



## SFGC PREPARATORY CHORUS – SPRING 2018

Choristers are enrolled in one of six sections of Prep Chorus. There are eleven 45-minute sessions this Spring (January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – May 14<sup>th</sup> 2018), one parent demonstration, and one combined final performance at the end of the year.

If a chorister misses a lesson, they may make up that lesson by attending a different Prep Chorus section that week.

Mondays at Kanbar Center, 44 Page St., San Francisco:

**Prep 1** at 4:00-4:45

**Prep 2** at 4:45-5:30

Saturdays at Kanbar Center, 44 Page St., San Francisco:

**Prep 2** from 10:30-11:15

**Prep 1** from 11:30-12:15

Saturdays at Crowden Music School, 1475 Rose St., Berkeley:

**Prep 1** from 10:00-10:45

**Prep 2** from 11:00-11:45

### FALL SEMESTER

**Saturday, 9/9 and Monday, 9/11:** First Day of Prep, Lesson 1

**9/16, 9/18:** Lesson 2

**9/23, 9/25:** Lesson 3

**9/30, 10/2:** Lesson 4

**10/7, 10/9:** CANCELLED (Indigenous Peoples Day)

**10/14, 10/16:** Lesson 5 (Parent Demo- please feel free to come and watch!)

\*Please wear your Prep Chorus t-shirts.

**10/21, 10/23:** Lesson 6

**10/28, 10/30:** Lesson 7

**11/4, 11/6:** Lesson 8

**11/11, 11/13:** Lesson 9

**11/18, 11/20:** Lesson 10

**11/25:** CANCELLED (Thanksgiving)

**11/27:** CANCELLED (Thanksgiving)

**12/2, 12/4:** Lesson 11

**12/9, 12/11:** Lesson 12 (Fall Workshop- please feel free to come and watch!)

\*Please wear your Prep Chorus t-shirts.

**12/17:** Combined Mid-Term Presentation, SF & EB, all sections at the Kanbar Center, 44 Page St., SF.

\*Students arrive at 1pm

\*Performance at 2pm

\*Please wear your Prep Chorus t-shirts.

~WINTER BREAK~

### SPRING SEMESTER

**1/6, 1/8:** First Day Back from Break, Lesson 13

**1/13, 1/15:** PREP CANCELLED (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

**1/20, 1/22:** Lesson 14

**1/27, 1/29:** Lesson 15

**2/3, 2/5:** Lesson 16

**2/10, 2/12:** Lesson 17

**2/17, 2/19:** PREP CANCELLED (Presidents Day)

**2/24, 2/26:** Lesson 18 (Parent Demo- please feel free to come and watch!)

\*Please wear your Prep Chorus t-shirts.

**3/3, 3/5:** Lesson 19

**3/10, 3/12:** Lesson 20

**3/17, 3/19:** Lesson 21

**3/24, 3/26:** Lesson 22

**3/31, 4/2:** Lesson 23

**4/7, 4/9:** Lesson 24

**4/14, 4/16:** Lesson 25

**4/21, 4/23:** Lesson 26

**4/28, 4/30:** Lesson 27

**5/5, 5/7:** Lesson 28

**5/12, 5/14:** Lesson 29

**5/19:** Combined Final Performance, SF & EB, all sections at the Kanbar Center, 44 Page St., SF.

\*Students arrive at 1pm

\*Performance at 2pm

\*Please wear your Prep Chorus t-shirts.



# SFGC PREPARATORY CHORUS CURRICULUM, POLICIES, & PROCEDURES

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## **1. WELCOME**

The **San Francisco Girls Chorus Preparatory Chorus** began in January 2008 to provide young girls ages four through seven the opportunity to develop their voices and musicianship in an exciting, positive, age-appropriate atmosphere.

The San Francisco Girls Chorus (SFGC) currently includes five other ensembles. **The Chorus School** is comprised of Levels I, II, III, & IV. **Chorissima** is the premier ensemble of the SFGC, and is publicly known as the San Francisco Girls Chorus.

All students enrolled in Prep Chorus are strongly encouraged to attend Chorus School concerts and Chorissima concerts to experience the highest quality vocal performance as well as to foster familiarity with SFGC's program and artistic vision. Prep choristers may attend up to two of SFGC's season performances free of charge (max 2 tickets per chorister, excludes Davies Holiday Concert). Please contact Janice Lee at [jlee@sfgirlschorus.org](mailto:jlee@sfgirlschorus.org) to organize tickets. Please also consider visiting our website [www.sfgirlschorus.org](http://www.sfgirlschorus.org) and signing up to receive concert updates and more information via the SFGC mailing list.

Questions regarding Prep Chorus administration, registration and tuition should be directed to Janice Lee, Director of Chorus School Administration & Programs at (415) 863-1752 x301 or [jlee@sfgirlschorus.org](mailto:jlee@sfgirlschorus.org). All other questions should be directed to Emily Ryan, SF Prep Chorus Director at [eryan@sfgirlschorus.org](mailto:eryan@sfgirlschorus.org) & Katrina Turman, EB Prep Chorus Director at [kturman@sfgirlschorus.org](mailto:kturman@sfgirlschorus.org).

## **2. PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

Parents are welcome to observe class, but are encouraged to let their choristers develop independently as well. Parents wishing to wait at the Chorus building may use the main-level lounge. We ask that parents refrain from taking photos or videos during rehearsals, demonstrations, and performances.

A **mid-semester demonstration** will be held for parents to ask questions and discover what the students are experiencing in class. Since this is a regular session, it is preferred that only parents attend, as siblings can be distracting in this type of learning environment.

A **culminating performance and reception** will be held at the end of spring semester, as a celebration for the students and families and a chance for all Prep Chorus sections to sing together.

Please check the calendar for these important dates. Parents wishing to observe class on days other than the mid-semester classroom demonstration or the final performance workshop are asked to email Emily Ryan (or Katrina Turman) and Janice Lee to schedule an observation.

### 3. CURRICULUM DESCRIPTION

1. **Kodály-based music experience:** American and multicultural folk music, games, and dances foster the enjoyment of making music and develop musical skills, including reading, writing, improvising, interpreting, and describing music. Students use their voices, bodies, and rhythm instruments to make music, experience music, and internalize music.

2. **Introduction to choral music:** Students learn and memorize unison choral pieces each semester, culminating in a performance for families and friends. Repertoire selection may encompass a wide variety of genres, including classical, folk, and music from around the world. Singers take first steps in reading from a choral octavo, increasing their ability to read both words and music. Students build listening and memory skills through weekly practice, and develop confidence and stage presence in preparation for their final performance.

3. **Musical concepts covered:**

Singing in-tune  
Loud/soft  
Fast/slow  
High/low  
Beat  
Rhythm: quarter note, eighth notes, quarter rest  
Melody: pentatonic solfege  
Simple meter

### 4. ASSESSMENT & CHORISTER EXPECTATIONS

A written report is sent home at the conclusion of each semester, describing the individual chorister's progress in the Preparatory Chorus. Choristers may remain in Prep Chorus through age seven. At age seven, girls may be recommended to audition for the SFGC Chorus School. While participation in Prep Chorus provides an excellent foundation for further music study, it does not guarantee acceptance into the Chorus School, which is based on individual maturity and vocal ability, and gained through an audition process.

Every Prep Chorister is expected to:

- ❖ Work with her best effort, focus, and concentration at all classes, demonstrations, and performance workshops
- ❖ Be punctual to every class
- ❖ Demonstrate appropriate behavior and follow directions
- ❖ Be supportive of and courteous to all efforts of fellow Prep choristers as they attempt to learn and improve their skills

### 5. ATTENDANCE POLICY

Because each class builds sequentially upon previously learned material, attendance at all classes is crucial to a young singer's development and growth.

Prep choristers are allowed a maximum of five absences per year.

In the event of illness, emergency, or anticipated absence, please call or email the Prep Chorus Director. There are five Prep Chorus "sections" that meet at different locations and times. If a chorister misses one week's lesson, she may make up that same lesson by attending a different Prep Chorus "section" that week.

### 6. ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE POLICY

Choristers should arrive between five and fifteen minutes prior to class. Students may not be dropped off in front of the building – please walk your chorister to their classroom. In San Francisco, there is limited 2-hour metered parking. There is free street parking in Berkeley.

**San Francisco class** is held on the third floor of the Girls Chorus' home at 44 Page Street, in the Level II room. **Berkeley class** is held in one of the classrooms of the Crowden Music Center, 1475 Rose Street. Following class at either location, students will be escorted to the ground level main entrance of the building, and should be picked up promptly. No children are allowed to leave the building without an accompanying adult.

## 7. PREP CHORUS ATTIRE

For weekly class, choristers are to wear comfortable clothing that allows for stretching, moving, standing, and sitting on the floor.

For the mid-semester demo and the final workshop performance, all choristers are to be in the Prep Chorus uniform, which includes:

- ❖ Prep Chorus T-shirt, tucked in
- ❖ Long blue jeans, plain design
- ❖ Close-toed shoes or sneakers
- ❖ Hair groomed and pulled away from the face
- ❖ No jewelry, make-up or nail polish

Orders for the Prep Chorus T-shirt are placed at registration. The cost for the t-shirt is included in the Prep Chorus tuition. For additional shirts, or to purchase SFGC recordings and logo items, please contact Janice Lee, Director of Chorus School Administration & Programs at (415) 863-1752 x301 or [jlee@sfgirlschorus.org](mailto:jlee@sfgirlschorus.org).