



## Mission Statement

The mission of the District 279 Children's Chorus is to recognize and serve gifted/talented vocal music students so that they may further develop musical competencies, contribute to community through performance, and be inspired to pursue future musical interests. District 279 chorus members, found in all the diverse cultures of our community, are those children who demonstrate high vocal music skills relative to others of their age, experience or environment.

## Children's Chorus Staff

### Rick Drake—Co-Director

Mr. Drake has conducted choirs of all ages, ranging from elementary to adult. Besides conducting choirs, he composes and arranges choral music and has a private piano studio. Prior to teaching in our district, Mr. Drake taught in the Robbinsdale Area School district and in upstate New York. He is currently the choir teacher at Maple Grove Middle School.

### Rachel Veenker—Co-Director

Mrs. Veenker has taught music in our district for over 30 years, and currently teaches at Cedar Island. Mrs. Veenker was a singer in the Children's Chorus.

### Kelly Kadlec—Accompanist

Kelly Kadlec has been playing the piano professionally since she was just 15. After over 30 years of accompanying, she is excited to play many styles of music for D279CC. Kelly is the music director for St. George church as well as the music director for local community theatre projects.



*One must sing  
with the sun in one's voice."  
-Luciano Pavoratti*



## Contact Information

Contact District 279 Children's Chorus Staff with any questions, concerns, or if assistance is needed to meet any of the requirements.

[veenker@district279.org](mailto:veenker@district279.org) or [draker@district279.org](mailto:draker@district279.org)

763-425-5855 ex 82115

Please leave a message. Someone will call or email you within the week.



Save this brochure for reference through  
March 2019

## Children's Chorus Members ...

- Come ready to sing.
- Always show good manners and respect.
- Follow directions given by every adult.
- Attend all rehearsals and performances.
- Promptly deliver messages and Chorus information to parents/guardians.



## Parents / Guardians of Children's Chorus Members ...

- Attend a parent / guardian meeting at the first rehearsal on Tuesday, November 13 at 5:30 pm in the Park Center Senior High cafeteria.  
**Enter from the Activities Entrance 7501 Noble Ave N. Brooklyn Park, MN and come in Door G.**
- Make arrangements to pick up their singer promptly at the end of rehearsals each Tuesday at 5:45 pm.
- See that their singer attends all rehearsals and concerts.
- Communicate all absences before the rehearsal or performance.
- Read printed notes sent home with their singer.

Information posted at <http://district279.org/chorus>  
Please also consider liking us on Facebook at [facebook.com/D279CC](https://www.facebook.com/D279CC).

## Children's Chorus Rehearsals

The Chorus will meet most Tuesdays school is in session, from 4:30-5:45 pm, November 13—March 12.  
**Please note: No rehearsal and no bus on Jan. 22, or March 12, 2019.** We have concerts on those evenings!

Rehearsals will be held at Park Center Sr. High.  
**Enter from the Activities Entrance 7501 Noble Av N. Brooklyn Park, MN and come in Door G.**

Directions can be found on the Park Center webpage:  
[www.district279.org/sec/pcsh/indexbig.htm](http://www.district279.org/sec/pcsh/indexbig.htm)  
(Turn north on Noble Avenue, go .4 miles and use the parking lot driveway at the tennis courts.)

**All singers must be committed to attending all rehearsals and concerts with support from their parent / guardian.**

## Transportation

Bus transportation is provided from each elementary school to Park Center Sr. High School for Tuesday rehearsals. **Parents must pick up their singer on Tuesdays at 5:45 pm at the end of rehearsals. Enter from the Activities Entrance 7501 Noble Av N. Brooklyn Park, MN and come in Door G.**

Wait in the cafeteria for your singer. Parents must also provide transportation to and from both evening concerts on January 22 and March 12. Questions or concerns may be directed to one of the Children's Chorus staff.

**Please note: No rehearsal and no bus on Jan. 22 or March 12. We have concerts on those evenings.**

## Report All Absences

[veenkerr@district279.org](mailto:veenkerr@district279.org) or [draker@district279.org](mailto:draker@district279.org)  
If e-mail is not an option call 763-425-5855 ex. 82115

## Performances

- Tuesday, Jan. 22 (7:00 pm.) - Osseo Senior High
- Tuesday, March 5 Tour Day - Concerts at a district elementary school and the State Capitol.
- Tuesday March 12 (7:00 pm) - Park Center High School.

These concerts will be free and open to the public.

## Performance Attire

Chorus members will be provided with a chorus t-shirt for concerts. Chorus members will need to provide:

- Black dress pants
- Black socks
- Black dress shoes with a low heel
- White short-sleeved undershirt

## Participation Fee

The School Board has set the participation fee for this co-curricular activity at \$180.00. Checks may be made payable to ISD 279, and are due to the Children's Chorus staff by November 28.

Students may be eligible for a full / half fee waiver based on free / reduced lunch status.

