

Diablo Women's Chorale

Fall, 2011

Dear Prospective Member,

Welcome! We're very pleased that you are interested in joining the Diablo Women's Chorale. We provide the following information to help you make an informed decision.

Repertoire and Concerts: The Chorale sings a wide range of music in two, three, and four part harmony, with an emphasis on American music. We perform two concerts a year: a holiday concert in December and a spring concert in May. In addition, we perform for various community and business organizations as opportunities become available.

Director: Artistic director **Mary Sorenson** is beginning her second season conducting the chorale. She sang alto with the DWC from 1999 to 2010 and has served as section leader, concert chair and president of the group. Educated at Oberlin College and Conservatory, she was the founding director of two youth choruses and has taught music in public schools and her private studio for over 22 years.

Accompanist: **Stephen Evans** holds music degrees from the University of Texas, Austin, in Cello Performance and the University of London, Goldsmiths College in Orchestral Performance. He has performed in orchestras and piano recitals in Texas, Europe, and the Bay Area. He has taught piano and cello at Civic Arts Education in Walnut Creek since 1999 and currently performs with a wide variety of ensembles in the Bay Area.

Rehearsals: Full rehearsals are from 7:00 to 9:00 on Monday evenings at St. Matthew's in Walnut Creek. Sectional rehearsals are held occasionally as needed. The Chorale does not meet during the summer.

Finances: Dues are \$140.00 for the fall season and \$175 for the spring season. Dues may be paid in advance or monthly. Each chorale member is responsible for selling three \$15 tickets to each concert (or donating the equivalent ticket price). Members must also pay for sheet music they do not already have (approximately \$25 per season).

Concert Attire. Our concert attire consists of a solid-color, jewel-toned long-sleeved collared blouse worn with full length palazzo pants, black hose, black shoes, and a black music binder.

Final Note: Informal auditions are held at the beginning of each season. A formal audition piece is not required. While not professionals, our members are enthusiastic musicians with a great love of music, a devotion to the group, and an enjoyment of the process of learning together. Before you decide to join, please make sure that you will be able to commit to rehearsal attendance and to sing with us in the concert. Members with more than three unexcused absences must receive permission from the director to perform in the concert. You may attend two practice sessions prior to joining the Chorale. Sheet music may be taken home only after it is paid for.

We sincerely hope you enjoy the group and decide to join us. If you have any questions, please contact our president, Barbara Burkhardt at DWChorale2011@astound.net, or email our membership chair, Hildy DeFrisco at hdefrisco@me.com. Questions about music or auditions may be directed to Mary Sorenson 925 890-8680.