

# Murray Conservatorium Choir

## “Enrichment through Choral Music”



### Our Objectives

### Our Strategies

- 1. To perform choral music of different cultures and different periods.**
- 2. To establish a means for creative expression in choral music.**
- 3. To provide opportunities for choristers and other musicians to perform for the public in concerts of a high standard.**
- 4. To provide and promote education in choral music with focus on both the performance and the development of singers.**

The Choir will present at least three concerts a year and each year will include a Christmas concert. The repertoire for these concerts will include a diversity of choral music from renaissance to contemporary and reflect the musical heritage of different culture and language groups. Australian music will receive particular emphasis at selected concerts.

New members are required to privately audition with the conductor after attending one or two rehearsals. Choristers are allocated a vocal section according to voice type. A section leader is appointed to lead each vocal section, and provide assistance and advice as required.

The Choir will have a structured program of music that will constantly challenge choristers and lead to steady improvement in singing skills. This has been and will be reinforced by instruction in voice production and singing technique during rehearsals and in workshops.

Choristers are expected to be able to sing in tune and hold a part. Music reading skills are desirable but not compulsory. Choristers who are not confident music readers are encouraged to use personal devices to record rehearsals and/or enrol in music reading classes.

The Choir seeks to foster younger members by providing scholarship and training to further their choral education. Discount membership fees are offered to secondary students and concession holders.

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**5. To stimulate appreciation of choral music in the wider community.**

Choral concerts are publicised in such a way as to inform the public about the value and enjoyment of music. Publicity will include newspaper articles about the concert items and the artists taking part, television and radio broadcasts and explanatory interviews. Program notes will also provide relevant background information of an educational nature.

**6. To regularly engage with other choirs and musicians.**

In alternate years, one of the concerts held during the year will be a combined “Three Choirs Festival” with the Wangaratta Choristers and the Beechworth Singers.

The choir maintains a strong relationship with the Murray Conservatorium which it fosters by regular consultation, co-operation in areas of common interest, and providing opportunities for members of the Conservatorium to exercise their skills in Choir performances. The choir actively seeks opportunities for engaging with other choirs as appropriate.

**7. To maintain a library of choral music for the Choir’s performances and for hire.**

The Choir owns a collection of choral music. The Choir is also part of a national music-hiring program which gives the Choir access to a wide variety of music. The music director chooses repertoire in consultation with the librarian and the committee. Music which is neither in the library nor available for hire, is purchased, provided that it is within budget guidelines. All music which is the property of the Choir is catalogued and maintained by the librarian.

**8. To establish and maintain a sound financial base for the Choir’s activities.**

The financial security of the Choir is based on the subscriptions of members, the proceeds of ticket sales for performances, sponsorships and grants. Budgets distinguish between financing concerts and the general operation of the Choir. Sponsorship and membership fees support the overall operation of the Choir, including payments to the staff for rehearsals. The concerts are planned to be self-supporting and so as to fund all activities relating to the concerts including payments to the staff for their roles at the concerts. Grant monies are usually for specific purposes and will be so used.