Flute Society of Saint Louis

Flute Choir

**\*FSSL MISSION-**

The mission of the St. Louis Flute Society is to provide our members with events that showcase the flute in quality musical programs and address other integral aspects of flute playing and musicianship.

**\*Flute Choir Goal-**

We gather as a flute choir to create, share, and nurture our mutual love of the flute. Through collaboration, performance, and study, our flute community promotes music and the arts.

**\*Contact information-**

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**\*Rehearsals-**

* We rehearse weekly on Sundays 6:00-8PM at St. Mark’s Lutheran – ELCA in the chapel.
* Please bring your own music stand, organized folder/binder of music, pencil, instrument(s), tuner, etc.
* At 6:00pm rehearsal begins with warm-ups. Members are expected to arrive early, set up instrument(s), and warm up individually *prior* to the start of rehearsal. Repeated tardiness is not acceptable.
* Etiquette: members are expected to rehearse professionally. This means refraining from talking when another section is being rehearsed, responding to musical suggestions in an appropriate and timely manner, being courteous and supportive to fellow members.
* After rehearsal, please assist in putting away chairs and straightening up the chapel. If you are borrowing another member’s instrument, be sure to help clean and disassemble the instrument.

**\*Requirements-**

1. Flute- each member must have a c-flute in good working order.
2. Black binder or folder (binder is recommended for sturdiness) for organizing sheet music.
3. Music stand- please bring your personal music stand to each rehearsal and performance. It should be sturdy and adjustable for standing. \*\*Must be black for performances\*\*
4. Dues- Flute Society dues are collected upon the start of the season. Choir members pay FSSL membership and Flute Choir dues.
5. Ample practice time.
6. (Optional: flute/piccolo stand. This is extremely helpful if you are playing more than one instrument at a concert).

**\*Commitment-** Each member’s individual participation is of utmost importance. Outside practice is expected from all members. Rehearsals serve as time to work productively as a musical team.

* Absences- Everyone plays a crucial role in the ensemble and attendance is necessary for a productive practice and balance of parts. Knowing your part does not excuse you from attending rehearsal. ***Attendance is necessary for continuing ensemble quality and growth.*** 
  + If you must miss a rehearsal with less than 24-hour notification, contact the director immediately by phone.
  + If you miss a rehearsal, you are responsible for communicating with a fellow member about the rehearsal events-- announcements, changes in parts, tempo adjustments, etc.

**\*Music-**

* Parts: there are no “chairs” and members interested in various flutes will be given opportunities to rotate parts. Assignment of parts is done with many considerations taken into account and therefore are permanent for the designated concert.
* Returning music: copies of sheet music will generally be filed back in score order at the rehearsal following the last performance. This process is done with the help of all flute choir members. Many hours were spent copying and organizing the music. To preserve completed collections of score and parts, members will assist in filing the music. If you miss this rehearsal for handing in music, please designate another flute choir member to return your music on your behalf.

**\*Instruments:**

* Alto flute/Bass Flute: the Flute Society owns an alto/bass flute that may be used by flute choir members (in good standing) that are assigned to alto/bass parts. The alto/bass flute is to be used at rehearsals, performances, and may be taken home for practice. If multiple flutists are playing alto/bass parts, it is expected that members rotate who is taking the alto/bass home for practice. All members using the FSSL alto/bass must sign the waiver.
* Members’ instruments: If you are using an FSSL instrument, please consider the following:
  + Always offer to assist in assembling, cleaning, and disassembling the instrument(s).
  + Always clean the lip plate after you are done playing. There are cleaning wipes at each rehearsal.
  + Always handle the instrument properly and cleanly-- store it on the flute peg when not in use, play with clean hands, no lip gloss/chapstick, etc.

**\*Performances-**

**\*Materials:** items needed for each concert may vary due to the venue’s needs. In general, be expected to bring: instrument(s), sheet music (organized in concert order in black folder/binder), black music stand, flute pegs (optional).

**\*Attire: Females-**

* Black Blouse (nothing low cut, must cover shoulders)
* Black slacks or skirt (knee length and longer)
* Black dress shoes (closed-toed)

Or black dress (meeting same requirements as above) and black dress shoes

**Males-**

* Black button up dress shirt
* Black slacks
* Black dress shoes

\*[Special performances may require special performance attire- TBD by director.]