

AC & C 2024 EDUCATION CLASSES

DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse – East Syracuse, NY
Sunday, May 5, 2024

Classes are held in the Adams Basin and Bushnells Basin rooms. The Quartet Development Room will be held in Dewitt Basin.

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Class 1: Listening vs Hearing, Watching vs Believing - It's All About Performance! – with Angie Dolber (Certified Performance Judge). In this class we'll talk about the basics of the Performance Category and how the other two categories can enhance the performance experience as well. By looking at various performances, and even trying a little ourselves, we'll talk about words like artistry, authenticity, and how you can truly entertain the audience. *Location: Bushnells Basin*

Class 2: Getting Out of the Rut – with Cary Burns (Certified Music Judge). Getting out of a rut is different than simply improving. Breaking free of our usual patterns is often the first step in improvement. Have you ever worked hard to get better, but feel like you're not breaking through to the next level? Have you focused on excelling in contest to find that you are getting approximately the same scores? Do you rehearse the same way each week? This class will examine ruts and how we can free ourselves from them so we can create new paths. *Location: Adams Basin*

QUARTET DEVELOPMENT ROOM

Have you ever wanted to try out quartet singing but weren't sure how to start? Come by the Quartet Development Room to meet other members looking for potential quartets and sing some tags together! We'll be teaching a few easy tags, giving you a fun and easy way to quickly try out a little taste of quartet harmony. *Location: Dewitt Basin*

10:10 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.

Class 1: LET'S RING SOME CHORDS! – Wendy McCoole (Certified Judge). In this hands-on class we will dive into the different SNG elements – intonation, vocal quality, unity, expansion, and vocal expression – to gain a better understanding of the importance of each to (and things that get in the way of) ringing those barbershop chords. *Location: Bushnells Basin*

Class 2: Membership Growth: How to attract new singers to your chorus! – with Adele Merritt (Certified Music Judge). Are you ready to share your great chorus with interested singers in your area? Are you wondering how to grow your membership? Come and join this class to find out how the Valley Voices A Cappella Chorus in Area 1 generated massive membership growth in just two years, blossoming from 24 members on the risers in March 2022 to 66 members in March 2024! *Location: Adams Basin*

11:20 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Class 1: Where All Women Can Belong: A Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Roundtable – with Anita Prather Harvell (Area 3 Harmony, Inc. Equity and Diversity Committee representative). Harmony, Inc. members and chorus leaders are invited to participate in a roundtable discussion on strategies to create a more inclusive musical environment.

The group will collaborate on topics such as (subject to change):

- What expectations do singers have concerning diverse relationships in their performing groups?
- How do we create welcoming spaces for those new to our organization?
- Speaking the language: Common terms in DEI, access and belonging efforts
- Why do we need to incorporate DEI into our chorus culture?

Panel members: Sue Melvin. Participants are invited to submit questions prior to the session for discussion.

Location: Bushnells Basin

Class 2: The Mysterious Voice – with Jen Wheaton (Certified Singing Judge). Ever wonder what the “voice box” is? What is a Larynx? Or is it pronounced “larnyx”? Is there a difference between vocal cord and vocal fold? Do I absolutely have to breathe to sing? What is “support”? As human beings, we naturally learn to use our voices, but we don’t necessarily learn how it all works. To better understand what coaches and directors are asking us to do with our voices, it’s really helpful to know what it all is and how it works. Bring your nerd-selves to this class and you will learn all about it! *Location: Adams Basin*

