



WHY SINGING?

In *Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning*, the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities discovered that:

“When well taught, the arts provide young people with authentic learning experience that engage their minds, hearts and bodies. Engagement in the arts...nurtures the development of cognitive, social, and personal competencies.”

For these reasons, children who are trained in music and the other arts tend to do better in math and science.

WHO CAN JOIN?

West Baltimore Choir School is open to all students in 3rd-8th grade. No previous training is required, and there is no audition. A commitment to attend all rehearsals and all scheduled performances is the only requirement.

A member of the staff conducts a friendly, informal meeting with prospective choristers and parents/guardians. This interview is informal, and scheduled when mutually convenient, often at the first rehearsal.

STAFF

Each chorister receives individualized attention in a dynamic, creative, structured, and hands-on setting from caring teachers who are accomplished professionals in their areas of instruction.

SCHEDULE & FEATURES

The Choir School will meet on twice weekly. The students begin arriving after school and receive a snack. Each day includes voice lessons, theory and sight-singing training, and choir rehearsal. The Choir School sings twice a month on Sunday mornings at St. Bartholomew's during the academic year, as well as occasional additional services and trips to sing in venues throughout the metropolitan area.

Requirements

Choristers and their families must commit to the regular rehearsal and singing schedule. Regular attendance at all rehearsals, services and other regularly attended scheduled events will be very important for student progress. Church membership at St. Bartholomew's or any other faith-based organization is not required.

Professional Training

Every chorister receives tuition-free, private voice lessons. These include classical singing instruction, including breathing techniques and healthy vocal production.

Leadership

Leadership skills are introduced and reinforced in the context of every rehearsal and performance. Citizenship and social skills are fostered as Choristers learn how to interact in an intergenerational community and relate to a wide range of personalities and backgrounds. A healthy work ethic is instilled as Choristers work and grow

together, developing good habits that sustain them throughout their adulthood.

Piano Instruction

Choristers may be eligible for private piano lessons through the school. Scholarships are available.

Incentives

Choristers receive a small incentive for each rehearsal, service and concert in which they participate. Incentives are based on punctuality (**arriving early, ready to work**), quality of work, and length of participation in the Chorister Program, and is determined by the number of standards earned at each appearance.

Summer Camps

Choristers who have participated in Choir School for more than a year are eligible to attend summer courses sponsored by the RSCM, as well as a number of other camps. Eligibility depends on grades, attendance and department, and scholarships are available.

**For more information
or to schedule an interview**

contact

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The *Choir School of West Baltimore* is based on the idea that all children are able to sing, given encouragement and instruction. We offer a tuition-free program of music education and performance opportunities for girls and boys, grades 3 through 8.

The Choir School is a musical and educational outreach of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church. We offer a unique, tuition-free after school/weekend program that offers professional choral training, voice and piano lessons, leadership development, academic tutoring, and mentoring to children and teenagers. Our students represent a wide range of cultural communities, and from all faith traditions.

WE SEEK TO...

- Provide solid musical instruction in a friendly and fun environment of mutual respect and achievement;
- Create an opportunity for children to grow in musical and spiritual strengths that nurture their growth;
- Enrich and inspire young people with music and singing, and widen their world.

The Choir School of West Baltimore
4711 Edmondson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21229

Choir School of West Baltimore



MAKING MUSIC
BUILDING COMMUNITY
CHANGING LIVES

- *Grades 3-8*
- *Tuition-free*
- *Professional choral, voice, and piano lessons*
- *Leadership development*
- *Tutoring and mentoring programs*

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