

APPLETON BOY CHOIR

Appleton Boychoir Handbook 2018-2019 Season

**Appleton Boychoir, Inc.
Fox Cities Building for the Arts
111 W. College Ave., 4th Floor
Appleton, WI 54911
920-955-2224**

**info@appletonboychoir.com
www.appletonboychoir.com
www.facebook.com/AppletonBoychoir
www.appletonboychoir.shutterfly.com**

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APPLETON BOYCHOIR STAFF

Artistic Director: Dr. Kevin Meidl
Ambassador/ChamberSingers: Dr. Kevin Meidl, Conductor
Ambassador Choir: Carole Rajkovich, Conductor
Repertoire Choir: Anna Frato, Conductor
After School Programming/Recruiting: Abby Swaagman
Collaborative Pianist: Katie Vande Ven
Collaborative Pianist: Jon Riehle
Executive Director: Hilary Armstrong
Business Administrator: Tammy Kasten

ABOUT OUR CHOIRS

CHOIRS

Appleton Boychoir is made up of three choirs: Repertoire, Ambassador, and ChamberSingers. As we enter our 40th Anniversary Season, the Appleton Boychoir is continuing with the re-established structural/rehearsal concepts: 1) The Repertoire Choir is the foundation of our Training Program, 2) Musical Mentorship “Yogurt Theory” within our Ambassador choir includes those boys who have been in the Ambassador Choir for at least the previous season and/or who have reached a certain age/grade and/or have completed at least one year in the Repertoire Choir, and, 3) A Select ChamberSingers Choir is auditioned from our Ambassador Choir.

REHEARSAL INFORMATION

Please enter and exit the buildings where designated and only stay in assigned areas. Boys found mistreating these facilities or behaving inappropriately will be dealt with according to our Discipline Policy (included in the Handbook). Rehearsals typically begin the week prior to Labor Day weekend and conclude with the final rehearsal of the season before the final concert of the season. Exceptions are communicated as soon as possible.

Repertoire Choir: Mondays, 4:30-5:15 pm; First Congregational UCC, 724 E. South River St., Appleton, enter through main/front door, lower level, Choir Room.

Ambassador Choir: Mondays, 4:00-5:30 pm; Appleton West High School, 610 N. Badger Ave., Appleton; enter through Door 7, upper level, Choir Room.

ChamberSingers: Thursdays, 4:00-5:30 pm; Appleton West High School, 610 N. Badger Ave., Appleton; enter through Door 7, upper level, Choir Room.

REPERTOIRE CHOIR BOYS may enter the Appleton Boychoir Training Program at any point during the season, although auditions will be scheduled in December and May. This is a probationary period that will develop the basic skills required to rehearse and concertize in a PERFORMANCE CHOIR. Repertoire Choristers will learn how to read music, hold a choral score, rehearse as a member of a choral ensemble, sing music in harmony, blend, and balance with other choristers, perform on stage, memorize and perform musically selected folk songs and concert material and there is no time limit at this level. Boys will be promoted as

individually ready, into the Ambassador Choir as determined by the conductors and assistants. This will generally take place after behavioral and musical benchmarks are met and following a minimum of one semester of training, although the standard is at least one year at this level.

Promotion into Ambassador Choir – Benchmarks:

- * Able to focus and engage in lessons/rehearsals without causing distraction
- * Able to be kind to others and contribute to the betterment of the ensemble
- * Able to match pitches and sing in tune
- * Able to memorize words and music for songs as selected by the conductors
- * Able to hold, follow, and read a choral score to the level determined by the conductors
- * Able to perform on stage in an engaging way without distraction
- * Meets attendance requirements (2 absences/Sem. permitted without parent meeting)
- * Completes successfully all assigned Music Theory Assignments
- * Meets other criteria as determined individually for that boy by the conductors

AMBASSADOR CHOIR BOYS are our musical representatives to the world, our flagship choir. They continue to learn how to sing music in harmony, blend and balance with other choristers, perform on stage in more challenging situations, sight-read music to a higher level, and memorize and perform musically selected concert repertoire. They concertize regularly in the Fox Valley and travel nationally/internationally on a rotating basis. It is expected that Ambassador Choir boys behave in a manner that reflects positively on the choir and our community. It is also expected that they will commit to rehearsing and learning music to a very high level and engage audiences through the highest levels of performance etiquette (facial expression, posture, eye contact, following the conductor, expressiveness, body movement, etc.). It is also expected that boys attend ALL rehearsals and performances. Two rehearsals per semester may be missed (excused or unexcused), after which point there must be a parent meeting. Dress rehearsals and performances are MANDATORY. The conductor(s) of the Ambassador Choir may, at his or her discretion, make exceptions as is in the best interest of the choir.

Continued Membership in Ambassador Choir – Benchmarks:

- * Able to focus and engage in lessons/rehearsal without causing distraction
- * Able to be kind to others and contribute to the betterment of the ensemble
- * Able to match pitches and sing in tune
- * Able to memorize words and music for songs as selected by the conductors
- * Able to read a choral score and simple two-part music
- * Able to hold a harmony or melody part against another singer
- * Able to perform in an engaging way on stage without distraction
- * Contributes musically toward the betterment of the ensemble
- * Positively represents the Appleton Boychoir locally and abroad
- * Attends Summer Camp (REQUIRED)
- * Meets attendance requirements (2 absences/Sem. permitted without parent meeting)
- * Completes successfully all assigned Music Theory Assignments (1st and 2nd year students)
- * Attendance for recording sessions and tours is expected unless there are extenuating circumstances
- * Remains in the choir until his voice changes or until the end of the 8th grade year
- * Meets other criteria as determined individually for that boy by the conductor(s)

CHAMBERSINGERS

ChamberSingers are auditioned from the larger Ambassador choir by the beginning of October (sooner when possible). Singers will be selected based on core musicianship, vocal quality, tonal memory/reading ability, rehearsal skill, behavior and leadership. Any boy from Ambassador Choir will be welcome to demonstrate these skills and audition for the ChamberSingers. There is no maximum number; however, this will be a very high level choir.

The ChamberSingers are not only expected to follow all choir benchmarks and promotion protocol for the Ambassador Choir, but this is an opportunity for boys who have exceptional skills and an outstanding commitment to Appleton Boychoir.

The Appleton Boychoir ChamberSingers will be a THURSDAY ONLY choir.

An important aspect of the ChamberSingers is that they must come to both Monday AND Thursday rehearsals. Boys only available once each week for rehearsal, must come on Monday and will not be eligible for the ChamberSingers. (Boys who miss regularly for music/drama/sports conflicts at their schools will only have the option of the Monday choirs).

The ChamberSingers represent Appleton Boychoir for special programs such as the Nutcracker with the Makaroff Youth Ballet and Fox Valley Symphony, Fox Cities Building for the Arts Young Audiences Series, as well as other events throughout the season. **These events/dates will be on the Appleton Boychoir Calendars and communicated through email updates.**

At semester, the ensemble may be re-auditioned and change membership to reflect the availability of singers and the type of extra programming the ChamberSingers undertakes.

ACHIEVEMENT LADDER AND POINTS

The Appleton Boychoir “Achievement Ladder” is designed to give every boy the opportunity to excel and to be recognized for his hard work. This step-wise program of advancement will allow and encourage each boy to fully develop his rehearsal skills, promptness, leadership, and musicianship. These advancement levels DO NOT necessarily determine advancement into ChamberSingers. (These decisions are ultimately made by the Conductors through the continual auditioning of each boy during the season.)

Boys begin the first step of the Achievement Ladder the year after Repertoire Choir and/or their first year in Ambassador Choir and points are awarded as indicated below. Once a boy begins the program, he must remain at least one year at each level before moving to the next. A boy may advance at any time after the period of one year per level. To advance, he must also achieve and maintain a 90%-point average to advance to “Apprentice” or a 95% of all total points to advance to “Master” or “Scholar.” Boys may not skip levels. A boy hoping to advance to the level of “Scholar” must test and perform in addition to achieving the 95% average points. The boys’ names will be printed in our programs identifying their level of achievement.

Ambassador Choir Points are awarded for attendance, participation, behavior, etc. in rehearsals, concerts and other Boychoir events. Boys may be awarded four (4) points at each rehearsal and performance or per event. Boys and parents will be able to view running point totals at rehearsals. *The Repertoire Choir year(s) are considered probationary and thus are not part of the “Achievement Ladder” program and points are not tallied.*

At each rehearsal, a boy will have the opportunity to earn four (4) points in the following areas:

1. On time, and remaining at: rehearsals, performances, and other Boychoir events
 2. Has all materials for rehearsal: wearing name tag, bag, music folder, pencil, etc.
 3. Is actively participating and demonstrates excellent behavior
 4. Demonstrates excellent engagement and leadership (awarded by the Conductors)
- The Conductors may, on occasion, award a bonus point for an exemplary act of leadership demonstrated by a boy during rehearsal.
 - Points may be deducted for tardiness, leaving early, missing materials, and not following the Contract/Code of Conduct (signed in the Registration Packet) and behavioral issues (see Discipline Policy below).
 - Special events such as camp, additional concerts and tours will also carry fixed point values and will be figured into the final total.
 - Extra credit points may be awarded for meetings/potlucks, extra Saturday rehearsals, as conductors see appropriate at each rehearsal, and a few other activities throughout the season.

The Achievement Ladder

- Step 1 – Novice: A singer in the beginning stages of learning performance and rehearsal skills.
- Step 2 – Apprentice: A developing chorister who has spent at least a year in training as a novice and has achieved a minimum of 90% of the total possible points during that period.
- Step 3 – Master: A skilled young chorister who has achieved all of the basic goals of the rehearsal, performance, and all other Boychoir activities. He has also achieved a 95% or better of all possible points during a period of, not less than, two years' time. We expect most of our boys to achieve the level of "Master."
- Step 4 – Scholar: This is the final and most highly prized level of achievement. Not only does he reach a 95% level over a minimum of three years, but he will also take a written exam and perform a solo in voice and an instrument. The few exceptional boys able to reach this level of achievement will truly be "Scholars." Boys who have shown leadership are invited by the conductors to audition for the level of "Scholar."

Scholar Level Auditions: Master Level Boys may audition to achieve the level of scholar if they meet the following criteria:

- * Attended all summer camps and tours
 - * 95% in point totals in the Achievement Ladder system
 - * Demonstrated positive leadership within the choir
 - * Minimum of 2 years' study on an instrument – performance required in Scholar Audition
 - * Able to sing in tune musically on selected song – performance required in Scholar Audition
 - * Able to sight-read at a basic level – demonstration required in Scholar Audition
 - * Receive a general recommendation from all music/administrative staff
-

AWARDS AND GRADUATION

Participation Stars: AFTER each year of service in the Ambassador Choirs, a boy is given a star to wear on his shirt, sweater or blazer lapel. Awarded each year at Lessons and Carols following the probationary year.

Medallions: When a boy reaches 7th grade and is able to meet our expectations through our “Achievement Ladder,” he may begin wearing the Appleton Boychoir medallion. This medallion remains Appleton Boychoir property until the boy is graduated by the conductors at the end of his eighth grade year or when his voice changes, whichever comes first.

Graduation: Graduation exercises take place at the Spring Concert. When he has been formally graduated, the medallion becomes his to keep. *If a boy resigns from the Appleton Boychoir early without formal graduation, the medallion must be returned.*

Scholar Pins: Presented in December following October or November auditions.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is very important, at rehearsals and the main concerts for the season. A Parent Meeting may be called if a boy misses two (2) or more rehearsals in a concert cycle. Attendance at all dress rehearsals and main concerts is MANDATORY. Unless the boy is ill, or there is an emergency, an Absence Appeal Form (included in the Handbook) must be completed in advance (a minimum of one week before missing a dress rehearsal and/or concert/performance) and given to Boychoir staff for clarification and approval. Attendance is also sometimes required and/or highly encouraged for tours, camp, and other church and/or community performances.

We are trusting you, his parent(s)/guardian(s), to make the best decision for your son and family and for the Appleton Boychoir regarding his attendance at weekly rehearsals, for the effect on his performance capabilities within our choir(s). The Choir Parents and Boychoir staff will be noting attendance for our internal purposes as well as to mark individual boy’s points for our Achievement Ladder (described previously.) Please inform the Appleton Boychoir office by calling, emailing, or completing an Absence Appeal Form for any missed rehearsals, as well.

REHEARSAL MATERIALS

Each boy will be given a nametag to wear during rehearsals, and one to keep on their Appleton Boychoir bag. The nametag they wear, will be returned to the Choir Parents at the end of each rehearsal (this assists with attendance). Ambassador Choir boys who lose their nametags will lose Achievement Ladder points. Any boys who lose or destroy their music, music binders, music theory books, or music bag **will be charged up to \$25.00 for each item.** A reasonable amount of wear and tear is expected.

Boys will be provided with and must bring to each rehearsal:

Repertoire Choir: music bag, black music binder with music, Appleton Boychoir Songbook & CD, music theory book, and pencil/eraser.

Ambassador Choirs: music bag, white Standard Repertoire binder, black music binder, music theory book (1st and/or 2nd year students only), and pencil/eraser.

ChamberSingers: Boys will receive extra music materials and the same protocol must be observed as in Ambassador Choir.

The following items are the boys to *keep*:

- The Standard Repertoire, white binder, given to Ambassador Choir boys
- The Appleton Boychoir Songbook & CD, given to Repertoire Choir boys
- Once completed, their Music Theory books, “A Young Singer’s Journey,” Book I or II, are given to Repertoire Choir boys and 1st and/or 2nd year Ambassador boys
- Tour T-shirts

The following items are to be *returned* to Appleton Boychoir at the end of each season – see calendars for dates:

- Appleton Boychoir bag
- Black binder & all music
- Nametags
- Appleton Boychoir apparel – blazer & tie, other performance clothing, tour clothing (except tour t-shirt)

REHEARSAL POSTPONEMENT/CANCELLATION POLICY

Since rehearsals are held within the Appleton Area School District, we will follow the AASD’s postponement and cancellation decisions. Emails will be sent to all families with email addresses; a message will be left on the Boychoir website, we will post a message on Facebook (and potentially other social media); and announcements will be made on WHBY 1150 AM and NBC26, when those stations allow it.

Concerts will not be cancelled; however, should there be inclement weather affecting a concert, we recommend families use their best judgement in keeping their son safe.

CONTRACT AND CODE OF CONDUCT *(as signed off in the Registration Packet)*

For your reference, we are including the same information from the form you and your son sign off on when registering your child for Appleton Boychoir:

As members of Appleton Boychoir, Inc., I/we, the undersigned **child and parent(s)/guardian(s)**, have read the following, understand, and agree to fulfill the following commitments required of us:

1. I/we understand that the purpose of Appleton Boychoir, Inc. is to offer talented young boys a supplemental choral music education in order to develop musical understanding, and to achieve artistic expression.
2. I/we agree that the child is making a one-year commitment and will participate for the entire **2018-2019 season**. As parent(s)/guardian(s), I/we agree to support the participation of my/our child in the Appleton Boychoir program. I/we understand that we are making a financial commitment for the entire amount of the tuition and that continued participation in the chorus may be contingent upon timely payment of the tuition.
3. I/we agree that appropriate and respectful behavior is always required when representing Appleton Boychoir, on “Social Media,” and during rehearsals, and performances, and when at camp or on tours. Repeated inappropriate behavior may result in dismissal from the Appleton Boychoir.

4. I/we understand that excessive tardiness/absences may result in the choir member not being able to sing in an upcoming performance as the quality of the music is handicapped by tardiness and absences.
5. I/we understand that one of the main purposes of any choir is participate in live performances. **Attendance for the Appleton Boychoir's season of concerts and associated dress rehearsals are mandatory for all singers.** (If a required school function occurs during the same date/time, the school function takes priority. Please inform the office as soon as possible.)
6. I/we understand that each child's family is financially responsible for any items issued that are either not returned or returned in poor condition, such as uniforms and music.
7. I/we will actively market the organization whenever possible, such as distributing posters in the community.
8. I/we will actively help sell advanced tickets for performances to friends, family, or co-workers.
9. I/we understand that the Appleton Boychoir relies on each family to volunteer over the course of the season, and I/we will agree to help whenever possible (see Volunteer box on next page).
10. I/we understand that as a non-profit organization, Appleton Boychoir, Inc. relies on each member's family reaching the goals set for each Appleton Boychoir, Inc. fundraiser. Appleton Boychoir, Inc. will have two (2) organizational fundraisers during the **2018-2019 season**. Fundraisers have typically been held in the fall semester and in the spring semester. We require each family sell a determined quantity for each fundraiser, per child, or there is a "Fair-share Buyout" option available (see Page 3 of the Registration Packet).
11. I/we understand that a cell phone and/or other electronics are not a necessary component of participating in Appleton Boychoir's programs. If I/we choose for my/our child to carry a cell phone, I/we understand no pictures/recordings may be taken in hotel rooms/cabins, bathrooms, or changing/sleeping type environments, regardless of the intention of use. I/we understand my/our child's cell phone is to be off during rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and performances. Usage of cell phone and/or other electronics may be allowed on tours and camp on a limited basis, for example, during certain times of the day.

Appleton Boychoir, Inc. provides educational, recreational and social activities for the chorus members through weekly rehearsals, performances, tours, camp and special activities. This Contract and Code of Conduct is meant to guide our young boys and their families as they matriculate through Appleton Boychoir, Inc.'s programs.

Each and every member of Appleton Boychoir, Inc. has a common bond: a love of song and singing. This binds us together and transcends all of our differences. We are a community of singers. We rely on one another. This code of conduct guides our community.

The following Code of Conduct is applicable to all who participate in Appleton Boychoir, Inc.'s programs and activities. As a choir member, participant, volunteer, and parent, you represent Appleton Boychoir and must agree to the following:

1. To behave in a courteous and respectful manner towards others.
2. To be respectful of the individual and cultural differences of others.
3. To refrain from any behavior and/or language that is abusive, threatening, offensive or disruptive to others.
4. To respect the personal belongings of others, property at our rehearsal and performance locations, and Appleton Boychoir, Inc.'s property.
5. To act honestly in relationships with others.
6. To take Appleton Boychoir, Inc. membership seriously and to participate fully in rehearsals and performances.

I/we have read the above Choir Member/Parent Contract and Code of Conduct policy and reviewed this with my/our child. I/we understand my/our and our child's responsibilities and commitments to Appleton Boychoir, Inc.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

The Conductors and Choir Parents will be using the following system for rehearsal discipline. “Choir Parents” are asked to help supervise the boy’s behavior in rehearsals, performances, and travel. Choir Parent Expectations are included in the Handbook and this used as a tool to help keep the boy’s on track. The Discipline Policy was organized to help parents stay informed of the progress of their son in the Boychoir and to help improve behavior during rehearsals and performances. We want the boys to look and feel professional in their performances and other group activities. It is our goal to help guide the boys to adhere to the Appleton Boychoir Contract and Code of Conduct, to develop good discipline and behavior through the Boychoir organization.

- Step 1:** If a boy misbehaves during rehearsal, he will be spoken to by the Conductor after rehearsal and will be advised that if there is another problem, we will proceed to Step 2. Choir Parents and Conductors will take away attendance points for behavioral issues, as necessary. (*Points are not applicable to Repertoire Choir boys.*)
- Step 2:** If a boy misbehaves a second time during rehearsal, he will be asked to take a “time out” with a Choir Parent or possibly removed from that rehearsal and parents may be called by the Choir Parents, Conductor, Business Administrator, or Executive Director. An Incident Report will be filled out and will be sent home for a parent/guardian signature. Please see the Incident Report for more information (included in the Handbook).
- Step 3:** If a boy continues to misbehave during rehearsals, or a performance or while touring, a Parent Meeting will be called and the boy’s membership in the Appleton Boychoir will be evaluated.
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PERFORMANCE ATTIRE – Do *not* wear these items to “Dress Rehearsals” – this is for performances only. A concert uniform is required for all performances unless otherwise specified by the Executive Director. The COMPLETE uniform must be neat and clean, and shirts neatly tucked in. Any boy not properly dressed will not be allowed to sing. Each boy’s hair should be clean and neatly combed. Don’t forget a smile!

ALL Choirs:

- Black belt
- TALL black socks
- Black dress shoes
- **Dress pants*** (see ordering information below)

Repertoire Choir – additional item:

- Appleton Boychoir Polo Shirt (to be provided)

Ambassador Choir (including ChamberSingers) – additional items:

- Appleton Boychoir blazer & tie (to be provided)
- White, long-sleeve, button-down dress shirt – suitable for wearing with the ABC blazer and tie

***Dress Pants:**

All boys need to have a uniform pair of Khaki Pants – a.k.a. – **Dress Pants**. We are requesting you order these pants from **Lands’ End** for consistency. **We recommend purchasing as soon as possible – watch for sales!**

www.landsend.com – Boys Iron Knee Blend Plain Front Chino, item #403847, Khaki color, “non-school uniform”
https://www.landsend.com/products/boys-plain-front-iron-knee-blend-chino-pants/id_223188?sku_0=:BLA

Clothing Distribution and Returns

Clothing distribution and returns are typically at the Appleton Boychoir office located on the 4th floor of the Fox Cities Building for the Arts (enter behind the Trout Museum of Art – not the museum doors). Enter through the back of the building, through the glass door (you’ll see “Appleton Boychoir” on the door), and take the elevator up to the 4th floor. Watch emails for different distribution/return locations, potentially at the rehearsal space for that day. Further instructions and information will go out as the dates approach. Music bags are typically distributed at Camp in August or the boy’s first rehearsal.

Clothing distribution:

- **Ambassador Choir boys will receive their blazer and tie in September/October.**
- **Repertoire Choir boys will receive their Polo shirt at the rehearsal in October.**

Clothing & music bag returns:

ALL CHOIR MEMBERS are required to return their clothing and music bags the week of April 29 – May 3, 2019. Extended hours for return are anticipated on Monday, April 29, 2019 from 4-6 pm. All non-traveling members are required to return clothing and music bags no later than Friday, May 10, 2019. Watch emails for updates on dates/times.

Greece travelers returns:

All traveling choir members are required to return their clothing and music bags the week of July 8-12, 2019. All clothing and music bags for Greece travelers must be returned no later than Friday, July 19, 2019. Watch for updates on dates/times.

FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

The Boychoir holds two organizational fundraisers each season. These fundraisers allow us to keep tuition costs as low as possible. A buy-out option for families not wanting to participate in the organizational fundraisers is always available.

Additional fundraising options, such as candy bar sales, are offered to help build boys individual accounts. Other fundraising ideas are always welcome and will be evaluated.

Fall Fundraiser: Save Around Town Coupon Books

(The buy-out option is \$75/student. This fundraiser is only mandatory for those families who did not register for the buy-out.)

This year, we are again offering the “City Saver” discount books as our Fall Fundraiser. Each boy’s “fair share” is SIX (6) books. By selling these Savings Books, you are offering great value and savings to friends, neighbors and family members while at the same time supporting local businesses in our own community.

There are discounts and buy-one-get-one free offers for many popular restaurants, coffee shops, athletic stores, services, and entertainment options. The books sell for \$25, and it returns the buyer thousands in potential savings over the course of the next year!!

As an incentive for the boys to sell these saver books, the Boychoir helps each boy build their fundraising account. Each boy participating will receive a bonus of \$12.50 for each book sold over

the minimum of six. The money will be applied to reduce the cost of their camp/tour fees. There are additional incentives offered by the saver book company for top sales, etc.

The 2018 Saver Book Sale will kick off at the beginning of the season. The participating boys will be given six (6) books to sell. The money will be due by the end of September. Additional books will be available by request.

Spring Fundraiser: Fruit, Cheese & Sausage Sale

(The buy-out option is \$75/student. This fundraiser is only mandatory for those families who did not register for the buy-out.)

The Boychoir has been holding this sale for MANY years. This sale serves as the major annual fundraiser for the organization. Each boy's fair-share to sell is the equivalent of TEN (10) boxes of fruit, cheese, &/or sausage.

As an incentive for the boys to sell these items, the Boychoir helps each boy build their fundraising account. Each boy participating will receive a bonus for any box sold over the minimum of ten, which will be applied to reduce the cost of their camp/tour fees.

Tentative dates: The 2018-2019 Fruit, Cheese, & Sausage Sale will kick off on Monday, January 14, 2019. All sale orders must be turned in at rehearsals on Monday, January 28, 2019. Orders will be available to be picked up on Monday, February 11, 2019 from 3:00 pm-6:00 pm at Appleton West High School. Final dates and details will go out as soon as possible.

2018-2019 SEASON OF CONCERTS & TICKET INFORMATION

CONCERT INFORMATION – All choir members will perform these concerts:

A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Saturday, December 1, 2018, 1:00 pm & 4:00 pm
Lawrence Memorial Chapel, 510 E. College Ave., Appleton
Reserved Seating – Premium \$20, Preferred \$15

Family & Favorites - Winter Concert

Saturday, March 9, 2019, 4:00 pm
Lawrence Memorial Chapel, 510 E. College Ave., Appleton
Reserved Seating – Premium \$20, Preferred \$15

40th Anniversary – Spring Concert

Saturday, April 20, 2019, 4:00 pm
Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave., Appleton
Reserved Seating – *Tickets will be purchased through the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center*

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets are available through the Appleton Boychoir office and all seats are reserved. This season the exception is the 40th Anniversary Concert on April 20, 2019, which is ticketed through the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. Tickets for these events will go on sale in August, 2018.

Tickets being purchased through Appleton Boychoir may be ordered any of the following ways:

- **ONLINE** at www.appletonboychoir.com – you may pick your favorite seats and print your ticket/seating information right away!
- **CALLING** the Appleton Boychoir office at 920-955-2224 with a credit or debit card.
- **MAILING** in the Appleton Boychoir 2018-2019 ticket order form with payment to the Appleton Boychoir, Fox Cities Building for the Arts, 111 West College Avenue, 4th Floor, Appleton, WI, 54911.
- **IN PERSON** thirty minutes prior to each performance. Tickets for the concerts may typically also be purchased during the dress rehearsals.

Reserved Seating Locations/Descriptions at Lawrence Memorial Chapel:

- *Premium (\$20)*: Premium seats are available in the most center sections of the Main Floor and Balcony of Lawrence Memorial Chapel. These are in the heart of the chapel, the best view, the best sound and considered the best seats!
- *Preferred (\$15)*: Preferred seats are the remaining center section and wing seats of the Main Floor and Balcony of the Lawrence Memorial Chapel. Great seats and more affordable for families.

Misc. Ticketing Information:

All sales are final. No cash refunds or ticket exchanges are allowed on ticket purchases. In the event you cannot use your tickets, the donation of your tickets back to the Appleton Boychoir is appreciated and will be given to a family in need. Auditorium doors generally open one-half hour before each performance. Latecomers will be seated at a suitable pause in the performance. Reserved seating selection is not guaranteed after performance begins. Children older than 2-years-old must have a ticket and are not permitted to sit on an adult's lap.

Accessible Seating: Special seating is available for patrons in wheelchairs. Please note any special needs when placing your order.

Tickets being purchased through Fox Cities PAC may be ordered any of the following ways:

Phone: (920) 730-3760

Fax: (920) 730-3755

E-mail: tickets@foxcitiespac.com

Hours Sept - June: Mon. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. / Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. / One hour before show time

ticketmaster[®]

Phone: (800) 982-2787

Hours: Mon - Fri 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. / Sat 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. / Sun 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Additional Appleton Boychoir 2018-2019 Performances

Ambassador Choir – Songfest - Community Sing fundraiser

Sunday, September 9, 2018, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Pierce Park Stage, 1035 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton

\$10 Donations suggested for your favorite Ambassador Choir boy! Tickets available through the boys or Appleton Boychoir

ChamberSingers & MasterSingers – From Chant to Contemporary...the Masterworks Concert

Saturday, October 20, 2018, 2:00 pm

St. Mary's Catholic Church, 312 S. State St., Appleton

General seating – tickets through Appleton Boychoir

Ambassador Choir – newVoices Sings featuring the Ambassador Choir

Light Up Night – Downtown Appleton

Friday, November 9, 2018

Houdini Square (tentatively), 111 W. College Ave., Appleton

Free and open to the Public

Repertoire Choir – Holiday Recital

Monday, November 11, 2018, 5:30 pm

First Congregational United Church of Christ

Free and Open to the Public

Ambassador Choir – Cory Chisel's Evening of Holiday Mischief featuring the Ambassador Choir

Thursday, December 13, 2018 (tentative), 7:00 pm

Lawrence Memorial Chapel, 510 E. College Ave., Appleton

Tickets available approximately 2-4 weeks before the concert.

Ticketed event through Cory Chisel – The Refuge Foundation for the Arts or online at:

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3119248>

Open to the Public

ChamberSingers Small Group ONLY – Young Audiences Performance

Thursday, February, 2019 (tentative), 4:00 pm

Trout Museum of Art, 111 W. College Ave., Appleton

Space is limited, reserve a place for other children's participation through the Trout Museum of Art

FREE – Open to the Public – must reserve space

TOURS

It is the philosophy of the Appleton Boychoir that extended choir tours shall be for the purpose of:

- 1) Developing a unifying group spirit
- 2) Serving as cultural ambassadors
- 3) Expanding concert opportunities
- 4) Building choir reputation
- 5) Providing travel opportunities

Tours will be approved and organized by the Appleton Boychoir's Board of Directors. Tour payment will be the responsibility of each singer. Fundraising opportunities will be available through the choir. Non-participation in a major tour shall not exclude any singer from any choir.

The Ambassador Choir will be on tour in Greece from June 14 – 23, 2019. It's not too late to sign up – let us know as soon as possible!

WONDERLAND CAMP

The Appleton Boychoir travels to Wonderland Camp in Camp Lake, Wisconsin for three days in mid to late August each year. At camp, the boys begin working on the music they will perform for A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols and participate in rehearsals each day, work on vocal production and sight reading. The boys also have fun swimming, playing tennis, basketball, Frisbee, and SURVIVAL. They participate in team building and bonding experiences, singing at campfires and more. Camp is a requirement for participation in the Ambassador Choir and is strongly encouraged for Concert Choir boys. There is a day camp experience at Wonderland Camp offered to Repertoire Choir as well.

The 3-Day Wonderland Camp dates for the Ambassador Choir will be August 19-21, 2018. The Repertoire Choir Day Camp Experience will be Monday, August 20, 2018.

AUDITIONS – FOR NEW MEMBERS

Auditions are open to all boys currently in grades 3-6, although older boys may audition as well. Private auditions may also be arranged. ***Feel free to invite family and friends with boys to sign up for an audition!***

Winter Auditions: Monday, December 17, 2018, 4:00-6:00 pm, First Congregational UCC, Appleton
Spring Auditions: Monday, May 20, 2019, 4:00-6:00 pm, First Congregational UCC, Appleton
Tuesday, May 21, 2019, 4:00-6:00 pm, Valley Academy for the Arts, Neenah

FAMILY VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

Family involvement is very important to our organization. It is critical in keeping our administrative costs to a minimum. We recognize the need to have all families contribute in different ways to the success of the Appleton Boychoir.

Family Volunteer Opportunities:

Rehearsals: August through the final performance of the season. Choir Parents (help at rehearsals and performances and travel – checking boys in/out, discipline, theory book corrections, etc. as outlined in the Handbook and the included Appleton Boychoir Choir Parent Expectations)

August: Camp Preparation (moving items from storage, organizing camp, etc.)
Camp Dad Opportunities at Wonderland Camp
Concert Poster Distribution (for Sept 9th event)

September: Save Around Town Book Fundraiser (Distribute and Collect books, tally orders)
Concert Poster Distribution (for 10/20 concert)

October: Clothing Distribution (Move clothing from storage, checking out items)
Fall Concert (Setup, Takedown, Ticketing, Ushering)

November: Concert Poster Distribution (for 12/1 concerts)
Repertoire Choir Holiday Recital (Setup, Takedown, Ushering)

December: A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (Setup, Decorating, Takedown, Ticketing, Ushering)

- January:** Winter Meeting (Setup, Takedown)
Fruit, Cheese & Sausage Sale (tally orders)
- February:** Concert Poster Distribution (for 3/9 concert)
Fruit, Cheese & Sausage Sale (Sorting, Pickup & Delivery)
Winter Concert (Setup, Decorating, Takedown, Ticketing, Ushering)
- March:** Concert Poster Distribution (for 4/20 concert)
- April:** Spring Concert (Setup, Decorating, Takedown, Ticketing, Ushering)
Clothing Return (Move clothing into storage, checking in items)
- May/June:** Tour Assistance (Packing ABC clothing, nametags, medical kits, etc.)
Clothing Return (from those who go on tour)

Office Projects: We always need help with marketing, technology, and recruiting. Please contact the Executive Director to setup volunteer hours for these special needs.

Fundraising: We would like to start a Fundraising Committee to look for opportunities for the boys to raise funds to offset the costs of Camp and Tours.

SPONSOR-A-BOY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In 2007, one of the Appleton Boychoir's founders, Mr. Frank Rippl, was awarded the **Hanns Kretzschmar Award for Excellence in the Arts**. The **Hanns Kretzschmar Award for Excellence in the Arts** is sponsored by Thrivent Financial, and recognizes an individual or organization for leadership and service to Fox Cities' arts organizations and activities; for long-standing commitment to the Fox Cities arts community; and for noteworthy involvement in developing and promoting arts within the community. Mr. Rippl designated the Appleton Boychoir as the recipient of his award and our scholarship program began.

The Appleton Boychoir has given musical training to thousands of boys for the last 40 years, taking them all over the world, and sending them on their way with a life-long love of singing. The choir provides a learning experience in music reading, critical listening abilities, voice training, rehearsal and performance discipline, as well as travel opportunities, nationally and internationally. The Appleton Boychoir typically has 20-25 boys requesting financial assistance to help offset the cost of their tuition each year. We truly believe that each boy deserves a chance to be a member of the Appleton Boychoir and that financial hardship should not be a barrier. For these boys, the Appleton Boychoir is a way for them to be involved in an extra-curricular activity that they love and gives them a sense of belonging that they might not be able to achieve in school. It also provides a distraction from the everyday worries associated with financial challenges.

As an alumnus, current family, or friend of the Appleton Boychoir program, you know the life-long impact the Appleton Boychoir has had on the musical growth and leadership development of each individual boy in our program. We hope that you will consider a gift to our "Sponsor-A-Boy" giving opportunity.

APPLETON BOYCHOIR OFFICE & COMMUNICATION

The Appleton Boychoir office is located on the 4th floor of the Fox Cities Building for the Arts (above the Trout Museum of Art). Enter in the back of the building off Houdini Plaza, and take the elevator directly to the 4th floor. Our offices are located on the north/College Avenue side of the building. *(Please note: the elevators only run without a key card between the hours of 9 am and 4 pm. We do recommend contacting us to ensure we are in the offices.)*

Please check out our website for updated information and “like” us on [Facebook](#) to keep up with the latest information.

Communication

Our goal is to have fully open communications between Appleton Boychoir and our boy’s families. If you have questions, we are available, and you may find most information in these areas as well:

- Handbook, Master Calendar, Season Events & Rosters (on website & emailed)
- Choirs Newsletters
- Family Meetings (September and January)
- Rehearsals – feel free to bring questions to rehearsals – Choir Parents, the Executive Director and/or the Business Administrator will be at most rehearsals
- Office Emails:
 - Hilary Armstrong, Executive Director - info@appletonboychoir.com
 - Tammy Kasten, Business Administrator - tammy@appletonboychoir.com
- Website: www.appletonboychoir.com
- Shutterfly: www.appletonboychoir.shutterfly.com
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/AppletonBoychoir

Payments:

We accept MasterCard, Visa, Discover, checks, and of course, cash. Please mail or drop off any payments directly to the Appleton Boychoir office, or if you need to leave a payment with a Choir Parent at a rehearsal, please also inform us in the office.

Our mailing address:

Appleton Boychoir
Fox Cities Building for the Arts
111 W. College Ave., 4th Floor
Appleton, WI, 54911

Our office phone:

(920)955-2224

This Handbook is a continually evolving tool to help guide families and their sons through their experience with Appleton Boychoir. If you have corrections or suggestions regarding the Handbook, please let us know.



ABSENCE APPEAL FORM

Parents, please fill out the form, checking the appropriate line and supplying any accompanying information, for any dress rehearsal or performance absence. Please turn in the form at a rehearsal or email to the Executive Director at info@appletonboychoir.com a minimum of one week in advance. All appeals will be read by the Appleton Boychoir staff in order to be approved.

Boy's Name _____

Parent's Name _____

Choir (circle one): Repertoire Concert Ambassador ChamberSingers

_____ I need to miss a **rehearsal** – date: _____

Reason/Explanation: _____

_____ I need to miss a **dress rehearsal** – date: _____

Reason/Explanation: _____

_____ I need to miss a **performance** – date: _____

Reason/Explanation: _____

Date Received by ABC Staff: _____



INCIDENT REPORT FORM

BOY'S NAME: _____ DATE: _____

CHOIR: _____

CHOIR CONDUCTOR: _____

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: _____

This report is being given to you so that you may speak to your son about this and guide him in making better decisions with his behavior. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact your son's Choir Conductor or the Executive Director.

Please return this signed form with your son at the next rehearsal so he may earn back one point from the two which were lost as a result of this incident. Thank you for your support.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Comments/Questions: _____

Return Date (to be filled in by Choir Parent or ABC staff): _____

CHOIR PARENT'S EXPECTATIONS

1. Please arrive 10-15 minutes ahead of the arriving boys, to put out the name tags, take attendance, and supervise the boy's arrival. For Repertoire rehearsals, perhaps one parent could be in the lobby of the church or by the foosball table area, and one in the rehearsal room.
2. Foosball is off limits at First Congregational.
3. The boys may bring/eat a snack before rehearsal begins, and they should pick up after themselves.
4. Set up chairs/tables as appropriate; the boys arriving should help with set up.
5. Boys should check in with the Choir Parents to get their nametag and be sure they are checked in.
6. We would like the Choir Parents to have their eyes on the boys fairly consistently and give gently reminders of appropriate behavior. The Conductors will primarily do their own disciplining, but at times, they will "time boys out" by having them sit by a Choir Parent for 5-10 minutes. While they are sitting by you, please fill out an incident report and make a note or dock two (2) points from their Achievement Ladder points (points not applicable to Repertoire boys). They need to take the incident report home to get it signed. If they bring it back the following week, give them one (1) point back. There will be no grace period for this, unless they have been excused due to illness.
7. Boys will be instructed to ask the Choir Parents for permission to use the restroom, get drinks, etc. While it's fine, please remind them that they will lose a point (not Rep. boys). Encourage them to use the restroom and get a drink before rehearsal. Please remind them to say "please" and "thank you" too!
8. The Repertoire and first/second year Ambassador Parents will be asked to review/correct the Music Theory Workbooks and make notes where boys need to finish. There will be "master copies" provided for correcting, so that it goes fairly quickly. If a boy is struggling, please let Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. Kasten, or the Conductor know and we will try to help them catch up and better understand the material. Often, Choir Teachers at their schools will be able to assist them, too.
9. As the conductor dismisses the boys, they should stack their chair, if need be, and give the Choir Parents their nametag.
10. Please return any tables/chairs to where they came from, check the room for any housekeeping issues before you leave, and turn off lights. Thank you!
11. Please make sure ALL boys have been picked up before leaving.
12. At concert rehearsals and concerts, please keep the boys in order and help them with their ties, and collars, and shirt tucking, so they look good. Conductors would appreciate your help with this so that they may concentrate on conducting, and not deal with discipline/clothing issues before concerts. We generally ask that one or two Choir Parents sit with the choir at concerts. You do not need a ticket for this – your attendance is complimentary. If you are going to be ordering tickets for your family, please let us know, and we will issue your complimentary ticket when you order for the rest of your family.

Thank you for all you do for the boys and Appleton Boychoir!