



TWO RIVERS CHORALE

Timothy Sawyer, Artistic Director and Conductor

A tradition of choral excellence in the Twin Cities....and beyond

OUR MISSION

*We come together to delight in the beauty and power of choral singing.
Together, we create fulfilling musical experiences for ourselves,
and for a growing and appreciative audience.*

ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE: Founded in 1998 and led by artistic director and conductor Timothy Sawyer since 2004, Two Rivers Chorale is an engaging community choir based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul and is comprised of experienced amateur singers who represent the rich choral heritage of Minnesota and the upper Midwest. We love to sing!

CONCERT SEASON: The primary TRC concert season is September through April/early May. Summer concerts may occasionally be scheduled, in which case several extra rehearsals will be held prior to the concert; summer concert participation is optional. The 2024-2025 schedule appears on the last page.

REHEARSALS: Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings in the Choir Room (F2211) or Carousels (F2106, F2128) in Totino Fine Arts Center at University of Northwestern-St. Paul, 3003 Snelling Ave N, in Roseville. Rehearsals normally run from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Occasionally rehearsals may be held until 9:45 p.m. and sectionals may be scheduled from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP EXPECTATIONS:

- **Participation is expected for the entire season, September through April/early May.** Occasional exceptions are made to this, in consultation with and at the discretion of the Artistic Director.
- **Arrive on time and prepared for rehearsals and performances.** Singers are to notify the proper TRC leadership in advance of any absence or late arrival. Outside preparation and occasional memorization of music is required.
- **Attendance at all regular season dress rehearsals, concerts and recordings is required.** The final rehearsal prior to a concert is usually considered the "dress rehearsal" and may occasionally be held on a Saturday. Additional required rehearsals are often held on concert day that can entail an early call time. *Please check before scheduling other concert day plans that could conflict with an early rehearsal call.*
- **If absences are anticipated at more than two rehearsals between September 5 – November 14, 2024 or between January 9 – February 27, 2025 or between March 6 – May 1, 2025 members should consider taking a leave of absence for that project.** *Given the sequential nature of rehearsals, it is preferred that absences not be consecutive.* When in doubt, please consult with the Artistic Director.
- **Return materials in good condition.** Take proper care of printed music, TRC folders, and any other distributed materials. Reimbursement to TRC will be due for lost or damaged items.
- **Register.** Singers will complete an online registration once each year which includes a waiver/release, commitment and donation agreement and scholarship information. Member Coordinator Becky Sather will provide the link.

MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS:

Membership requires an initial donation of \$175 per concert year (September through May). Donations above the \$175 amount are welcomed and very much appreciated!

(continued on the next page)

MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS (continued):

Members agree to pay all financial donations on time. TRC is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. All donations and any fees, including the initial \$175, are fully tax-deductible. All donations are non-refundable per IRS regulations. A limited number of needs-based scholarships are available for up to \$100 to help with paying the annual donation.

CONCERT ATTIRE:

- **Women:** TRC top and skirt (approx. \$80) hemmed as needed, black, low-heeled dress shoes, black nylons, and TRC custom earrings for those wishing to wear them (\$7). *Women are responsible for acquiring their TRC attire.*
- **Men:** Black, single breasted, short coat tuxedo (no tails) with a black cummerbund, white tux shirt, black bowtie, black shoes OR 2-piece all black suit (no pinstripes), white dress shirt and black bowtie, black shoes/socks. *Men are responsible for acquiring their own formal wear.*
- **All singers:** A black concert folder is required for performances; members must provide their own. (Occasionally TRC may have some for purchase.)

AUDITIONS:

TRC is always interested in attracting new, prospective members who are accomplished choral singers. Interested new members should send a brief description of their choral experiences to conductor Tim Sawyer at timothyksawyer@gmail.com. Auditions for TRC are by appointment.

CONTACT TRC: For audition or booking information, contact Tim Sawyer at timothyksawyer@gmail.com or by phone at 651-631-5252. For membership questions, contact Becky Sather at sather.becky@gmail.com.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR: Timothy Sawyer has led Two Rivers Chorale since 2004. He enjoys an active career as a conductor, educator and professional singer with 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 chorister with several professional choirs, among them Minnesota's Dale Warland Singers, the Ensemble Singers of VocalEssence of Minnesota under Philip Brunelle, the Oregon Bach Festival Chorus, and the GRAMMY- nominated South Dakota Chorale, among others. Since 1989, Mr. Sawyer has been a member of the music faculty at University of Northwestern- St. Paul where he is director of choral activities, professor of music and conducts the Northwestern Choir and Con Brio Men's Chorus. He has led numerous choral and vocal festivals throughout the United States and around the world in Ukraine, Hungary, Austria, Czech Republic and Hong Kong, China. To read Tim Sawyer's full bio, please go to tworiverschorale.org.

Assistant Conductor

Brad Halbersma

Board of Directors

Graham Biggar, President; Chloé Knutson, Vice President; Lori Jo Scherb & Michael Scherb, Co-Treasurers; Denise Dooher, Lynne Hicks, Jeff Norris. Tim Sawyer (ex officio), Becky Sather, Secretary (ex officio), Mary Cushen (ex officio).

Section Leaders

- Meredith Dahlquist, Soprano 1 (mjdbunny@hotmail.com)
- Becky Nystuen, Soprano 2 (beckynystuen@gmail.com)
- Nancy Bjornlie, Alto 1 (d.bjornlie@hotmail.com)
- Joan O'Donnell, Alto 2 (jaoirish@gmail.com)
- Reuben Dahlquist, Tenor 1 (dahlquistfamily@comcast.net)
- Brad Halbersma, Tenor 2 (brad.halbersma@gmail.com)
- Paul Moyer, Baritones (paul.moyer@gmail.com)
- Mason Henderson, Basses (masonhenderson92@gmail.com)

TRC Mailing Address

3673 Lexington Avenue N • Suite H-2 #234 • St. Paul, MN 55126



Timothy Sawyer
Artistic Director and Conductor

2024-2025 SCHEDULE * = Required, expected attendance

FALL 2024	
September *5, *12, 19, 26	UNW Choir Room, *Nazareth Chapel
October 3, 10, 17	UNW Choir Room
*October 20 (Sunday) <i>Byzantine Choral Festival</i> Call time 3:00 p.m. • 5:00 p.m. concert Reception following	St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church – NE Minneapolis
October 24, *31, *November 7	UNW Choir Room, *Nazareth Chapel
*November 14 venue rehearsal– 6:45 p.m.-9:45 p.m. *Concert: November 15 (Friday) Call time 5:30 p.m. • 7:30 p.m. concert	St. Charles Borromeo, St. Anthony
*November 16 (Saturday) venue rehearsal Call time 12:45 p.m. • 1:00-3:30 p.m. rehearsal *Concert: November 17 (Sunday) Call time 1:45 p.m. • 4:00 p.m. concert	Christ Presbyterian Church, Edina
WINTER 2025 (Brahms A German Requiem with Wayzata Symphony, Edina Chorale)	
January 9, 16, 23, 30	UNW Choir Room
February 6, ^13, ^20	UNW Choir Room, ^Edina High School Instrumental Room
*February 27 venue rehearsal – 6:45-9:45 p.m. *Concert: February 28 (Friday) Call time 5:30 p.m. • 7:30 p.m. concert	Wooddale Church, Eden Prairie
*Concert: March 2 (Sunday) Call time 12:45 p.m. • 3:00 p.m. concert	Benson Great Hall, Bethel University
SPRING 2025	
March 6, 13, 20, 27	UNW Choir Room
April 3, 10, 24 (no rehearsal on April 17 – Holy Week)	UNW Choir Room
*May 1 venue rehearsal 7:00-9:45 p.m. *Concert: May 2 (Friday) Call time 5:30 p.m. • 7:30 p.m. concert	Shepherd of the Hills Church, Shoreview
*May 3 (Saturday) venue rehearsal 9:30 a.m.-noon *Concert: May 4 (Sunday) Joint concert with NW Choir Call time 1:00 p.m. • 4:00 p.m. concert	St. Charles Borromeo, St. Anthony

*= required, expected attendance