



MISSION

We come together to delight in the beauty and power of choral singing.
We strive to create a fulfilling musical experience for our appreciative audience and for ourselves.

ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE

Two Rivers Chorale is a dynamic community choir based in Minneapolis and St. Paul and is comprised of experienced amateur singers who represent the rich choral heritage of Minnesota and the upper Midwest. Founded in 1998 and led by artistic director and conductor **Timothy Sawyer** since 2004, the group presents four - six annual concerts performed at Benson Great Hall in St. Paul and other venues in the region.

CONCERT SEASON

September through April. (2011/2012 Season will start with an early rehearsal in August.)
Summer concerts may be scheduled in which case several extra rehearsals will be held prior to the concert.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church (SH), 3920 North Victoria Street in Shoreview from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. Rehearsals may occasionally be held until 9:45 p.m.

AUDITIONS

Prospective members who are accomplished choral singers are invited to audition for the TRC. To do so, send a brief description of your choral experience to Tim Sawyer at tk Sawyer@nwc.edu. Auditions are by invitation.

2011/2012 REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Thursday

August 25
September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
October 6, 13, 20, 27
November 3, 10

January 5, 12, 19, 26
February 2, 9, 16, 23
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
April 12*, 19

Saturday

November 12*, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

* *Mandatory rehearsal*

2011/2012 Performance Schedule

Friday, November 11, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.
Veteran's Day Benefit Concert
Benson Great Hall, Bethel University, Arden Hills

Sunday, November 13, 2011 – 3:00 p.m.
Benson Great Hall, Bethel University, Arden Hills

Sunday, April 15, 2012 – 3:00 p.m.
Benson Great Hall, Bethel University, Arden Hills

COMMITMENT

Membership in the TRC carries the following expectations:

- Membership is for the entire regular season which is September through April.
- Attendance at all regular season dress rehearsals and concerts is expected. The final rehearsal prior to a concert is considered the "dress rehearsal." Note that dress rehearsals may occasionally be held on a Saturday. (For any concerts and events scheduled between May and August, participation is voluntary).
- Singers are expected to be at all rehearsals. Members may have no more than three absences in either the fall (Sept.-Nov.) or the spring (Jan.-April) rehearsal schedule. Unexpected illnesses or other matters do arise, so anyone facing missing more than that is expected to discuss the situation with their section leader and consider taking a leave of absence.
- Outside preparation for rehearsals and occasional memorization of music is required.

DUES

\$100 per concert year (September through April), payable in the fall.

CONCERT ATTIRE

Men: Black, single breasted, short tuxedo (no tails) with a black cummerbund, white tux shirt, black bowtie, black shoes. Men are responsible for obtaining their own tuxedos.

Women: TRC dress (cost @\$75) hemmed as needed, black shoes, black hose, TRC custom earrings (cost \$5)

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR

Two Rivers Chorale artistic director and conductor, **Timothy Sawyer**, has led the TRC since 2004. He has enjoyed an active career as a conductor, educator and professional singer following formal musical training at Bethel University (St. Paul), Exeter University (England), the University of Minnesota and in doctoral-level study at the University of Iowa. In addition to extensive experience as a tenor soloist, he is a veteran of several professional choirs, among them the Dale Warland Singers, the Ensemble Singers of VocalEssence of Minnesota under Philip Brunelle and the Oregon Bach Festival Chorus, with which he shared a Grammy Award for the 1998 recording of Kyzysztof Penderecki's *Credo*. Since 1989, Sawyer has been a member of the music faculty at Northwestern College in St. Paul where he is director of choral activities and associate professor of music. From 1997-2004, Sawyer served as assistant artistic director of the Minnesota Chorale, the principal symphonic chorus of the Minnesota Orchestra. Active also in church music, from 1995-2010 he served as choir director at The Colonial Church of Edina, and was a member of the board of directors for the Sixth World Choral Symposium held in Minneapolis/St. Paul in 2002. An enthusiastic teacher of conducting, Sawyer is past member of the artistic staff of the conducting master class at the Toronto Bach Festival and currently the Associate Director of the conducting master class at the Oregon Bach Festival.

CONTACT TRC

For audition or booking information, please contact:

Tim Sawyer at tk Sawyer@nwc.edu or by phone at 651-631-5252 or send email to info@tworiverschorale.org

For more information visit www.tworiverschorale.org

Artistic Director and Conductor

Timothy Sawyer

Assistant Conductors

Bruce Messer
Diane Nielsen

Section Leaders

Diane Nielsen, Sopranos
danddnielsen@comcast.net; nielsend@district279.org
Nancy Bjornlie, Altos
nancy.bjornlie@anoka.k12.mn.us
Reuben Dahlquist, Tenors
dahlquistfamily@comcast.net
Bruce Messer, Basses
bruce.messer@fridley.k12.mn.us; bmmesser@comcast.net

Board of Directors

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