



Metropolitan Choral Festival 2026 Choir Participation Agreement

Welcome to the Metropolitan Choral Festival! We are proud to be Denver's only summer chorus that provides volunteer singers the opportunity to perform choral Masterworks with professional symphony musicians and present our annual concert to the public free of charge. At MCF, we embrace Cultural Competency as a continuous process of cultivating skills, behaviors, and attitudes that foster an environment of respect, inclusion, and equity for all individuals, regardless of their diverse backgrounds.

This document describes the expectations of MCF choir participation. Your signature is required to participate.

- 1) Eligibility: MCF is a non-audition choir made up of singers aged 16 years and up. All abilities are welcome. As a volunteer organization open to all, we welcome diversity, value inclusion, and respect the varied backgrounds and differences of our choir participants. We challenge each singer to reach their musical potential and strengthen our organization with your trust, tolerance, and talent. Our ability to come together in harmony is our greatest strength.
- 2) Fees: The annual participation fee for 2026 is \$140 and is due on or before your first rehearsal. Payment options are as follows:
 - a) Mail: Send a check to MCF, c/o Charles Miller, 4500 E. Cherry Creek Drive South, Suite 1080, Denver, CO 80246
 - b) Online: Pay by credit or debit card through our secure online platform, Zeffy. Visit <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-singer-registration> to make a payment.
 - c) Cash: Bring cash to your first rehearsal.***Fees are not refundable after the second rehearsal.
- 3) Scholarships: A limited number of scholarships are available to assist those facing financial hardship. We are committed to ensuring that financial barriers do not prevent anyone with a desire to participate from joining MCF. Please send an email to metrochoralfestival@gmail.com to inquire about scholarship requirements and availability.
- 4) Attendance: While there is no strict attendance policy, consistent participation is crucial for the success of the choir. If you anticipate missing more than three rehearsals, please communicate with your Section Coordinator.
- 5) Rehearsals: Rehearsals are held twice weekly for seven weeks, beginning on the first Sunday following July 4th. To facilitate independent learning, practice tracks and links for all vocal parts are available on the 'Singers' page of our website. Singers are strongly encouraged to utilize these resources for individual practice between scheduled rehearsals. Rehearsal time is dedicated to refining ensemble balance, exploring dynamic nuances, and achieving harmonious vocal blending. Our collective effort ensures the highest artistic quality and expressive performance for the concert.
- 6) Tech Rehearsal: Due to the condensed rehearsal schedule, a single rehearsal with the orchestra will take place on Friday, the day preceding the Saturday concert. Attendance at the Tech Rehearsal is MANDATORY for all singers.
- 7) Performance Attire Options: 1) All black floor-length dresses, skirts or palazzo pants that resemble a skirt, paired with black tops featuring sleeves that reach the elbow or longer. 2) Black tuxedo suits consisting of black pants and a black jacket, accompanied by a white shirt and a black bow tie. To ensure a fragrance-free environment for all singers, please refrain from wearing any strong scents. Jewelry should be kept modest and understated. Black socks or nylons and closed-toe black shoes are mandatory. It is crucial to adhere to the specified performance attire for the concert. Failure to comply may result in being asked to leave the stage and not perform.
- 8) Music: The annual participation fee covers the cost of the music. Printed scores will be available at the first rehearsal, are yours to keep, and may be marked as needed. Electronic scores will be available in advance of the first rehearsal.
- 9) Marketing: MCF has a website and a robust online presence. We routinely post photos and videos of our rehearsals, events and concerts. Being an active MCF participant indicates your

agreement for these images and videos to be used at the discretion of MCF. The MCF is committed to only capturing images and videos in the context of MCF activities and will not use them for any reason other than our online presence (Facebook, Instagram, and the MCF website). We encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates and exciting news. Please share our posts with your friends and family to help spread the word about MCF!

10) The following are MCF's Core Competencies to uphold Diversity, Equity and Inclusion within our organization. This includes the following:

	Core Competency	Demonstrated Ability
1	Ability to work effectively with individuals from diverse cultural background	Contributes and creates a welcoming environment for diversity and behaves in a manner that shows respect for diversity and cultural differences for all.
2	Ability to respect the unique characteristics of others	Seeks advice from choir members and staff that have beliefs and values different than your own.
3	Ability to assess cultural factors and integrate them into service	Uses cultural information to tailor services and interventions to meet the specific needs of choir members and staff.
4	Ability to examine one's own values, stereotypes and beliefs and how these may impact others in the organization and service	Verbalizes awareness and recognizes that one's values and beliefs vary based on individual differences. Uses this knowledge to reflect on how differences can impact the way one relates to other members and the service of the organization.
5	Ability to manage one's own values and beliefs when they conflict with values and beliefs different from our own	Applies understanding of differences in values and beliefs to effectively resolve and address conflict.
6	Ability to seek information on behaviors, customs and expectations that are unique to others different than our own	Continually learns and participates in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion conversations and trainings. Independently and intentionally seeks information on cultural differences for the purpose of increasing knowledge in understanding differences.
7	Ability to advocate on behalf of the organization's mission and vision to promote Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and respect for all cultures	Behaves in ways that demonstrate inclusion and respect for diversity. Advocates for inclusion of all individuals and cultures in fulfilling the vision and mission of MCF.
8	Ability to learn and understand the impact of using the correct information, descriptions, words and titles when working in the context of differences	Displays behaviors and uses words that show respect for diversity. Verbalizes the difference of intent vs. impact when using descriptors, words and titles in the context of diversity.
9	Ability to assess the needs and provide resources and services for linguistically appropriate services for clients and families	Has knowledge of resources to provide services in the language preferred by members, including sign language.

10	Ability to understand and comply with Title VI Civil Rights Act and HHS Office of Civil Rights Policy Guidance for Servicing Limited English Proficient (LEP) service recipients	Has knowledge of the application of Title VI Civil Rights Act and HHS Office of Civil Rights Policy Guidance for Servicing Limited English Proficient (LEP) service.
----	--	--

- 11) Singer Conduct: All MCF participants are expected to conduct themselves in a dignified, orderly, and respectful manner on and off the stage, in person and on social media.
- a) As a member of MCF, you are an ambassador of the organization. Conduct yourself with dignity and respect at all times, both during rehearsals and performances, and across all platforms, including social media. Refrain from any behavior that could negatively impact the organization's reputation, such as exploiting other participants for personal gain.
 - b) Inconsiderate and disruptive behavior, such as inattention during rehearsals or performances, excessive talking, and inappropriate cell phone usage, can negatively impact the morale and artistic quality of our choir. Such behavior will not be tolerated. It is important to note that if a guest accompanies a singer to any choir rehearsal or event, these guidelines for appropriate behavior also apply to the guest.
 - c) Occasional disagreements may arise. It is important to approach conflict resolution with respect and integrity. Communicate with each other kindly and respectfully, both during and outside of rehearsals. If a disagreement cannot be resolved amicably, please discuss the situation with the Artistic Director or a member of the MCF Board of Directors.
- 12) If any choir participant experiences any form of threat, harassment, or intimidation from another singer, board member, staff, or musician, and feels unable to resolve the issue privately, they are encouraged to promptly discuss the situation with a member of the MCF Board of Directors to seek support and resolution or send an email to: info@metropolitanchoralfestival.org.
- 13) Failure to comply with these listed expectations may result in removal from the choir.

To the MCF directors, singers and musicians: With my signature below, I affirm:

- I have received a copy of the choir participation agreement.
- I have read and understand the expectations.
- I agree to comply with all singer expectations.
- I understand that failure to do so may result in my removal from the choir.

Printed Name _____

Signature _____

Cell Phone _____

Date _____

Email _____

MCF Board of Directors
Ricki Vorrath-Moyer, MCF Artistic Director