



TUCSON
GIRLS
CHORUS

a 501c3 not-for-profit organization

PARENT HANDBOOK

For choirs at the River Road facility

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2018-2019

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MISSION

The Tucson Girls Chorus builds girls' confidence and character; encourages perseverance, initiative, and responsibility; and provides opportunities to lead, perform and work as a team, through music education and community service.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT & INCLUSION POLICY

The Tucson Girls Chorus does not discriminate or recruit on the basis of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, national origin, or physical or developmental disability. The Tucson Girls Chorus is committed to inclusion as a value and practice in all aspects of participation and membership in our organization as well in our educational program. The Tucson Girls Chorus aims to embrace and celebrate the diversity of our Tucson and Southern Arizona communities.

BENEFITS

Almost every girl who graduates from high school with a strong background in the Tucson Girls Chorus successfully attends college; some TGC alumnae have earned advanced degrees. Key to the success of the TGC girls is our program's focus in four areas of development:

1. Music: interpretation, vocal techniques, understanding of the musica language, and musicianship
2. Socialization skills: working as a member of a team and building relationships with people from all walks of life
3. Community Service: learning and appreciating the needs of a diverse community while working to better that community
4. Personal: responsibility for self, confidence when speaking and performing, good leadership, and communication skills

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The TGC offers eight performing choirs at its River Road facility. Each choir (except for the Alumnae choir) rehearses a minimum of once a week from August through May. Performance opportunities increase as they progress through the more advanced choirs. All choirs present a showcase concert at the end of each semester. During the summer, a camp is offered for the community.

<u>Choir</u>	<u>Grade (typically)</u>	<u>Rehearsal Days & Times</u>
Bumblebees	Kindergarten/1 st	Tuesdays, 5:00pm to 5:50pm
Ladybugs	2 nd /3 rd Grades	Mondays, 5:00pm to 6:00pm
Hummingbirds	4 th /5 th Grades	Mondays, 6:15pm to 7:30pm
Mariposa Singers	6 th /7 th /8 th Grades	Tuesdays, 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Jubilate	8 th /9 th Grade and up	Mondays, 6:00pm to 8:15 pm plus occasional scheduled Saturday or other weekday rehearsals
Advanced	9 th to 12 th Grades	Thursdays, 6:00pm to 8:30pm, plus monthly Wednesday and Saturday scheduled rehearsals
Tutti	2 nd to 12 th Grade	Wednesdays, 4:30pm to 5:30pm
Alumnae	TGC Graduates	Tuesdays, 6:15pm to 7:45pm *May vary pending on schedule

TUCSON GIRLS CHORUS RESPONSIBILITIES

The TGC has the responsibility to provide for your daughter:

1. A well-rounded, comprehensive choral music program
2. A physically and emotionally safe place to learn
3. Scholarships for those who need financial assistance and who qualify under TGC guidelines (scholarships do not apply for fundraising and volunteer commitments)
4. Confidence that all participants will be treated equally and fairly
5. Assurance that all personal information be kept confidential
6. The most qualified staff possible

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL TUCSON GIRLS CHORUS MEMBERS

1. Be on time (which means early)
2. Wear the appropriate *Performance Attire* for each performance
3. Listen carefully and follow directions
4. Respond positively when requested to help
5. Be respectful of other members, staff, & assisting volunteers
6. Use appropriate language
7. Keep track of music and personal property
8. Fundraise by selling up to \$225 (precise amount varies depending on choir--see *Fundraising Commitments*) of *Program Advertisements* and/or the sale of *Holiday Greenery*
9. Volunteer for one committee for the year. Can be replaced with the *BuyOut Option*
10. Bring a Friend during "Buddy Month"
11. Always do your best
12. Older girls serve as role models and mentor young singers
13. Abide by *code of conduct* agreement (applies to Mariposa Singers, Jubilate and Advanced Choirs)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL TUCSON GIRLS CHORUS PARENTS

1. Financial

- a. Quarterly tuition Due Dates are: July 1, October 1, January 1, and April 1.
- b. Pay quarterly-tuition on time to avoid the \$25.00 late fee, which is assessed 15 days after the due date.
- c. Families have the option of enrolling in the *auto-pay* program for tuition and/or tour.
- d. Payers enrolled in the *auto-pay* program can opt at the beginning of the fiscal year (July) to have their credit cards charged either the 1st or 15th of July, October, January, and April.
- e. A one-time 2.5% Convenience fee will be added to any debit/credit transaction if enrolling in *auto-pay* program for tuition.
- f. Each family must provide a debit/credit card to be kept on file. Cards will not be charged unless late on payment and families will be notified of pending charges.
- g. Notify the office if you are unable to make payment by the due date or if your daughter(s) wishes to leave the TGC.
- h. Notify the office if you need to set up a financial payment plan.
- i. Provide your daughter with required performance attire/outfits in a timely manner.

2. Fundraising

- a. Ensure that your daughter participates and fulfills the fundraising commitment through the sale of **Program Advertisements** and/or the sale of **Greenery**. The amount to be raised is per girl depending on the choir and is due at the beginning of November.
- b. *Fundraising Plan Option* - Split fundraising into two payments and add first payment to First Quarter tuition and second payment to Second Quarter tuition.
- c. Spring enrollment: Girls that join the TGC in the second half of the year (January or later) are required to raise a discounted amount by beginning of April. *Fundraising Plan Option* available.
- FUNDRAISING FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS PER CHOIR:
 - Ladybugs and Hummingbirds: **\$150.00 per year** (2 ads sold, 15 greenery pieces sold, or a combination of both)
 - Mariposa: **\$200.00 per year** (3 ads sold, 20 greenery pieces sold, or a combination of both)
 - Jubilate and Advanced: **\$225.00 per year** (3 ads sold, 22 greenery pieces sold, or a combination of both)

- The Bumblebee Choir have **no Fundraising Commitments**
 - Families can use the *Buy Out option* and pay the full fundraising amount without having to do any fundraising (\$150-\$225 depending on choir).
 - Families who join the TGC in the Spring Semester (January or after), are required to fundraise *half* of the yearly amount for their choir.
- d. Solicit or donate at least one auction item for *Duets and Dinner* (strongly encouraged)
 - e. The fundraising commitment is separate from volunteering at fundraising events.
 - f. Requirement is **per girl**, not per family.

3. Volunteering

- a. Each family must volunteer for one committee for the year. Families are welcome to help more than one committee. An average of 4-6 volunteer hours are expected for the year. If your task does not fulfill the time required, please sign up for another task within the same committee or another one.
 - i. Greenery Committee
 - ii. Concert Committee
 - iii. Work Day Committee
 - iv. Costume Committee
 - v. Duets and Dinner Committee
 - vi. Outreach Committee
- b. Families can use the *Buy Out option* and pay the full volunteering amount of \$75.00 without having to do any volunteering.
- c. Requirement is **per family**, not per girl.

4. Promotion

- a. Actively promote the TGC by bringing a buddy to a rehearsal during *Buddy Month*, and by encouraging other girls to attend TGC *Open Houses*.
 - b. Buddy credit to your account may apply. *See Buddy Month*
- c. Recruit new girls by delivering enrollment flyers/announcements to various locations and schools in town.
- d. Assist with outreach programs.
- e. Connect schools and music teachers with the TGC.

5. **Parent Representatives**

- a. Communicate and/or clarify with respective choir about upcoming performances and/or events, questions and concerns when needed.
- b. Assist Conductors with signing in/out at performances.
- c. Actively engage in the organization of two (2) choir social events each year.

6. **Parent/Guardian**

- a. **Model the kind of behavior you wish your daughter to exhibit**
- b. Ensure that your daughter arrives 10 minutes early for rehearsals, 10 minutes before performance call times, and is picked up from all rehearsals and performances in a timely manner. After 10 minutes the TGC will administer a late fee--see *Check-In/Check-Out*.
- c. Check weekly emails for updates and information related to the TGC
- d. Notify the TGC office via phone or email more than 2 hours prior to rehearsal or a performance if your daughter is unable to attend for excused absences.
- e. Keep the office informed of any changes in your contact information whether it be email, calling post phone numbers or mailing addresses, payment information i.e. credit card numbers, payment plans, etc.
- f. Exhibit kindness and respect to fellow parent volunteers and TGC staff.

GLOSSARY

Absences Girls are limited to three (3) excused absences a semester unless there are extenuating circumstances, which must be approved by Dr. Molina. For an absence to be excused, the parent or guardian must notify the office by phone or email before the event or rehearsal. Continual absences or tardiness can directly affect the singer's performance opportunities, ability to move up to a higher choir, and her future progress within the TGC, including future qualification for financial assistance.

Alumnae We are actively growing our Alumnae Association. All graduates of the Advanced Choir are invited to be members. Annual activities include assisting with the twice-yearly concerts, coordinating TGC camp, helping with fundraisers, singing in the *Alumnae Choir*, or supporting the TGC in any capacity.

Alumnae Choir Each semester, the Alumnae Choir rehearses for 8 weeks and presents their own concert in the winter and spring.

Attendance Attendance is crucial to the success of each of the choirs. Each girl has a responsibility to her fellow singers to be present and on time. See *Absences*

Arrears If your TGC account is in arrears, please contact the TGC Office so we can work out a payment plan to assist you. Your daughter will not be allowed to sing in the Sounds of Winter or Sounds of Spring concert if your account is not up to date. **EXCEPTIONS CAN BE ARRANGED IF YOU COMMUNICATE WITH THE OFFICE.**

Auditions A low-key audition/placement is held for each girl from grades 2nd-12th grades enrolling in the TGC. Girls entering the Bumblebees Singers do not have to audition. The audition is to assess whether or not the girl can match pitch, and their overall level of musicianship. Girls sing a song unaccompanied. Thereafter, the TGC staff will go over the program details. These auditions differ from *Move-Up Auditions*.

Behavior Policy (Adults & Girls) It is our expectation that everyone associated with the TGC will model the highest level of behavior and decorum that ensures a safe, pleasant, and fun environment in which girls can learn.

Board of Directors The Board of Directors of the Tucson Girls Chorus is responsible for the mission and strategic direction of the organization, the TGC's fiscal stability and sustainability, employing the Director, determining governing policies, and protecting the image of TGC.

Buddy Month is scheduled during open enrollment season. This is an opportunity for your daughter to invite friend(s) to one rehearsal to check out TGC. See *Tuition Incentive* for buddy credits. Buddy months are during open enrollment (August, September, January, and February).

Tuition Incentive AKA "Buddy-Credit" Encourage your daughter to recruit her friends to the TGC. For each new girl your daughter brings to the chorus, you will receive a \$10 monthly credit toward tuition for as long as the new girl participates in the TGC for the current singing season. *This credit is to be applied only towards your tuition for the current singing year.*

If two girls bring the same friend, the credit is split between the two families.

Buy Out Option Available to any family who does not wish to participate in fundraising or volunteering and can "buy out" from these responsibilities. Families can participate in the *Fundraising Plan Option* or pay the entire fundraising amount to the TGC.

Calendar The online calendar is continuously updated on our website www.tucsongirlschorus.org. Please refer to it often. Last minute changes are communicated by *Calling Post* or text messaging service along with an email.

Calling Post is an automated phone message system used to inform you of last minute changes from previous information. You do not need to reply to these messages. Calls from our calling post come from phone number 405-308-4474; it might be worthwhile to save this number in your contacts, so that you know that the call is from the TGC. If there is a new number to be added, please contact our office to include it on the list ASAP.

Check-In/Check-Out In order to maintain a safe environment for all TGC members, we require that each parent sign in their daughter at the beginning of every rehearsal and performance and sign out at the end of every rehearsal and performance.

CHECK OUT LATE FEE: Families will be charged \$1.00/minute if picked up after 10 minutes after the end of rehearsal or concert tour pick-up. This fee will be added to your account.

Communication The TGC wants parents to be informed as much as possible. To accomplish this goal, we will:

- send all information via email (please have a current email address)

- place fliers in the parent waiting rooms, rehearsal hall and outside board
- post calendars and announcements on our website
- use the *Calling Post* or text messaging for last minute information
- call you personally if the information or discussion is specific to you
- mail you critical information to reinforce previously sent/discussed information

Committees

Concert Committee This committee works with the committee chair and helps to coordinate the *Sounds of Winter and Sounds of Spring Concerts* at the end of each semester often with TGC alumnae. Responsibilities include but are not limited to: helping at the blocking rehearsal and dress rehearsals; ticket and flower sales; ushers; singer sign-in and sign-out

Costume Committee Committee volunteers assist the Chairperson with costume checks during rehearsals in the fall and spring to ensure girls have all the required attire to perform in the concerts.

Duets & Dinner Committee Committee volunteers assist the Duets and Dinner Chairperson with program logistics such as helping at the registration table, set up on the day of the event and be of assistance to the Committee Chair for other tasks deemed necessary. Raffle items are greatly appreciated from all families, however, seeking outside donations is also helpful.

Greenery Committee Committee volunteers assist the Chairperson in the *Greenery Fundraiser*. Volunteers assemble sales packets, tally orders and upon arrival, sorts greenery and helps to distribute orders at the main rehearsal hall to families.

Office Work Committee Committee volunteers support the Administrative Office with various tasks. Volunteers must be available throughout the year to assist with projects as they come up and reports to the Administrative Executive.

Outreach Committee Committee volunteers promote the TGC at various local events such as Tucson Meet Yourself, Festival of Books, JCC Family Wellness Festival, Oro Valley Marketplace Arts Festival, etc. Volunteering can be for one event or for two events with a minimum of 4/6 hours. Must be dependable, help transport promotion materials and bring them back, must be willing to engage with the public.

Work Day Committee Committee volunteers help with building repairs on a Saturday morning. The volunteer hours are from 8 am to 12 pm (approximately 4 hours). Volunteers can choose fall, spring or both Work Days! Must be able to clean, physical activity such as lifting and climbing, work outside clearing brush and cutting weeds. Volunteers will report to the Administrative Executive. Must be able to do moderate heavy lifting.

Costumes See *Performance Attire*.

Costume Checks All TGC girls (except Bumblebees) will participate in a costume check in the fall and spring to measure the length and make sure all the required attire pieces are present. Checks are held prior to rehearsal time and girls must come to rehearsal dressed in their full formal attire.

Credit Card Convenience Fee A fee of 2.5% of the amount billed is added to transactions paid for by debit or credit cards.

Duets & Dinner Fundraiser A fundraising event that includes a performance by the Ladybugs and duets performed by members of the Advanced Choir and local community leaders. This event raises funds for TGC operations through sponsorships, tickets sales, raffles, and live auctions. Parents are strongly encouraged to procure or donate auction items for our raffle drawings. This is a Spring fundraising event geared towards generating new donors and exposure of the TGC to the community.

Flier Distribution Every family can pick up Open House and Open Enrollment fliers to distribute to public, private and charter schools, places of worship, and other public places several times a year.

Full Year Discount If you pay your daughter's yearly tuition in full at the time of her enrollment, TGC will give you 5% off the price of tuition. (Only applies at the beginning of Fall semester enrollment, does not apply to scholarship recipients or for Spring semester enrollment.)

Fundraisers Please refer to the "Fundraising" section on page 7 and glossary terms *Duets and Dinner, Greenery Fundraiser, & Program Ads*.

Fundraising Commitments Each girl is required to raise a set amount of money for the TGC. Fundraising amounts are set depending on the choir in which the girl sings.

- Bumblebees, Engagement, and Tutti Choirs: no fundraising required

The fundraising commitment is separate from volunteering at fundraising events. Families cannot substitute volunteering to pay for their fundraising commitment.

Fundraising Payment Plan TGC families can now split their *fundraising commitment* into two payments and added to the 1st and 2nd quarter tuition if you desire not to participate in the fundraising programs offered.

Gently Used Formal Performance Attire The TGC has a selection of gently used formal attire to be purchased at a reduced cost. Sizes are limited and based on availability. Attire is first come, first served.

Families can trade in their daughter's formal performance attire ONLY if the attire is in good condition and has been pre-washed. There is no guarantee a size will be available for trade. If your daughter leaves the choir, families are welcome to donate the attire.

Greenery Fundraiser You and your daughter will have an opportunity to fulfill part or all of your *Fundraising Commitment* by selling holiday greenery (from Washington State) to neighbors, friends, relatives, and others. Your daughter will receive a packet with information to use to sell greenery. Online ordering will also be available.

Greenery sales happen during the months of September through October and is delivered to the TGC late November. Families will be notified when products are available for pickup—families must deliver items to their buyers. Greenery can also be delivered (for a higher cost) to people anywhere in the US.

IMPORTANT: For each item sold, **\$10.00** of each sale will be credited towards your daughter's fundraising commitment amount. The total amount sold DOES NOT apply to the *fundraising commitment* (10 wreaths sold = 10 x \$10 = \$100.00 credit to fundraising account). The remaining cost of the sale goes to the actual cost of purchasing the greenery.

Informal Performance Attire Polo shirt, denim jeans (no holes, rips, bling) and white sneakers. Families purchase the polo shirt through the TGC. See *Polo Shirts*.

Late Fees for Tuition/Returned Checks Tuition late fees of \$25 will be charged each time a payment is more than 15 days late or if a check is returned for insufficient funds. To avoid the late fee, families must communicate with the office about any late payments.

Move Up Auditions The process to progress from one chorus to the next varies as the girls grow older. The level of music difficulty increases, resulting in increasing expectations as outlined below. There is no cost for a move up audition and usually happens at the end of the singing year. Keep in mind that financial expectations increase with each choir such as fundraising and rehearsal times.

Bumblebee Choir to Ladybugs

When your daughter goes from First Grade to Second Grade in the fall, she automatically moves up from the Bumblebee Choir to Ladybugs Choir. No formal audition is required.

Ladybugs to Hummingbirds

When your daughter goes from Third Grade to Fourth Grade in the fall, she automatically moves up from the Ladybugs Choir to the Hummingbirds Choir. No formal audition is required.

Hummingbirds to Mariposa Singers

If your daughter is moving from the Fifth Grade into Sixth Grade, she is eligible to audition for Mariposa Singers. Attendance, behavior, maturity level, and attitude are as important as vocal ability when it comes to making the decision regarding whether or not a girl moves from the Hummingbirds to the Mariposa Singers.

Mariposa Singers to Jubilate

From Mariposa Singers there is no "automatic move-up" into Jubilate choir, it is a merit-based move forward based solely on your daughter's performance in her tenure as a Mariposa Singer, as well as her musicianship level. The expectations of attendance, commitment, maturity, positive attitude, and being a good team member are all considered in addition to excellent musicianship and vocal ability. Jubilate singers tour; although tour is not mandatory it is strongly encouraged.

Jubilate to Advanced Choir

Auditioning from Jubilate to Advanced is based on proven proficiency in vocal ability, musicianship, attendance, attitude, responsibility, team-work, reliability, and behavior/participation in general and on the Jubilate tour. Participation on tour is **mandatory** for all members of

the Advanced Choir.

Open Enrollment Interested girls in the 2nd through 12th grades must audition at the Tucson Girls Chorus rehearsal hall from May to September for fall enrollment and January to February for spring enrollment. Appointments are necessary if not attending *Open House*.

A minimum of two *Open Houses* per semester are scheduled during enrollment periods as opportunities for the public to experience and learn about the TGC. Prior music experience is not required.

There is no audition requirement for the Bumblebee and Tutti choirs. Members can enroll immediately into these choirs.

Open Houses Each semester the TGC holds events on selected Saturday mornings at the TGC facility for potential new members to visit the TGC and learn more about the yearly program and responsibilities. Girls can audition at the end of the open house. Each open house is hosted by either the Jubilate Choir or the Advanced Choir.

Parent Meetings There is at least one parent meeting per choir held at the beginning of each semester. For the touring choirs, there are additional tour information meetings.

Parking There is limited parking available in front of the TGC building. Spaces are reserved for staff and handicap. Parking in front of the rehearsal hall doors is prohibited. This area needs to be kept clear of vehicles for emergency and handicap. There is no parking in front of the yellow gates on the west side of the building, this is for emergency vehicles to enter the ball park. Plenty of safe parking is available on the west and east parking lots. No parking alongside the playground.

Performance Attire

Formal Performance Attire Families are required to provide their daughter with a formal performance attire that can be purchased online on the Tucson Girls Chorus website at <http://www.tucsongirlschorus.org/Home/parent-resources>. The attire requires specific measurements to be completed by the parent/guardian to submit when ordering. All formal attire will be checked at specified *Costume Checks*.

Informal Performance Attire: Polo Shirts Polo shirts are ordered through TGC at a cost of \$20.00 each. All polo shirts are the same color for each chorus. All girls are required to have a polo shirt. If your daughter outgrows her shirt, you may purchase a new or gently used shirt from the office.

Program Advertising Fundrasier

You and your daughter will have an opportunity to fulfill part or all of your *Fundraising Commitment* by soliciting/purchasing ads that will be printed in our end-of-the year programs. Ads can be solicited/purchased to businesses and/or personal messages to your daughter (love note). Your daughter will receive a packet with detailed information that includes ad size, format, and prices. Ad sales are due in November and April. Families can solicit/purchase ads any time of year as long as they submit the form and payment during months mentioned above. Touring families have an option to apply any extra advertisement fundraising towards tour balance, only after your fundraising requirement is met.

Refunds

The \$15.00 *Enrollment Fee* is non-refundable under any circumstance. Convenience fees are non-refundable

Withdrawal within 10 Business days from the Audition Date:

When the TGC office is given a written notice of withdrawal within 10 business days of the audition date, a full refund of all initial payments, minus the \$15.00 *Enrollment Fee*, will be given. Email is considered a valid written notification.

Partial Refund: If at any point in the year your daughter does not wish to continue with the program, you will be charged tuition for the month following the month we receive written notification. Email is considered a valid written notification. No other refunds will be made.

If you have pre-paid tuition for the quarter, any money due you beyond the one month following notification to the TGC office will be refunded back to you, assuming all other financial obligations have been met.

If you pre-paid tuition for the full year, the amount of the refund you receive back will be based on the full-priced yearly tuition cost from the beginning of the year through the month following the receipt of

our written notification. *In other words:* If you have paid for the entire year in advance, and you make the decision to not continue with the program, the 5% discount is added back for each month of membership, plus the month following written notification of withdrawal. The balance will then be refunded.

Camp Registrations: Camp Registrations are non-refundable.

Refund for tour deposit and tour payments: Tour budgets are determined based on the number of girls committed to attending tour.

- Tour deposits are non-refundable.
- Refunds cannot be given to shared expenses (including but not limited to: hotel, transportation, and chaperone expenses), or already purchased items with no refunds (i.e. airline tickets).
- Further amounts for refunds will be determined on a case by case basis.

Rehearsals Please refer to the online calendar and your choir's webpage on the Tucson Girls Chorus website (www.tucsongirlschorus.org) for more detailed information. See also *Attendance* and *Absences*.

Sibling Discount If you have more than one daughter participating in the TGC, one girl will receive a 50% discount off of the tuition for the daughter in the younger choir. If the siblings are in the same choir, one sibling's tuition will receive the 50% discount.

Scholarships A limited amount of funding is available to provide scholarships for tuition and/or tour for those girls needing financial assistance. Scholarship Applications must be completed and returned in a timely manner. **Applications will not be considered without the proper supporting documents.**

A Scholarship committee reviews applications and determines scholarship awards. Recipients will be notified shortly afterwards. There is also an expectation that scholarship recipients write thank you note.

A Scholarship may be revoked for misbehavior; if attendance, fundraising, and/or volunteer commitments are not met; or if the signed scholarship letter is not returned.

Scholarship Renewals Every scholarship recipient MUST complete a new application for the next singing year. This includes all supporting documentation such as financial statements and your daughter's letter of interest to participate in the TGC.

Shine! Performing Arts Camp This camp runs for two one-week sessions each summer; it is open to boys and girls going into 1st through 6th grades, and is led by TGC Staff and Alumnae. This camp differs from the *TGC Members Only Summer Camp*.

Sounds of Winter and Sounds of Spring Concerts The TGC produces concerts in December and May. These concerts are ticketed events. A **mandatory** blocking rehearsal is held right before the concert at the TGC rehearsal hall. A **mandatory** dress rehearsal is held at the venue the day of the concert. Families can volunteer to help with the concerts. **Please block the weekend time for each concert on your calendars. Each girl's account must be current in order for her to participate in the concert.**

The Bumblebee Choir presents concerts free of charge in December and May during the last half hour of the final rehearsal of the semester.

The Alumnae Choir present concerts in December and May and are free. Times and locations are announced via email and online calendars.

Sounds of Winter and Spring Concert Tickets Families are expected to purchase their own tickets to the concerts (except for Bumblebee concerts), and promote ticket sales to family and friends. Costs of tickets are normally \$15.00 - \$18.00 for general admission. Often tickets for children are discounted depending on age. The locations and times are on the website calendar.

Social Functions TGC girls and parents meet and interact with one another outside of a rehearsal or concert for an occasional fun social function planned by the Parent Representatives of the choir. All TGC girls and parents are encouraged to attend.

TGC Members Only Summer Camp In late July, the TGC provides a summer music camp for all of our choirs. Dates and times vary per choir. The final camp day culminates with a free concert for parents and friends. Camp is organized by TGC Staff, Alumnae under the auspices of the music staff including assistance from Parent Volunteers. This camp differs from the *Shine! Performing Arts Camp*.

TGC Members Only Summer Camp Committee This committee supports the TGC Staff and Alumnae camp directors in helping during the *TGC Members Only Summer Camp* such as check-in/out; security; tear down.

Tours

- The Advanced Choir participates in a two to three week tour to national or international destinations; these tours are mandatory for all Advanced Choir members, and typically take place at the end of the semester (either end of May or sometime in June.)
- The Jubilate Choir has a non-mandatory (but **strongly** encouraged) 4-6 day regional tour typically at the end of the academic year.
- The Mariposa Singers attend an overnight mini-tour where they participate in a one-day choir festival.
- Limited tour assistance available. See also *Scholarships*.

While we want everyone to go on tour, we do hold the right to deny a girl to go on tour for reasons including but not limited to behavior or poor attendance.

Due to the high cost of travel, the TGC will notify parents of anticipated costs as early as possible to ensure maximum time for each family to reserve required funding. Ultimately it is the responsibility of parents to cover the cost of tour for their daughter. Also see *Refunds*.

Tuition is paid in four quarterly payments due: July 1 or 15, October 1 or 15, January 1 or 15, and April 1 or 15. A 5% discount is available for those who pay for the entire year in advance (available in the fall only and not for scholarship recipients). Tuition rates can be found on the TGC website.

Families have the option of enrolling in the *auto-pay* program for tuition. Debit/Credit cards are subject to a one-time 2.5% convenience fee.

Tuition/Tour Payment Plans Tuition and/or tour quarterly or monthly payment plans can be arranged by contacting the TGC Bookkeeper at cdeal@tucsongirlschorus.org. See *Late Fees Tuition/Returned Checks*.

Website Check the TGC website to keep updated on calendar announcements, performances, and special activities at: www.tucsongirlschorus.org.

Work Days Two Saturdays throughout the year are designated "Work Days." These days are spent improving the TGC facility by sorting, cleaning office and rehearsal space, yard work, organizing, and minor repairs. TGC families with various skills and trades are welcomed.