



Central
Dakota
Children's
Choir

2023-2024 Hand Book

Treble Makers
Singing for 2nd Graders
Jubilate
Bel Canto
Kantorei
Angelica
Cantus

Artistic Staff

Artistic Director

Teri Fay

Jubilate

Dawn Hagerott, Conductor
dawn.hagerott@bismarckstate.edu
Beth Weiss, Accompanist

Bel Canto

Teri Fay, Conductor
terifay.choir@gmail.com
Beth Weiss, Accompanist

Kantorei

James McMahon, Conductor
james_mcmahon@bismarckschools.org
Carol Huck, Accompanist

Angelica

Michael Seil, Conductor
mike_seil@bismarckschools.org
Carol Huck, Accompanist

Cantus

Michael Seil, Conductor
mike_seil@bismarckschools.org
Carol Huck, Accompanist

Administrative Staff

Tammy Rector - Executive Director
tammy@aboutcdcc.org

Amy Miller – Operations Director
amym@aboutcdcc.org

Jennifer Bender – Uniform Coordinator
cdcc@aboutcdcc.org

Choir Office

Located at:

H.A. Thompson Building
921 S. 9th St., Suite 115
Bismarck, ND 58504
258-6516
cdcc@aboutcdcc.org
www.aboutcdcc.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Fridays: Closed
(Hours subject to change. After-hours
appointments available upon request.)

Board of Directors

Tyler Bakke
Karmin Billadeau
Maurice Cook
Teri Fay
Karen Kost
Michelle Nyhus
Tammy Rector
Adrienne Riehl
Maria Roll-Schlecht

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ABOUT CDCC

VISION STATEMENT

Central Dakota Children's Choir (CDCC) has been formed to inspire children to a lifelong love of singing through the performance of fine choral music.

MISSION STATEMENT

Central Dakota Children's Choir's mission is to provide a unique choral education and experience to the children of central North Dakota, to enrich the artistic community, and to serve as ambassadors for our state through music and education.

OUR HISTORY

Central Dakota Children's Choir is the result of a project that Karen Traeholt submitted for the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Bismarck-Mandan program. To meet the criteria of the proposal for the project, music teachers were surveyed, community music supporters met, and information about other children's choirs was assessed. Once it was determined that a children's choir was a viable possibility for the community, a timetable was set up to make Karen's dream a reality.

At this time, a partnership with Bismarck-Mandan Junior Service League (JSL) was developed. JSL, a women's organization of all ages committed to promoting voluntarism and improving the community through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers, adopted CDCC as their project. JSL's financial assistance, as well as use of their volunteers, made the continued growth of this organization possible.

During the summer of 1998, a board of directors was established, the founding director, Teri Fay, was hired, and articles of incorporation were registered as a North Dakota non-profit corporation. The name, Central Dakota Children's Choir, was selected to reflect our regional membership. Our inaugural choir, Bel Canto, consisted of 65 singers in grades 4-6. In 2001, Karen Traeholt was hired as Executive Director and Teri Fay was hired as Artistic Director.

Due to the great success of the choir during its first three years, the organization expanded to three choirs for the 2001 - 2002 season to include grades 3 – 9. The fall of 2004 saw the addition of our 4th choir, Cantus, for high school students, and in 2005, CDCC added an additional high school treble choir – Angelica. In January 2011, CDCC introduced "Singing for Second Graders" music class, and in 2022 expanded their programming to include 1st graders with the new "Treble Makers" class. CDCC established a 4-6 grade choir, Cantabile, in Dickinson, ND in 2011. After working under the umbrella of CDCC for 4 years, Cantabile became an independent choir serving the children of western ND. The organization continued to grow in 2022 with the addition of "CDCC Echoes," a small ensemble consisting of local alumni.

The choirs of Central Dakota Children's Choir are recognized regionally for their quality and have been invited, by audition, to perform at state and regional events. CDCC performs 30 to 40 times each year and is available for special events. They sing annually for 12,000 to 15,000 people.

It is the goal of CDCC to provide a nurturing environment where children aspire to their highest level of musical artistry and personal development. CDCC is deeply indebted to the many individuals and businesses whose philanthropic giving supports our ongoing mission of inspiring tomorrow's voices.

MANAGEMENT

CDCC is managed as a 501(c)(3) non-profit North Dakota corporation by a board of directors, who volunteer their time and expertise to assure that the business is run legally and ethically and in keeping with our vision. All policies are determined and implemented at the sole discretion of the board of directors.

CDCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The board of directors consists of community representatives. In addition, the executive director and the artistic director serve as advisory non-voting members. A schedule of board meetings is posted in the choir office.

DIRECTORS & STAFF

Teri Fay - Artistic Director/Conductor, Bel Canto, Treble Makers, Singing for 2nd Graders

Teri Fay has spent her adult life as a teacher and musician in Bismarck. She is the founding director of Central Dakota Children's Choir and has also served as Artistic Director since 2001. She directs Bel Canto and is the founding director of Angelica. She developed and directs "Treble Makers" and "Singing for 2nd Graders" CDCC classes. Teri's vision for CDCC has taken it from 1 choir of 65 to seven different performing/teaching segments in the Bismarck/Mandan area. Teri is honored to have performed at so many local and state functions over the past 26 years with CDCC! (We won't even try to list them all!)

Teri spent 38 years as an elementary music teacher, 35 of which were at Dorothy Moses, where she taught grades K-6 music and 5th and 6th grade band. A lover of the Orff philosophy, Teri, together with Sister Millicent and Sister Jeanette Hinds founded the Prairie Winds Orff Chapter, which led to helping many of the area schools and teachers develop an Orff curriculum, changing the way music is being taught in the area. Teri also conceived the idea of the Bismarck Public Schools Band camp, establishing this unique opportunity for children to begin learning their instrument. Teri was also the first elementary band instructor to enter a 6th grade marching band in the local Band Night Parade.

Teri plays horn in the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony, West River Winds, and the Bismarck-Mandan Wind Ensemble. She also performed with the Missouri River Community Band for 15 years. Teri spent 25 years as a cantor, pianist, organist, and choir director at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Because of her dedication to the school district and community, Teri received the 2000 Crystal Apple Award from the Bismarck-Mandan Chamber of Commerce. Teri is the composer of "That's What North Dakota is to Me," sung at the state Centennial Celebration in 1989 and often performed by Bel Canto.

A North Dakota native, Teri is a graduate of Minot State University with additional graduate work done at the University of Colorado. Teri earned a Level III Orff Certification (studying with Jos Wuytack), a Level I Certificate in the Kodaly Method and completed Levels I and II of Creating Artistry with Henry Leck.

Of all her accomplishments, she is most proud of her children, MeriCarol, Stephanie and Ron Storhaug. In March 2018, Teri was inducted into the North Dakota Music Educators Hall of Fame.

Tammy Rector - Executive Director

Tammy joined our staff in September 2007 as Operations Director. In 2009, she was promoted to Project Manager and in the fall of 2012 took on the additional duties of Director of Development. In the spring of 2015, she accepted the position of Executive Director following the retirement of Karen Traeholt.

Tammy graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a degree in Business Administration with special emphasis in personnel management and speech communication. She and her husband, Tim, moved to Mandan, ND in 1994. In 1996, they opened Heart River Animal Hospital, where Tim was a private practitioner and Tammy kept the books and thoroughly enjoyed being a full-time, stay-at-home mom. Prior to moving to ND, Tammy was an account representative for a printing business in Spokane, WA. Before that she worked as an editorial advisor at an educational publishing company in Manhattan, KS.

Tammy grew up in a musical family. Her mother directed the church choir and she and her siblings performed for school and community events from a young age. Her love of music continued through high school and college where she participated in concert choir, swing choir, All-State and various ensembles. Her first encounter with CDCC was seeing Bel Canto pose for pictures on the steps of the State Library. She was so impressed, she approached Karen to inquire about the group and made a mental note of how old her daughter would need to be to audition!

Tammy and Tim have two children, Erin and Thane. Erin was one of the first 10+ year students, participating in both Kantorei and Angelica her freshman year and Angelica and Cantus as a junior. Thane was a member of CDCC for three years.

Dawn Hagerott - Conductor, Jubilate

Dawn brings a great deal of vocal and choral experience to CDCC. She has a Master of Music degree from Northern Arizona University where she was a graduate assistant in opera, and a music instructor for six years. She was the chair of the vocal department of the Northern Arizona University Preparatory School of Music where she was a voice instructor and children's choir director. She was also the choral director of Flagstaff Middle School and the Flagstaff Arts and Leadership Academy high school. Dawn conducted the ensembles of the Academy at the Grand Canyon for President Bill Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore.

Before moving to Arizona, Dawn and her husband David lived in Moscow, Idaho for six years where they attended the University of Idaho. Dawn graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education and was a featured soloist with several choruses and orchestras of Washington and Idaho. She also directed the children's choir at Emmanuel Lutheran church in Moscow. Prior to returning to her hometown, Dawn and her husband, David, were in Dickinson for a year where Dawn was an adjunct professor of music for Dickinson State University. She was also the children's choir director at St. John Lutheran Church and the director of the Badlanders Barbershop Chorus.

As part of the Bismarck Public School District's Student Instructional Programs, Dawn presents an educational program with BMCC about opera for all the third graders in the Bismarck Public Schools each year as well as presenting an educational program about choir for all the first graders in town with Jubilate. Dawn has been a member and soloist with the Bismarck-Mandan Civic Chorus since 2000 and is also a professional chorister and soloist with Dakota Pro Musica. Dawn has played leading roles in many operas, including her favorite, the Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* by Mozart with the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra. Dawn was soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with orchestras in Arizona, Dickinson and Bismarck. In the summer of 2005, Dawn was the soprano soloist in Rutter's *Requiem* with the Frankfurt Philharmonic in Rothenburg, Germany.

Dawn also keeps busy presenting vocal master classes, directing festival choruses, and adjudicating festivals and competitions in North Dakota, Minnesota and South Dakota. She has directed the North Dakota ACDA Surround the State in Song, the Northern Plains Music Festival, the South Dakota Elementary Choral Festival, and the Bismarck All-City Middle School Choral Festival. Dawn is an active member of the American Choral Director's Association and is past president of the ND National Association of Teachers of Singing.

Dawn has been the director of the Jubilate Choir of Central Dakota Children's Choir since its inception in 2001 and spent two years as the director of the Angelica choir. Dawn has been teaching music at Bismarck State College since 2000 and is currently an associate professor of music at BSC where she teaches voice and directs the BSC Men's Ensemble. She has twice been the recipient of the faculty award for excellence. She also received the 2020 Crystal Apple Higher Education Teacher of the Year award. Dawn is also an adjunct professor of music for Dickinson State University in their Bachelor of Music Program through DSU at BSC. Her husband, David, is employed with AE2S. Their son Morgen was a singer in CDCC for ten years and Gabriel was a member of Jubilate for two years.

Although Dawn loves to perform music, her true passion lies in teaching music. She enjoys sharing her knowledge and love of singing with singers of all ages. She believes singing gives us the ability to connect to people at a deeper level that transcends ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. We can be a member of a chorus and become part of something that is unified and much larger than us. Singing is something we can share with others and enjoy our entire lives.

Michael Seil - Conductor, Cantus & Angelica

Michael Seil is the director of choral activities at Legacy High School. This fall, Mr. Seil is the vocal director for the Legacy High School production of the musical *Into the Woods*.

Mr. Seil is also the director of the Angelica & Cantus Choirs of the Central Dakota Children's Choir. Angelica is a treble choir for girls in grades 9-12 and Cantus consists of selected students in grades 10-12. Angelica performed at the 2023 North Dakota ACDA Conference Showcase Concert. Cantus was selected as one of four invited choirs for the 2009 Concordia College Choral Festival. In September of 2007, Cantus performed Schubert's Mass in G Major with the Missouri Valley Chamber Orchestra and performed at the March 2008 & 2022 NDMEA Conference.

Prior to teaching at LHS, Mr. Seil was the choral director at Bismarck High School from 2003-2013 and at Simle Middle School in Bismarck from 1996-2004. As a member of ACDA, Mr. Seil serves as North Dakota's Repertoire and Standards Chair for Vocal Jazz. Mr. Seil also serves as the NDMEA All-State Vocal Jazz Honor Choir chairperson. In February of 2012, Mr. Seil was selected as the NDACDA "Choral Director of the Year." In May of 2011, Mr. Seil was selected as the Bismarck-Mandan Chamber of Commerce "Outstanding Secondary Teacher of the Year." In 2007, Mr. Seil was selected as the Wal-Mart/Sam's Club "Teacher of the Year." Mr. Seil was also awarded the 2002 KXMB Golden Apple Award.

Away from school, he is an active clinician, soloist, composer, pianist and arranger. Mr. Seil served as the director of the Northwest International Festival Nova Choir in 2019 and 2023 and the Cantabile Chorus in 2017 in addition to the 2012 NDACDA Junior High/Middle School Mixed Honor Choir. Mr. Seil is a 1995 graduate of the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, studying under Dr. James Rodde. He is married to Sheri (Schwindt) Seil, a DDS administrator for North Dakota. They have a son (Harrison) who was a 10-year CDCC participant and a daughter (Addison) who is an 11-year CDCC participant, currently a member of Angelica & Cantus.

James McMahon – Conductor, Kantorei

James McMahon earned a Bachelor's of Science in Music Education from the University of Mary in 2002 and has done continuing education work with UND, NDSU and UMary.

James started his professional teaching career in the Fall of 2002 at Simle Middle School in Bismarck. In his work he helps students realize their value by teaching community, collaboration, and creativity.

Now in his 21st year in education, he continues to develop the Choral Program at Simle with over 250 students participating. At Simle, he teaches 6th-8th grade Choir, as well the extra-curricular Simle Singers and Swing Choir. He was awarded the North Dakota American Choral Directors Association "Outstanding Young Choral Director" in 2008 for his commitment to his students and the choral art form. He has also received the "Golden Apple" award for teaching excellence. He is enjoying his 9th season directing Kantorei, the middle-level auditioned choir with the non-profit Central Dakota Children's Choir. Under his direction, Kantorei was selected as a showcase performance choir for the 2016 NDACDA State Choral Convention, his Simle Singers chosen in 2022. After receiving Arthur Hull drum circle facilitation training in 2019, he is now implementing drumming programming for students. He enjoys composing music as a singer-songwriter and integrating his original work into his choral ensembles. He can be found performing with various local musical ensembles and most frequently in the McMahon bros. James most recently recorded an original EP album titled "Peace Garden Collective" which was released in May of 2022. James has a love for the Bismarck community and has served as President of the Dakota West Arts Council Board of Directors. James is an accomplished trumpet player and has played Principal Trumpet in the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony and has served on the International Music Camp jazz faculty. James is an Assistant Tennis Coach for the Legacy Sabers boys and girls tennis teams, working with fundamentals of resilience, effort and integrity. He especially values time with his sons Justice, Avery and Stryder and his partner Mollie.

Carol Huck - Accompanist, Kantorei, Angelica & Cantus

Carol is a native of Bismarck and first studied piano locally under Erma Garrity. She is a 1981 graduate of North Dakota State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education. She was a member of the NDSU Concert Choir and was the accompanist for the renowned composer/director Edward Fissinger. Carol studied piano privately under Andrew Froelich while at NDSU.

She has been an accompanist for Bismarck and Mandan Public Schools and has a long history of musical involvement in the community. Carol is active in local church and community musical groups and is employed with Huck Financial in Mandan.

Carol has three grown children and four grandchildren. She resides in Mandan with her husband, Don.

Beth Weiss - Accompanist, Jubilate & Bel Canto

Beth enters her fourteenth season with CDCC, having served as original accompanist for both Jubilate and Angelica through 2007. Upon her return to Bismarck in 2017, she resumed playing for Jubilate and added Bel Canto to her group of favorite kids!

Beth began her musical life on a tiny Charlie Brown piano, plunking out tunes at age 3. She's indebted to her mom for starting her in lessons soon afterward, so she learned to read music at the same time she was reading words. Her first public performances occurred as accompanist for her seventh grade chorus in Grand Forks where she grew up. She became a pianist and choir accompanist in her church and went on to

study music and art at UND and beyond. Beth eventually auditioned for a Christian band called New Day, touring North America for four years as the assistant director. It was there she met her late husband, Bob, and together they included music in their pastoral ministry. Their son, Ben, is a librarian in Minneapolis.

Beth is a grateful supporter of our local arts community. In addition to her work as an award-winning visual artist, she accompanies the Bismarck-Mandan Civic Chorus and Mandan High School choirs.

Amy Miller - Operations Director

Amy became part of CDCC's staff in February 2009. She is a Bismarck native. Amy has degrees from BSC and Alexandria Technical College. She has a strong background in customer service and design. Amy started as our Administrative Assistant and shortly after assumed Operations Director responsibilities.

Amy and her husband, Brett, have three amazing children, Samuel, Rory & Eva. Samuel is currently in his first year as a member of Bel Canto. Eva and Rory both participated in the 1st grade class, Treble Makers last spring.

Jennifer Bender - Uniform Coordinator

Jennifer began working at CDCC in the summer of 2016. She has a teaching degree from Moorhead State University and taught 3rd grade in Minnesota and Special Education in Hawaii. She and her husband, Dave have 3 sons – Lucas, Nathan, and Eric. Nathan sang with CDCC for 8 years and Eric for 5 years.

CHOIRS & REHEARSALS

MEMBERSHIP

Our singers, grades 1 – 12, come from Bismarck-Mandan and surrounding areas and have a variety of personal backgrounds. Members attend private, public and home schools. Open auditions are held annually in the spring and by appointment throughout the season as space allows.

CHOIR DESCRIPTIONS

Treble Makers and **Singing for 2nd Graders** are introductory music classes designed specifically for elementary students. These pre-choirs meet one time per week for 45 minutes. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of music through singing, movement, speaking and creating. Classes are taught by Teri Fay. Performances are limited.

Jubilate is an entry level choir for children in grades 3 and 4. The choir rehearses one time per week for 60 minutes. Emphasis is placed on unison singing, ear training and simple note reading skills. The choir is directed by Dawn Hagerott. Public performances are limited.

Bel Canto is an upper elementary level choir for children in grades 5 and 6. The choir rehearses two times per week for 45 minutes each rehearsal. The choir develops skills to sing two-and three-part music, ear training, sight singing and other musical skills. The choir is under the direction of Teri Fay. Bel Canto sings for a variety of community and concert events.

Kantorei is a middle school level choir for students in grades 7, 8 and 9. The choir rehearses one time per week for 90 minutes. The choir sings three-and four-part music, continues developing ear training, sight singing and many other musical skills. James McMahon is the director of Kantorei. Kantorei also sings for community and concert events.

Angelica is an all-women’s high school level choir for students in grades 9 -12. The choir rehearses one time per week for 90 minutes. Angelica focuses on continued development of choral vocal skills and performs throughout the community in a variety of concert settings. Angelica is directed by Michael Seil.

Cantus is a high school level mixed-voice ensemble for students in grades 10-12. The choir rehearses one time per week for 90 minutes. Cantus completes our organization with a fully balanced SATB choir focusing on continued development of choral vocal skills and performs throughout the community in a variety of concert settings. Michael Seil is the director of Cantus.

Echoes is a small ensemble consisting of local alumni. Rehearsals and performances vary depending on the availability of members.

CHOIR CAMP

Choir camp signals the beginning of our choir season (the cost of camp is including in the tuition). Warm-up routines, ear training, learning new repertoire, group dynamics and in-depth training are all established during camp.

Jubilate	August 8-10	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Bismarck State College
Bel Canto	July 31- August 3	9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Bismarck Event Center
Kantorei	August 1-3	9:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Simle Middle School
Angelica	August 8-10	6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Legacy High School
Cantus	August 14-16	6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Legacy High School

REHEARSALS

Regular rehearsal times and locations during the school year are as follows: **

Treble Makers

January 9, 2024 - May 18, 2024
 Tuesdays 4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Bismarck Event Center

Singing for 2nd Graders

January 9, 2024 – May 18, 2024
 Tuesdays 5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Bismarck Event Center

Jubilate

August 29, 2023 – May 18, 2024
 Tuesdays 4:30p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
 Rehearsal Room – Leach Music Center- BSC

Bel Canto

August 28, 2023 – May 18, 2024
 Mondays & Thursdays 5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Bismarck Event Center

Kantorei

August 28, 2023 – May 18, 2024
Mondays 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Simle Middle School -- Choir Room

Angelica

August 27, 2023 – May 18, 2024
Sundays 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Legacy High School – Choir Room

Cantus

August 27, 2023 – May 18, 2024
Sundays 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Legacy High School – Choir Room

**Rehearsal sites open 15 minutes prior to each rehearsal.

ATTENDANCE

Because Central Dakota Children's Choir is an auditioned choir, membership in this choir is an honor. This is to be considered a year-long commitment towards the success and growth of the choir. Each member is an important part of this group experience; therefore, the progress of this group depends on your consistent attendance and all rehearsals are required except for the following reasons:

- A major school conflict
- An acute illness
- A family emergency

Attendance will be taken at each rehearsal. Singers are to arrive five minutes early, ready to sing at the assigned time. Arriving late disrupts the rehearsal and limits valuable rehearsal time.

In the event of an expected absence, please use the [Absence Form](#) under the Choir Members tab on our website, www.aboutcdcc.org. This alerts your director so that rehearsal adjustments can be made. If something unexpected arises, please complete the form as soon as possible following the absence.

Attendance policy:

1. A singer may have no more than 3 unexcused absences.
2. Additional absences may be grounds for dismissal.
3. Any unexcused absence from a performance may be grounds for dismissal.

We appeal to your sense of responsibility when reporting absences. Directors need to know the reason for each absence. The directors retain the right to use their best judgement in making decisions regarding excused or unexcused absences.

DROP OFF/DISMISSAL

To keep the drop off and pick up of the singers safe and efficient, we have created the following system:

- Your child should not arrive at rehearsal site more than 15 minutes early. Children dropped off or arriving earlier will be unsupervised.
- Dismissal is always on time. Please pick your child up promptly as our directors frequently have other obligations/appointments following rehearsal.

REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

To perform well, the choir needs complete cooperation from everyone during rehearsals. An outstanding choir is one whose members:

- Are on time, and ready to sing,
- Enter and leave the building quickly and quietly,
- Stay in designated areas,
- Use the restroom before rehearsal begins,
- Leave running, yelling, horseplay, food, beverages and gum at home,
- Listen carefully to the director,
- Are attentive listeners,
- Treat each other with respect, courtesy and kindness, and,
- Have a positive attitude.

Choir is a group experience - everyone needs to cooperate. Singers who do not follow the rules may be asked to sit out the duration of the rehearsal. We will not allow the actions of one child to adversely affect the entire organization.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If a rehearsal or scheduled event must be canceled due to severe weather, CDCC will send an e-mail announcement, post it on the website and Facebook, and send a Remind text.

CHOIR PARTICIPATION INFORMATION & POLICIES

WAIVERS

In order to participate in Central Dakota Children's Choir, all students and parents must sign a Waiver and Release of Claims. This should be completed during registration.

REQUIRED SCHOOL CHOIR ENROLLMENT

All students participating in Kantorei, Angelica and Cantus are required to be enrolled in their school choir. This is a CDCC board policy.

MUSIC

Kantorei, Angelica and Cantus choir members will be assigned individual copies of music to be put in their binders. They are responsible for returning these copies of music to the music director in good condition and free of pencil marks. Choir members will be billed for lost or damaged music.

USE OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND ILLEGAL DRUGS

Any instance of a student in Central Dakota Children's Choir involved in the use or possession of tobacco, including vaping devices, illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia, alcohol or weapons may be brought before the board of directors to determine appropriate consequences.

ELIGIBILITY FOR 2ND CHOIR

CDCC offers second choirs at half tuition.

- 10th grade girls who receive an invitation to sing with Cantus must remain in good standing in their primary choir, Angelica, in order to participate in Cantus as a secondary choir.
- We invite all 9th, 11th and 12th grade girls to participate in Angelica as a second choir.

- Singers must remain in good standing in their primary choir, Kantorei or Cantus, in order to participate in Angelica as a second choir.

COMMUNICATIONS

The choir will help you keep up with events and expectations through the following means:

Communications will mostly be emailed. Some notes will be sent home in singers' choir folder/binder. It is very important that all singers bring their folder/binder to every rehearsal.

EMAIL

The choir e-mail address is cdcc@aboutcdcc.org. Email is one of the best forms of communication with our choir families. We use them for reminders, for soliciting volunteers, for sending last minute information and any other things that may come up at the last minute (i.e. – blizzard warning, rehearsal has been cancelled). **If your email changes during the year, please let us know so we can update your information.**

TEXT

Parents will have the option of signing up for text reminders through Remind. Text messages will be reserved for important and last-minute reminders/notices including rehearsal cancellations, ticket purchasing reminders, performances reminders, etc.

NEW PARENT MEETING

The orientation and planning meeting is held annually in May for students and parents new to CDCC. This is a very important forum for announcements, questions, answers and feedback. At least one parent of each new member needs to attend.

WEBSITE

Check out our website (www.aboutcdcc.org) for performance dates, updated notes, newsletters and to purchase tickets.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook - www.facebook.com/aboutcdcc

Instagram - www.instagram.com/central_dakota_childrens_choir

A TEMPO

All singers and contributors receive the CDCC newsletter throughout the year. This publication contains important information on events and insight into CDCC.

FUNDRAISING & TUITION

FUNDING

Tuition accounts for only one-third of our annual budget. Generous individuals, corporate contributions, concert revenue and other funding make up the balance. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, CDCC is eligible for grants and other tax-deductible contributions.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is a part of CDCC. Tuition covers approximately 30% of CDCC's total expenses. The rest of our income comes from concerts, performances, corporate income, grants and individual contributions. The reality is that we need to fundraise so that we can accomplish as much as possible for each CDCC student. Fundraising is voluntary; however, we hope you will see the many ways that CDCC benefits your child and our larger community and feel that it is worthy of your support above and beyond yearly tuition.

Crescendo of Care - A Week-long Celebration of Children's Voices

Annual Fall Fundraiser includes singer interviews, performances, raffle, an open house and more!

Ornaments

The choir has ornaments designed especially for us. They are available for sale after Thanksgiving. These dated, collectible ornaments make great gifts and include the theme for the season.

Share in the Song

This annual appeal goes out to donors in the late fall. If you know of someone who is interested in supporting choral education, please send us their contact information and we will include them on our mailing list.

Concert and Program Sponsors

Community businesses have the opportunity to support choral education by sponsoring choir concerts and events. These generous businesses will be recognized in our programs, website and other promotional materials.

Giving Hearts Day

Every February, CDCC participates in Giving Hearts Day, the region's largest 24-hour online fundraising event hosted by Dakota Medical Foundation (DMF) and Impact Foundation. Since 2008, this event has raised over 112 million dollars for charities across ND and MN.

50/50 Raffles

Every year CDCC sells 50/50 Raffle Tickets at a variety of community events including Bismarck Larks Games and races at the Dacotah Speedway.

TUITION

CDCC is a non-profit organization with the board of directors setting tuition each year.

Sibling Discounts

Families with two or more children in CDCC receive a reduced rate. The oldest child pays full tuition and subsequent children receive a discount.

2nd Choir Discounts

9th grade girls singing in Kantorei and Angelica pay full price for Kantorei and half price for Angelica. Girls singing in both Angelica and Cantus pay half price for their 2nd choir.

Tuition Policy

If a student's tuition has not been paid by the date of the first rehearsal, that student will not be allowed to attend rehearsal until such time as tuition is paid. Each missed rehearsal will be considered unexcused. After three unexcused absences, the student will be in jeopardy of losing their position in choir. Any tuition not paid by **July 31, 2023** will be assessed a **\$30 late fee**. If you foresee difficulty meeting this payment schedule, please contact our office immediately. We will make every effort to work with you, but a payment plan must be established prior to July 31, 2023. Please do not wait until after July 31 to address payment concerns.

CDCC expects participants to commit to the entire season and **CDCC tuition is non-refundable**. However, we understand extenuating circumstances may prohibit you from continued participation. Extenuating circumstances include a move out of the area, a death in the family and other life-altering situations. In these situations, we will consider a refund on a case-by-case basis.

Unexpected scheduling conflicts do not constitute an extenuating circumstance.

TUITION ASSISTANCE

CDCC awards a limited amount of tuition assistance each year. Tuition assistance is awarded based on demonstrated financial need. Funds for reduced tuition and scholarships are contributed by area service clubs, granting institutions, individual contributions and CDCC's general operating budget.

PARENT VOLUNTEER FEE

As a nonprofit organization, Central Dakota Children's Choir depends heavily on volunteers. We also understand that your time is valuable, and your commitments are many. Therefore, we do not expect you to volunteer for everything; however, we do ask that as a parent of a CDCC singer, you commit to volunteer at least four times throughout the season. Included in your child's tuition invoice is a \$75 volunteer fee. At the end of the season, if you have completed your volunteer requirement, we will refund this fee. Our most effective way of finding volunteers is through email requests, so please keep your eye out for emails from the office requesting volunteers.

PERFORMANCES

CDCC CONCERTS & EVENTS

Crescendo of Care – A Weeklong Celebration of Children's Voices: Major annual fundraiser held in October.

Christmas Concert Series & Spring Concert Series: Held at the historic Belle Mehus Auditorium, each concert series includes two performances. Each choir performs individually and then the choirs combine as one large choir for the finale.

CDCC Limited Edition Concerts: Two concerts in March. Each concert features only two or three CDCC choirs, allowing them to perform a larger portion of their repertoire.

Angelica—A Celebration of Women’s Voices: Angelica’s signature concert.

Educational Concert Series: Bel Canto performs a series of concerts for 2nd & 3rd grade students from Burleigh and Morton County each spring.

Cantus Unabridged: Cantus’ signature concert.

Additional performances are scheduled throughout the year as opportunity and availability permit. Performances vary each season but have included performing with the Bismarck-Mandan Civic Chorus, Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra, BPS SIPs concerts, Missouri Valley Chamber Orchestra, Sensational Sundays, BSC’s Bismarck Sings! and others.

TICKET PRICES

Ticket prices for concerts sponsored by CDCC vary per event. Ticket prices for events will be printed in the choir notes and on the website. Tickets may be purchased two weeks prior to the event through the choir office. Please stay tuned for more information as events get closer.

Occasionally, our choirs will perform as guests at another concert or event where admission is charged. CDCC singers will be allowed free admission, singers’ family will need to pay admission.

PERFORMANCE ETIQUETTE

During a performance a choir is judged as much on its professional behavior as it is on the performance it offers.

Prior to the performance each singer is expected to:

- Know exactly what he or she is supposed to wear. The singer must inspect all the pieces of his or her uniform before the performance to make sure they are clean and wrinkle free.
- Arrive at call time for performances entering the building quickly and quietly. Children should not arrive prior to call time as they may not have proper supervision.
- Visit the restroom before lining up with the choir.
- Listen carefully to all pre-performance instructions.

While performing, each singer is expected to:

- Maintain a proper stance with a quiet body
- Watch the director
- Remain focused

While listening to another choir perform, each singer is expected to:

- Practice proper concert etiquette
- Remain quietly in their seats
- Refrain from using cell phones during the concert

Remember - whether you are wearing the formal uniform, the CDCC shirt, singing on stage or simply walking to the parking lot after the concert, **YOU ARE REPRESENTING THE CHOIR!** Do not remove any parts of the uniform until you are away from the site. CDCC reserves the right to dismiss any singer who jeopardizes the health or well-being of any choir or singer or exhibits behavior which reflects negatively on CDCC.

2023-2024 EVENTS (subject to change—please check www.aboutcdcc.org for updates)

Bismarck Larks – Bel Canto & Kantorei

August 7, 2023

5:45 pm – Bismarck Municipal Ballpark

Crescendo of Care – A Weeklong Celebration of Children’s Voices

October 23-30, 2023

Kirkwood Mall Performances – All Choirs

October 29, 2023 – All Choirs

1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Kirkwood Mall

Family Fun Night

October 30, 2023

5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – Bismarck Event Center

Bismarck Public Schools SIPS Concert – Jubilate & Bel Canto

November 22, 2023

Morning - Belle Mehus Auditorium

Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra – Bel Canto

November 17 & 18, 2023

7:30 p.m. – Belle Mehus Auditorium

Christmas Concerts – “Angels Sing” – All Choirs

December 15 & 16, 2023

7:00 p.m. – Belle Mehus Auditorium

Giving Hearts Day

February 8, 2024

Concordia College Concert - Cantus

March 2, 2024

4:00 p.m. – Trinity Lutheran Church

Limited Edition Concert Series

March 3, 2024

2:00 p.m. – Jubilate & Kantorei

3:30 p.m. – Bel Canto, Angelica & Cantus

Legacy High School

A Celebration of Women’s Voices – Angelica

April 21, 2024

3:00 pm - First Baptist Church

2nd & 3rd Grade Educational Concert Series – Bel Canto

April 17, 2024

Morning – Simle Middle School

Bismarck-Mandan Civic Chorus Concert - Jubilate

April 27, 2024

7:30 p.m. – Belle Mehus Auditorium

CDCC 2024-2025 Auditions

May 8 & 9, 2024

4:00-6:00 p.m. – Bismarck Public Library

Cantus Unabridged - Cantus

May 5, 2024

7:00 p.m. – McCabe United Methodist Church

Spring CDCC Concerts – All Choirs

May 17 & 18, 2024

7:00 p.m. - Belle Mehus Auditorium

UNIFORMS

FORMAL UNIFORMS

Each singer is required to purchase the choir's designated formal uniform for performances. The uniforms for the choirs are as follows:

Jubilate	Girls -	Tuxedo Shirt, Black Floor Length Skirt or Black Palazzo Pants, Red Vest, Black Bow Tie
	Boys -	Tuxedo Shirt, Black Tuxedo Pants, Red Vest, Black Bow Tie
Bel Canto	Girls -	Tuxedo Shirt, Black Palazzo Pants, Blue Vest, Black Bow Tie
	Boys -	Tuxedo Shirt, Black Tuxedo Pants, Blue Vest, Black Bow Tie
Kantorei	Girls -	Black Floor Length Dress
	Boys -	Tuxedo Shirt, Black Tuxedo Pants, Black Vest, Black Bow Tie
Angelica	Girls -	Black Floor Length Dress (same dress as Cantus)
Cantus	Girls -	Black Floor Length Dress
	Boys -	Tuxedo Shirt, Black Tuxedo or Suit Pants, Black Tux or Suit Jacket, Black Bow Tie

*All tuxedo shirts should have black button studs. Please contact the office to purchase replacements.

Boys must wear a pair of completely black, flat, dress shoes and **BLACK SOCKS**. **Jubilate & Bel Canto Girls** must wear a pair of completely black dress shoes (no higher than one-inch heels) and either **BLACK** socks, nylons or tights. **Kantorei, Angelica and Cantus Girls** must wear completely black dress shoes (no higher than 1-inch heels) and black nylons, tights or knee-high socks. No bare legs, no flip flops and no sandals.

INFORMAL CDCC T-SHIRTS

If this is your singer's 1st year in CDCC, **your singer will be bringing home a T-shirt at the end of camp with their choir's logo**. As the season progresses, this T-shirt is what we are referring to when we ask that the choir wear their "Informal Uniform." Singers may wear these shirts any time--we want them to be seen around the community! We do ask that they remember they are representing CDCC when wearing the shirt. Note: Your singer will receive a free shirt whenever they move into a new choir. If it is lost or damaged, you will need to purchase a new one. At the beginning of each season, singers will have the option to request a new t-shirt if they have outgrown or outworn their shirt.

UNIFORM CHECKLIST:

- Uniforms must be clean and wrinkle-free for each performance,
- Hair - clean, simply done, out of eyes,
- Hair decorations - only small clips or ties the **same** color as **hair** are permitted - no scrunchies, bows, etc.
- No necklaces or chains,
- Earrings - no dangles or large pieces. Small, simple studs are permissible.
- Make up - must be minimal, heavy make-up is not allowed,

- Tuxedo shirts **must** have black studs. If broken or lost, please contact the office for replacements.
- No perfume or cologne.

UNIFORM SALE

Each spring, CDCC offers uniform fittings by appointment only. We will send emails to registered singers in May or June with information about uniform fittings. If you are unable to find a fitting time that works for you, you may contact the office to make arrangements for an alternative date.

CHOIR PICTURES

Group choir pictures are taken each year. Order forms will be sent home prior to the photo shoot. Individual pictures will also be taken at that time. **CDCC needs individual pictures of each child, regardless of whether they do or don't purchase the group picture.**

******* CDCC receives no compensation for sales of individual photos, all proceeds go directly to the provider.