



Alaska Chamber Singers



Fact Sheet: Who We Are...

A professional level choral ensemble founded in 1986 by Elvera Voth, consisting of approximately 40 high quality local volunteer singers selected by annual audition and dedicated to the study, rehearsal, and performance of choral literature of all periods. Alaska Chamber Singers is a non-profit corporation committed to revitalizing choral music by developing members' talents through performance of a diverse and challenging repertoire, while offering audiences the opportunity to hear music they might not otherwise experience in a live performance environment.

Mission Statement

The mission of Alaska Chamber Singers is to expand and invigorate interest in exceptional choral music of varied forms and periods through performances of uncommon style and superlative quality.

Artistic Director and Conductor

David Hagen became artistic director and conductor of the Alaska Chamber Singers (ACS) in 1995, succeeding founder and longtime artistic director Elvera Voth. Hagen holds a Master of Music degree in choral conducting from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory Of Music. In 2007 he was awarded the Anchorage Mayor's Arts Award for Outstanding Individual Artist. Hagen is a music teacher in the Anchorage School District, was the District's Music Curriculum Coordinator for two years, and has served as choir director at a number of local churches; he currently is the Director of Music Ministry Musicians at Anchor Park United Methodist Church.

Musicians

Alaska Chamber Singers consists of 40 singers, comprised of a diverse group of individuals from all walks of life including several music educators. In addition to the Artistic Director of Alaska Chamber Singers, the music staff includes a Chorus Manager, Conductors Assistant and Vocal Coach, Caroling Music Director and an Accompanist.

Performances

The annual season is a three program series of 7 performances. Additionally the choir performs annually as a guest artist with the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra and by invitation at international and national music festivals, conventions and conferences.

Venues

Alaska Chamber Singers usually performs at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Anchorage, and at St. Andrew Church in Eagle River. We also perform in the Sydney Laurence Theatre at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

Attendance

More than 2000 people attend Alaska Chamber Singers performances annually.

Budget

The operating budget for the 2011-2012 Season is \$89,000.

Recordings

Alaska Chamber Singers has recorded two compact discs that are available on our website (www.alaskachambersingers.org), at our performances and through prominent local distributors such as Anchorage Museum, Metro Music, and St. Pauls Corner.

New Works

Alaska Chamber Singers released its latest CD, *Sing Noel!* in the fall of 2010. This compilation of their work features a joyous blending of traditional and classical holiday music to be enjoyed by all.

Education & Outreach

For several years, Alaska Chamber Singers has solicited high school students as members of its ensemble. Students audition and participate in performances and rehearsals throughout the year. Alaska Chamber Singers also offers free dress rehearsal attendance to students prior to its performances.

Past Achievements

In 1996, Alaska Chamber Singers was featured on the radio program, *A Prairie Home Companion* with Garrison Keillor in its broadcast from the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts. In July of 1997, ACS traveled to Washington, D.C., and performed in the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts under the sponsorship of U.S. Senator Frank Murkowski. ACS was chosen to perform in 2008 at the American Choral Directors Association Northwestern Division Convention in Vancouver, B.C. Most recently, Alaska Chamber Singers rounded out 2009 by participating in Anchorage Symphony Orchestra's performance of Handel's *Messiah*, combining vocal forces with Anchorage Concert Chorus.