Youth Choir Festival Northwest

University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA
Robyn Lana, Guest Conductor
May 31 – June 1, 2025

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is participating in the 4rd Youth Choir Festival NW?

2025 Guest Conductor: ROBYN LANA
Robyn Lana is the Founder and Managing Artistic Director of the Cincinnati Youth Choir Ensemble-in-Residence at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and proudly serves on the choral faculty of Miami University. Interpreting choral music for diverse audiences in a way that is relevant to young people while maintaining the highest standards of music education and performance sums up her work.

Mrs. Lana has served as conductor and clinician across the United States, Europe, and Asia. Lana has served on the choral faculty at Xavier University and has been a guest professor in the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music's choral department.

Level III Orff certified, she has taught in elementary schools, most recently on the faculty of the Montessori Academy of Cincinnati. Lana is the editor of a choral series in her name with Santa Barbara Music Publishing. Her book, Voices in Harmony, published in 2017, is a collaborative effort that celebrates many successful philosophies in choral education. She also is also published in Chorister Guild's The Chorister, Chamber Music America's CMA Matters, and ACDA's Choral Journal for which she also served as guest editor of the of three issues. In addition to serving ACDA at state and regional levels, Robyn has served Nationally as Children's Choir and Community Youth Repertoire and Standards Chair and Chair of ACDA Advocacy and Collaboration. She currently serves on the Chorus America Board of Directors. Learn more: **www.robynlana.com**

Bellevue Youth Choirs
Bellevue, WA
www.bellevueyouthchoirs.org

Endolyne Children's Choir
West Seattle, WA
www.endolynechoir.org

Rainier Youth Choirs
Kent, WA
www.rainieryouthchoirs.org

Seattle Girls' Choir
Seattle, WA
www.seattlegirlschoir.org

Spectrum Choral Academy
Gig Harbor, WA
www.spectrumchoir.com

Where is the festival held?
University of Puget Sound – located in the heart of the Pacific Northwest – offers a beautiful and intimate 97-acre campus environment in Tacoma's vibrant North End neighborhood. The UPS buildings and grounds offer a peaceful and picturesque setting with an innovative mix of original charm graced by contemporary touches. For more info about UPS, visit: www.pugetsound.edu

When and where is the festival concert?
The concert will be held Sunday, June 1 at 4:00 PM in Schneebeck Concert Hall located in the Music Building at University of Puget Sound. This concert will feature all festival choirs, performing individually and combined with Guest Conductor, Robyn Lana!

How much do festival concert tickets cost and where do we purchase them?
Concert tickets are $20 – Festival Seating To purchase visit: www.youthchoirfestival.com
We expect this concert to sell out. Families should purchase tickets soon!

Should the massed choir pieces be memorized?

Yes – all massed choir pieces must be memorized prior to arrival at the festival. But still bring your music!

Where will Track 1 (Advanced Youth Choirs) sleep?

All participants - choristers, chaperones and staff - will be housed in university dormitories. Each participant will receive a key and meal card for dormitory entrance / meals upon check-in. Keep your keys and cards safe and on you at all times to avoid replacement fees. There are ample restroom facilities. Linen service is available for an extra fee (check with your choir if you purchased linen service!). All other singers need to pack their overnight bedding/pillow/towels.

What will we eat?

University of Puget Sound will provide all meals, served cafeteria style in Wheelock Student Center. Overnight participants will have meal cards. Sunday only participants will simply be counted as they enter lunch (no cards or tickets needed). Meals are "all you can eat" and will include a large variety of menu choices at each meal. The Diner offers allergy-friendly selections for the 8 most common allergens and offer plenty of vegan/vegetarian options. We also provide snacks to all festival participants in the evening and during breaks on Sunday.

Are there any rules or expectations to remember?

- Rehearsals must begin on time. Make sure you are not the one to hold the entire group behind.
- Give 100% to each rehearsal. Each rehearsal will greatly enhance the quality of our performances. Give your full attention to our Guest Conductor. Remember: *This is your concert!*
- Be sure that your behavior reflects the standards of excellence that your choir stands for.
- Due to the closeness of the performers, please do not wear perfume / scented lotions / hairsprays. You SHOULD wear deodorant. This applies to both rehearsals and concert.
- Be polite and on your best listening behavior when the other choirs are performing. You will want the same courtesy from them when it's your turn.
- Respect the authority of ALL chaperones in non-rehearsal circumstances. They are there to help and to ensure the safety and well-being of each chorister.

What should I pack? EVERYONE

- ❑ Casual attire. Everyone will dress casually Saturday through Sunday morning. If your choir has matching t-shirts, we encourage you to make this standard attire during the festival. It helps build unity among your singers and presents a strong identity for your choir.
- ❑ Formal concert attire. Whatever your choir normally wears for formal concerts.
- ❑ Festival Music (just in case we need to reference it – please arrive with music memorized).

Additional for Track 1 (Advanced Youth Choirs for overnight festival)

- ❑ ***Optional, but fun: Dress-up outfit for Saturday night's singer social – 50's Sock Hop!*** Bring your favorite 50's style dress-up clothes. Get out a poodle skirts and saddle shoes. Tie on a scarf! Or just bring a white t-shirt, roll up your blue jeans and show off your craziest socks!!! We will dance the night away. Or just come as you are and enjoy the fun!
- ❑ Pajamas, Toiletries
- ❑ Sleeping bag or bedding for twin XL, pillow, towels (not needed if you ordered linen service)
- ❑ Warm clothes and jacket/coat – just in case!
- ❑ A book or journal (you might want to read or write until you fall asleep)
- ❑ Optional: Flashlight
- ❑ Optional: Reuseable water bottle clearly labeled with your name! It is of utmost importance for singers to stay hydrated.
- ❑ Optional: Free time activities such as Frisbee, football, jump rope, deck of cards, book, journal, etc.

Label EVERYTHING! Then check the Lost & Found box as you leave, in case you lost something.

What are the emergency phone numbers available during the festival?

Becca K 360.440.2097 Becca B 360.265.3236 Stephanie 360.271.8086

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www.facebook.com/youthchoirfestival

Watch Festival Concert Videos:
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