



Introduction to the North Star Boys' Choir

Information for New Families

The Choirs

The North Star Boys' Choir consists of four groups: two training choirs (Music Magic and Cadet Choir), the international touring choir (Viking Choir), and a choir for older boys (Kantorei). Boys who join for the first time will be placed in one of the training choirs. All boys learn proper vocal and breathing techniques, note reading, and good behavior and respect for each other.

Music Magic

Our youngest training choir, for beginning musicians. Open to all boys 5-7 years old.

Cadet Choir

The intermediate training choir. Typical age of boys is 8+ years old. They learn to sing in parts and in other languages, and they perform increasingly challenging music throughout the year.

Viking Choir

The international touring choir. Typical age of boys is 8-14 years old. Boys are invited to join the Viking Choir, usually after singing in the Cadet Choir for a time. They learn to sing complex harmonies and rhythms, in multiple languages, using advanced techniques, based on the Viennese style of singing.

Kantorei

For older boys who have "graduated" from the younger choirs. These boys provide the tenor and bass parts in certain songs and perform their own multi-part songs. They often serve as prefects to help guide the younger boys.

Rehearsals and Voice Lessons

Music Magic: every Tuesday from 5:00 to 5:45 pm.

Cadet Choir: every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30 to 7:00 pm (senior Cadet boys will rehearse until 7:30 pm). Boys in the Cadet Choir also sign up for a half-hour voice lesson once each month.

Weekly rehearsals are at Immanuel United Methodist Church in Corcoran (10025 Brockton Lane). Voice lessons are at the church on rehearsal days, or on other days at Francis's home in Elk River (1797 Tipton Circle, Suite 112). A voice lesson sign-up sheet will be at rehearsals.

Concerts, Tours, and Events

Boys in Music Magic and Cadet Choir attend the following during the year:

- **December:** all-choirs Christmas concert
- **May:** all-choirs spring concert
- **May:** regional weekend tour (Cadet Choir only)
- **August:** choir camp at Parker Scout Reservation (Cadet/Viking Choir)
- **August:** day camp (optional)

Uniforms

Families are responsible for outfitting Music Magic and Cadet Choir boys with the following:

- NSBC navy polo shirt with embroidered logo
(ordered through the choir by contacting Crystal Rossow, crystal@nsbc-mn.org)
- Khaki pants, flat front (not pleated), no cuffs
- Black dress shoes, socks, and belt

Costs

The registration fee covers the cost of a choir baseball cap, sheet music, folders, uniforms, insurance, and an endowment contribution. The choir fee covers the cost of rehearsals and lessons. Some financial assistance is available for families that qualify. We want to make the North Star Boys' Choir experience available to every boy. If cost is a barrier to your son's participation, contact a staff member.

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| • Registration (all boys) | \$90 annually |
| • Music Magic | \$35 / mo. Sep to May (\$315 total) |
| • Cadet Choir | \$55 / mo. Sep to May (\$495 total) |
| • Regional tour (Cadet Choir) | est. \$250 |
| • Choir camp (Cadet and Viking Choirs) | \$200 before Jun 1; \$225 after |
| • Day camp (optional) | \$45 |
| • NSBC polo shirt (all boys) | \$18 |

Staff

Francis Stockwell

Artistic Director

Dr. Crystal Rossow

Accompanist, Organist, and Program Director

Miller LaMotte

Associate Conductor and Prefect

Bob Staricka

Program Coordinator

Rebecca Matheson

Choir Manager

Jonathan Kirkham

Marketing Director

Parent Volunteers

Many hands make light work. We invite you to share your professional skills and talents to help make the organization run smoothly. Contact a staff member if you'd like to contribute. Thank you for your interest in the North Star Boys' Choir!