



**Mission Statement:** Key Chorale, the Suncoast's premier symphonic chorus, is dedicated to transforming lives through innovative programming, artistic excellence, educational outreach and service to the community.

## 2025/2026 KEY CHORALE STUDENT SCHOLAR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM INTERN APPLICATION FORM

**COMPLETE THE ENTIRE APPLICATION AND ESSAY.**

**MAIL TO: Alix Giannini, 8480 Eagle Preserve Way, Sarasota, Florida 34241**

**OR SCAN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION AND ESSAY to [gianniac@comcast.net](mailto:gianniac@comcast.net).**

**BY SATURDAY, September 6, 2025**

**PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY**

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (MI) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

High School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Part \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the Year of School in 2025-2026: Sophomore, Junior or Senior (Birth Date: month/day/year): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Since the 2024-25 season, the Key Chorale **Student Scholar Leadership Program** has evolved into a three-tiered internship program. This program includes vocal technique and choral skills training and enhancement through participation in rehearsals and performances of Key Chorale. Interns will also have leadership opportunities within the organization.

The Key Chorale Internship tiers are described below. Full and partial internships will include a stipend which will be given based on attendance and the completion of a leadership task benchmark. Progress through a leadership activity will be monitored by an internship mentor who is skilled and knowledgeable in the activity.

**Leadership Intern I** (Sophomore First Year Interns) The focus of this internship will be on vocal development and choral performance. This internship will include 8 private voice lessons, mileage reimbursement, a choral mentor, master classes with professional performers and all rehearsals and performances with Key Chorale. This internship will be 7.5 months from **October-May. No stipend will be included.**

**Leadership Intern II** (Junior/Senior First Year Interns) This internship will include a focus on vocal development, choral performance, and leadership development. Intern II will receive all of the Intern I benefits plus they must complete a minimum of 2 leadership activities of their choice. This internship will be 7.5 months from **October-May. A stipend totaling \$750.00 will be awarded** in two equal payments during the season based on attendance and completion of leadership activities.

**Leadership Intern III** (Junior/Senior Second or Third-Year Interns) This internship will include a focus on vocal development, choral performance, and enhanced leadership development. Intern III will receive all of the Intern I benefits plus they must complete a minimum of 4 leadership activities of their choice. This internship will be 8.5 months from **August-May. A stipend totaling \$1,100.00 will be awarded** in two equal payments during the season based on attendance and completion of leadership activities.

Leadership opportunities will be infused into the three-tiered internship program for students to gain confidence in expressing their ideas and creativity in the operation of a community organization. These activities are designed to develop an understanding of the behind-the-scenes operation of a non-profit arts organization as well as to help students improve their communication and organizational skills. Students will be actively involved in leadership roles that may include organizational governance, strategic marketing, donor engagement and creative services.

Additional leadership activities may be added with the approval of the Education Committee Chair at the request of an intern. These leadership activities cover a broad spectrum of the organization and enable the students to work closely with a wide range of chorale members including board members, committee chairs, voice teachers, production managers, musicians, Marketing Director, Development Department and the Artistic Director. This will enable the intern to understand the organization both as a singer and as a leader behind the scenes of the rehearsals and productions.

**I have read and agree to abide by the parameters of the Student Scholar Leadership Program outline. I understand that no unexcused absences and completion of the leadership activity component including the activity reflection report is required in order to receive the full stipend award provided to the Leadership Intern II and Leadership Intern III positions.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Intern Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Intern Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

#### **REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT**

Key Chorale rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm plus special rehearsals and dress rehearsals as needed for each concert. Most rehearsals take place at the First Presbyterian Church, 2050 Oak Street, Sarasota. Key Chorale Singers are expected to commit to the full season of the Chorale.

**Key Chorale may modify how rehearsals, etc. will take place, if needed.**

Please use the following space to list any school or extracurricular commitments you have that might prevent you from regularly attending rehearsals: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Rehearsals will be held each Tuesday, from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., at the First Presbyterian Church, 2050 Oak Street, Sarasota, unless otherwise advised indicated in Chorus Connection.

To remain in good standing, interns are required to attend all rehearsals and concerts for the entire season unless they are ill. If you are ill, please do not attend rehearsals in person. Instead, rehearse from home by watching Recorded Rehearsals on the Chorus Connection platform a day or two following the live rehearsal.

Your Section Leader will email rehearsal notes after each rehearsal. Notes will include important markings, tips and other helpful tools. Always review these notes and mark your scores accordingly.

Attendance at performances is required in the same manner as pre-concert rehearsals. You must be present at the required time for warm-up, properly attired with your music and folder in hand. Professional standards of etiquette and decorum are expected while performing.

**ABSENCES:** If you must be absent for any reason, you **must** communicate your absence prior to the rehearsal or performance by text or e-mail to the following Attendance Group:

1. Attendance Coordinator (Sies Ravestijn)
2. Section Leader
3. Mentor
4. Education Committee Chair (Alix Giannini)
5. Designated Parent

Two excused absences from rehearsals will be allowed for each semester. Examples of excused absences include High School events where attendance is required; SAT or other exams; family vacations/conflicts; illness. In any event the intern shall communicate with the attendance group as soon as they become aware they must miss a rehearsal.

After two unexcused absences, a Zoom conference with the intern, a parent and the Education Committee members will be scheduled. The intern's section leader and chorale mentor may also attend this conference. This conference will be an

opportunity for us to learn more about the conflicts that are preventing your attendance, and to help us understand how we can help interns continue to successfully participate in the program.

It is never an easy decision, however, to maintain the artistic integrity of the chorale, too many absences may result in an intern not being allowed to sing in a designated concert.

Multiple unexcused absences shall be grounds for dismissal from the program.

An intern may apply next season to rejoin the program after dismissal, but re-audition is required.

**I have read and agree to abide by the protocols and procedures contained in the Attendance Policy. I understand excessive absences may result in not being allowed to sing a concert and/or dismissal from the program.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Intern Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Intern Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **REHEARSAL POLICY**

Interns should plan to meet the following protocols while rehearsing with the Key Chorale:

Arrive on time (give yourself time to use the restroom before rehearsal)

Wear your Name Badge

Take your assigned seat from the seating chart

Turn off your cell phone

Bring your scores and your pencils

Record new markings in your score as they are given

Be attentive and quiet during rehearsals

Refrain from pointing out errors or asking questions of the conductor during rehearsals

If you have a question or concern, please pass that along to your Section Leader after the rehearsal

Do not sing or hum along with other sections

Display attentive behavior and posture during rehearsals

Do not talk when the conductor is actively rehearsing the chorale or working with a specific section

Avoid the use of aftershave, perfume, strongly scented deodorant, lotion or hairspray.

No gum chewing or eating during rehearsals or concerts.

If you must leave the rehearsal unexpectedly, you must let your Mentor know prior to leaving. You must also send a text or email to the Attendance Group at your next opportunity.

**I have read and agree to abide by the protocols and procedures contained in the Rehearsal Policy. I understand excessive absences may result in not being allowed to sing in a concert and/or dismissal from the program.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Intern Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Intern Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **ESSAY**

**Write a short essay (100 -125 words) using your computer and then attach the essay to this application.**

**Remember to write the essay in paragraph form using complete sentences. Type your name at the top of essay.**

**Essay must include the following:**

- Briefly share why you would like to be a Key Chorale Leadership Intern
- What are your vocal/musical/choral experiences so far?
- Why is music your passion?
- What are your plans to integrate music in your college studies and beyond?
- What are your strengths that you will bring to the Key Chorale?

If accepted into this program, this essay will become part of your biography that will be posted on the Key Chorale website.

**Essays are not required for returning interns.**

After completing and mailing/scanning the application **by Saturday, September 6, 2025**, Key Chorale will then contact you and schedule a vocal audition time for you. Your vocal audition is an opportunity for our team to hear your voice, evaluate your musicianship, and get to know you. The audition team is comprised of the Artistic Director, Joseph Caulkins and section leaders. The process takes about 10 minutes.

Returning Interns are not required to re-audition.

### **VOCAL AUDITION**

Vocal Auditions will be held on **Saturday, September 13, 2025**, at First Presbyterian Church, 2050 Oak Street, Sarasota.

There are two elements to the audition:

1. **Singing** - You choose one prepared piece (classical, sacred/gospel, simple song, or hymn), no longer than three minutes in length. Memorization is not required. An accompanist will be provided (please bring a second copy of music for the accompanist). No a cappella auditions will be heard.
2. **Sight-reading** - You will be asked to clap a short, simple rhythmic passage as well as sing several short musical phrases. Your ability to sight read **will not** impact your eligibility to enter the program.

**After your audition, you will receive communication within 7 days from a Key Chorale representative regarding your next step in the application process, the interview.**

### **INTERVIEW**

This is a required part of the application process. This is an opportunity for Key Chorale to get to know you and for you to get to know Key Chorale better and ask questions. Two or three Key Chorale representatives will meet with you via Zoom for about 20 minutes.

**After your interview, you will be notified within 5 days of the status of your application to the Key Chorale Student Scholar Leadership program.**

### **STUDENT/PARENT ORIENTATION SESSION**

If you are accepted as a Key Chorale Student Scholar, the expectation is that the student scholar and their parent/guardian attend the **Student/Parent Orientation Session on Tuesday, September 30, 2025, at 6:00 pm.** You will receive more detailed information about the orientation from the Education Committee. The purpose of this 60–90-minute meeting is to welcome the student scholars and their parents and provide additional information about the Key Chorale Student Scholar Leadership Program and the 2025-2026 Key Chorale Season.

### **REQUIRED SIGNATURES IN ORDER FOR YOU TO APPLY TO THE STUDENT SCHOLAR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

#### **STUDENT:**

I wish to apply for the Key Chorale Student Scholar Leadership Program for the 2025-2026 School Year. I know that an interview and vocal audition are required as a part of the application process. I will abide by the Protocols that Key Chorale might have in place.

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Any special comments by the applicant that would help Key Chorale in working with you if you are accepted as an intern:


#### **PARENT/GUARDIAN:**

I give permission for my child to apply for the Key Chorale Student Scholar Leadership Program. If selected, my child will abide by the Protocols that Key Chorale might have in place.

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### **PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION**

Name: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Any special comments by the parent/guardian that would help Key Chorale in working with your child if accepted as a leadership intern:

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#### **PARENT/GUARDIAN MEDIA RELEASE**

Throughout the Key Chorale Season, Student Scholars who are accepted into the program, have opportunities to have their written communications, photos, images, audio and dialogue related to the Scholar Program/Performances posted on social media and in print media. Please complete the following section which will give permission or not give permission for these items.

#### **Please check one of the following and then parent/guardian signs below**

\_\_\_\_\_ I give permission for my child's communications (quotations, comments, etc.) and their image, audio and dialogue related to the Key Chorale Student Scholar Leadership Program and Key Chorale Performances to be used in social media (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Hashtag) and in print such as programs and other print forms. This is to provide recognition of student success and for Key Chorale to promote and market the Student Scholar Leadership Program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I **do not** give permission for my child's communications (quotations, comments, etc.) or their image, audio or dialogue related to the Key Chorale Student Scholar Leadership Program and Key Chorale Performances to be used in social media (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Hashtag) or in print such as programs or other print forms.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print First & Last Name of Parent/Guardian**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian's Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

#### **HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION REQUIREMENT**

A recommendation from your high school Choral Director is required. Once your completed application is received, a form will be sent to your teacher for their input and completion.

Please use the space below to provide us with your Choral Director's contact information to send them the form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Name of High School Choral Director**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed e-mail address of High School Choral Director**