tuesday practice and each dress rehearsal, and if you can, any supplemental rehearsals set by the Artistic Director.

We also know that life intrudes, things can get busy, and emergencies happen: if you can't make it to rehearsal, contact your Section Leader as soon as possible.

When you are at rehearsal, help everyone make the most of the time. Arrive on time, ready to sing, with pencils and highlighter for making notes in your music. And VCS members are terrific people, so be sure to make friends!

PERSONAL COMMITMENT

As an active member of Vienna Choral Society, I agree to support VCS by:

- Attending all rehearsal and concerts for the 2012-2013 Season
- Participating in additional community performances whenever possible
- Reviewing the music outside of rehearsal time
- Coming to rehearsals prepared to work
- Volunteering nine hours per season (one hour a month), if I have can
- Understanding the information and policies in The VCS Membership Packet

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

As an active member of the Vienna Choral Society, I agree to support VCS by:

- Paying dues, selling tickets, and seeking and encouraging donors
- Purchasing music for each concert
- Purchasing and wearing the approved performance attire
- Supporting fund raising activities whenever possible

I have reviewed the 2012-2013 Concert participation and rehearsal requirements and I agree to the personal and financial commitments listed above.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

2012-2013 SEASON

IMPORTANT DATES & INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

- KICK-OFF MEETING:** Tuesday, August 28, 2012
Church of the Holy Comforter
543 Beulah Rd. NE
Vienna, VA 22180
www.HolyComforter.com
- REHEARSALS:** Every Tuesday
7:15 – 9:30 p.m.
Church of the Holy Comforter
543 Beulah Road, NE
Vienna, Virginia
www.HolyComforter.com
- OPEN REHEARSALS:** Curious and prospective singers welcome!
September 4, 2012
October 30, 2012
January 8, 2013
March 19, 2013
- DRESS REHEARSALS:** Friday evening before each concert
Friday, October 28, 2011
Friday, December 16, 2011
Friday, March 16, 2012
Friday, May 18, 2012
- CONCERTS:** October 27, 2012 – Swing! Family Concert
December 22, 2012 – Welcome Yule! An English
Christmas
March 16, 2013 – Opera for the People (may be flipped
with May)
May 18, 2013 – Concert for a Cause (may be flipped
with March)
- INCLEMENT WEATHER:** In inclement weather (or other unforeseen events), the Artistic Director or VCS President may decide to cancel a rehearsal or performance. Section Leaders will contact their members via e-mail, and the cancellation

will also be posted on the VCS website and Facebook page.