

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit

The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc.
5450 Buena Vista Street #100, Roeland Park, KS 66205 913.488.7524
Mail@FestivalSingers.org www.ChoralFoundation.org

Friday, 1 March 2024

SUMMER SINGERS OF LEE'S SUMMIT REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Dear Singing Friends,

I write to invite you to be a part of the 2024 Summer Singers of Lee's Summit, a summer of singing that promises to be among the most exciting arts events of the year in Lee's Summit and beyond. Music Director Jennifer Lahasky, now in her third season, is bringing the MISA CRIOLLA of 20th century Argentinian composer Ariel Ramirez to our community.

Our primary work will be the MISA CRIOLLA of Ariel Ramirez. It is a work that exudes unbounded joy. It features an ensemble of wind and percussion instruments in the tradition of the mountains of Argentina and the exuberance of the Hispanic tradition. The Summer Singers will ne joined in performance also by soloist Daniel Baker and by members of Kansas City's Voces Festivas.

Rehearsals will be Thursday evenings, 7:00-9:30, in the Choir Room of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 416 SE Grand Avenue in downtown Lee's Summit, beginning June 6. Our dress rehearsal with guest artists will be Saturday, July 27, 9:00-noon. There will be two concerts, Sunday afternoon, July 28, at 4:00 PM, and Monday Evening, July 29, at 7:30 PM.

If you have not been singing regularly in recent months, you might be concerned about getting your voice back in shape before joining Summer Singers rehearsal. Dr. Jamea Sale, Director of the Institute for Healthy Singing & Voice Research (IHS&VR), has been hard at work creating a series of instructions and exercises to address those very issues. There will be abundant resources offered as a part of Summer Singers membership and there will be the option for joining in additional classes through IHS&VR.

Tuition for 2024 is unchanged from last season: \$95, or \$85 if paid by May 1. Students, and members of ACDA, AGO, MMEA, KMEA and/or NafME will enjoy an any-time tuition of \$70. This tuition helps cover the cost of staff, music scores, royalties, programs, orchestral musicians, promotion and concert production expenses. As a Core Value, the Choral Foundation will not deny participation to anyone because of inability to pay tuition. We do ask, however, that a request for tuition assistance ONLY be made if the need is genuine.

You may register by completing the form enclosed with this letter and mailing it with your tuition check to the Choral Foundation office. Or, if you prefer to use your credit card, you may register online at www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow. Please register today, and please forward this opportunity to every singing friend you know.

Soli Deo Gloria,
William O. Baker, DMA
Founder & Head of the Choral Foundation

THE 2024 SUMMER SINGERS OF LEE'S SUMMIT FAQ

Who is invited to participate in Summer Singers?

All adults regardless of their musical background are invited to sing. No audition is required. Mature youth in grades 9-12 are invited to participate. Youth under the age of 16 may participate only if a parent or guardian is a registered, participating member of the Summer Singers. The program is not recommended for youth under the age of 12.

What is the schedule of rehearsals and concerts?

TH	June	6:	7:00-9:30	Rehearsal 1	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
TH	June	13:	7:00-9:30	Rehearsal 2	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
TH	June	20:	7:00-9:30	Rehearsal 3	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
TH	June	27:	7:00-9:30	Rehearsal 4	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
TH	July	11:	7:00-9:30	Rehearsal 5	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
TH	July	18:	7:00-9:30	Rehearsal 6	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
TH	July	25:	7:00-9:30	Rehearsal 7	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
ST	July	27:	9:00-Noon	Final Rehearsal w/Guests	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
SU	July	28:	2:00 Call/4:00	Concert I	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
MN	July	29:	6:15 Call/7:30	Concert II	St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Where are rehearsals located?

All rehearsals and our performance will be in the Choir Room of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 416 SE Grand Avenue in Lee's Summit, Missouri. There is free off-street parking on the church property and in a lot across the street.

What is the tuition, and where does the money go?

Tuition for the 2024 Summer Singers of Lee's Summit is \$95, or \$85 if paid before May 1. A special rate of \$70 is available for Students and Choral Directors (members of ACDA, AGO, MMEA, KMEA or NafME). Those electing to pay tuition early enable the Foundation to save money by making purchases in advance of need. Tuition helps fund the Choral Foundation, paying staff salaries, promotional mailings and announcements, printed materials and music scores. For the record, tuition payments and concert donations pay only a small portion of these expenses. The balance is made up by generous gifts to the Choral Foundation and the Summer Singers of Lee's Summit from individuals and organizations. **Tuition is NOT refundable for any reason**, but may be applied to any future Summer Singers if you are unable to participate.

What is the Choral Foundation?

The Choral Foundation is a national organization founded in Atlanta in 1990. It is best known in Kansas City, where it is now headquartered, as the sponsoring organization for The William Baker Festival Singers and the Summer Singers of Kansas City, and the Summer Singers of Lee's Summit, along with the Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library and the Institute for Healthy Singing & Voice Research. In all, the ensembles of the Choral Foundation will register over 600 men, women and youth in the course of the year. The Choral Foundation is a 501-c-3 tax exempt corporation of the State of Kansas, licenced to conduct business in Georgia, Illinois and Missouri. Visit our website at www.ChoralFoundation.org or www.Guidestar.org/profiles/48-1214336 to learn more.

What if I can't pay tuition?

The By-Laws and Core Values of the Choral Foundation (read them at www.ChoralFoundation.org) direct that no one will ever be denied the benefits of the Choral Foundation based on ability to pay. Full tuition assistance, partial tuition assistance and extended tuition payment arrangements are available upon request. We rely on an honor system and ask that singers make application ONLY in case of genuine need.

I would love to sing, but my family will be away on vacation and I might miss one or two rehearsals.

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit is, obviously, a "summer" chorus. We realize that summer is the vacation season and that most members may miss a rehearsal. We ask that every member do their very best to be present for all rehearsals possible and that, to the extent of their ability, every singer practices his/her music at home between rehearsals.

I sang in choir in high school and college, but I am WAY out of practice. Is there any program that will help me learn my music? Is my out-of-practice voice going to be a problem?

One of the great things about the Summer Singers is that it gives singers a chance to get their voices back in shape, or keep them in shape during the traditional off-season. Sectional rehearsals are held periodically to help singers learn their part. We would also recommend that singers purchase a recording of the scheduled works. Listening to a quality recording will help you understand how the parts fit together. It will also increase your excitement for the concerts.

May I enroll in both the Summer Singers of Lee's Summit and the Summer Singers of Kansas City?

Yes! Of course. The Summer Singers of Kansas City will be performing Ernest Bloch's AVODATH HAKODESH. Or "Sacred Service.". Rehearsals are Tuesday nights in downtown Kansas City, beginning June 11, with dress rehearsal and concert the same day, Sunday, August 25 in Helzberg Hall of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Tuition is the same. Enrolling in an additional summer chorus will require payment of tuition for the second program.

What do singers wear for concerts?

Men are asked to wear a dark suit with a white shirt with long dark tie. Women are asked to wear a black dress, or black blouse with black trousers. All are asked to wear black shoes. You do not need to purchase any attire for Summer Singers' concerts. Get as close as you can with items from your own closet. However, ALL SINGERS are asked to refrain from fragrances at ANY rehearsal or concert.

More Questions? Call the Choral Foundation Home Office at 913-488-7524, or email Mail@FestivalSingers.org Information about the Summer Singers, and registration materials can be found at www.ChoralFoundation.org.

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY GREAT MUSIC
FEEL FREE TO COPY AND DISTRIBUTE THIS INFORMATION FAR AND WIDE

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
THE SUMMER SINGERS OF LEE'S SUMMIT**

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit

A Program of The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc.

5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, Kansas 66205 Office: 913-488-7524

E-mail: Mail@FestivalSingers.org Internet: www.ChoralFoundation.org

TENTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON REGISTRATION - 2024

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Name _____

Voice Part: S1 S2 A1 A2 T1 T2 B1 B2

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Do you presently sing with a local community chorus and/or church choir? Yes No

If so, please list the name(s) of the choir(s) and the conductor(s):

Choir _____ Conductor _____

Choir _____ Conductor _____

Are there any Thursday evening rehearsals between June 6 & July 29 that you know now you must miss?

If so, please CIRCLE the dates here:

June 6 June 13 June 20 June 27

July 11 July 18 July 25 July 27 (dress) July 28 (concert) July 29 (concert)

Your signature is a commitment to participate in the 2024 Summer Singers of Lee's Summit. If possible, please include your check with this registration. If necessary, however, you may pay tuition at the first rehearsal or apply for tuition assistance. Though unexpected, the Choral Foundation reserves the right to change announced repertoire, instrumentation and soloists if such becomes necessary.

Signature/Date _____

Please make your check payable to: **Summer Singers of Lee's Summit** and mail it to:

The William Baker Choral Foundation, 5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, KS 66205

_____ \$95 tuition (\$85 PAID before May 1) enclosed _____ (\$70 Student/Director)

_____ Pay at First Rehearsal _____ Tuition Assistance Information Requested

*** Prefer to use your credit card? Please register online at www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow***

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit

JENNIFER LAHASKY, MME, Music Director & Conductor

OUR 10th ANNIVERSARY SUMMER OF SINGING

Ariel Ramirez

MISA CRIOLLA

**Rehearsals Thursday Evenings, 7:00-9:30, beginning June 6
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
416 SE Grand Avenue in historic downtown Lee's Summit, MO**

Tuition Only \$95, or \$85 if paid by May 1
(\$70 Students & Members of ACDA, AGO, MMEA, KMEA or NafME)
Confidential Tuition Assistance Available In Cases of Need
Participation in Both Lee's Summit & Kansas City Summer Singers Welcome

NO AUDITION REQUIRED

Adult Singers & Mature Youth 16 & Older
Call 913-488-7524 or e-mail Mail@FestivalSingers.org
Register online at www.ChoralFoundation/registernow

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit is an ensemble of The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc.