

## 2024 Prairie Fire Choir Audition FAQs

### What happens at the audition?

The audition will consist of three steps:

- 1) A brief interview
- 2) Sing “Floodplain Ballad” in trios/solo (you will receive sheet music and a practice track when you register)
- 3) Range testing

### How do I sign up for auditions?

A link to our audition sign-up form will be available at **7 PM on Sunday, January 21, 2024** right here on this website. Audition slots will be open based on a first come, first served basis. Once you’re signed up, you will receive a confirmation email with detailed information about audition expectations, including sheet music and a practice track for “Floodplain Ballad.”

### When and where will auditions be held?

Auditions will be held at the Center for Performing Arts (3754 Pleasant Avenue, Minneapolis, MN, 55409) on February 15, 2024, from 6–9 PM.

### What if I can’t make the audition?

Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate another time for you to audition. We hope you stay tuned for next year’s audition opportunities.

### What parts do you need to fill?

All parts! Our choir has six parts and we are auditioning for all six—Soprano I & II, Alto I & II, and Tenor I & II.

### What is your Covid policy for auditions and rehearsals?

At this time, there is not a requirement to wear a mask, but we do ask that all members are up-to-date on vaccinations. We make decisions on masking based on the [Hennepin County covid situation dashboard](#).

### Who can join the choir?

We welcome all who self-identify as femme/trans/woman or gender non-binary whose voices fall within **these ranges**. We seek to emphasize work in our repertoire that supports equality and empowerment.

### Do I have to know how to read music?

No! You don’t need to be able to read music, but you do need to be able to listen to yourself and those around you. We sing a capella and memorize our music, so it’s important that you have a strong ear and can hold your part. We provide practice tracks to help members learn songs and rehearse once a week.

**What do choir members commit to?**

When you join the choir, you're joining a community. We are a "self-run" choir, which requires all of us to take on responsibilities outside of showing up for rehearsals and performances. All choir members contribute as they are able to the governance, leadership, and musical magic-making this choir puts forth. There are various committees that lead efforts in marketing, booking gigs, planning rehearsals, social justice and inclusion efforts, and more. Your participation in one of these committees will be a welcome and looked-for contribution as part of your membership in the choir. And it's fun!

**Wait, what is it like to rehearse without a director?**

Unlike most traditional choirs, we do not have a director. This can be very different for people who have grown up in a traditional choral background. We don't have a "leader" or director in the traditional sense, but rather we share leadership responsibilities. Our rehearsals are led by choir members from our rehearsal committee. At each rehearsal, active participation from all members is welcome and encouraged to share ideas for dynamics, arrangement, phrasing or other performance techniques. Our rehearsals are in a laid-back and supportive environment, but we don't sacrifice choral rigor or our rock 'n roll attitude!

**When and where do you rehearse?**

We rehearse every Thursday from 7–9 PM at the Center for the Performing Arts in Minneapolis. Our season runs from approximately March to November each year, concluding with a season finale performance. Our first 2024 gathering will be held on Thursday, March 7, with an all-choir meeting.

**Where do you perform?**

We perform at a variety of venues and settings in the Twin Cities—including parks, theaters, clubs, bars, and other social institutions. Most of our performances are off-book, so memorization of your part in each song will be a priority.

**Who chooses the music?**

The whole choir! We vote on the new season's repertoire from an existing library of songs we've learned in prior years. At the end of each season, we add 3 or 4 new songs to the repertoire through a "Song Pitch" process. Our 2024 repertoire has already been selected.

**Who makes decisions?**

A core group of members are voted on each year by the choir to participate on a board known as the Red Hot Coals. These members dedicate additional time to the operational needs of the choir and serve as a central communications team and choral think tank.

**What does the choir believe in?**

We amplify causes we care about, including but not limited to social justice, women's rights, racial justice, environmental justice, and LGBTQ rights. We tend to live our values, including altering lyrics to protest Supreme Court decisions, which we feel is pretty Rock 'n Roll.