**Location:**

Mt. San Antonio College 1100 N. Grand Ave., Walnut, CA 91789 Performing Arts Center

**Faculty & Staff:**

Bruce Rogers – Artistic Director

Robin Rogers – Administrative Volunteer

Jennifer Escovar – Mt. SAC Youth Chorale Conductor

Dalyn Shutts – Cantabile Singers Conductor

Alison Stickley & Luke Pettygrove – Dolce Choir Conductors

Kevin Wiley & Kristi Chiou – Accompanists

**Information:**

MSACCC Office – (909) 274-4334

Artistic Director – (909) 274-4334

Mt. SAC School of Continuing Education – (909) 274-4220

Community Ed Website: http://communityed.mtsac.edu

MSACCC Website: <http://MSACCC.mtsac.edu>

**Mission Statement:** *Transforming the lives of children and youth through excellence in music education and choral singing.*

**Vision Statement:** *To foster life-long values, including the love of music; the pursuit of excellence; self-discipline and teamwork; self-expression and self-confidence; and a greater understanding of oneself, the world, and its people.*

1. **Program Goals**
   * Reaching a high level of artistic excellence in choral music performance.
   * Providing an opportunity to produce, practice and perform treble repertoire of many different styles.
   * To achieve music literacy through sequential music activities.
   * To foster personal and musical growth of singers.
   * Enrich the lives of children from diverse ethnic and socio-economic

backgrounds in the Mt. SAC geographic area.

1. **Membership Auditions/Choir Placement**

Auditions will be held in August and January by appointment only. The singers will audition in front of the Artistic Director and possibly members of the choral staff. There is no charge for a student to audition, but if the student is accepted into the program, a tuition fee will be collected before the first rehearsal. Students will ultimately be placed in the choir that the Artistic Director deems best, which could result in them being placed in a choir outside the grade ranges specified below.

**Dolce Choir (1st – 3rd Grade)**

No audition is necessary to join this choir / All 1st – 3rd grade students are welcome

**Cantabile Singers (3rd – 6th Grade)**

Assessment of vocal quality and range / Singing a known song / Clapping Rhythms

**Mt. SAC Youth Chorale (7th – 10th Grade)**

Assessment of vocal quality and range / Singing a known song / Clapping Rhythms

Ability to sing independently and with another part / Music reading ability

**The Program**

The program consists of three separate choirs. Each choir is dedicated to excellence in music learning and performance.

***The Dolce Choir***

This choir is open to any child and does not include an audition process to become a member. Singers will be taught, primarily through game songs and simple unison songs, to love singing and to use their voices with freedom. Classes will include intro to singing in a rehearsal setting, vocal warm-ups, development of coordination through movement, and public performance opportunities.

*Meeting time is Tuesday 4:15-5:15pm at Mt. SAC, in M2-Room 109. Open to Grades 1-3. Cost: $180.00 - Fall semester / $230.00 – Spring semester / or $360.00–Special yearly fee*

***The Cantabile Singers***

Auditions for this choir will be held in August and January. Singers will continue to develop their musical knowledge and skills through tonal and rhythmic exercises and by singing 2-3 part repertoire.

*Meeting time is Tuesday 5:30 - 6:45pm at Mt. SAC, in M2-Room 109. Grades 3-6. Cost: $225.00 – Fall semester / $285.00– Spring semester / or $450.00–Special yearly fee*

***The Mt. SAC Youth Chorale***

Auditions for this choir will be held in August and January. This choir is open to any youth with a treble (unchanged) voice and a desire to sing in an outstanding choral ensemble. These singers should be ready for the most challenging repertoire, increased rehearsal intensity and performance requirements. Multiple languages, solos, and small ensemble performances can be expected at this level.

*Meeting time is Tuesday 6:30-8:15pm at Mt. SAC, in M2-Room 108. Grades 7-10.*

*Cost: $315.00 - semester / $400.00 – Spring Semester / or $650.00 – Special yearly fee*

1. **Faculty/Staff Contact Information**

Bruce Rogers – Artistic Director / brogers@mtsac.edu

Jennifer Escovar – Mt. SAC Youth Choir Director / jescovar@bishopamat.org

Dalyn Shutts – Cantabile Singers / Dalyn.shutts@gmail.com

Alison Stickley – Dolce Choir Director / Alison.stickley@pm.me

Luke Pettygrove – Dolce Choir Director / luke.pettygrove@gmail.com

Kevin Wiley – Piano Accompanist / kwiley@mtsac.edu

Kristi Chiou – Piano Accompanist / kristi.chiou@gmail.com

Robin Rogers – Administrative Volunteer / rrogers.msaccc@gmail.com

1. **Commitment/Responsibility**

* The Mt. SAC Children’s Choir is a year-long choral program.
* Singers are expected to perform in all concerts unless excused by the Artistic Director.
* Should a singer need to withdraw from the program prior to the Spring semester, **written** notification must be received by the Artistic/Music Director on or before December 31st.
* ***Full tuition will be collected before the first class of each semester.***
* ***If a family chooses to pay the special yearly discount tuition, it will be***

***collected before the first class of the Fall semester.***

* All MSACCC members are expected to participate in fundraising activities.

1. **Rehearsals & Performances**

All choirs will perform at least **one main concert each semester** (the 2nd or 3rd weekend in December and the 2ndor 3rd weekend in June). The choirs will also be available, when invited, to perform at special local events in the surrounding community and at Mt. SAC (such as Rotary Club events, Fundraising events, Donor events, Trustee Events, etc.).

A parent or guardian must supervise all children arriving before the beginning of rehearsals or concerts and immediately upon the conclusion of rehearsals or concerts.

* Rehearsals will begin on the first Tuesday after Labor Day.
* No rehearsals will be held from the 3rd week of December until the 4th week of January.
* The final rehearsal will be held during the 2nd week of June.
* No rehearsals from the 3rd week of June until September.
* Faithful, consistent, and punctual attendance at rehearsals is expected.
* Each semester includes approximately 15-19 rehearsals. Missing one rehearsal is comparable to missing more than one week of school in a semester. Every rehearsal is critically important to the individual and to the choir.
* Much is learned by being present in rehearsal, even if the choir member cannot actively participate due to laryngitis, sinus problems, or other non-contagious conditions.
* Parents are expected to notify the director or choir coordinator in advance if a choir member will be absent from rehearsal.
  + - * No cell phones are to be used during any rehearsal or performance except for purposes of responding to or reporting a personal emergency.
* **More than two absences, numerous tardies to rehearsals, or habitually leaving rehearsal early may lead to dismissal from the choir.**
* **Final Rehearsals/Dress Rehearsals for upcoming performance are MANDATORY**. An absence, for any reason that is not cleared with director prior to absence, may result in the singer not singing the corresponding performance.
* **Performances are MANDATORY.** If a major conflict occurs, the absence must be discussed as far in advance as possible with the director.
* **Singers are required to wear the outlined uniform for performances. Failure to do so may result in not being allowed to perform**.
* **Performers and directors put in many hours of work for each and every performance and most performances are audio recorded. Therefore, we ask that all audience members are respectful to the performance by silencing cell phones, remaining seated, and removing those that are disruptive to the concert. We also ask that photographs not be taken during a performance. Time will be given either prior to or after every concert to photograph choirs.**
* Have fun making wonderful music together!

**Arrival Expectations**

* + - * A vast amount of repertoire must be learned each season in a short period of rehearsal time. Therefore, it is essential that every minute of the rehearsal be used wisely.
      * The choristers must arrive in plenty of time to use restrooms & check-in.
      * Choristers must be seated and ready to begin rehearsing promptly at the scheduled start time.
      * Do not bring food or drinks into the rehearsal room: a water bottle is acceptable.
      * Choristers should have their music organized and always have their assigned music folder and pencil with them at rehearsal.

**Dismissal Expectations**

* At the end of rehearsal, choristers should make sure that they have all belongings and all music is in their folder.
* The Director will dismiss choristers when rehearsal has ended.
* For your child’s safety, parents must sign their child out before leaving.

**Your Child’s Safety**

* + - Choristers must be picked up promptly.
    - Mt. SAC is responsible for the chorister during scheduled rehearsal times while in the rehearsal room.
    - Parents are responsible for delivering the chorister to, and picking him/her up from, the rehearsal room.
    - A chorister may be dismissed from MSACCC after two occurrences of an early or late pickup.

**Visitors**

* + - During rehearsal, with space permitting, parents are welcome to quietly observe.
    - All choristers and families must always show respect for the rehearsal facility’s property.
    - Siblings and other visitors must be accompanied by a parent. Younger children must be kept quiet and under control. Our campus has a variety of other learning opportunities ongoing in the building. Lack of respect will be grounds for dismissal or asking family members to vacate the premises during rehearsal times.

1. **Tuition**

* Mt. SAC Children’s Choir is considered a year-long commitment.
* *Dolce Choir* tuition is $180.00 – Fall Semester / $230.00 – Spring Semester.
* *Cantabile Choir* tuition is $225.00 – Fall Semester / $285.00– Spring Semester
* *Mt. SAC Youth Chorale* tuition is $315.00 - Fall Semester / $400.00 – Spring Semester.
* Discounted yearly tuition is available for each choir.
* **The tuition fee is due at placement appointment and paid to Mt. SAC Community Ed Program.**
* **The Spring semester fee is due by the first rehearsal in January.**
* Checks should be made payable to Mt. SAC Continuing Education Division.
* Bills can be paid online at: http://communityed.mtsac.edu
* Singers with an outstanding balance at the end of a semester will not be allowed to participate in any further activities until balance is paid in full.
* **Tuition payments and deposits are non-refundable.**
* The tuition obligation stays in effect, even if a child withdraws or is removed from MSACCC at any time during the season (unless written notification is received by December 31st to withdraw from Spring semester).
* There is no pro-rating of tuition for late enrollment.
* In addition to the standard tuition required for participation in MSACCC, I further agree to pay any additional fees that may arise during the season based upon uniform needs, travel and training opportunities that may apply to my child. Such additional fees will be communicated to me as needed.

1. **Uniform Requirements**

* Performance uniforms will be worn by each singer in MSACCC at all performances.
* Polo or T-Shirts will be ordered for new students and must be paid for upon arrival.
* Mt. SAC Youth Chorale Formal Performance Outfits will be ordered for new students and must be paid on arrival.

***Dolce Choir:***

Boys: White button-up collared shirt, Black dress pants, Black shoes, Black belt

Girls: White top, Black pants or skirt, Black shoes

***Cantabile Choir:***

Boys: Black dress pants, white button-up collared shirt. Black belt and dress shoes. Black tie.

Girls: Nice dress, blouse/skirt, or blouse/dress pants in any combination of black, white, and/or gray. Skirt length needs to be school-appropriate. No other colors should be visible. Black dress shoes. Heels should not exceed 1" in height, flats preferred. Clothing should be "dressy:" imagine you are going to a wedding or special occasion.

***Mt. SAC Youth Chorale:***

Boys: White long sleeve dress shirt, Black dress pants, Black socks and shoes,

Burgundy tie / Cost is $26.00

Girls: Laurel black dress - $50.00 / Closed-toe black shoes– purchase on your own

1. **Music and Folder Assignments**

* Each chorister will be assigned a numbered music folder, which contains the repertoire for that semester. The chorister is responsible for the folder and contents during that year.
* Choristers must be responsible for their own music, including financial responsibility.
* A replacement fee equal to the cost of replacement +$25.00 will be collected if music is lost or not returned to MSACCC at the end of the choral season.
* Music or folders that are lost or damaged must be replaced by the parent.
* Never write on or tear music folder.
* Never fold a piece of music incorrectly or bend it.
* Mark your score in pencil only.
* Always put music back into your music folder carefully.
* All music and folders will be returned by the stated date to MSACCC at the end of the season.

1. **Commitment to School and Church Music Programs**

* The success of the Mt. SAC Children’s Choir will be dependent in large part on the support of music teachers and church choir directors of the program singers.
* MSACCC singers are expected to remain in their school and church choirs.

1. **Parking/Drop-off Information**

* Parents will have the option of buying a semester parking permit for the cost of $50.00, or can pay using the parking meters in Lot B.
* Parents have the option of parking in the 30-minute parking spaces in front of the Performing Arts Center free of charge when dropping off their child for rehearsals. A parent must accompany their child to the check-in table before leaving and must pick up the child from the check-in area promptly after the rehearsal.

1. **Disciplinary Action**

* We have very high standards for appropriate conduct at rehearsals and performances. All MSACC singers are expected to be respectful and responsible during every rehearsal and performance, which includes being prepared, attentive, and possessing a positive attitude.
* At the discretion of a conductor, any singer may be removed from a rehearsal/performance (sent home) for violating a provision of the Mt. SAC Children’s Choir Handbook or engaging in conduct that they deem to be inappropriate.
* Singers that are removed from a rehearsal/performance three times in one semester will automatically be withdrawn from the MSACCC program and will not be entitled to a refund.
* At the discretion of the MSACCC Director, any singer may be barred from further participation in the MSACCC upon repeated violation of the handbook policies or if the singer engages in conduct deemed by the Director, at his or her sole discretion, to be a serious violation.
* Singers barred from further participation in the MSACCC will not be entitled to a refund of any fees paid.

1. **2019 – 2020 MSACCC Rehearsal/Concert Schedule**

On behalf of the Mt. SAC Children’s Choir Program, we THANK YOU for your support of music and the arts in your child’s life! You are giving your child a valuable gift, and we are thankful that you are making this experience a priority for your family. We will do everything that we can to make this a positive experience for your child and give them the best music and choral experience that we can!

**Rehearsal and Concert Schedule**

**FALL SEMESTER**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Aug 24 – Auditions** | **Oct 22 – Rehearsal** |
| **Aug 27 – Auditions** | **Oct 29 – Rehearsal** |
| **Aug 31 – Auditions** | **Nov 5 – Rehearsal** |
| **Sep 3 – First Rehearsal** | **Nov 12 – Rehearsal** |
| **Sep 10 – Rehearsal** | **Nov 19 – Rehearsal** |
| **Sep 17 – Rehearsal** | **Nov 26 – Rehearsal** |
| **Sep 24 – Rehearsal** | **Dec 3 – Rehearsal** |
| **Oct 1 – Rehearsal** | **Dec 10 – Dress Rehearsal in concert venue** |
| **Oct 8 – Rehearsal** | **Dec 14 – Concert at Mt. SAC** |
| **Oct. 15 – Rehearsal** | **WINTER BREAK** |

**SPRING SEMESTER**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Jan 21 – Auditions** | **Apr 7 – Rehearsal** |
| **Jan 25 – Auditions** | **Apr 14 – Rehearsal** |
| **Jan 28 – First Rehearsal** | **Apr 21 – Rehearsal** |
| **Feb 4 – Rehearsal** | **Apr 28 – Rehearsal** |
| **Feb 11 – Rehearsal** | **May 5 – Rehearsal** |
| **Feb 25 – Rehearsal** | **May 12 – Rehearsal** |
| **Mar 3 – Rehearsal** | **May 19 – Rehearsal** |
| **Mar 10 – Rehearsal** | **May 26 – Rehearsal** |
| **Mar 17 – Rehearsal** | **June 2 – Rehearsal** |
| **Mar 24 – Rehearsal** | **June 9 – Dress Rehearsal in concert venue** |
| **Mar 31 – Rehearsal** | **June 13 – Concert at Mt. SAC** |

1. **Fundraising**

A variety of fundraising programs are necessary to ensure that the MSACCC remains in a solid financial position and to keep tuition as low as possible.

Separate information regarding general fundraisers will be communicated. These events offset the additional costs of the MSACCC which are not covered by tuition. We appreciate the participation of all chorister families in this vital area.

1. **Parent Volunteers & Choir Parent Information**

Parent volunteers are a precious and vital part of the MSACCC. If you are interested in being a volunteer, we encourage contacting a choir parent or the MSACCC Administrative Assistant.

Please consider helping our chorus by being involved when you are able.

Parent chaperones are necessary and appreciated. Special events, concert performances, retreats, etc. run most efficiently when we have parent volunteers.

At the conclusion of concert performances or other special events, two chaperones must remain until all choristers have been picked up by their parent or guardian.

The primary forms of communication will be through notes home, email and the “Remind App”. Remind App uses the short code, 81010, to send alerts from teachers to students and parents. You may opt-in by using this Join page

<https://www.remind.com/join> or by texting the class code directly to 81010.

1. **Parent/Guardian & Singer Contracts**

Student Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(printed)

Parent Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(printed)

**I HAVE READ THE MT. SAC CHILDREN’S CHOIR HANDBOOK AND UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT I AGREE TO ALL POLICIES WITHIN.**

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this page, signed, to the MSACCC Administrative Assistant as soon as possible.