

AUDITIONS FOR CHAMBER SINGERS

2019

Dr. Ramona Wis, Founder/Director

What is “Chambers?”

Chamber Singers is the select, 16-22 voice mixed chamber ensemble which performs the widest variety of sacred, secular, multicultural, *avant garde*, and to a lesser degree, popular repertoire, often without conductor in performance and sometimes, with unique staging. We morph from a madrigal ensemble to an Indonesian dance group to a body percussion choir to a Whitacre-esque “sound piece ensemble” which makes our work incredibly interesting, challenging, and fun—and makes this a tight-knit group.

Chamber Singers has been featured in concert with Allos Musica and have had clinics with composers Bob Chilcott and Gwyneth Walker. Chambers was also part of the 2016 Concert Choir/Chambers tour to Nashville.

Who is “Chambers?”

Chambers is comprised largely of sophomore through senior vocalists, but occasionally include outstanding first year members.

Singers must demonstrate:

Excellent vocal tone, control, and intonation

Strong musical skills

Highest level of work ethic, individual responsibility, leadership, and professionalism

When do we meet?

Chambers meets on Mondays, from 4:00-5:35 PM. Members of Chambers are expected to work on their music individually/in small groups between our Monday rehearsals so that our time together can be devoted to group think and ensemble sound building, as well as other aspects of performance. And we want to have fun!

Students take Chambers (MUEN 104) for .5 credit unless they are already at a full 18-credit load; in that case, Chambers may be taken for 0 credit.

What is the performance calendar?

Performances generally coincide with the larger choral ensembles, as on the PDF given to all choristers each year (refer to your large ensemble syllabus and email). On occasion, Chambers may have a special performance or run-out or are involved in a tour; those will be cleared with the ensemble in enough time for schedules to be arranged. Chambers has its own final spring concert, “Metamorphosis.”

What else do I need to know?

AUDITIONS happen in two phases (see next page for details):

Phase 1 (For **NEW** Chamber members only, **Sunday, August 18**, during *Music Welcome Day*)

Phase 2 (For those **called back** AND **previous Chamber** members, **Monday, August 19 at 4 PM**)

(See more details below)

AUDITION PROCESS 2019

Phase 1: For those who have NOT been a member of NCC Chambers before

Music Welcome Day, Sunday, August 18

3:00 to 5:00 PM time frame (come when you can during that time), FAC rm. 121

Prepare:

1. Fill out the audition form, attached, and bring it with you.
2. Come warmed up and prepared to sing:
 - “Amazing Grace” in various keys to hear your range, intonation, tone
 - A quick **range check** to determine your best high/low notes
 - A **short sight singing excerpt**

I will email you Sunday/Monday AM to let you know who is **called back for **Phase 2**, below.*

Phase 2: For those who have been called back and anyone previously in NCC Chambers

Day #1 of fall term, Monday, August 19

4:00 PM (plan to stay until 5:35, if needed), FAC rm. 138

Prepare:

1. For those who haven't already, fill out the audition form, attached, and bring it with you.
2. Come warmed up and prepared to sing:

“Adoramus Te, Christe” by Eric Barnum

<https://www.jwpepper.com/sheet-music/media-player.jsp?&type=video&productID=10067133>

This is a short (2 minute) piece that will show your ability to **blend, sing well in tune, phrase expressively and enunciate text clearly.**

Learn the part you typically sing and when it splits, as in “sanctam crucem” at rehearsal 3, be able to sing any of the notes in the chord on that voice part.

You can purchase your own piece through JW Pepper or Walton Music or use the link above (which shows the score while you hear the piece) to learn your part.

Dr. Wis will have hard copy scores at callbacks.

When callbacks are complete and our Chambers roster is determined, singers will receive other pieces of varying styles and difficulty based on the balance and unique character of our specific members this semester.

And then we hit “GO” for our fall concerts!

CHAMBER SINGERS

Audition Form

Name (as you want it printed in a program) _____

First name *that you prefer to be called* and gender pronoun preference:

Name to be called _____

Gender pronoun preference _____

NCC email address _____@noctrl.edu Cell # (____) _____ - _____

Major (at the moment😊) _____

Year in school (circle) 1 2 3 4 4+ Height ____ ft. ____ in.

Voice part (*usually*; circle) S A T B

GPA (current college GPA or for first-years, ending high school GPA) _____

Name of NCC voice teacher (unless not yet assigned): _____

Chamber Singers MUEN 104 meets Mondays from 4:00-5:35 PM

CS also finds an additional time during the week to meet in smaller groups to work on their parts, as needed.

Please consider these commitments carefully before auditioning.

Study abroad students, interns, and student teachers WILL be considered for a CS spot, but please indicate the term you are gone in the space below.

~What other **ensembles, productions, jobs, or commitments** do you anticipate being a significant part of your load this year?

If you will be gone a semester for **student teaching, study abroad**, or internship, circle below:

Reason:	Student Teaching	Study Abroad	Internship
Semester:	Fall		Spring

~Do you **play any instruments or have any special talents** (from computer graphic design to vocal percussion skills to perfect pitch) that Chamber Singers might utilize?

~Do you have any **experience in chamber vocal ensembles**? If so, please describe:

~Why are you **auditioning for Chamber Singers**?

~Do you have any **questions** or any other **information** you want to share?

Do Not Write Below this Line:

Vocal tone and intonation _____

Musicianship _____

Ensemble blend/balance _____

Recommended voice part _____