



2021 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND CALL TO REHEARSAL

Welcome to the Messiah Choral Society's **49th Season!** You will have a wonderful time learning this magnificent work of art and ultimately sharing this oratorio with the community. The Messiah Choral Society has an annual tradition of presenting a professional performance of Handel's "Messiah" as a free gift to the community. The concert is a major accomplishment as well as a joyful way to begin the Holiday Season for those singing and those in attendance. Our 2021 performance will take place on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, **November 21, 2021 at 3pm**. We will perform at **Trinity Preparatory School**, located at 5700 Trinity Prep Lane, Winter Park, Florida 32792. Please check this website for possible updates for all 2021 activities as we are monitoring CDC guidelines and will be complying with all directives in place at that time.

Our **first rehearsal** will take place **September 12, 2021** at the **Episcopal Church of the Resurrection (ECR), 251 East Lake Brantley Rd., Longwood, Florida, 32779**. We will rehearse on Sundays from 2:00---4:15 p.m. for 11 weeks prior to the performance. Again, please check this website for updates regarding our registration process, rehearsal schedule, and rehearsal locations. Please check the website often for updates and announcements.

Conductor: Our Artistic Director and Conductor, Dr. John V. Sinclair, is renowned for his artistic performance style both here and abroad. His goal is for us to be world-class as well – an ambitious expectation for an all-volunteer oratorical society. He enhances our performances with gifted professional soloists and an orchestra of outstanding musicians.

Attendance requirement: Anyone missing more than three rehearsals will not be allowed to perform. This applies to all members including experienced singers. Dr. Sinclair makes changes every year. You must be there to learn these changes and practice them. The absence count will start with the first rehearsal on September 12, 2021.

Emphasis on professionalism: We love to sing and have fun. But our goal is performance excellence. Please be in your seats ready to sing, five minutes before rehearsal call time. And please, no talking during rehearsal. There is no time to waste. Brief announcements will be made before the rehearsal and at rehearsal's end. You will sign in with your section leader prior to the rehearsal.

Scores: We use the Watkins Shaw/Novello score. Please do not use another version as this can cause confusion. We have scores for sale at \$12. We will also sell sectional practice CD's that contain most of the choruses that we'll be singing. Sectional practice recordings may also be accessed on our website. All scores must be bound with solid black covers or inserted into black loose-leaf binders by performance day.

Section Leaders: Your Section Leader is your direct contact for any questions or concerns. They also take attendance at rehearsals but it is **your responsibility to sign in**. If you don't sign in, you'll be counted absent even if present. Section Leaders are: **Soprano**---Karen Dunscomb; **Alto**---Christiana LaCroix; **Tenor**---Alan Ott; **Bass**---David DiQuatro.

Rehearsal Guidelines and **Performance Decorum** standards are on the website. They outline our expectations of one another. Our performance has always been free to the public. Therefore, we must fund this production ourselves through grants, donations and fundraising activities throughout the year. We also sell advertising in our programs and hope you will approach businesses you frequent and your professional service providers with requests to purchase an ad.

In addition to singing, consider taking a leadership position or helping out on a committee. Please get involved!

Look forward to seeing you soon.

Maggie Winter
President, Messiah Choral Society

Keep this letter as a reference throughout the season. It is also available at www.messiahchoralsociety.org

Note: If you no longer wish to receive emails or mail from the Messiah Choral Society, please send an e-mail to info@messiahchoralsociety.org with the word "Exclude me" or "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

North↓