



Director: Angie Langeliers

Accompanist: Lynette Tedlund

Cantabile Choir ~ 9:00-10:00am

Bel Canto Choir ~ 10:00am-11:30am

~ 11:30am-12:00pm ~

Parent Committee Meetings: Will be held as needed

ROCK Artistic Director - Angie Langeliers

Phone: 697-3455 Email: sangeliers@hotmail.com

Rimrock Opera Artistic Director: Douglas Nagel

Phone: 671-2214 Email: gd@rimrockopera.org

www.rimrockopera.org

I. Mission:

To challenge, to teach and to elevate—through music of the highest quality.

II. History:

Rimrock Opera Chorus for Kids, ROCK, was founded by the Rimrock Opera in September 2004. Open by audition to youth in and around the Billings area, ROCK is dedicated to providing quality music education and a variety of performance opportunities. Singers are selected by audition and participate in events throughout the school year.

III. Goals:

Goals of the ROCK program include:

- Encouraging personal growth in listening skills, music reading skills, stage presence, poise, movement, diction, memorization and foreign language.
- Teaching and nurturing performing and auditioning skills.
- Promoting the performance of quality choral, ensemble and solo music.
- Enriching our community by having a children's choral group available for local performances.
- Investing in our community by helping to build consumers of the arts for the future.

IV. Auditions:

ROCK auditions are held twice per year, once in August/September and again in January (January only for students joining spring semester). All ROCK participants will audition each year for the following reasons:

- We will know your interest and intent to join ROCK for the season
- The audition process is important to all performing musicians (the only way it will get easier is to do it!)
- Kids' voices change, and the best way for us to know how a student is progressing is to hear them sing alone

Auditions consist of a prepared piece of music (a cappella or accompanied) and pitch/range and rhythmic exercises as determined necessary by directors. Singers are encouraged to choose music that shows off their tone, range, and vocal technique. As a singer progresses, it is important to showcase more advanced skills in the audition process (i.e. choose more difficult music, potentially in a different language).

V. Choirs and Schedule:

Rehearsals take place on Saturdays at Rimrock Opera Rehearsal Space, 1780 Shiloh.

(detailed schedule for each semester is at the back of the handbook)

Members: Currently, ROCK members represent schools in the Yellowstone River Valley region. Students span grades first through twelve in three different choirs, Dolce, Cantabile and Bel Canto.

Dolce Choir: suspended for fall semester—Students in grades 1-3

Children in first through third grade are in the Dolce Choir. These youngest ROCK singers work on unison and two-part music, while learning music theory and history along with the basics of good vocal and choral technique. This choir is currently unavailable due to low enrollment; we intend to bring it back in the spring semester.

Cantabile Choir: 9:00-10:00am—Students in grades 1-6

The largest ROCK group, Cantabile Choir, is a treble choir. This large ensemble works on technique, theory, and challenging two and three part music.

Bel Canto Choir: 10:00-11:30am—Students in grades 7-12

The Bel Canto Choir represents advanced students and includes boys with changed voices and maturing girls' voices, performing three- and four-part music.

Goals: To encourage personal growth in listening skills, music reading skills, stage presence, poise, movement, diction, memorization and foreign language. To teach and nurture performing and auditioning skills. To promote the performance of quality choral, ensemble and solo music. To enrich our community by having a children's choral group available for local performances, and to invest in our community by helping build consumers of the arts for the future.

Achievements: ROCK has grown dramatically since its inception in 2004. ROCK participates in community cultural events with a variety of different arts organizations. These collaborative efforts are very successful. For further information, please see press releases posted www.rimrockopera.org.

The future: Since not every Rimrock Opera season offers an opera that includes children on stage, we would love to produce a full children's opera in the coming years. We also hope for continuing collaboration with other community arts organizations.

Rimrock Opera Kids' Camp: Camps are held in late June or early July for 5 days with a public performance held at the end of camp. Kids are divided into Major Campers and Minor Campers. Campers meet for a week to enjoy learning about music, singing, and how to put on a stage production. Campers will prepare the music and the dialogue; even their costumes and makeup during this intense week of fun and education.

VI. Attendance:

With only one rehearsal per week, each scheduled rehearsal becomes as important as a full week of school! We **strongly recommend** that ROCK members not miss more than two rehearsals per semester. This will help the singer to feel confident as a member of the ensemble. Please inform the director ahead of the rehearsal time if an absence is necessary so that you receive any information that needs to be passed along. Encourage your children to practice at home!

*Our ROCK rehearsals are open to parent observation; however, we request that ROCK students not bring friends along to rehearsals. Because ROCK is a tuition-based program, it is unfair for others to receive the same instruction and benefits of the program without payment. If a student is wishing to come observe with the intent of possibly joining, that arrangement should be made with Angie through their parent ahead of time.

VII. General Expectations:

1. Be on time to all rehearsals and performances. Be prepared to give your best.
2. Be a responsible choir member—bring your music and pencil; keep your music and folder in good condition; practice and know your music.
3. Maintain respect for the rehearsal rooms, facilities, instruments and equipment.
4. Take pride in your choir and fellow singers. Show respect to all students and directors.
5. Bring only water to rehearsals. Food, other drinks and gum will not be allowed. PLEASE turn off cell phones!
5. Remember, your actions and attitudes reflect on you and your choir!

Parents: Please help your children to be on time, and please be prompt in picking kids up from rehearsals and performances. The rehearsal space will be open for ROCK 15 minutes prior to the first rehearsal and locked up 15 minutes after the final rehearsal. Rimrock Opera is not liable for students dropped off early or left late after rehearsals.

In case of an emergency, please call Angie's phone and inform us of the problem (697-3455).

Please do not leave any non-registered children at the rehearsal space unattended or allow them to attend ROCK rehearsals (friends, siblings, etc).

VIII. Binders and Music:

Each student is responsible for bringing a black binder to rehearsal each week. These binders will store their music, which is only on loan for the course of a semester. Lost music is subject to additional fees. Students **must** have their folder, music, and a pencil at each and every rehearsal.

IX. Tuition:

The yearly tuition for the 2011-12 ROCK season is \$190. Tuition options include full yearly payment at the beginning of the season or two payment plans. In each case, payment must be received by Rimrock Opera before a student can participate in any ROCK activities. Rimrock Opera Finance Director, Darci Hertz, will be handling payment of ROCK tuition.

*Year: 1 payment / September 17 / \$190

*Semester: 2 payments / Sept 17 and Jan 14 / \$105 each payment

Chosen payment plan: _____

*All students are required to have a ROCK shirt. A new shirt can be ordered for \$10 (payable with first tuition payment). The parent committee may also be organizing the exchange of shirts which members have outgrown—selling/buying within the organization.

X. Performance Attire:

As a member of the ROCK program, you are expected to present a professional appearance for all performances. It is important you follow these guidelines so that the choir looks uniform. By looking your best, you will feel and sing better!

Formal Attire—*Students will wear the following:*

Boys: Black pants with belt (NO jeans)

Black long sleeved shirt

Black dress shoes

Black socks

Girls: Black pants or skirt (longer than knee-length)

Black long sleeved shirt (no see-through material, gaudy lace or low-cut necklines)

Black dress shoes (closed-toe preferred, small heel acceptable)

Black socks, hose, tights (NO bare toes!)

Informal Attire—*Students will wear the following:*

All: ROCK performance shirt

Black Bottoms (see formal attire)

Black socks

Black shoes (not tennis shoes)

NOTES REGARDING ATTIRE:

1. Hair must be pulled away from the face for performances.
2. Jewelry will be kept to a minimum. Small necklaces and earrings are fine. Please avoid bright colors, large beads and hoops. You will be asked to remove gaudy jewelry.
3. If you are not found to be appropriately dressed, you may be asked to sit in the audience for the concert.
4. Students in need of the black ROCK shirt will be able to order the size of their choice.
5. Prior to a performance, directors will let you know which attire will be worn. Once in a while, we are asked to wear something different for performances. You will get as much notice as possible regarding these details.

XI. Parent Notes:

Weekly informational notes are handed out at rehearsals to each ROCK student. Duplicate notes are sent by email. Please check with your child after each rehearsal in order to remain aware of information, schedule changes and reminders. Please notify Angie when contact information changes.

XII. Parent Committee:

A volunteer parent committee will hold monthly meetings to brainstorm ideas, make decisions and generally assist in the promotion and production of the ROCK program. Any and all are welcome! If you have specific talents, ideas, or interests, bring them to the meeting! Meeting dates are generally the first Saturday rehearsal of each month.

XIII. ROCK Camp:

In the summer of 2012, ROCK will hold its 8th annual summer camp for kids entering 1st-9th grades. Stay posted for more information during the spring semester.

Thank you for your dedication to the ROCK program. It is through hard-working kids, and supportive parents, that we will continue to strive for excellence. We are looking forward to working with the students this year and thank you for your commitment. Please feel free to contact us with questions, concerns, and ideas!

*Musically yours,
Angie Langeliers and ROCK staff*

Rehearsal and Performance Schedule

Fall Semester 2011:

September 10 – Auditions

September 17 – ROCK Rehearsals begin, Tuition payment due

October 22 – No Rehearsals

Holiday Concert - TBA

Possible performance: Moss Mansion Family Festival, Mercedes dealership

Spring Semester Dates to Know:

January 12 – Auditions for spring semester students

January 14 – Regular rehearsals begin

April 14– Opera Fest

April 28 and 29 – *Crucible* performances

*All concerts are subject to change. Other concerts will be added to the schedule throughout the year, please keep updated by reading the weekly notes home.

Tuition Payment Information

ROCK tuition for the year is \$190. Payment options are as follows:

MAKE NOTE OF THESE PAYMENT DATES IN YOUR CALENDAR!

***Year: 1 payment / September 17 / \$190**

***Semester: 2 payments / Sept 17 & Jan 14 / \$105 each payment**

Student's Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

ROCK shirt needed (additional \$10): YES or NO

Size: YS YM YL YXL AS AM AL AXL

Bel Canto Dress/Tuxedo Rental \$20 per year Dress/Tux size _____

We would like to choose the following payment plan for the 2011-2012 season:

_____Year (due Sept 17) _____Semester (due Sept 17 & Jan 14)

We understand that payment must be made PRIOR to student participating in any rehearsals and/or performances. Refunds will not be granted. Tuition may be paid in cash, check, or by credit card. Please send payment to Rimrock Opera at PO Box 11, Billings, 59103.

I authorize Rimrock Opera to charge my Visa or Mastercard on the following dates, and for the following amounts: (a \$5.00 processing fee will be added to each transaction)

September 17 - \$ _____

January 14 - \$ _____

Account Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Expiration Date: _____

Security Code: _____

Authorized Signature _____

TOTAL Amount Due to Rimrock Opera: \$ _____

Remember to add \$10 if purchasing a shirt and \$20 if in Bel Canto!

Scholarship applications are available and due September 10, 2011.

Waiver:

I give my child permission to participate in ROCK activities. I understand and expressly acknowledge that I release the Rimrock Opera and their staff members from all liabilities.

I give my permission to the Rimrock Opera to use photographs, film footage and audio recordings which may include my or my children's image or voice for purposes of promoting Rimrock Opera and ROCK.

I understand this is a tuition-based program, and my child will not be allowed to participate unless proper payment has been received on or before the dates to which I've agreed. I also understand that no refunds will be granted.

Acceptance (Parent or Guardian):

I acknowledge the waiver set forth above.

Print Name Relationship

Signature Date

Please complete front and back of this page, detach, and return with payment.
Please mail to Rimrock Opera / PO Box 11 / Billings, MT 59103
or hand to Darci Hertz.