

# *Tri-City Youth Choir*

## *Forte!*

### Important information

**PARENTS AND PERFORMERS:** Welcome to the elite Tri-Cities Youth Choir, FORTE! Below is the 1) Mission Statement, 2) Performers attendance policy 3) Rehearsal behavior policy, 4) Code of Conduct, 5) Parent Volunteer Information and 5) Media and liability release.

Note: Forte is growing! It is assumed that everyone is auditioning for the main Forte group; however, you may be assigned to one of two possible TCYC Forte groups, depending on audition results. All groups will meet weekly and all members commit to the same conduct standards.

### 1. Mission Statement

The mission of the Tri-City Youth Choir (TCYC) is to provide a wholesome refuge for youth to develop and excel in their musical talents and enhance the choral arts locally; a place where God and the arts coexist, where youth realize the source of their gifts and their responsibility to share them with others. As ambassadors for all that is good, the Tri City Youth Choir will bring hope to the community through song and performances created to uplift and inspire.

### 2. Performer Attendance Policy

Forte rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. Forte! performers are expected to adhere to the following attendance policies -

- Students are expected to be on time for practice. On time means ready to go at start time with water bottle, music folder, pencil, rehearsal clothes and dance shoes.
- Tardiness will result in a mark. 3 marks equal an absence. Repetitive tardiness shows a lack of respect and will jeopardize your ability to be a part of the choir.
- During the season, performers are allowed to miss a maximum of 4 rehearsals. If a performer misses more than that he/she will need to talk to the board about reasons for absence and receive a clearance in order to continue in the group.
- Absences later in the season are especially disruptive to learning, so please try to limit these as much as possible.
- The Artistic director must be notified in advance of all predictable absences. To obtain permission to miss a rehearsal, the performer should email the Artistic director directly at [tcycdirector@outlook.com](mailto:tcycdirector@outlook.com). All correspondence between the director and performer is subject to the Two Deep Leadership Rule and will be forwarded to a board member.
- Attendance is mandatory at the recording session and at tech week (the 5 days of up to 5-hour rehearsals leading up the show). The 4 allowed absences previously mentioned do not apply. If a student has a choir concert that effects their grade or another emergency; they must let the Artistic director know immediately to seek excusal from them and the board.

- Mandatory performances include a small venue performance that acts as a dress rehearsal before tech week and the 3 shows themselves. Those are the standard required performances. On a rare occasion and under unique circumstances, there may be 1 more required performance.
- Excusal from mandatory performances must be approved by the board.

### 3. Performer Rehearsal Behavior Policy

Forte! performers are expected to adhere to the following behavioral policies

- Performers shall adhere to the attendance policy.
- Performers shall show up to rehearsals with the top priority to work hard.
- Performers will show kindness and respect to all other choir members and adults who help with Forte.
- Performers must know and honor the behavior plan of the instructing adult.
- If a teen is warned because of behavior problems multiple times and the whole group is suffering from the repeated behavior, the teen will be invited to the next board meeting where dismissal from the group will be seriously considered.
- TCYC reserves the right to dismiss any individual that obstructs an uplifting learning environment or is disrespectful.
- All directors, choreographers and board members may be firm but must be respectful. Performers are expected to be respectful and proactive in their response to direction.
- If the whole group is unmanageably noisy or unteachably bouncy, they may be asked to do some physical activity as a reminder to regain attention and focus. The same consequence can be given individually outside of the presented behavior management plan.
- Food is acceptable outside during breaks – leave no trace.
- Cell phones should be put away and turned off.
- Rehearsal clothing should be easy to move in and cover the shoulders down to mid-calf without gaps.
- Students are expected to honor the code of conduct in dress and behavior during and outside of rehearsal.
- Watches and jewelry (other than small earring studs) are not allowed in rehearsal.
- Lock valuables in your car or don't bring them.
- Respect others by being honest, supportive, and quiet in the lobbies, before, during and after rehearsal.
- Performers are expected to be conscientious, honest and considerate about taking turns "sharing the limelight". If a student refuses to follow this policy, they are breaking the code of conduct. A competitive spirit among group members and hogging the front row detracts from the positive feelings and unity in the group.

### 4. Code of Conduct for performers

Forte! performers are expected to adhere to the following code of conduct –

- I will be cheerful, helpful, and considerate to others, and treat all with respect.

- My dress and appearance will be neat, clean, and modest (i.e., no short shorts/ skirts, tight clothing, shirts that do not cover the stomach, revealing, or crude attire).
- I will keep myself neatly groomed and avoid extremes in clothing appearance or hairstyle.
- I will use language that uplifts, encourages, and compliments others. I will not insult others or put them down, even in joking. I will not use crude language. I understand that gossip, backbiting, and negativity will destroy the group, and therefore, is considered serious and can be grounds for dismissal. I will take problems to the Director, Choreographer or the Board President.
- I will be honest in every way.
- I will keep my body strong and ready to perform by not using tobacco products, alcohol, or drugs.
- I understand and agree to adhere to the Forte! performer behavior policy (see Section 3).
- I understand that failure to follow this Code of Conduct may lead to my dismissal from Forte!

## 5. Forte! Parent Volunteer Information

Forte! success depends on the efforts of parent volunteers. Every TCYC member household is expected to have at least one representative serving on one of the committees listed. Upon acceptance into Forte, parents commit to help by signing up for the Stage, Marketing, Front of House, Hospitality, Audit, or the Materials Review Committee. In order to keep appropriate balance across committees, parents will number their top three choices in preference order on the Parent Help Form and the board will then assign committee groups according to preference and need. Parents will receive their final committee assignments at the parent meeting where committee breakout sessions will follow the standard meeting agenda.

## 6. Media and Liability Release

- I, parent and performer, give permission for my child/me to appear in media, including but not limited to, print, Forte advertising and internet sites, photos, videos, TV. Notice of any exception/s must be given to the Forte Board at auditions, or permission is automatically granted for all media for the entirety of the season. (I understand that my restricting media permission may limit my child's participation.)
- Parents/Performers understand and agree: Forte!/TCYC, nor its board, teachers, directors, employees, or volunteers shall not be liable for any injuries sustained by students, their families, guests, or others in this organization's facilities, or in any activities of this organization's which may occur outside their facilities, now or in the future. I, as a parent/performer, understand that inherent in any performing arts training there are risks and I/we assume all risks incident to all activities of these organizations. Additionally, in the event of an emergency, every attempt will be made to contact the parent/guardian. However, by enrolling I, as a parent, give permission for any emergency medical treatment deemed necessary for my child.

Signing below indicates you understand, agree, and commit to all aspects of the Mission Statement, Attendance policy, Rehearsal behavior policy, Code of Conduct, Parent Volunteer Information and Releases.

**We are so excited you're here!**

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Student name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_