

The University of New Mexico Music Prep School

Julia Church Hoffman, Director

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January 17, 2017

Dear Families of the UNM Children's Chorus,

Welcome back for another semester of singing! **Our first rehearsal is Wednesday, January 25, at 5:15** in the UNM Center for the Arts (Popejoy Hall building).

Haven't registered yet? <http://music.unm.edu/community/music-prep-school/>

Regular Rehearsal Schedule

- Farolito Singers (kindergarten & 1st grade) - 5:15-6:15
- Lobo Choir (2nd – 5th grades) - 5:15-6:30
- Mid/High School Chorus (6th – 12th grades) - 5:15-6:45

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, January 25, 2017 and with the concert on May 10, 2017. There will be no classes on March 15 and March 22.

SPECIAL Music Prep School event Saturday, February 25!!

MPS Talks! Music in the Lives of Children – It Matters

Stay tuned for more information, or go to our website: musicprep.unm.edu

Parents: *Learn to Play the Ukulele while you wait for your singer!* Do something for *yourself!* Sign up for Dr. Robin Giebelhausen's ukulele class on Wednesdays, 5:30-6:15. Learning ukulele is the perfect way to spend time while your singer is in rehearsal. You don't need to be able to read music but you do need to be willing to have a great time! Sign up now!

On Wednesday, January 25, we'll all meet in the Popejoy Lobby. Each choir will have a designated gathering spot where you can meet conductors etc. UNM Music Prep School staff will be around to help you find the right group. We will all head to our rehearsal spots so we can start at 5:15. Parents are welcome to attend the first rehearsal.

Open House, Wednesday, February 1, 5:15 PM - Our open house is the 2nd week of rehearsals in Keller Hall. It'll be fun and informative and will help you stay connected with what's going on this semester with the UNM Children's Chorus.

Polo Shirts - For concerts, all singers will wear UNM Children's Choir Polo shirts with black skirts or slacks. If you got one last semester, you're all set. *All new singers joining us this semester will need to order a shirt. Please be sure to give your singer's shirt size to the UNM Music Prep School administration. We will be in the lobby at the start of all rehearsals.* Choir shirts are \$12.00 and you can pay for them when they arrive. Singers will not be allowed to perform without the choir polo shirt and black skirt/pants.

Parking & Drop off-Pick up Service - Beginning Wednesday, February 1, you have two options for getting your child to and from rehearsals:

Option ONE: Park and walk your singer into the building. Parking is available on campus at metered spots or in the Cornell Parking Structure for \$1.75.hour. Payment is by credit or debit card *only*. Pay at one of the kiosks in the lot or structure. Do not park in unmetered parking, or you will be ticketed. Remember that there are often shows in Popejoy Hall and loads of campus activities that might affect parking availability.

Option TWO: Use our Drop off-Pick up service on the south end of Johnson Field on Redondo Drive. **Drop off/Pick up service starts on February 1 for all choirs:**

- **Drop Off Time - 4:55-5:05:** Our UNM Music Education students will be at the field in orange safety vests to escort singers to the building. DO NOT drop off your child until you see one of our interns. If you arrive after 5:05 and there is no one at the field, you will need to park your car and escort your child into the building. Rehearsals begin at promptly 5:15.
- **Pick Up Times - 10-15 minutes after your child's rehearsal ends.** Please be on time to pick up your child. It takes us about 10-15 minutes to get out to the field after our rehearsal. While you wait along Redondo Dr., *stay with your vehicle or it will be ticketed.* Johnson Field is well used during this time. Be aware of flying objects, such as soccer balls or Frisbees. The UNM Music Prep School is not responsible for any parking tickets or damages to your vehicle.

Please note: We try to keep you up to date, as much as possible. We mostly communicate by email. Please check your email for our updates. **QUICK TIP: Add the Music Prep School to your contact list (musprep@unm.edu), so our emails don't end up in your spam folder!** We also send fliers home with your singer. We are looking forward to seeing everyone on the January 25th! Please contact the Music Prep School if you need more information.



Julia Church Hoffman, Director, UNM Music Prep School
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-- See next page for a letter from Regina Carlow, our Artistic Director --

January 17, 2017

Dear UNM Children's Chorus Families,

Thank you for a wonderful season. With our last concert, we closed out our 10th Anniversary year with an extremely high-performance level from each of the three choirs. The Spring 2017 season will mark the start of our 2nd decade of accessible singing experiences for the children of all ages in Albuquerque. We hope you will all join us and bring your friends!

Chorus starts at the regular time on Wednesday January 25th. On Wednesday February 1st, we'll all gather in Keller Hall at 5:15 for our open house to give a preview of the semester. As always, new singers are welcome through the third rehearsal (Feb 8th).

Because of my increased teaching load next semester, I will be turning more of the Mid/High School Singers rehearsals over to graduate assistant and certified teacher, Megan Quintana and UNM music education intern, Garrett Keith. I will be onsite through most of the rehearsals; I will prepare some of the music and will continue to oversee all the choirs as the artistic director. Julia Church Hoffman, director of Music Prep School, is also involved in new projects with Music Prep and is turning over the Farolito Singers to Katie Dukes Walker. Katie currently teaches our preschool singing class, *Fun with Singing*, on Saturdays at the Music Prep School. She has worked in early childhood settings as a Montessori teacher/guide, is currently a private voice teacher and is an accomplished performer. We welcome Katie to our UNMCC family and we look forward to a fun semester.

In addition to our all-choir final concert in Keller Hall on May 10, we have a couple additional performance opportunities for the Lobo Choir and the Mid/High School Singers. On Saturday, February 25, the Lobo Choir, directed by Penny Voss, has been invited to participate in the Music Prep School's *MPS Talks!* They will work on stage with the fabulous, world-renowned British vocal ensemble, *Voces8*. On May 7 in Santa Fe's Lensic Theater, the Mid/High School Singers choir has again been invited to perform as the choir in residence for the *Lifesongs Project 2017*, produced by the Academy for the Love of Learning in Santa Fe. I will be teaching the Lifesongs music and will accompany the choir on this trip. Watch for more information about both these events soon.

Meanwhile, please mark your calendars for our final concert on May 10th for all three choirs in Keller Hall at 6:30 PM.

We look forward to a great semester of singing together,

Regina Carlow, Ph.D.
Artistic Director, UNM Children's Chorus
Professor, Music
Associate Dean, College of Fine Arts