FAQ

Who is Oregon Repertory Singers?
ORS is a premier choral arts 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 1974. We consist of a 100-member professional-caliber adult choir, and an education- and performance-based youth choir music program unmatched in the region for ages 5-18, serving the greater Portland and SW Washington areas.

2022-2023 Oregon Youth Choir Rehearsal & Concert Schedule:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kBV6vc63zIB3JTOJXRMMLOwD625GAw16d7-RGr8ro4/edit

Rehearsal Location & Time

○ West Side - Mondays starting Sep 12, 2022
  Cedar Hills United Church of Christ, 11695 SW Park Way, Portland, OR 97225
  ■ K-1st grade, 5:00–6:00 pm
  ■ 2nd-5th grade, 5:30–6:30 PM
○
○ East Side - Wednesdays starting Sep 14, 2022
  St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th Ave, Portland, OR 97214
  ■ K-5th grade; 5:00 - 6:00 pm
  ■ 6-8th grade; 6:30 - 7:30 pm
  ■ 9-12th grade; 6:30 - 8:00pm

Tuition Cost:
Kindergarten - 5th grade: $800 for full year
6th - 8th grade: $1,100 for full year
9th - 12th grade: $1,400 for full year

What is included in my tuition?
As a part of your ORSYC tuition, you receive a binder with repertoire (to be returned to the ORS library at close of season), a music theory curriculum, a student designed ORSYC t shirt, an accessory piece to wear for performances, an ORSYC pencil, and name tag for rehearsals. Tuition costs also include involvement at two day retreats (4th-12th) and an end of year party following our final performance for all singers!

What kind of financial aid is available?
Please see our website for comprehensive financial aid information.

Do you have a tuition payment plan option?
ORSYC recommends paying tuition in one payment, if possible. We do provide the option for a two- or four-payment plan for 2022-2023 ORS Youth Choir tuition. Invoices will be created and sent through PayPal, payment will be due within five business days of receipt. Contact our office at 503-230-0652 or office@ORSingers.org if you have any questions.

Does ORS have a COVID-19 policy?
Yes. You can find it here. As of July 1, 2022, ORS will adhere to, at minimum, current Federal, Oregon Health Authority, and Multnomah County Guidelines regarding masks, vaccinations and distancing.

Do I have to audition to sing in ORS Youth Choir?
No! All singers are welcome to sing in ORS youth choir. There may be opportunities to audition for chamber groups and/or solos throughout the season.

**What can I expect at “Back to Choir” night and is it required? (West Side: August 29; East Side: August 31)?**

Back to Choir night is a great opportunity to meet and greet with the artistic and executive staff AND meet with other families participating in the program! Learn about us and our planned season for ORSYC. While this is not a required event, we highly encourage everyone to participate! We are planning an informal potluck style get-together. During this time, parents/guardians are encouraged to ask questions, sign-up for volunteer positions, meet other parents while your singer can expect to get one on one time with their music director to ask and answer some questions about their music background and interests; they will sing a song of their choosing - a folk song, nursery rhyme, Happy Birthday, or any other piece they would like to share and should expect to sing short vocal exercises with a piano to determine range. This is NOT an audition, but a chance to learn about each singer. All singers are welcome.

**What can I expect regarding communication home?**

Your music director will communicate weekly with you on Fridays. This may include a wrap up of the prior week, important details to remember for the following week(s), practice tracks, or rehearsal notes. Please have your 6-12 singer sign up to receive these emails as well as they will contain information specific to their music and practice expectations.

**What do I wear for concerts or performances?**

Our concert attire will be formal black of the singers’ choosing plus an ORSYC accessory piece that is included with your tuition. Please have arms covered to the elbow, and if legs are exposed, plan on black leggings, tights, or socks to cover any exposed skin. Shoes should be flat and moderately dressy to allow for all terrain. Hair should be affixed away from the face for the duration of performance to limit distraction.

**What should I bring to rehearsals?**

Bring your provided binder with music and theory and a pencil, and a water bottle if you need!

**Is there an option for carpooling?**

Yes! If you are interested in participating in a carpool with other ORSYC families we have a carpool interest form. Your information will be shared with other ORSYC families and coordination will be the responsibility of the participating families.

**What if I need to miss a rehearsal?**

If you know you need to miss a rehearsal, please communicate this absence via the missed rehearsal google form accessible on our “singers” tab of the ORSYC website. We don’t want you to miss rehearsals, as we want to maximize every minute of our limited time together to create music! Please plan ahead to communicate conflicts and minimize missed rehearsals. Singers who miss more than 2 rehearsals preceding a performance may be expected to sing their vocal part for a section leader.

**Will there be extra rehearsals?**

We make every effort to communicate the full season calendar at the onset of each singing year. However, sometimes we get extra performance opportunities! These performances, and any accompanying rehearsals, will be reflected on our calendar document, and communicated as soon as possible via weekly email. There may be the requirement of online evening sectionals as needed for 6-12th grade as we prepare for tour and festival.
Can I attend extra rehearsals at a different location?
Because the west side rehearses on Mondays, we will encounter school holidays. We will adhere to school schedules to allow for family flexibility, but know that your singer is always welcome to that week's east side rehearsal! Communicate your desire to attend extra rehearsals by reaching out to the music director directly.

Are there volunteer opportunities?
Each singer's family/guardian should expect to cover one week of check in/check out at rehearsal. A sign-up sheet will be provided at Back to Choir Night - you may sign up for more than one option. Volunteer opportunities, in addition to rehearsal check-in/out, consist of chaperoning concerts, retreats, tour and festival, joining the youth choir committee or the ORS Board of Directors. It takes a village and we appreciate every contribution!

Are rehearsals open?
You are welcome to observe rehearsals if you like!

How do tickets work for ORSYC concerts?
Tickets for youth choir concerts in the 2022-2023 season are pay-what-you-can. You must have a ticket to attend concerts. For joint concerts with the adult choir, a ticket discount will be provided at the time tickets go on sale.