

HARTFORD CHORALE



About

Founded in 1972, Hartford Chorale is a volunteer, not-for-profit organization committed to presenting beautiful masterpieces of great choral art throughout southern New England and beyond.

The Chorale performs with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, and also collaborates with the New Haven Symphony, Waterbury Symphony, The Yale School of Music, The Hartt School, Opera Theater of Connecticut, and other choruses, orchestras and ensembles throughout the region.

Its dedicated members are avocational singers with professional-quality voices and include musicians, teachers, students, doctors, lawyers, engineers and many more from all walks of life. They are supported by a small core of professional vocalists. They live throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts, and work in many of the corporations in the region.

Hartford Chorale is governed by a volunteer board, a diverse and impressive group of individuals with a wide range of business and musical experiences. They have a singular vision to keep the Chorale moving forward using our Four-Point Chorale Strategic Planning Framework. Many of the board members also sing in the Chorale.

Community

Approximately 6,000 audience members attend Chorale performances each season in concert halls and churches throughout Connecticut. Potential members are introduced to the Chorale through open rehearsals, and public 'conclaves' provide community enrichment and educational experiences. The Chorale participates in benefit concerts and local festivals - including *Make Music Hartford*, and tours internationally, a highlight of the Chorale singing experience.

Listen

The Chorale performs works ranging in style from quiet acapella motets to great oratorios and everything in between – classic to contemporary. Some of our 'greatest hits' include:

Bach – St. John Passion, Mass in B Minor, Christmas Oratorio
Beethoven – Missa Solemnis, Symphony No. 9 (Choral), Mass in C
Brahms – Requiem (under the baton of Robert Shaw in 1989)
Brubeck – Joy in the Morning
Handel – Messiah (an almost annual event)
McCartney – Liverpool Oratorio
Mozart - Requiem, Mass in C
Orff – Carmina Burana

Sing

Join the Chorale and experience the exhilaration of performing with a professional level chorus first hand. Auditions for new members are held several times throughout the season for candidates with choral experience. Intern scholarships for talented high school and college students are also available. For audition and internship info, visit hartfordchorale.org/auditions, hartfordchorale.org/internships.

Support

Regardless of how you choose to participate with Hartford Chorale, it will make a world of difference to your frame of mind and spirit! Together as one, our voices create harmony, togetherness, and a sense of contributing to a whole greater than ourselves.

Your support is a clear endorsement of the vital role Hartford Chorale and the arts play in our community. Help us keep vibrant choral music alive. Visit us at hartfordchorale.org/support.

Hartford Chorale is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.



**“You express, when you sing,
your soul in song.”**

– John Rutter



Singing and listening to choral music is a joyous, thrilling experience! It has been said that music is at the center of what it means to be human and that singing is at the heart of much of our human communication, both within ourselves and with others. But it is choral singing that is the ultimate, radiant, timeless expression of our need to ‘commune.’ Because, as choral singers and music lovers know so well, our combined human voices have the power and capacity to move the soul.

Music Director



Since 2005, Richard Coffey has conducted the Chorale and the Hartford Symphony in concerts of major works in Hartford’s Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts. He has led the Chorale on several international tours in Asia and Europe. Mr. Coffey was the Minister of Music for

South Church in New Britain, Connecticut for 45 years. He has served on the faculties of the Hartt School and of the University of Connecticut. From 1988 until 1993, he was Chorus Master for the Connecticut Opera Association. From 1974 until 2014, he served as Artistic Director of CONCORA. He has earned numerous awards recognizing his contributions to the arts in greater Hartford and beyond.

Assistant Music Director



Assistant Music Director, Jack Anthony Pott, is a highly respected soloist, voice teacher, clinician and conductor throughout the region. He has been a featured tenor soloist with many ensembles in Connecticut. In addition, he

is currently the Director of Music & Arts at Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford and is a member of the music faculty at Central Connecticut State University.



Press Raves

“...the real superstars of the evening were the members of the Hartford Chorale...” *Hartford Courant*

“The Hartford Chorale gave a compelling performance... [with] demonstrated power and intensity.”
Hartford Courant

“...sizzling...a performance that was gutsy, fierce and amazingly tender...” *Hartford Courant*

“The chorus...sang a rainbow of colors.” *Hartford Courant*

Audience Raves

“...performers on a grand scale, with exceptional voices, that express and stimulate powerful emotions.”

“The finale had me out of my seat. AMEN!”

“The standing ovation and the three curtain calls tell the story!”

Member Raves

“A rehearsal with the Chorale is like being transported to another place and time – away from the demands of ‘real life’ ...into notes and phrases, tempi and harmonies, that blend together to make something remarkable happen”

“I love every minute of rehearsals - from the vocal stretches and warm-ups to the last musical phrase of the night.”

“A real benefit was...improving my musicianship, and gaining a broader set of musical experiences. I am so grateful to be a part of the Chorale.”

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