



iSing Silicon Valley Girlchoir Handbook

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*iSing Silicon Valley is generously sponsored by
First Baptist Church of Palo Alto.*

Welcome

Dear iSing Singers and Families,

We are thrilled to welcome you to our inaugural year of singing together. iSing is a start-up choir with a home in Silicon Valley, a place where start-ups thrive, new ideas are nurtured, and dreams come true. After years of teaching music to young people, we've come together to start an organization that will give voice to girls in our community. We thank you for joining us as founding members of our organization and look forward to getting to know you and your young singer.

Here's to you!

Jannah & Shane

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About Us

iSing Silicon Valley Girlchoir will provide young women with an exemplary choral music education that will foster artistry, leadership, and excellence in a creative and supportive environment. Our singers will develop and refine their understanding of core musicianship concepts, such as sight-reading and music theory, through the performance of high-quality repertoire. Participants will learn to sing with healthy and beautiful tone. Our singers will form lasting friendships with their fellow singers and develop a lifelong appreciation of music.

iSing is an arts organization committed to the music education of girls in grades 2–12. We believe that singing teaches young people to strive for excellence, to work collaboratively with others, and to become passionate members of their communities. iSing is "just for girls" because we want to encourage girls to develop their potential as leaders, creators, and performers through music. Singing is empowering.

Girls, Grades 2–3

This choir is an introduction to singing and musicianship. These young singers are introduced to solfege (music literacy methodology), ear-training, vocal technique, and music theory through a variety of age-appropriate repertoire as well as creative activities and games.

Girls, Grades 4–6

Singers in this choir will sing repertoire in unison, two-part, and three-part harmony. The singers will continue to build their vocal and musicianship skills, including: sight-singing, ear-training, and vocal technique.

Girls, Grades 7–12

Singers in this choir will perform advanced repertoire. This ensemble is designed for singers with excellent vocal and musicianship skills.

Uniforms

Tips: Please consult the appropriate size charts and leave a little extra room for growth. Ideally, your daughter will wear her uniform for several years.

Girls, Grades 2-3

Purchase online: www.landsend.com

Girls' Knit Wrap Jumper, Classic Navy, Item #384804-BQ8

Girls' Short Sleeve Knit Peter Pan Polo, Blue, Item #403838-BQ7

Girls' Classic Cameron Captoe Ballet Shoes, Navy Blue, Item # 406576-A50

Girls, Grades 4-6

Purchase online: www.landsend.com

Girls' Box Pleat Skirt (top of the knee), Classic Navy, Item #407088-BQ0

Girls' Short Sleeve Knit Peter Pan Polo, Blue, Item #403838-BQ7

Girls' Classic Cameron Captoe Ballet Shoes, Navy Blue, Item # 406576-A50

Girls, Grades 7-12

Purchase online: www.landsend.com

School Uniform Women's Knit Gathered Skort, Classic Navy, Item # 403723-BQ8

Women's Regular Fine Gauge Supima Crew Cardigan, Item # 411292-A55

- *Girls will choose their individual jewel tone color together in class. Parents, we will keep you updated on the results. Please do not purchase until you receive the go-ahead from iSing staff.*

School Uniform Women's 3/4-sleeve Oxford Shirt, Blue (light blue), Item # 414766-BQ9

Women's Penny Driving Moc Shoes, Navy Blue, Item # 432863-A55

The above uniforms are concert attire to be worn for concerts in December and May. For some events, we will require a casual uniform consisting of blue jeans, sneakers, and the iSing t-shirt. iSing t-shirts will be ordered for all students in September.

Tuition, Deposit, and Payment Information

Tuition is based on a one-year enrollment.

Tuition

Girls, Grades 2-6	\$900
Girls, Grades 7-12	\$1100

Additional Expenses

iSing t-shirt	\$20
Concert tickets	\$20-\$100
Concert Uniform	See Uniform section
Trip/ Tour	Upper ensembles only
Replacement music	\$25/child

Payment Information

Please mail a check to:

Check payable to: First Baptist Church of Palo Alto
305 N. California Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Mark "iSing" in the Memo line

Please include the following information with all payments:

- Reason for payment (tuition, shirt, tickets, etc.)
- Name of Parent (First and Last)
- Name of Student (First and Last)

Please do not hand any payments to iSing staff during a rehearsal unless specifically instructed to do so.

Refunds will not be available after October 7. Please understand that we purchase supplies and budget for the year based upon tuition from committed students.

Any child joining iSing after January 1, 2014 will pay pro-rated tuition.

Tuition Assistance and Discounts

It is part of iSing's mission in our community to offer tuition assistance to families who are unable to afford tuition. This option is available to families who are able to demonstrate need and commitment. Please email info@isingsv.com for additional assistance.

Membership

iSing expects our singers and families to demonstrate commitment and responsibility. A choir is like a sports team– every member is integral, valued, and relied upon by their teachers and peers. Membership in the Girlchoir is for one full season (September–May).

Attendance

1. It is an honor to participate in a choir with fellow musicians. As such, we expect that singers and their families will be punctual and prepared for all iSing schedule events. Please compare your iSing calendar with your child's other important activities and notify us of potential conflicts as early in the year as possible.
2. When absences are necessary, please email info@isingsv.com with an explanation of the absence.
3. Please make weekly rehearsals a priority. Please plan other events and schedule other activities around your iSing schedule whenever possible.
4. Excessive tardiness or absenteeism may result in dismissal from the program.

Singer Code of Conduct

1. At all times, show respect for staff, volunteers, and fellow students.
2. Demonstrate commitment by arriving on time to all scheduled events.
3. Regularly check the rehearsal blog for notes and practice materials.
4. Arrive with all materials required for rehearsal or performance: uniform, pencil, music, etc.
5. Treat your music with respect: do not use a pen to mark, do not bend, do not fold.
6. During community events, remember that you are a representative of iSing. Your best behavior is expected.

Parent Expectations

1. Parents are responsible for reading all iSing communications.
2. Parents are responsible for safely transporting Girlchoir members to and from rehearsal at the specified times.
3. Parents are responsible for reviewing the calendar and notifying iSing directors of upcoming conflicts.
4. We invite you to get involved. iSing is a start-up choir organization and you can be a vital part of our success. Please consider becoming a volunteer or member of our Parent Committee.

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iSing's Media Policy

As we participate in our community, we have opportunities to provide photos of our students in newsworthy events. Photos may be used in newspapers, choir program promotions, social media, and printed materials. Safety is paramount and staff checks all content before publication. iSing Silicon Valley prefers to keep student photos anonymous in its publications for safety reasons.

iSing's Required Medical Information

Singer Name (First, Last) _____

Parent Name (First, Last) _____

Any known medical conditions (describe):

Any allergies we should know about (describe):

iSing will always have Parent cell phone information on hand in case of an emergency. In the event that you cannot be reached, please provide an emergency contact.

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Phone: (_____) _____

Statement of Understanding

I have read the iSing Silicon Valley Girlchoir Handbook and understand the terms within.

Singer Name _____ Parent Name _____

iSing Silicon Valley Girlchoir Schedule 2013-2014

*All classes will rehearse at their specified rehearsal time unless otherwise noted.
Schedule is subject to change. Last updated 8/29/2013.*

Classes meet at the following routine times unless otherwise noted:

Girls, Grades 2-3, Thursday 5–6PM

Girls, Grades 4-6, Wednesday 5–7PM

Girls, Grades 7-12, Thursday 5–8:30PM

Fall 2013 Special Dates

September 4, 5	W, TH	Classes begin
September 11, 12	W, TH	Bring-a-friend to rehearsal day!
October 12	SAT	9-5PM, Fall Retreat Grades 7-12, 9-5PM *lunch provided Grades 4-6, 1-5PM Family concert & BBQ at 5PM
November 26	T	Grades 7-12 classes moved to Tuesday
November 27 & 28	W, TH	NO CLASS: Happy Thanksgiving!
December 5	TH	Grades 2-3 Class Recital, 5-6PM
December 11	W	Holiday Concert Dress, all choirs
December 12	TH	No rehearsals- Rest up for concert!
December 13	F	Holiday Concert, 7PM, Call 5PM
December 15–January 7		NO CLASS: Happy Holidays!

Spring 2014 Special Dates

January 8 & 9	W, TH	Classes resume
February 12 & 13	W, TH	NO CLASS: Happy Ski Week!
May 8	TH	Grades 2-3 Class Recital, 5-6PM
May 21	W	Spring Concert Dress, all choirs
May 22	TH	No rehearsals- Rest up for concert!
May 23	F	Spring Concert, 7PM, Call 5PM

Summer 2014

July (dates TBD)	M–SAT	iSing's Summer Singing Camp
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