

2025-2026 Season Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Fort Wayne Children's Choir (FWCC)?

The Fort Wayne Children's Choir is a non-profit community arts organization, that provides choral excellence and music education to children throughout Northeast Indiana. Our mission is to teach music literacy to children from diverse backgrounds through song and performance.

How many choirs are part of the FWCC?

The Fort Wayne Children's Choir (FWCC) is made up of eight curricular choirs, based on ability level:

Apprentice Choir	Beginning 1
Chorister Choir	Beginning 2
Lyric Choir	Intermediate 1
Treble Choir	Intermediate 2
Whitley Community Choir	Community Choir based in Columbia City
Concert Choir	Advanced 1
Youth Chorale	Advanced 2
Chamber Singers	Advanced ensemble made up of Youth Chorale members

We also offer programing for children ages 0-7: <u>First Steps in Music</u> – for children ages 0-2, and 3-5 <u>Preparatory Class</u> – for children ages 6-7

How do I sign my child up to be part of the Children's Choir?

We are currently accepting registrations for our Choralfest Camp (ages 8-13) and Choralfest Camp Highschool Summer Intensive (ages 14-18). More information on how to register can be found <u>here</u>.

How do I sign my child up to be part of the Children's Choir for the 2025-2026 season? There are 3 steps to become part of the FWCC:

1: Schedule an Assessment (for eight curricular choirs only)

• Visit our <u>"Come Sing With Us"</u> page to learn about the assessment process. New singer assessments for our 2025-2026 season will begin in July 2025.

2: Complete Singer Assessments

• Your child's assessment will determine to which level he/she is placed. At the end of each year, a Singer-Parent Conference is held to determine your singer's placement for the following season.

3: Register for the FWCC

• You will be informed of your singer's placement within a week of the assessment, including online registration information.

How much does it cost to be in the FWCC?

Tuition for the 2025-2026 season is \$550 for the entire year. Additional costs include, a formal dress uniform (\$70 new, \$30 used), concert tickets, and day trips and optional tour opportunities (fee dependent on length of trip and location). Singers are also encouraged (but not required) to attend our Choralfest Camp in the summer. Choralfest Camp costs \$175.

Does the FWCC offer financial assistance?

The FWCC never wants cost to be a barrier to participation. Each year we are awarded \$23,000 from local foundations to support families who have financial need. The application process is simple, and we encourage everyone to apply. In addition to need-based and merit-based scholarships, payment plans are available—3, 6, and 9-month plans. Applications to apply for financial assistance are included in the online season registration form. The link to this form will be provided after your child completes their singer assessment.

When does the FWCC rehearse?

Weekly rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings. Rehearsal times and lengths vary by choir, but typically the rehearsal time will take place between the hours of 5:00p-7:00p.

How many concerts are there each year?

All choirs participate in the FWCC's two featured concerts every season - Harvest Concert (early November) and Spring Concert (late April/early May). The advanced choirs will also perform in the Thomas & Cindy Henry Young Artist Concert typically in March. In addition to the FWCC Concerts, our choirs have the opportunity to participate in many performances throughout the community during the season. Some of these performances include Fort Wayne Tincaps and Komets games, Fort4Fitness, Nutcracker, Festival of Trees, Holiday Pops, FAME Festival, and more. (*The performances your singer will participate in depends on the choir in which they are placed. No choir will perform at all of these events.*)

What is "Choralfest Camp"?

Choralfest Camp is a week-long day camp hosted by the Fort Wayne Children's Choir. Camp meets on the campus of Purdue University Fort Wayne and is open to anyone ages 8-13. Choralfest camp offers students the chance to develop their singing skills, dive into music theory, and explore drama, dance, visual arts, and various instruments. Led by FWCC staff and guest artists, singers will learn to collaborate as a choir, build friendships, and discover new creative passions. The week concludes with a free, public concert at the Foellinger Outdoor Theatre on Friday night—an inspiring finale to an unforgettable experience!

For our older, more dedicated high school singers, the Choralfest Camp High School Intensive offers an exciting and immersive musical experience. From 5p-7:30p each evening, participants will engage in a 90-minute choral rehearsal as well as explore different aspects of the arts during dynamic workshops led by FWCC staff and guest artists. Participants in the Choralfest Camp High School Intensive also perform in the free, public Choralfest concert on Friday night at Foellinger Outdoor Theatre. This year Choralfest Camp will take place July 21-25. For more information click <u>here</u>.

(Participation in Choralfest Camp is not required for FWCC members, but is highly encouraged.)

Does the FWCC travel? Go on tour?

Yes, members of the FWCC have the opportunity to travel and go on tour. Our younger choirs may occasionally take a one-day trip to participate in a festival with another children's choir in Indiana. The cost is minimal, and parents are invited to help as chaperones. The more advanced choirs may take a weekend trip for a special performance. Concert Choir and Youth Chorale members also have the opportunity to participate in summer tours, both nationally and internationally. Our next International Tour will be Summer 2026 to Spain.

Have more questions?

Be sure to check out our website: fwcchoir.org or email us at info@fwcchoir.org

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