

Joining the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus

The Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus is an auditioned, volunteer choral ensemble consisting of male singers age eighteen and older, gay or gay friendly. With a wide range of varying musical training and backgrounds, the chorus is committed to fostering an environment of professionalism, respect, pride and unity. The Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus is comprised of gay, transgender, and straight-allied men of all ethnicities.

Auditions for the 2014-2015 (beginning in September) are currently being scheduled. Please see below for more information.

Membership Standards

The Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus is committed to a standard of excellence in singing. While the PSGMC welcomes singers with good vocal training, and strong music reading skills, most of our members have little or no music training. The Chorus seeks men who enjoy singing and can match pitch. A pleasant voice in good vocal health. A member must be male over the age of 18 and gay or gay-friendly.

- A strong sense of pitch and rhythm.
- The ability to blend well with other voices and follow direction.
- The ability to learn music quickly, through a variety of means, regular rehearsals, section rehearsals, rehearsal tracks provided by the Chorus, self-study, etc.

Additionally, members must also meet the following requirements:

- The ability and time to work on the music outside of rehearsal and to perform it from memory.
- A congenial demeanor, a sense of cooperation, and the willingness to work for the highest possible standard.
- Pay the annual membership dues, \$120.00(scholarships may be provided for those in need).
- Strive to sell 10 tickets to each PSGMC Concert.

Auditions

Auditioning can be a stressful process, but we try to do our best to make it as easy and friendly, as possible. The audition is private. The accompanist and I, and maybe the directors of our small groups, are the only ones in the room for your audition. While you are auditioning, the members of the chorus, in a different room, are sharing experiences and telling other prospective members what to expect.

You can prepare a song for your audition. We have an excellent pianist who will be happy to accompany you for your audition. It helps if you can provide the music, but Joel knows most of the standards and can find a comfortable key for you to sing. If you don't feel comfortable with a prepared solo, I will ask you to sing a familiar song, "Happy Birthday", "My Country Tis of Thee", etc. After you have sung for us, I will have you sing some simple scales to determine your vocal range and your place in the chorus. Relax and enjoy the experience. Take a deep breath. We all know how stressful this can be. We will do our best to make your audition a positive experience.

If you are unable to attend our info night, please contact the Artistic Director, Douglas Wilson at PSGMCdirector@gmail.com to schedule a more convenient time.

You will be notified the day after your audition regarding the results. If you are accepted as a member, our first rehearsal will be on Tuesday, September 2, 7:00 – 10:00. A new member orientation will be scheduled for the beginning of September. If your voice is not ready to join the chorus, we would ask you to consider being part of our Section 5 Volunteers.

An Audition Form is found at the end of this information. You may print a copy, complete it and bring it with you on August 26.

Rehearsal and Performance Schedule

Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-10:00 pm at St. Paul in the Desert Episcopal Church, 125 W. El Alameda, Palm Springs, CA. Once a month Saturday rehearsals are usually scheduled on Saturdays from 9:00 - 3:00 and include a pot luck lunch. The PSGMC will give two concerts this year as part of its concert season,.

Holiday - A Mid-Century Holiday - Music from the 50s

Final Rehearsal with invited guests - Thursday, December 11, 7:00 pm Temple Isaiah

Performances - Saturday, December 13, 7:00 pm and Sunday, December 14, 3:00 pm

Spring - ExtrABBAanza - Music of ABBA

Final Rehearsal with invited guests - April 23, 7:00 pm, Temple Isaiah

Performance - Saturday, April 25, 7:00 pm and Sunday, April 26, 3:00 pm, Temple Isaiah

The chorus is also invited to make additional appearances at special events from time to time.

Chorus members must furnish their own basic concert uniform, long-sleeve white shirt, black pants, black shoes and socks. In addition, members will need a three-ringed binder to hold their chorus music.



Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus

Information Sheet

Name _____

Email _____

Home Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Have you previously been a member of the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus? When?

Briefly state previous choral experience

What part do you sing?

_____ Bass _____ Baritone _____ Tenor II _____ Tenor I _____ Not sure

Do you read music?

_____ Yes _____ No _____ Somewhat _____

You will be contacted by email by the end of the week to indicate the results of your audition.

Director's Notes