



AMC Chorister Newsletter - August 9, 2023

***First Chorale Rehearsal: September 11 at 7:00 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church, Phoenix***

Dear C. C.,

Some important things for you:

- AMC Choristers are invited to the Melisma Bootcamp
- The Chorister News and Information Page
- The 2023-2024 Concert Season calendar and highlights
- Music Staff news
- Fundraising: "Hamiltons for Handel!"

PLEASE NOTE:

This is a long newsletter with lots of information for you about the Arizona Masterworks Chorale's upcoming 2023-2024 season. Please resist the temptation to TL;DR it, and keep it for reference throughout the year.



Melisma Bootcamp

All AMC volunteer choristers are invited to attend a **Melisma Bootcamp** as guests of the Chorale, to be led by Dutch soprano and Arizona Bach Festival favorite Josefien Stoppelenburg.,

Saturday, September 23, 9:00 to 11:00 AM
St. Barnabas on the Desert Episcopal Church
6715 North Mockingbird Lane, Scottsdale

Course topics include:

Lighter sound – Articulating with the throat: “word painting”
Breathing for steady airflow and long phrases

AMC's 2023-2024 Concert Season

The Second Annual Messiah Sing-Along, plus three great AMC concerts with innovative new works, and several Arizona premieres.

[Click here for more info on dates, venues, and programs](#)



The Chorister News and Info Web Page

Chorister news and information are on the AMC website at <https://arizonamasterworks.com/amc-chorister-news/>

- Up-to-date season calendar, including all rehearsal dates, venues, and call times (subject to revision during the season - check regularly)
- Scott's marked-up PDF scores and by-voice MP3 rehearsal tracks for every piece.
- Chorister and Music Staff roster (password required)
- Chorister Newsletter Archive (password required)

2023 – 2024 Concert Season Calendar Highlights *(note new Monday rehearsal venue)*

Rehearsals

- Regular Chorale ensemble rehearsals are from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the choir room at **All Saints' Episcopal Church**, 6300 North Central Avenue, Phoenix 85013
- Messiah Orchestra Rehearsal Friday, November 11 at 7:00 PM, Ascension Lutheran Church, 7100 North Mockingbird Lane, Paradise Valley 85373
- AMC Concert final rehearsals: Fridays before the first performance, 7:00

Concerts – Dates, Venues, and Downbeats

- **The Arts at Ascension Messiah Sing-Along (MSA23)**
November 19 at 3:00 PM at Ascension Lutheran Church
 - **AMC Christmas Concert: *In Terra Pax***
Saturday, December 9 at 7:30 PM – All Saints' Episcopal Church
Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 PM – Ascension Lutheran Church
 - **AMC Winter Concert: *English Choral Music***
Saturday, February 10 at 7:30 PM – All Saints' Episcopal Church
Sunday, February 11 at 2:00 PM – Ascension Lutheran Church
 - **AMC Spring Concert *Oceans***
Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 PM – All Saints' Episcopal Church
Sunday, May 5 at 3:00 PM – Ascension Lutheran Church
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Music Staff News

Returning as members of the AMC Music Staff in the 2023-2024 season are music director **Scott Youngs**, collaborative pianist **Olga Gorelik**, music librarian **Cheryl Burton**, soprano section leader **Adrienne Goglia**, and alto section leader **Mackenzie Nelson**. Joining us this season are tenor section leaders **Elijah Frank** and **J.R. Momeyer**, and bass section leaders **Patrick West** and **Sague Molina**.

Fundraising

Background

The Arizona Masterworks Chorale, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit Arizona member-managed corporation supported by ticket sales, grants, and donations.

Volunteer choristers pay membership dues of \$125 per season, deductible as a charitable contribution, to help underwrite Chorale expenses. All volunteer choristers in good standing are “members of the corporation,” eligible to vote on candidates for the Board of Directors and responsible for supporting AMC’s strategic objectives of artistic and operational growth.

Artistic growth means upholding our standards of artistic excellence and improving the musicianship of each member and the ensemble. Operational growth focuses on long-term financial and organizational sustainability. (See the [AMC Strategic Plan](#) posted on our website.)

In practice, that means working on notes, words, and vocal techniques on your own and coming to rehearsals well-prepared so our time together can focus on interpretation, expression, and preparation for performance. And it means supporting AMC's operational health through donations (cash and in-kind) and volunteering that best uses your resources and skills.

2023-2024 Season Fundraising

The upcoming season is crucial for AMC as we build on the last two years' successes and take our sound to the next level.

To meet our anticipated expenses, we have a goal of raising \$25,000 for the season, in addition to grants and pledges already in hand. That means every volunteer chorister will need to participate in AMC fundraising activities throughout the season. Here are just some of the opportunities:

- Publicizing concerts and doing pre-sale of tickets in your personal networks.
- Making individual cash donations to our ongoing ["Making Music Better"](#) campaign.
- Soliciting [advertisers](#) for concert programs and on the AMC website.
- Soliciting [sponsorships](#) for individual musicians and events.
- Participating in focused, small-amount peer-to-peer fundraising campaigns.

Our First 2023-2024 Fundraising Campaign: Hamiltons for Handel!



Our first campaign of the season focuses on the first public event, the **Messiah Sing-Along (MSA23)** coming up on November 19. MSA23 is sponsored by [The Arts at Ascension](#), a partnership between AMC, [Ascension Lutheran Church](#), and the [Women's Orchestra of Arizona](#) (WOA). The event itself will be free admission with a suggested donation; proceeds collected on-site will be evenly split between AMC and WOA.

To help cover AMC's production expenses for MSA23 we'll ask our supporters to "Spare a Hamilton" – i.e., a \$10 bill. Cute, eh? (AMC covers soloists' fees, program printing, chorus vocal score preparation, A/V fees at ALC, and several other details.)

Here's how it will work:

- The campaign will run from September 1 through November 19.
- During the campaign, we'll ask donors only for a single online \$10 contribution (of course, there's always the option to give more).
- We'll set up the campaign infrastructure using some slick back-office tools, then post a link for online giving on our website and social media pages and in our E-newsletter.

Volunteer choristers can participate in two ways:

You can **send a personal email** or other note to your network of friends, family, and music lovers asking them to make a \$10 donation via the campaign website. (A good request tells the person you're asking **why** AMC is important to you, **what** they will get out of donating, and **how** their donation will impact the community.)

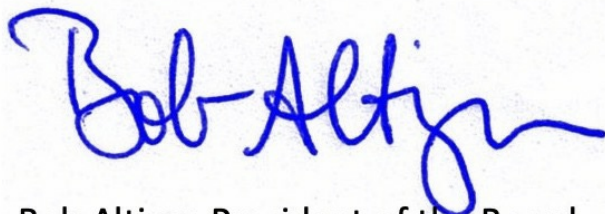
You can use the same why-what-and-how info and **set up your own personal fundraising team** using the campaign software. You can set your team's goal, choose a team name (like "Bob's Benefactors"), and even upload your own graphics (pictures, videos, recordings, etc.).

Whichever option you choose (or both!), we're asking you to contact at least 10 people or businesses **no later than September 10**, the eve of our first rehearsal of the season. Music staff members are invited to take part in the campaign as well.

How to participate in the campaign, including why-what=how suggestions, will be distributed to choristers by August 15.

**THANKS FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS IN MAKING AMC AN
OUTSTANDING MUSICAL ORGANIZATION!**

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Altizer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Bob Altizer, President of the Board
