

Registration Form

Return the following form, along with a non-refundable registration fee of \$40 per family. Make checks payable to: "PAHC." Confirmation will be mailed by 6/30.

Mail to: Princeton Area Homeschool Choir
P.O. Box 6837
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Parents' Full Names _____

Address:

Phone (_____) _____--_____

E-mail: _____

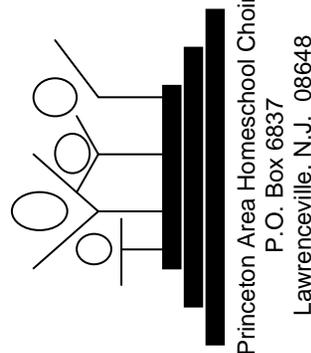
We are: (please check one)

- a returning choir family
 a new family that homeschools
 a new family (not homeschooling)

Please initial here to verify that you have read the "Pre-Registration Information" box of the 2017-2018 PAHC brochure. x_____

CHILD'S NAME	(M/F)	Age on 9/30/17	Birth date
1.			
2.			
3.			

If you are a new family, how did you hear about PAHC?

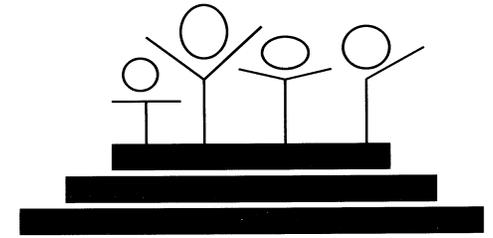


JOIN US...

FOR A SENSATIONAL

SEASON OF SONG!

2017-2018



the **Princeton Area Homeschool Choir**

E-mail: homeschoolchoir@aol.com
www.pahc.org

*Cultivate your
child's musical gifts,
and provide a
means of expression
that will last a
lifetime!*

Pre-Registration Information

Participation in PAHC requires a year-long commitment. Full payment is due (½ on July 10 and ½ on August 10) prior to the start of the choir year. Refunds will not be issued.

To ensure a positive experience for all singers, an attendance policy is in effect, and may be found on the accompanying insert sheet.

For Youth Ensemble, Covenant Choir and Kindred Singers, use of the formal uniform for the 1st year is \$60, plus a \$10 cleaning fee. The cost is lower for uniform re-issue. A Choir T-shirt must be purchased by each chorister (\$12).

A contingent tuition fee of \$100-\$125 per chorister (based upon enrollment numbers), with maximum \$300 per family, is due by March 31, 2018. This fee, which is a mandatory component of the total tuition charge, may be satisfied through various fundraising options or paid outright. The fee is not tax-deductible.

One parent from each family is required to attend an informational meeting at the beginning of the choir year.

Two hours of service are required from each family annually.

Special requirements for each division are described on the accompanying insert sheet. Please read before registering!

Denise Hayes, Artistic Director

Denise Hayes is a choral music educator with over 30 years of experience teaching children and youth. She graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in Music Education from Bucknell University. Denise's graduate studies include coursework at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, West Chester and Temple Universities, where she studied with Frauke Haaseman, Edwin Gordon and Don Muro. She has taught in elementary, middle and high schools in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, where she directed award-winning choirs. Denise has been an invited lecturer at area colleges and a guest clinician for school and church choirs. She is the former center director of Music Together® of Lawrenceville, and has homeschooled her own four children.

Rehearsal Location

Princeton Community Church, Pennington, NJ.

Season Late September through early May

Registration Priority

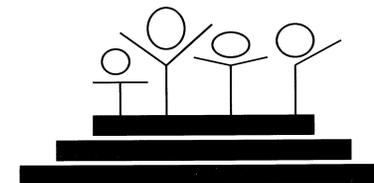
Registrations are processed on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to current families until 5/5.

Schedule and Fees

<i>Stepping Stones</i>		Ages 4-5
Mondays	2:10-2:50	\$355
<i>Pathways</i>		Ages 6-7
Mondays	3:00-3:40	\$365
<i>Youth Ensemble</i>		Ages 8-10
Mondays	2:30-3:20	\$420
<i>Treble Singers</i>		Staff placement varies
Mondays	3:30-4:10	
<i>Covenant Choir</i>		Ages 11-18
Mondays	4:20-5:30	\$490
<i>Kindred Singers</i>		Staff placement
Mondays	5:40-7:10	\$620

Additional Registration Information

- See pre-registration information box regarding the contingent tuition fee, to be raised through fundraising or paid outright.
- Ages are calculated as of 9/30/17. Children must be ready to participate independently and appropriately in a group setting.
- Class size is limited, to enhance the experience of every child.
- A non-refundable registration fee of \$40 per family will be returned only if a spot is not available.
- Registrations received after 6/30 are subject to a \$25 late fee.



Princeton Area Homeschool Choir

Princeton Area Homeschool Choir operates within a Judeo-Christian framework, with the underlying conviction that music is a gift from God, to be used for His glory. Both sacred and secular music are sung, and texts are freely explored as a part of the artistic process.

Princeton Area Homeschool Choir offers...

... a developmental choral music program for boys and girls ages 4-18, emphasizing musical expression and artistic excellence.

... a joyful atmosphere of community music-making!

... musical activities and vocal instruction for younger choristers; formal choral training and exciting performance experiences for older singers.

... training in sight-singing, pitch discrimination, rhythm skills and instrumental ensemble.

... the study of folk, art and newly-composed music, in English as well as in foreign languages.

... the opportunity to meet and work with professional singers, composers and conductors.

... a doorway to artistic expression through song!

Established in 2000, the Princeton Area Homeschool Choir is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, serving the homeschool and non-homeschool communities. Visit us at www.pahc.org.

PAHC DIVISION DESCRIPTIONS

Stepping Stones - ages 4-5 (preparatory)

Times: 2:10-2:50 pm

Director: Grace Henrie

Young children learn best through play. Their brains are designed to soak up stimuli, and to organize and integrate it through hands-on exploration. A rich musical environment supports the emerging tonal and rhythm skills of these young choristers. Stepping Stones provides stimulating musical experiences in an atmosphere that is friendly and supportive, and thereby offers ample opportunity for these young musicians to develop the foundations necessary for a lifetime of musical growth! Children should demonstrate readiness by being able to listen and follow directions. Please note that Stepping Stones is a *preparatory* division, *not* a performing choir. These choristers join the older choristers briefly in each of the two home concerts (Winter and Spring). Rehearsal times may vary prior to performance.

Pathways - ages 6-7 (preparatory)

Times: 3:00-3:40 pm

Director: Grace Henrie

Children in this division are in the process of developing and/or solidifying tonal and rhythm competence (that is, the ability to sing in tune in multiple keys and the ability to keep a steady beat at various tempi). They also are discovering their natural, healthy singing voice (sometimes called "head voice"). A multi-sensory approach to music is especially important for this age group. Repetition and modeling are key components of the program. The Pathways division utilizes unison folk and art music, singing and movement games, and rhythm and tonal activities to nurture the musical growth of each child. Children should demonstrate readiness by being able to listen and follow directions. *Primarily a preparatory division, Pathways stresses the joy of music-making and the acquisition and solidification of rhythmic and tonal foundations.* Choristers participate briefly in each of the two home concerts (Winter and Spring). Rehearsal times may vary prior to performance. An attendance policy applies.

Youth Ensemble - ages 8-10

Times: 2:30-3:20

Director: Janet DeFreitas

Youth Ensemble serves choristers who are ready to delve into the formal art of choral singing. The ability to sing consistently in a natural, healthy voice (sometimes referred to as "head voice") is a main goal of this division. The musical score is the primary springboard for learning. Unison singing is emphasized, and harmony is introduced as well. Vocal technique, diction, sight-singing, rhythm-reading, interpretation and form are all components of the program. Select pieces are sung in foreign languages. Artistic expression is fostered through examination of the musical texts. A spirit of cooperation is encouraged, and commitment to the artistic process is expected. *Individual practice at home is required at times.* These singers participate in at least two home concerts. Participation in this ensemble carries with it a commitment to fellow singers, which means that choristers are expected to attend all scheduled performances. Monday rehearsal times may vary and/or increase prior to performances. An attendance policy applies.

Events: Mandatory Fall Kick-off (held on a Monday in September); Winter and Spring Concerts; 1-2 Friday or Saturday rehearsals; Additional performances are rare, but may be scheduled.

Treble Singers – staff placement

Times: 3:30-4:10 pm

Director: Denise Hayes

Treble Singers is a performance division that gives singers with unchanged voices the opportunity to sing more challenging repertoire. Youth Ensemble and Covenant Choir members are evaluated during fall voice checks for possible placement in this division. In order to be invited into this division, choristers must sing with healthy vocal technique; demonstrate a secure sense of pitch; respond readily and appropriately to questions, instructions and correction; and sing freely, with natural expression and affect. The minimum age is ten, though an exception is sometimes made if a child demonstrates early readiness. **Events:** Mandatory Fall Kick-off (held on a Monday in September); Winter and Spring Concerts; 1-2 Friday or Saturday rehearsals; Additional performances may be scheduled.

Covenant Choir – ages 11-up

Times: 4:20-5:30 pm

Director: Denise Hayes

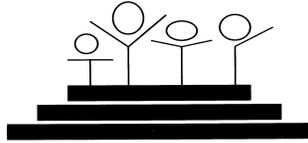
Covenant Choir is a performance division that meets the unique needs of the boys' and girls' adolescent voices. Art, folk and newly-composed music comprises the repertoire, which includes unison songs as well as music in 2-3 parts. Vocal technique, diction, sight singing, rhythm reading, interpretation, and form are all components of the program. Select pieces are sung in foreign languages. Artistic expression is fostered through examination of the musical texts. A spirit of cooperation is encouraged, and commitment to the artistic process is expected. **Choristers are required to practice their music at home during the week (the amount of time varies according to the age of the singer).** These singers participate in at least two home concerts, and other performances as scheduled. Participation in this ensemble carries with it a commitment to fellow singers, which means that choristers are expected to attend all scheduled performances. There may be some extra cost for travel and/or special events, not to exceed \$150 per year. Monday rehearsal times may vary and/or increase prior to performance. An attendance policy applies. **Events:** Mandatory Fall Kickoff (held on a Monday in September); Winter and Spring Concerts; 1-2 Friday or Saturday rehearsals; Additional performances as scheduled.

Kindred Singers - staff placement

Times: 5:40-7:10 pm

Director: Denise Hayes

Kindred Singers is a performance and touring division that aspires to excellence in musical performance and artistic expression. An audition is required. An exceptional commitment is required on the part of these choristers and their parents. Rehearsals are conducted at an advanced level and utilize challenging repertoire. Choristers must exhibit strong musical skills (including the ability to sight-sing and the ability to hold a homophonic harmony part independently), healthy vocal production, a basic understanding of music theory, and the willingness to make participation in Kindred Singers a commitment and a priority. **Kindred Singers also rehearses with Covenant Choir for 45 minutes each week (Seniors who are not in their first year of KS are exempt).** **Choristers are required to practice at home for at least 45 minutes per week.** Parents are asked to support this division beyond the two-hour commitment, by driving, coordinating and/or chaperoning. Participation in this ensemble carries with it a commitment to fellow singers, which means that choristers are expected to attend all scheduled performances. There may be some extra cost for travel and/or special events, not to exceed \$400 per year. Monday rehearsal times may vary and/or increase prior to performances. An attendance policy applies. **Events:** Mandatory Fall Kickoff (held on a Monday evening in September); Winter and Spring Concerts; One-day Winter Tour; 3-4 Friday or Saturday rehearsals; Additional performances as scheduled.



Princeton Area Homeschool Choir

Attendance Policy

(Stepping Stones choristers are not bound by this policy, but are expected to arrive on time for rehearsals and performances.)

Participation in the Princeton Area Homeschool Choir is a year-long commitment. Consistent weekly attendance is expected. Illness and special family circumstances are considered valid reasons for missing rehearsal. Absences are limited to three per semester, or two of the final rehearsals leading up to a performance. Saturday rehearsals count as two rehearsals. *Two late arrivals (more than 15 minutes) will be counted as one absence.* The limits are intentionally lenient, with the hope that most unusual situations will be covered. However, it is anticipated that most singers will not need all of the allotted absences.

After exceeding three absences in a term, the chorister will be placed on a leave of absence for the remainder of that term. Tuition refunds or credits will not be issued. If a chorister believes he can demonstrate musical proficiency, he may request a private adjudication with the director within one week of the fourth absence. If technical and artistic proficiency are clearly shown, the director may reinstate the chorister for the remainder of the term. Otherwise, the chorister may return to the choir at the beginning of the next term.

Participation in each of the *non-preparatory* divisions carries with it a commitment to fellow singers, which means that choristers are expected to attend all scheduled performances. Special Note: Pre-concert warm-ups may begin as early as four hours before a performance. Attendance at the final rehearsal before a performance and the warm-up for the performance is required in order to sing for that event.

Teaching Staff

Janet DeFreitas – Youth Ensemble

Janet DeFreitas earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from the State University College of New York at Fredonia. She received a Master of Music in Music Therapy from Temple University. Her work experience has included a variety of populations from infants to geriatrics. She has been active in music ministry for many years, and currently directs the Children's Choir at St. Bartholomew Church in East Brunswick, New Jersey. Janet is a former home schooling mom and enjoys sharing that her children were among the founding members of PAHC.

Denise Hayes – Treble Singers, Covenant Choir, Kindred Singers

Denise Hayes is a choral music educator with over 30 years of experience teaching children and youth. She graduated summa cum laude with a degree in Music Education from Bucknell University. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Denise's graduate studies include coursework at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, West Chester and Temple Universities, where she studied with Frauke Haaseman, Edwin Gordon and Don Muro. She has taught in elementary, middle and high schools in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, directing award-winning choirs. Denise has been an invited lecturer at area colleges and a guest clinician for church and school choirs. She is the former center director of Music Together® of Lawrenceville. Denise brings her expertise and passion for teaching to her work with PAHC choristers.

Grace Henrie - Stepping Stones, Pathways

Grace Henrie graduated from Cedarville College with a degree in elementary education with a music specialization. She is a singer and flutist, and has conducted church choirs for both adults and children. Grace completed the *First Steps in Music* course with John Feierabend, who is nationally recognized as one of the leading experts in early childhood music education. She also is a homeschool veteran, having taught all four of her sons through the eighth grade.