

Greater Richmond
Chorus Richmond, Virginia
Sweet Adelines International



The Champion Greater Richmond Chorus

Directed By Master Director Roger Tarpy

5-Time Chorus Champions of the Blue Ridge Region #14

Sweet Adelines International

Contact Us

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Our Chorus

- Chartered in 1977 and the only certified barbershop women's chorus in the Greater Richmond Area.
- We won our regional competition four times. With 25 chartered choruses, Blue Ridge Region #14 is home to Sweet Adelines chapters in Virginia, North and South Carolina, part of Maryland and the northeast corner of Tennessee. As Region #14 Champions, GRC qualified to compete on the International Stage with choruses from all over the world at our annual Sweet Adelines International Convention..
- Members come from the communities of Richmond, Henrico, Midlothian, and Chesterfield as well as more distant areas such as Prince George, Hopewell, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Reedville, Newport News, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach.
- Our membership is 18 to 80 years old and diverse in cultural backgrounds.
- Past performances have included various venues in the Richmond area (including the Landmark Theater), as well as in various other cities including Williamsburg, Petersburg, Emporia, Fluvanna County, London, England and Paris, France.



Our Motto:

EVERYONE...

ALL THE TIME!





“Hawaiian Holiday – 2008”

Music That Will Entertain You

We provide quality musical entertainment. Our repertoire is varied and unique. We present our music in new and exciting ways that appeal to young and old alike. Our innovative use of choreography brings an added sparkle to every performance.

Plus A Little Variety

Our fabulous quartets add to the variety of our shows. They are also available to perform in a smaller venue where they can stroll among your guests, educate your students and make any occasion extra special!

Our Performances

- Award winning 65+ voice, a cappella women’s chorus
- Variety of Music Styles
 - Show Tunes
 - Jazz
 - Gospel
 - Traditional and contemporary American songs
- Dynamic show-chorus choreography
- Narratives tailored to our audience with comedic, patriotic, and nostalgic themes
- Dazzling costumes
- Several fine quartets add to the variety
- We offer 30 and 50 minute performances as well as full shows of 1 hour and 45 minutes – the length of a performance will be tailored to your needs.
- We are happy to work with each individual client to provide musical entertainment suited to the audience and event.



Greater Richmond Chorus is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.

Working To Improve! Striving For Perfection!

We Are Proud Of Our Accomplishments



- 1998 Region #14 1st Place Medalist
- 1999 International Competitor - Atlanta
- 2001 Region #14 1st Place Medalist, World-wide Mid-size Chorus Champion
- 2002 International Competitor – Nashville
- 2005 Region #14 1st Place Medalist
- 2006 International Competitor – Las Vegas
- 2007 Region #14 1st Place Medalist
- 2008 International Competitor - Honolulu
- 2009 Region #14 1st Place Medalist
- 2010 International Competitor - Seattle



Great Singing, Wonderful Choreography, Dazzling Costumes!

Experience The Greater Richmond Chorus

The Greater Richmond Chorus performs in a variety of venues in the greater Richmond area and for audiences of all ages. Each year our Annual Show is a showcase for the chorus as well as our quartets.

The Greater Richmond Chorus has:

- performed in Richmond, Ashland, South Hill, Williamsburg
- traveled to Atlanta, Nashville, Paris and London to entertain audiences
- been invited to Vienna, Austria to perform in July 2005
- performed the National Anthem for the Richmond Braves and Richmond Spiders
- shared the stage with the Richmond Pops Band at the Jefferson Hotel
- appeared at Christmas at Maymont and the Gala Opening of the Landmark Theatre
- entertained at Pocahontas State Park and Dogwood Dell
- were guests for the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center and the Rappahannock Concert Series
- sang for the tree lighting at local malls and Grand Illumination in Richmond



EXTENSION CHORDS



The Greater Richmond Chorus' community outreach and community service group, the *Extension Chords*, are available to perform and educate during daytime hours. Frequently bringing nostalgia and joy to senior citizens in area residential facilities, they also perform in schools, churches and other venues



Director – Erin Odell



Erin Odell comes to Greater Richmond Chorus from St Louis, Missouri where she completed her Masters of Music Education (M. M. E.) from the University of Missouri, St. Louis. She also holds a B.A. in Choral Education and Piano Performance from Virginia Tech.

Erin is a third generation Sweet Adeline – both her mother (Linda Odell) and her grandmother (Phyllis Muir) sing with the Vienna Falls Chorus. Erin joined Sweet Adelines International while still in high school and has been singing in choruses (both Vienna Falls and Pride of Baltimore) and quartets since she was 16. She has most recently been a member of St Louis Harmony where she served on their Music Team and as a Section Leader.

Erin also sings baritone in "[Shades of Jade](#)" quartet. In April, the quartet won the Region 5 Sweet Adelines International Quartet Competition and qualified to compete in the International Competition in October, 2011, in Houston, Texas.

From 2005 to 2009, Erin directed "The Virginia Gentlemen" – a member chorus of the Barbershop Harmony Society and helped them earn the "Most Improved Chorus" award in 2009. She has also had the opportunity to work with high school barbershop singers at the Mid-Atlantic District's Harmony College East.

Erin has just been selected as the new Choir Director at Glen Allen High School.

A live performance by The Champion Greater Richmond Chorus will make your event special occasion memorable for everyone.

Our Registered Quartets

Our quartets often perform with the chorus. In addition, each quartet is available to present entertaining musical show packages (typically 20 to 40 minutes), with superb singing and humorous dialogue.



Southern Exposure

This elegant and engaging quartet has delighted audiences for several years and has competed at the regional level.

Swizzle Stix

Let Leslie, Jan, Karen, and Lorrie STIR up the fun at your next event. They specialize in contemporary a cappella music and are sure to complement your next function or celebration.



Amethyst

Anita, Jeannine, Laura and Sally - Photo By Sandy Swagger

Amethyst, Greater Richmond Chorus's, is already captivating audiences with its warm, blended four-part harmony. Laura, Anita, Sally, and Jeannine sing a variety of songs appropriate for any occasion.

Confetti

Want to enhance your special event with a little Confetti? These four talented women are available for your entertainment needs through their unique a cappella art form. In addition, the quartet can personalize any event with a script tailored just for your special occasion.



Interstate Harmony



Phyllis a lead walked into a Sweet Adelines rehearsal for the first time, 25 years ago, and the second person she met was Cindy, a tenor. Fast forward to the Fall of 2010. Phyllis, now singing with Greater Richmond, knew a wonderful Baritone named Jean, and Cindy, still with Golden Triad Chorus in North Carolina, could supply a fabulous Bass named Donna

.... and **Interstate Harmony** was born. We travel between Virginia & North Carolina to sing together because the joy of the musical harmony & warm friendship is, oh, so worth the trip.

Our Mission

The Greater Richmond Chorus (GRC) of Sweet Adelines International (SAI) is a community-based, nonprofit organization of women singers dedicated to advancing the musical art form of barbershop a cappella four-part harmony through vocal and showmanship education, performance, competition, and community service.



Our Vision

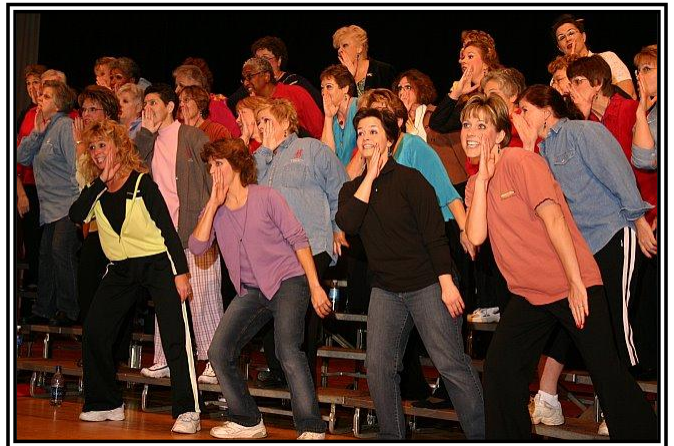
GRC's vision is to develop the musical talents of our members as we provide high quality entertainment for and service to the greater Richmond community, and to cultivate, support, and mentor female vocalists of all ages. The two-year focus of GRC is to engage the greater Richmond community in supporting this group of diverse and talented women with in-kind and financial contributions to further our efforts in acquainting a larger audience with the rich art form of barbershop harmony.

Our Team

Greater Richmond Chorus operates under a Management Team form of government that is elected by the membership and is responsible for the administrative details involved with managing our chorus. We are a non-profit educational organization under section 501(c)3. Our fiscal year is from May 1 to April 30 for which a budget is set up by the Management Team.

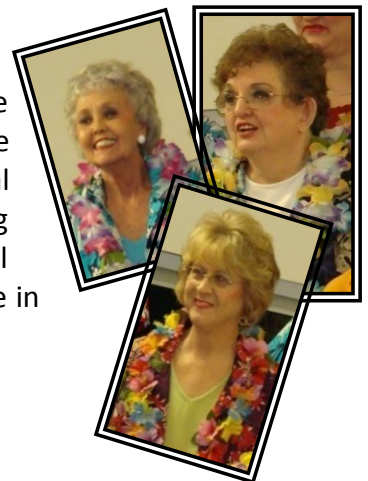
We are governed by Bylaws and Standing Rules voted on by the membership.

The Music Team is made up of our Associate Director(s), Section Leaders, Assistant Section Leaders, Choreographers, Mentors, and other musical committee chairs. This group plans our musical program in coordination with our Director.



Member Support

The Greater Richmond Chorus membership is totally committed to maintaining the chorus. Countless hours are spent by members who plan, govern, and oversee the various activities we are involved in as well as carrying out their fiscal responsibilities. No one receives compensation for the time and talent they bring to the chorus, except our Master Director, Roger Tarp, who receives a small stipend for his expertise, knowledge, and educational classes attended to improve in all areas of musical skills in order to lead us forward.



Our Organization



Greater Richmond Chorus is part of a worldwide, nonprofit organization of women singers known as Sweet Adelines International. We committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education and performances.

SWEET ADELINES
INTERNATIONAL

Sweet Adelines International was formed in 1945 when a group of women in Tulsa, OK, organized the first Sweet Adelines chapter. In 1947, women from all over the U.S. met in Tulsa for the first quartet contest and to set up an organization of national scope.

Sweet Adelines has become a way of life for nearly 30,000 women in about 600 chapters. Members join to sing - they stay to grow personally, musically, and to enjoy fulfilling friendships!

Barbershop Harmony for All Women



In simple terms, barbershop harmony is vocal harmony produced by four parts: lead, tenor, baritone and bass. It is different from any other kind of choral or group singing and covers the entire vocal range.

Any woman of average singing ability, with or without vocal training, will find a part that fits her range.

Tenor - a harmony part sung consistently above the lead. Although tenor is the highest voice in barbershop harmony, it should not be confused with soprano of conventional singing groups. The tenor

should have a light, sweet, pure tone that will compliment but not overpower the lead voice.

Lead - the melody and is sung in the range between A below middle C, and C above middle C.

Baritone covers approximately the same range as lead. The baritone harmony notes cross the lead notes; sometimes sung below and sometimes above. Baritones must constantly adjust their balance to accommodate their position in the chord.

Bass singers should have a rich, mellow voice and be able to sing the E flat below middle C easily. Basses should not be confused with the alto of conventional groups. Many altos can sing the bass part, but others are much better suited to lead or baritone, depending on range and vocal quality.

Barbershop is suited to women with average to above-average voices, good tone quality, and who like ensemble singing. There is no age, race, or religious limitations. Greater Richmond Chorus is a diverse group of women who love to sing, dance, and perform in front of audiences. Membership in our chorus is by audition to demonstrate the ability to carry your voice part alone.

Greater Richmond Chorus is proud to have seven charter members active in the chorus