



WELCOME to the Youth Choir of Central Oregon!

The purpose of this handbook is to provide basic information about the Youth Choir of Central Oregon (YCCO), a music performance and education program that emphasizes the development of musical skills and understanding in children between the ages 6 -18 years old, (grades 1-12).

YCCO is a non-profit organization with a current enrollment of more than 150 singers in two choirs and one early training program.

Mission Statement:

It is YCCO's mission to provide an opportunity for musical expression and education in a joyful environment.

YCCO Vision:

- To provide an advanced choral experience for talented youth singers.
- To supplement the musical training offered in Central Oregon's school music programs.
- To study and perform a variety of choral music in the tradition of American and world composers, both secular and sacred.
- To improve choir performance and personal growth by teaching skills such as melody, harmony, rhythm, reading skills, vocal tone, choral technique and teamwork.
- To encourage the life-long learning and enjoyment of music.

BACKGROUND

YCCO began in 1990 as an outreach of the Cascade Festival of Music when Beth Basham founded the Cascade Festival Children's Choir. Comprised of one choir with approximately 85 singers in grades four through eight, the choir met October through May for weekly rehearsals and gave two concerts during the course of the year and one at the festival. Mrs. Basham provided the artistic vision and choir direction.

Enthusiastic choir families and festival volunteers provided operational support. In its fourth year, with a growing artistic reputation and a desire for more performance opportunities, the choir became a separate non-profit corporation. By the sixth year, the regional population had grown so that a second choir was needed. YCCO split into two groups, with the more experienced singers comprising the Premiere Choir; the younger singers becoming the Debut Choir. Festivals and more concerts were added to the performance repertoire, and the Premiere Choir began to travel. The Premiere Choir has since performed in Oregon and other areas of the Pacific Northwest, Canada, England, Hawaii, Turkey, Greece, Chicago, New Orleans, New York, Italy, Austria, and Japan. YCCO today has a reputation for artistic excellence, with a Premiere Choir experienced in international touring, and with a Debut Choir that boasts an established state presence.

CURRICULUM

YCCO provides a special learning environment designed to be a rich and rewarding musical experience for each student. Choristers study and perform a variety of music from simple unison folk songs to contemporary musical literature. Both sacred and secular music are selected and performed in a variety of settings. Repertoire is not selected to intrude on anyone's personal beliefs, but rather to give each child a broad music education that includes learning about other peoples and cultures. It is essential that all singers be willing to sing all repertoires.

Masterpieces of music from all styles and periods form the foundation for music learning and serve as the basis for the curriculum. We believe that "children should be led to musical masterpieces by means of musical masterpieces." (Zoltan Kodaly) Because the best musical experiences for youth are inherent in great music, YCCO repertoire includes the music of Bach, Mozart, Handel, Beethoven, Haydn, Schubert, Britten, Kodaly, R. Vaughn Williams, Aaron Copeland, Bela Bartok and others. Folk, popular, gospel, spirituals and patriotic music are also included.

Musical theory (melody, rhythm, harmony, timbre, dynamics, form, style and performance practice) and musical skills (singing, sight-reading, tonal balance and performance protocol) are taught throughout the rehearsals. Musical concepts are taught by singing, listening and analysis.

Singing is the major focus of the musical experience in YCCO. Singing is a powerfully personal means of musical expression. We hope this experience will form the foundation of a life-long relationship with music for the singers and their families.

Children are taught the use of their vocal instruments through exercises in posture, breathing and tone production. The body is the instrument in singing, so musical relationships are internally experienced and are likely to be "felt" and heard. The abilities to hear conceptualize and perceive music and then respond musically develops naturally from the human voice. Singing skill and musical understanding are essential components of the creative process and fundamental to music education. Musical re-creation through vocal performance is a way of experiencing and expressing music unlike any other activity.

THE PROGRAM

The YCCO Program consists of three divisions: Singers School, Debut Choir, and Premiere Choir.

Singers School serves first- through fourth-grade students in a creative, yet structured, small-class environment. Auditions are not required for this choir. Music and movement activities and beginning vocal skills are presented in a choral music framework. The program is designed to build confidence and teamwork. Older singers also prepare for Debut Choir auditions.

Debut Choir is an auditioned choir for fifth through eighth graders. The Debut Choir is dedicated to growing musicianship. It contributes to the choristers' musical learning experience by using developmentally appropriate techniques. Note reading, vocal training and performance skills are emphasized. Debut rehearses weekly, and includes those students who have demonstrated vocal ability and enthusiasm for singing.

Premiere Choir is an auditioned choir for eighth through twelfth graders. Premiere emphasizes excellence of musicianship and performance. Summer touring further broadens these choristers' maturity, both personally and musically. Touring is optional but strongly encouraged.

MEMBERSHIP

YCCO membership requires a significant commitment by singers and their families. Choir is meant to be a positive learning experience for choristers, one they will carry with them for a lifetime. Through YCCO, members learn the meaning of commitment and responsibility. They should feel a sense of pride in being chosen to participate in these very special choirs and take their membership seriously. Enrollment in the Debut and Premiere choirs is for the season (school year plus summer touring, if applicable). Choir members are expected to remain active and committed to the program for the entire season of his/her enrollment, which begins in early September and ends following the spring concert in May for Debut and Premiere choirs. Singers School enrollment consists of two sessions with performances at the end of each session. Each session is 10 weeks: one session in the fall and one in the spring.

Membership Requirements

Membership requirements are designed to ensure the continuation of the Choir's high standards. Choristers take pride in maintaining a tradition of musical excellence and commitment to good citizenship. Each individual is an important part of the whole ensemble. Members must fulfill the following requirements:

- Successfully complete a personal audition for participation in the Debut and Premiere choirs. Audition can include singing a solo musically, demonstrating voice range, matching pitches, performing clapping rhythms, etc. Placement in any choir is at the discretion of the choir director. Singers' School membership is open to all children in grades 1st through 4th without audition.
- Attend all rehearsals, retreats and performances.
- Behave in an appropriate manner.
- YCCO is a screen free zone. The use of cell phones (or other electronic devices) by choristers and visitors is prohibited at weekly rehearsals and all other YCCO activities and events, unless permission is given by the director.
- Choristers and their families are responsible for regularly checking their emails to stay informed about updates of times/locations, performance information, volunteer opportunities and other important YCCO communications.

In addition, each chorister's family must be involved by showing their support for YCCO, volunteering through the PIP program (see section below) and paying fees on time.

Participation in a school music program is strongly encouraged. The success of YCCO has depended in large part on the support of music teachers throughout Central Oregon. It is strongly encouraged that every YCCO singer be an active participant in his or her school choir, band or orchestra. Rehearsal and concert facilities, instrument and equipment use, and other resources are made available to YCCO because we maintain a positive relationship with our music colleagues. It is our goal to enhance and support school music programs, rather than to drain their talent. Choristers are often leaders in their school music programs.

Open auditions for YCCO choirs are held in May and August for those entering grades five through twelve. Auditions may be scheduled by calling the YCCO Office: (541) 385-0470.

FEES AND COSTS OF MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Directors, staff and parents work hard to keep expenses as low as possible while maintaining the program's integrity and quality. Tuition supports the musical education of each chorister, but covers only one half of the cost of the YCCO program. YCCO expenses include but are not limited to: staff, rehearsals, concert facilities and production, advertising, YCCO office, mailings, sheet music, supplies, festivals, retreats, etc.

Premiere Choir

Tuition is \$595 per year. Uniforms are \$65, payable to YCCO. Black character shoes and tights are sold separately through YCCO. The music bag and all its contents must be returned at the end of the Choir year; if any items are missing, a fee will be assessed based on the value of the missing items. Summer touring is optional but strongly encouraged. A travel cost estimate of the current year's tour is provided when signing up for the tour. Concert tickets are \$10 per person, general admission. Participation in fundraisers and purchase of items offered for sale is optional but strongly encouraged. Other costs may occur, depending on the Choir's performance schedule and educational needs.

Debut Choir

Tuition is \$495 per year. Uniforms are \$60, payable to YCCO. Black character shoes and tights are sold separately through YCCO. The music bag and its contents must be returned at the end of the Choir year; if any items are missing, a fee will be assessed based on the value of the missing items. Concert tickets are \$10 per person, general admission. Participation in fundraisers and purchase of items offered for sale is optional but strongly encouraged. Other costs may occur, depending on the Choir's performance schedule and educational needs.

Singers' School

Tuition is \$150 per ten-week session. Uniforms are \$30, payable to YCCO. Black shoes are provided by the chorister. Concert tickets are \$10 per person, general admission.

PAYMENT POLICIES

- A \$75 non-refundable deposit is due upon membership acceptance. The deposit is credited towards your tuition total.
- Cash, check, Visa and MasterCard are accepted for tuition and tour payments. Uniform costs, retreat fees and touring fees are not included in the tuition total.
- All payments should be marked with your chorister's full name, choir (Singers' School, Debut or Premier) and the reason for the payment (tuition, retreat, sweatshirt, tour, etc.).
- There is a \$50 discount for members paying tuition in full by August 31st of the choir year.
- Payment plans spread your tuition payments over three months. If you choose this option, your tuition payments will be due on the 10th of the month for September, October and November. (Debut Choir-\$140/month; Premiere Choir-\$180/month.) Parents are responsible for making payments on time to YCCO by cash, check or credit card.
- A signed Financial Contract must be completed for your chorister to participate in YCCO.

- Fees for the Debut and Premiere season and Singer's School sessions must be paid in full and are non-refundable. This policy applies even if a chorister drops out of the program or is removed at any time during the season.
- Checks or checking account deductions returned to YCCO by your bank will be subject to a \$25 fee per item.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are awarded based on financial need. If your child qualifies for the National School Lunch Program, he or she **may** be eligible for a YCCO scholarship (up to 50%) and is encouraged to apply. Applications for financial aid are due by August 31st of each new choir year.

SHEET MUSIC

Each student is assigned a blue YCCO music bag containing a notebook with their music, a pencil and other items specified by the choir director. These items are the property of YCCO and together are valued at more than \$100. Parents are responsible for reimbursing YCCO for any items lost, damaged or not returned.

UNIFORMS

Just as the ensemble's sound is important, so is its appearance. A well-groomed, neatly uniformed ensemble is essential for a truly professional and artistic experience.

Uniforms emphasize teamwork, help present a polished image at performances and help quickly identify choristers when traveling. Each chorister must purchase the required uniforms and wear the one specified by the director whenever required.

Chorister is responsible for proper care of their uniform, including making sure the uniform fits properly.

- A clean uniform for every performance.
- Proper shoes and tights in good condition.
- Any chorister failing to dress or groom properly will not be allowed to participate in the event. Good personal hygiene is a must. Clean teeth and clean combed hair are always expected of each chorister.
- Hair should be groomed away from the face and may be fastened with natural (matching hair color) barrettes. No bows, ribbons or colored barrettes are permitted. No unusual colored hair dye.
- Excessive make-up or cosmetics are not permitted.
- No colored nail polish.
- Only choir issued jewelry is permitted. Other accessories, such as watches, bracelets, etc. are not permitted. Choristers with ornate or excessive jewelry, distracting hair color, hair ornaments, visible body piercing or tattoos, or nail polish will not be permitted to perform.

Wardrobe helpers are parent volunteers assigned to help choristers with their uniforms before a performance. They are authorized to identify and correct dress and grooming issues. Choristers should listen respectfully and cooperate with wardrobe helpers.

Premiere Concert Uniforms: Southeastern Performance Apparel Black Oratorio Concert Dress (\$65). Order through YCCO. Pearl jewelry, black Character Shoes and tights are purchased separately through YCCO. Male uniforms are also ordered through YCCO (\$65). Black dress shoes and socks for male singers are to be provided by parents.

Debut Concert Uniforms: Southeastern Performance Apparel Black Oratorio Concert Dress (\$60). Black character shoes and tights are purchased separately through YCCO. No pearl jewelry for the Debut Choir. Male uniforms are also ordered through YCCO (\$60). Black dress shoes and socks for male singers are to be provided by parents.

Singers' School Uniforms: Choir-issued red dress and black tights (\$30). Black flat shoes are to be provided by parents.

CHOIR OPERATIONAL POLICIES

Attendance

The quality of rehearsals, performances and other YCCO activities depends upon each chorister being present and on time. Our focus is on the safety and well-being of all choristers. Courteous and respectful behavior toward the director, accompanist, parent volunteers and fellow Choir members is expected. Irregular attendance and lack of punctuality demonstrate a singer's lack of commitment to the Choir and will result in probation and possible dismissal from the program.

- All rehearsals are important and attendance is mandatory.
- Transportation to and from all Choir activities is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.
- Arrive 15 minutes before the scheduled start of any YCCO activity. Check in with the registrar, use the restroom if needed, and then go directly to the rehearsal room and take a seat. Be prepared to begin on time.
- Choristers are expected to be prompt and to stay for the entire rehearsal. Frequent late arrivals and/or early departures are grounds for dismissal.
- Choristers must be picked up promptly after Choir activities. Choir personnel will remain on site for a maximum of ten minutes past the scheduled dismissal time.
- Choristers must remain inside the rehearsal room unless instructed to go elsewhere by the adults in charge.
- YCCO is not responsible for chorister injuries or accidents. Chorister's parents/guardians are expected to carry their own insurance.

Absences

YCCO recognizes and respects the busy schedules of singers and their families. YCCO, however, functions as a team. Each member's contribution is needed and expected at every rehearsal and performance. A chorister's absence from rehearsal adversely affects the director's plans and the ensemble's overall progress, in addition to the progress of the absent chorister.

Choristers benefit from attendance at rehearsal even when listening must replace singing. If, for any reason, a chorister cannot actively participate (sing) in a rehearsal, he/she should observe quietly and attentively.

Each chorister is allowed 3 absences per term (two terms per year) and no more than 3 unexcused absences per year. We encourage families to plan ahead. Please notify the Choir office as far in advance as possible for a planned absence.

Excused Absences: Absences that are due to family events or participation in required school programs (not athletic events) should be reported to the choir office as soon as possible. Absences due to illness or family emergency will be considered excused if the choir office is notified by email or phone before 2 pm on the rehearsal/concert day. If there is an emergency and calling the office is not possible, please notify the choir office as soon as possible.

Unexcused Absences: These include doctor and dentist appointments, athletic events or practices, extra-curricular activities, homework, family vacations, etc. Tardiness of more than 15 minutes after the scheduled start of rehearsal will be counted as a one-half absence. Three unexcused absences followed by an unsatisfactory probationary period are grounds for termination of choir membership. Tuition will not be refunded.

Probation

When a chorister has behavioral issues such as tardiness, missing rehearsal, and not following behavioral policies (e.g., cell phone usage), the director will discuss the issues with the chorister. If the behavior issues continue, the chorister's parent/guardian will be contacted. If necessary a probationary period will be established for the chorister. Probation is a period of time during which the chorister has the opportunity to change their behavior and reestablish good standing within the YCCO organization. The director will establish expectations and what the consequences will be if the chorister fails to meet the expectations. If choir membership is terminated according to the consequences of probation, tuition will not be refunded.

Concerns

If you have any questions, issues, or concerns please contact the choir office directly.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsal room: Bend LaPine Schools mandates that YCCO keeps food, beverages, wrappers, etc. out of rehearsal rooms. Please do not bring opened food or drink (other than water) into the rehearsal room. Snack foods are appropriate for rehearsal breaks. These can be brought in a closed backpack or obtained at the Snack Shack during breaks. Choristers are responsible for placing all trash in the wastebaskets and keeping the facility clean.

Snack Shack: Healthy snack items including fresh fruit, yogurt, cheese and crackers, granola, juice and water are available for purchase at rehearsals during break time.

Materials: The music bag and its contents, including a sharpened pencil, must be brought to every choir activity unless otherwise instructed.

Homework: The choir director will, from time to time, provide homework assignments to help choristers develop their musical skills. Each assignment will be preceded by adequate explanation and practice, and will be followed by appropriate feedback to ensure a worthwhile learning experience.

Parents/Guardians are welcome at rehearsals. The YCCO choir directors invite you to sit and enjoy your chorister's music experience.

YCCO PERFORMANCES

Performances require the very best conduct, appearance, and musicianship from singers. Information concerning specific concerts will be distributed via email or found on the YCCO web site: www.ycco.org

Performances, music camps and retreats are important and required activities. Each activity of this kind contributes to the chorister's education and growth, both musically and as a maturing person. The quality of performances is a direct result of the commitment of every member in the ensemble. If a chorister has a non-emergency reason for missing a performance or retreat, the absence must be reported in advance to the choir director and the choir office.

Permission to perform is at the discretion of the choir director. Every singer must be adequately prepared to maintain the high-quality standard for which YCCO is known. Choristers missing two rehearsals (including special rehearsals) during the month before a performance or the final rehearsal before a concert are not allowed to perform. Timely arrival (usually two hours before the performance) at performances is crucial to the choir's preparation and the resulting performance quality. Pre-concert preparation allows choristers to relax, focus, and build self-confidence as well as warm-up their instruments. Tardiness for a performance call time may exclude the singer from participation at that performance.

Missing the Winter or Spring concerts due to a non-emergency situation, without previous permission authorization, is grounds for membership termination.

Special Rehearsals: In addition to weekly rehearsals, special rehearsals may be scheduled for the Winter and Spring concerts, and other special performances. The choir director may call for a rehearsal on the day of a concert, requiring members to arrive several hours before a performance is scheduled to begin. You will be notified in advance.

Performance Guidelines

1. Singers should always eat a nutritious meal and get plenty of rest before a performance. Be sure the singer has used the restroom before arriving at the performance site.
2. Singers should arrive promptly at their scheduled call time (usually at least two hours prior to the concert time) and immediately check in with the choir registrar.
3. Tardiness to a performance may exclude a singer from participating in the performance.

4. All performers must arrive wearing proper concert dress attire as noted in this handbook. Failure to wear proper concert dress will result in the chorister being unable to participate in the performance. Singers should remain in their complete uniform until they have left the performance site.
5. Singers and parents should conduct themselves at all times in a calm, polite and professional manner. They must give their undivided attention to the YCCO staff and appointed chaperones at all times.
6. All singers must know the music. Each musician must have a confident command of the performance repertoire. Failure to demonstrate this at the final rehearsal may result in release from the corresponding concert commitment.
7. If a singer feels ill during a performance, he/she should quietly sit down on the riser and rest for the remainder of the song. Then, if feeling better, the singer may get up and sing again or, if not, quietly leave the stage. Chaperones are always watching and will help if necessary. Once a singer leaves the stage, he/she may not return.
8. Parents are not allowed to approach the director before or during (including intermission) a performance.
9. No flash photography or video-taping during performances.

NOTE: Final dress rehearsals and pre-performance rehearsals are closed to the audience, including families. Only designated chaperones are allowed in the rehearsal area before a performance. This allows the singers to concentrate on the music, the director and any necessary final instructions without distractions. Please acknowledge the time and effort the singers have made to prepare for their performance by respecting this policy.

Tickets are available during rehearsals and at the door. General admission is \$10.

Major concert dates are listed in your calendar. Additional performances and appearances may be added as opportunities arise. Choir families will be notified as early as possible.

TRAVEL

Travel is part of YCCO activities. When traveling, choristers represent our community and region as well as YCCO. As such, they are expected to be courteous and cooperative. Each chorister is assigned to an adult chaperone. Failure to cooperate or discourteous behavior is grounds for sending the chorister home at the parent's/guardian's expense.

CARPOOLS

For some YCCO activities, such as the annual retreats or festivals, the staff will organize carpools. Parent/guardian drivers will receive PIP hours for their time on the road. Carpool drivers must show proof of liability insurance with coverage of at least \$300,000. It is understood that the driver is donating his or her time and associated expenses, such as fuel and maintenance. Choristers are expected to be courteous and respectful to the driver at all times.

RETREATS

Required retreats for each choir will be held in the fall. The purpose of each retreat is to:

- Build rapport between the director and the singers.
- Build teamwork and friendships among our choristers.
- Provide intensive rehearsal time.

TOURS

Premier choristers have the opportunity to travel with YCCO. Tours offer chorister valuable experiences to expand both their personal and musical horizons.

On tour, the choir represents YCCO and builds on its reputation. The standard YCCO code of conduct applies on tour. A behavior expectations contract is distributed to every participant for chorister and parent signatures. Touring fees are the responsibility of each participant.

VOLUNTEERING-Parent Involvement Program (PIP)

Parental support is essential to YCCO's continued success. Family volunteer hours help YCCO raise funds, support the educational program (rehearsals, concerts, educational tours/trips, etc.), and provide administrative support. These activities help YCCO to operate with a small staff and to keep tuition affordable.

The Parent Involvement Program (PIP) is our framework for volunteering. As part of annual tuition, every Debut and Premiere family is required to perform at least 15 hours of volunteer work or must pay a buy-out fee of \$10 for each hour not fulfilled. The family can choose to buy-out their PIP responsibility for \$150 per family. Please check your email since the choir office will send messages with volunteer opportunities. See the fundraisers section below for additional ways to fulfil your PIP responsibility.

Fulfilling and documenting the PIP hour requirement is each family's responsibility. The PIP hours must be documented on the YCCO PIP form and submitted within the quarter the PIP hours were completed. By documenting all of your PIP hours you are also helping YCCO's potential to receive grant funding. Grant proposal guidelines normally ask for the number of volunteers supporting an organization and the number of hours volunteers have contributed. Requests for volunteers will usually be made via email from the choir office. Again, please be sure to regularly check your email for YCCO communications.

Everyone Is Needed! Your help is critical to the success of the choir. Thank you in advance for your involvement.

FUNDRAISING

YCCO continues to be grateful for the support we receive from parents, families, alumni and friends of the choir. Tuition covers approximately 50 percent of the expenses incurred by YCCO. The remaining expenses must be covered through fundraising. Charitable contributions are tax-deductible and are deeply appreciated. If you have donated to the YCCO this year, thank you. YCCO is also forming strong partnerships with corporations and foundations in Central Oregon to enhance the musical experiences for our participants. If you know of a potential funding source, or if you would like to help, please contact us.

All families are strongly encouraged to participate in fundraising.

In an effort to simplify fundraising requirements, YCCO has only three annual fundraisers. Our main fundraiser is the holiday wreath and poinsettia sale. A percent of choir families' wreath and poinsettia sales is a way to earn credit for PIP responsibility.

Another YCCO fundraiser is Gift of Song. Gift of Song is an annual appeal to friends and family of the choir. Its purpose is to raise money to support the choir's mission.

YCCO's third annual fundraiser is concert program ad sales. An ad sold for the winter concert program is also included in the spring program. Buying and selling program ads is another way to earn credit for PIP responsibility.

YCCO STAFF

Musical Director

Beth Basham, Musical Director, founded YCCO in 1990. Mrs. Basham's choirs have achieved state, national and international recognition and acclaim.

As a retired music teacher, Mrs. Basham brings to YCCO an infectious enthusiasm for singing. Mrs. Basham has served as an adjudicator and clinician at choral festivals throughout the Northwest. Before her work with YCCO, she directed choirs for the Oregon Children's Choir in Eugene and Bend's First United Methodist Church. Mrs. Basham received her BA in Music Performance and Education from California State University, Northridge. Her professional musical career has included membership in the Seattle Symphony Chorale, solo experience with the Cascade Chorale and Central Oregon Symphony, and many musical theater productions and recitals in Seattle, Eugene and Central Oregon.

Singers School Director

Kathy Woodford, Singers School Director since 2016, has been working with children for over 25 years in different musical capacities. After graduating from Augustana University with a B.A. in Music Education, she started out her career teaching K-5 elementary music and directed children's choirs in Colorado for 9 years. While raising three children, Kathy became a certified Music Together Teacher, an early childhood music program, and taught that while teaching private piano and voice lessons and directing the Steamboat Springs Children's Choir and the St. Paul's Episcopal Church choir. In 2014, Kathy and her family moved to Bend and is again teaching elementary music, first at Jewell Elementary and now at Elk Meadow Elementary, which is an Integrated Arts School. Kathy is also a singer and performer herself and has been seen singing with prestigious choir and opera companies in Colorado and here in Bend with Opera Bend and Mastersingers. Kathy feels honored to be directing the Singers School and is especially excited to be directing her daughter, Kira.

Staff Accompanist

Debbi McMahon joined the Youth Choir of Central Oregon in 2002 as our accompanist. She has traveled with the choir on many exciting tours to places like Greece, Hawaii, England, Italy, Austria and Japan. Debbi enjoys singing and she was a member of the Cascade Chorale for several years. Debbi teaches full-time as the Reading Specialist at Elk Meadow Elementary in Bend. She has been with the Bend LaPine School District for 29 years.

Executive Director

Chris Asher has served as the Executive Director for the Youth Choir of Central Oregon since 2003. Chris graduated from Oregon State University in Corvallis with a Bachelor of Science degree. She worked in her field of Foods and Nutrition before working for the airline industry where she found her love of travel. In addition to her Executive Director responsibilities, Chris also plans the YCCO international and domestic choir tours.

THE ORGANIZATION

YCCO is operated by Central Oregon Singers, Inc. (COSI), an Oregon non-profit corporation. COSI is guided by a volunteer board of directors and professional staff.

YCCO is a music performance and education program for children and youth in kindergarten through twelfth grade emphasizing the development of musical skills and understanding.

Central Oregon Singers, Inc.

Federal tax identification number: 931193267 Oregon

business identification number: 0555775-6

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is comprised of community members dedicated to the YCCO mission. The Board has fiscal and legal responsibility for Central Oregon Singers, Inc., dba Youth Choir of Central Oregon. Policy setting, governance, strategic planning and fundraising are its responsibilities.

2018-19 Board of Directors:

Paula Edgren, Co-President

Gay Sato, Co-President

Stephanie Mays, Secretary

Lynne Ekstrom

Sandi Behrens

Kristine McConnell

Jessica Seidel

Kathy Smith

Jessica Schimmoller

The best way to get to know YCCO is to get involved, and a great place to begin is by volunteering at rehearsals or at the choir office.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 541-385-0470

www.ycco.org

Mailing address

YCCO

PO Box 383

Bend, OR 97709

YCCO Choir Office is located at the East Bend Campus of The Deschutes Children's Foundation, 2125 NE Daggett Lane, Bend, OR