



Welcome to Central Coast Youth Chorus

We are happy to welcome your interest in the premiere youth choir of San Luis Obispo County. Founded in 1994, CCYC has grown to be a valuable asset to SLO County and beyond. The Choir is non-profit, community-based and non-denominational. Participants from all parts of our county grace our rosters. Our organization strives to provide young people with the extraordinary opportunity to experience the joy of singing in live choral performances, as well as to receive a high-quality music education.

Comprised of 50-75 boys and girls from 6-19 years of age, the CCYC choir is divided into six choruses: Brio, Cadence, Cadenza, Vivace, Advanced Vocal Ensemble, and Young Men's Ensemble. Weekly rehearsals are scheduled during after-school hours and include musicianship training plus vocal coaching to assist in developing healthy singing habits. Repertoire is selected to fit each choir's skill level, and includes established classical works, folk songs from around the world, as well as more contemporary styles, always striving to suit the child's voice. Members of CCYC enjoy performing with other community groups such as Cuesta Master Chorale, SLO Vocal Arts Ensemble, OperaSLO, SLO Symphony and the Mozart Festival. They have performed in support of other local non-profit organizations – Hospice, C.A.S.A. and the SLO Children's Museum, to name a few. We are proud that many singers from CCYC have been chosen to represent California in Western Regional and National honor choirs that have met across America.

Before venturing further into details of our organization, we want you to be clear about our inspiration and purpose.

Mission Statement

CCYC is devoted to creating choral excellence, instilling values of self-discipline and commitment, and building lasting friendships while inspiring the artist in each singer through the power of music.

Core Values

Artistry

CCYC is devoted to developing the artist in every singer through an organized program of musical understanding, skill development, and performance experiences. Singers explore and

perform a wide range of musical repertoire representing many styles, languages and cultures. This promotes an increased level of musical skill and expressiveness, while instilling integrity and a broader understanding of themselves and their global community.

Dedicated Effort & Commitment

CCYC values the self-discipline that results in commitment and hard work. Singers come from diverse backgrounds and with varied skill sets. Through music, singers learn that their individual level of commitment determines the extent of their personal development, as well as the growth of the ensemble.

Personal and Social Growth

CCYC is committed to facilitating a program which helps build self-worth and respect for others, as well as promoting kinship among all singers and families. Through teamwork and cooperation, singers experience the joy and value of creating “something bigger than themselves”--beautiful music that inspires themselves and their audiences throughout the Central Coast and beyond.

Led by a Board of Directors working closely with an Artistic Director and the CCYC staff, our success depends on volunteer assistance from parents and other community members. In an effort to keep tuition prices low, CCYC funds more than half its yearly expenditures through other sources such as sponsors, grants and fundraising events. With a wholesome vision of organizational growth, we welcome new ideas and fresh energy to help us provide meaningful skills and memories to our participants.

Thank you for your interest in this most fulfilling venture of helping young people realize their vocal art dreams. Working together, we create new pathways for these young singers.

Sincerely,

Central Coast Youth Chorus Board of Directors



What Do Young People Learn While Singing In A Choir?

When they become aware that their voice is heard above the other and they blend voices, they learn **teamwork**.

When they follow their music director's hands through a series of meter and dynamic changes, they learn **accuracy**.

When they begin to appreciate, or "grow into" a piece of music, they learn **patience**.

When they refrain from talking and interrupting in rehearsal, they learn **respect**.

When they listen and concentrate during rehearsals, and when they practice faithfully at home, they learn **self-discipline**.

When they sing in different languages, they begin to **see the world**.

When they don't get the solo they wanted and congratulate the person who did, they learn **good sportsmanship and graciousness**.

When they sing for the local Christmas tree lighting ceremony, they learn **community involvement**. When they go caroling at a nursing home they learn **compassion**.

When they choose a rehearsal or performance over a special event, they learn **commitment**.

When they bound out of their singing positions to give a "high five" because they finally sang their most difficult piece straight for the first time, they learn **perseverance**.

When they perform their first solo in front of an audience, they learn **risk-taking and self-confidence**.

When they work hard in concerts and recording sessions and then hear the new CD that was produced, they learn genuine **pride and self-esteem**.

Research shows time and again that students have only to gain from involvement in choral singing and the arts. **A well-organized, sustained education in music gives children and youth intellectual and creative skills that last a lifetime.**



Board Roles and Responsibilities

The Board is responsible in five key areas:

To establish the organization's mission, vision and direction

- Vision and values
- Mission and philosophy
- Strategic planning
- Programs and services
- Evaluation

To ensure the financial health of the organization

Responsible for ensuring there are adequate financial resources for the work of the organization.

To ensure the organization has sufficient and appropriate human resources

- Responsible for the working conditions in the organization
- Responsible for hiring, giving direction to and evaluating the Artistic Director
- Responsible for ensuring the capability, suitability and vitality of its membership
- Responsible for ensuring the existence of a Nominating Committee

To direct organizational operations

Responsible for ensuring the organization and its directors are in compliance with its legal requirements

- Responsible for ensuring that the board works effectively
- Oversees organizational structure and agency administration

To ensure effective community relations

- Respond to changing needs/pressure in the community
- Find new ways to meet needs
- Use marketing and public relations



Board of Directors Application Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

Relevant experience and/or employment:

Why are you interested in our organization?

Area(s) of expertise/contribution you feel you can make:

Other volunteer commitments:

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

For Board Use

- _____ Nominee has had a personal meeting with board chair. Date: _____
- _____ Nominee reviewed by the nominating committee. Date: _____
- _____ Nominee attended a board meeting. Date: _____
- _____ Nominee reviewed by board of directors. Date: _____

Action taken by board: _____ Date: _____



Applicant's Name: _____

Guidelines for CCYC Board Membership

1. Be committed to the mission of the CCYC organization.
2. Attend no less than 75% of regular Board Meetings.
3. Serve on one of the Board committees.
4. Make a personal contribution of time to the organization's operating needs.
5. Participate in or attend most of the program activities.
6. Invite friends and associates to attend program activities.
7. Recommend potential candidates to the Board, as appropriate.
8. Assist in securing funds, grants, services, material goods and/or donors to support the mission of CCYC.
9. Present a positive organizational image to people with whom you come in contact.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Board President

Date