



Frequently Asked Question(s)

Associated with Auditions

1. What is the Chattanooga Girls Choir?

The Chattanooga Girls Choir (CGC) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization created in 1987 to offer talented young ladies in the Chattanooga area the opportunity of developing their choral musicianship in an organization uniquely suited to their voices and potential.

2. Can anyone audition? How many girls can the choir accommodate? What costs are associated with auditioning?

Since 2004, the CGC has had four separate choirs within the larger organization, each designated by school grade level with specific and appropriate educational and musical goals. The program's target audience for membership is girls in grades 3 through 12. Singers in 4th through 12th grade are required to audition. (Mid year entrance is through appointment only). A non-auditioned third-grade choir operates from January through May of each year.

Every girl, grades 4 through 12, who enjoys singing and wishes to improve her vocal skills, is encouraged to audition. The choir can accommodate up to 45 girls per choir for a total of 180, 4th through 12th grade girls.

There is an audition fee of \$20 per girl. However, one of the main goals of the Chattanooga Girls Choir is to recruit the most talented girls in the metropolitan Chattanooga area regardless of race, color, national origin or financial standing. The CGC understands that not all families can afford an audition fee. Please call the choir office at 629-6188 to talk with a representative about the possibility of a fee waiver.

3. What dates can we audition? Who do we need to contact to set up an audition?

Each year the choir arranges several days from March through May for interested girls to audition. As each audition may take up to 10 minutes, please contact the choir office at 629-6188 to arrange a specific time and day for an audition.

4. What should my daughter prepare for her audition?

Each girl is asked to perform a song at her audition that she knows and enjoys singing. "My Country 'Tis of Thee" is one song that the CGC recommends for auditions. In addition to performing a song, your daughter's vocal range may be determined through some musical games. She may also be asked about prior choral or musical experience. The audition process is not meant to be a stressful situation. Please remind your daughter to take a deep breath, relax and enjoy herself.

5. Is there a deadline to join the choir?

Most auditions are made from March through May with a few appointments accepted over the summer. After your successful audition, you will receive through the mail an invitation to join the choir along with a voucher for the Spring Concert. The due date to accept the choir's invitation to become a member of the CGC is July 1st. To accept the invitation, you must complete and return the provided paperwork along with the tuition deposit.

6. What is the cost of the choir? What does tuition cover?

Membership for the Chattanooga Girls Choir includes choral instruction from a professional music educator, wardrobe rental, music rental, accompanists' fees for rehearsals/performances, awards, and staging expenses. Tuition fees, along with donations and all fundraisers, also cover the cost of the maintenance of the music library, the maintaining records, the repair and cleaning of uniforms, billing and collection services, storage, rent and utilities, and other activities necessary to run a successful large organization.

2009-2010 FEE SCHEDULE

Fees may change for the 2010-2011 Season

IF TUITION IS PAID IN FULL BY SEPTEMBER 30, YOU WILL RECEIVE A \$25 DISCOUNT TO THE OVERALL TUITION.

Cantilena and Bella Voce Choirs (4th - 6th grade)

Audition Fee:	Due at the audition	\$20
Deposit:	Due July 1	\$80
Payments:	Due September 1	\$100
	Due October 1	\$100
	Due November 1	<u>\$95</u>
Total		\$395

Jubilate Choir and Grace Moore Singers (7th - 12th grade)

Audition Fee:	Due at the audition	\$20
Deposit:	Due July 1	\$80
Payments:	Due September 1	\$140
	Due October 1	\$140
	Due November 1	<u>\$115</u>
Total		\$495

PLEASE NOTE: EACH FAMILY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTRIBUTING AT LEAST **6 HOURS** TO THE CHOIR OVER THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

7. Is there any financial aid for tuition?

The Board of Directors and the staff of the Chattanooga Girls Choir are committed to providing opportunities for all girls, whatever their financial situation, who wish to be members. Therefore, the officers of the CGC solicit separate funds to provide tuition scholarships for girls who would otherwise be unable to afford to participate. To be considered for a scholarship, families must complete an application and turn it in with associated financial information. Scholarships are based primarily on need, with talent being a secondary consideration. Scholarship funds are limited, and therefore families are required to volunteer extra hours in addition to the member requirement in an effort to stretch funds to cover as many applicants as fully as possible. The number of scholarships available depends entirely on the amount of money in the scholarship fund. All the materials and deliberations of the Scholarship Committee are confidential; every effort is made to assure the privacy of the girls awarded scholarships and their families. Please contact the choir office for more information.

8. When/how often does the choir meet for rehearsals?

The Chattanooga Girls Choir rehearses every Monday that the Hamilton County school calendar establishes as a regular school day. Normally, the first rehearsal of the season is on the Monday following the first week of school for Hamilton County. If Hamilton County is off for a holiday, fall, winter, or spring break then there will be no rehearsal. Each choir within the CGC does rehearse at different times on Monday. The Concert Choir also rehearses the first Saturday of each month. Further information will be sent with your membership invitation.

9. Where/how often do the choirs perform?

In addition to two major concerts each year involving all of the CGC choirs, the individual choirs of the CGC also perform at a wide range of public, private, charity and school events in the Chattanooga area. The CGC has been a frequent performer at nursing homes, schools, churches, and other community venues. The CGC also presents free performances in public venues such as Coolidge Park, Miller Plaza, and the St. Andrew's Center. Other programs in which CGC participates include venues as Rock City, Northgate Mall, and Hamilton Place Mall. Occasionally, one or more of the choirs will perform at a wedding, bar or bat mitzvah, or other celebration. These latter occasions generally include donations to the Choir.

10. What else should I expect?

At the beginning of the year, there will be a CGC informational meeting held for parents of current members. At this meeting parents will be given their CGC folder filled with important information explaining CGC guidelines, volunteer hours, rehearsal calendar, fundraising and more. Also, information regarding summer tours by members of the older choirs will be provided. At this meeting, parents are asked for input concerning decisions affecting the choir for the coming year. If you cannot attend this important meeting, please make arrangements with the choir office to pick up the parent folder.