

Dear Families of the UNM Children's Chorus,

We are writing to welcome many new faces as well as familiar singers, teachers and interns to the UNM Children's Chorus.

First Rehearsal

Our first rehearsal is Wednesday August 31st at 5:15.

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

Haven't registered yet?

<http://music.unm.edu/community/music-prep-school/>

New For 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! Who knows, we may feature you in one of our concerts. Sign up now: musicprep.unm.edu

Annual Open House, Wednesday, September 7, 5:15 PM

Our annual open house is the first opportunity we have to work together as a musical community of K-12 singers, college students and conductors. We'll do this the 2nd week of rehearsals. It's a lot of fun, informative and will help you stay connected with what's going on this semester with the UNM Children's Chorus. Just a run down –

On September 7, bring your child to the Popejoy Lobby any time between 5:00 and 5:10. Each choir will have a designated gathering spot where you can meet conductors etc. and UNM students and UNM Music Prep School staff will be around to help you find the right group. At a little before 5:15, we'll all move down to Kurt Frederick Hall (B120). There we'll have introductions and a few large group activities. At 5:45 choirs will move to their rehearsal rooms to begin working. Parents are invited to observe the first and second rehearsals, 8/31 or 9/7. As always, we will accept new singers through September 14. After September 14, rehearsals are closed to parents and visitors without special permission from your child's conductor.

Polo Shirts

All three choirs will wear UNM Children's Choir Polo shirts with Black Skirts or Slacks for Concert Wear. Families are responsible for ordering and purchasing these shirts through the UNM Music Prep School.

Please be sure to sign up for your singer's size with Laurie from the UNM Music Prep School. She'll be in the lobby at the start of all rehearsals. Choir shirts are \$12.00 and you must pay for them before taking them home. Look for an announcement from UNM Music Prep about the Polo Shirt arrival dates. Singers will not be allowed to perform without the Choir Polo shirt and black skirt/pants.

Drop-off/Pick Up Service

We offer a drop-off/pick-up service so parents don't have to park at UNM. We won't offer it the first two weeks. We ask that you park and bring your singer to the Popejoy Lobby on the first Wednesday, August 31, and on September 7 so you can attend the Open House. **See the end of this letter for more information** about parking on campus and the drop off/pick up service.

Low Ropes Challenge for the Mid/High School Chorus!

We anticipate many new singers in the **Mid/High School Chorus** and as a way to help us start working together as a team and choir we have arranged for the entire group to participate in the Low Ropes Challenge Course at Johnson Center on **September 14th from 5:15-8:30**. We hope everyone will participate in this activity. Note, this is a longer rehearsal than usual and we will not offer the Pick Up Service for Mid/High School group that evening. Singers should wear comfortable clothing for optimal moving and climbing. We will be outside – so please make sure your child is wearing a jacket if the

weather is cooler. Everyone should bring a water bottle. Because we'll be getting out late, we recommend singers eat dinner before coming to UNM. This event is run by athletic trainers from UNM's Physical Education program and will be supervised by: Ms Regina; a graduate assistant and several UNM Interns. You will receive detailed information and a permission form at the first two rehearsals. The cost of this event will be paid by UNM Children's Chorus - there is no fee to singers but singers will not be allowed to participate in the Low Ropes Challenge Course without signed parental/guardian permission and a medical release form. You will receive more information about this fun activity at rehearsal on 8/31.

UNMCC sings *Carmina Burana*!

We are thrilled that the Lobo Choir and the Mid/High School Choir will join the UNM University Orchestra and Chorus in performance of Carl Orff's spectacular *Carmina Burana* for Chorus, Soloists and Orchestra on Wednesday December 7th at 7:30 PM in Popejoy Hall. Tickets will be available at <https://www.unmtickets.com/> Please note (below) there are 3+ extra rehearsal associated with this performance. Times may vary slightly but we are sensitive that your children put in very long days before they get to us. Check your calendars now for any date conflicts.

Winter Concert for ALL Choirs: Farolito Singers, Lobo Choir and Mid/High School Choir

Our Winter Concert is **Wednesday December 14 at 6:30 PM in Keller Hall**. This concert will feature music with hammered dulcimer and other folk instruments. We are working out details with guest artists and repertoire but we're sure this concert will be one to remember! Because we are working on two concerts this semester, we stress that attendance at every rehearsal is essential. If your child has to miss more than 2 rehearsals due to illness or a family emergency, please, let us know. If your child misses more than 3 rehearsals, he/she may not be able to participate in one or both of the concerts. Please stay in touch with u about what is going on with your child through the Music Prep School 505-277-8816 or musprep@unm.edu We want this to be a good experience for all.

Information about Parking on Wednesdays and about the Drop off/Pick up Service

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.

- **Beginning Wednesday, September 14** you have three options for getting your child to and from rehearsals:

Option ONE: You may park and walk your child into the building. Again, metered parking around campus or parking in the Cornell Parking Structure costs \$1.75/hour. Do not park in unmetered parking, or you will be ticketed.

Option TWO: You may utilize our pick up and drop off service on the south end of Johnson Field on Redondo Drive.

Option THREE: Many of our High School Singers are driving cars to campus. Please let us know if this is the case and we'll be on the lookout for them. The best and safest option for your young drivers is to park in the Cornell Parking Structure across from Popejoy. Remind your young driver to start early – there are often shows in Popejoy and loads of campus activities that might affect parking availability.

If you choose Option Two, Drop off/Pick up– this service starts on September 14 for all choirs:

- **Drop Off Time - 4:55-5:05:** UNM Music Education students will be at the field in orange safety vests to escort singers to the Center for the Arts 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. Please do not let your child walk unescorted to the building.
- **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. Again – we will NOT offer pick up service for the Mid/High School group on September 14 due to the Low Ropes Challenge Course. You will need to arrange to pick up your child after the LOW ropes challenge.

That's it for now. Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 31st! Please call the Music Prep School if you need more information.

Regina Carlow, Ph.D.
Artistic Director, UNM Children's Choirs

Julia Church Hoffman
Director, UNM Music Prep School
musprep@unm.edu or (505)277-8816

**UNMCC Fall 2016
Rehearsal Schedule**

| Date | Event | Location | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8/31 | Open House | Keller Hall | Families and friends are welcome in rehearsal! |
| 9/7 | Regular Rehearsal | Music Department Classrooms | |
| 9/14 | Regular Rehearsal for Farolitos and Lobo Choir | Low Ropes Challenge Course for Mid/High School | Mid/High School Choir meet in Popejoy Lobby – 5:15-8:30 pick up in Popejoy Lobby |
| 9/21 | Regular Rehearsal – All choirs | | |
| 9/28 | Regular Rehearsal – All choirs | | |
| 10/5 | Regular Rehearsal – All choirs | | |
| 10/12 | No Rehearsal – UNM Fall Break | | |
| 10/19 | Regular Rehearsal – All choirs | | |
| 10/26 | Regular Rehearsal – All choirs | | |
| 11/2 | Regular Rehearsal – All choirs | | |
| 11/9 | Regular Rehearsal – All choirs | | |
| 11/16 | Regular Rehearsal | | Maestro Jorge Perez Gomez will work with Lobo and Mid/high Choirs on Carmina Burana Music |
| 11/22 | TUESDAY 6:30-8:30 Lobo and Mid/High School Choir Only | B120 | Carmina Burana |
| 11/23 | No rehearsal - Thanksgiving Break | | |
| 11/29 Mandatory | TUESDAY – 6:30-8:30 Lobo and Mid/High School Only | B120 | Carmina Burana |
| 11/30 | Regular Rehearsal – All Choirs | | |
| 12/6 | TUESDAY – Call Time TBA – Dress Rehearsal for Camina Burana | Popejoy Hall | Carmina Burana |
| 12/7 | Regular Rehearsal for all Lobo and Mid/High School Group Stay for Performance 7:30 PERFORMANCE Carmina Burana | Popejoy Hall | Lobo and Mid/High School Choirs should bring dinner to eat between rehearsal and performance |
| 12/14 | UNMCC Winter Concert 6:30 – ALL CHOIRS | Keller Hall | Free Performance Reception following in Lobby |