CHORUS SCHOOL FAQ

The San Francisco Girls Chorus School offers a program of unparalleled artistic and educational excellence, designed to train and inspire girls in the art of choral singing through a comprehensive choral, vocal, and music theory curriculum.

The Chorus School is made up of seven levels—Prep Chorus, Chorus Essentials, Training Chorus, and Levels I, II, III, and IV—which choristers move through as they grow vocally and musically. Choristers spend an average of two or three years in each Level. The Chorus School Curriculum is designed to teach musical skills, communication skills, concentration, and confidence in accordance with each chorister’s age and physical development.

Successful completion of the Chorus School Curriculum provides choristers with a beginning college-level knowledge of choral repertoire, vocal technique, and music theory. Upon graduation from Level IV, singers have the opportunity to audition for the San Francisco Girls Chorus, the acclaimed, GRAMMY Award-winning performance, recording, and touring ensemble.

HOW OFTEN DOES THE CHORUS SCHOOL REHEARSE?
The Chorus School operates on a school year schedule, rehearsing from September–May.

**Prep Chorus** rehearsal schedule:
SF PREP 1 (Kanbar) meets on Mondays from 4–4:45 pm or Saturdays from 10–10:45 am.
East Bay Prep 1 meets on Mondays from 4–4:45 pm or Saturdays from 10–10:45 am.
SF PREP 2 (Kanbar) meets on Mondays from 5–5:45 pm or Saturdays from 11–11:45 am.
East Bay Prep 2 meets on Mondays from 5–5:45 pm or Saturdays from 11–11:45 am.
SF Prep 1 and 2 (Ruth Williams Memorial Theatre at the Bayview Opera House) meets on Tuesdays from 4–4:45 pm.

**Chorus Essentials** rehearsal schedule:
This program at the Ruth Williams Memorial Theatre at the Bayview Opera House rehearses on Tuesdays from 4:30–6:30 pm.

**Training Chorus** rehearsal schedule:
The San Francisco program rehearses on Thursdays from 4–6 pm.
The East Bay program rehearses on Wednesdays from 4–6 pm.

**Levels I – III** rehearsal schedule:
The San Francisco program rehearses on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4–6 pm.
The East Bay program rehearses on Wednesdays and Fridays from 4–6 pm.

**Level IV** meets only in San Francisco and rehearses on Tuesdays from 4:15–6:45 pm and on Fridays from 4:15–7:15 pm.

WHERE DOES THE CHORUS SCHOOL REHEARSE?
Rehearsals in San Francisco take place at 44 Page Street at the Kanbar Performing Arts Center and 4705 3rd Street at the Ruth Williams Memorial Theatre at the Bayview Opera House.
Rehearsals in the East Bay take place at a new location for the 2019–2020 season: the East Bay German International School in Emeryville located at 1070 41st Street.

HOW MUCH DOES THE CHORUS SCHOOL COST?
Annual tuition for each Level covers an entire Chorus School year from September through May. Tuition for the 2019–20 Chorus year is as follows:

- **Prep Chorus**: $1,300;
- **Chorus Essentials**: $1,500;
- **Training Chorus**: $1,850;
- **Levels I, II, and III**: $2,700;
- **Level IV**: $2,950

There is a one-time $250 costume deposit required for new choristers in Training Chorus through Level IV when they begin the program.

WHAT IF I CAN’T AFFORD THE TUITION?
The Chorus School has a robust need-based scholarship program, for which we raise funds throughout the year. No matter what your financial situation, we encourage ALL who are interested to audition. If your singer is accepted into the program and you feel you need assistance, you may apply for a scholarship at that time.

WHAT KIND OF CURRICULUM DO YOU USE?
A graduated seven-Level curriculum provides the opportunity for choristers to work toward meeting objectives specific to each Level while developing musically at their own pace.
Work toward Level Objectives occurs during every rehearsal however, choristers are also expected to schedule time each week at home to work on vocal technique, theory assignments and music repertoire memorization.

HOW DOES MY CHORISTER PROGRESS THROUGH YOUR PROGRAM?
Individual progress is measured during rehearsals, performances, and at spring Level Recitals within Levels I–IV.
A chorister is promoted to the next Level after two, or three years when the SFGC faculty determine that she has successfully mastered all of the Level Objectives for her current Level.
Level IV choristers take a Qualifying Exam in music theory, and upon passing the exam are considered for Graduation from the Chorus School.