



Who Are We?

Bella Voce is an award-winning, non-profit, competitive women's barbershop chorus chapter of Sweet Adelines International with members spanning across seven states! Originally chartered in 1982 and centered in Craig, CO as the Yampa Valley Chorus, Bella Voce has been making beautiful music for over 40 years. We love to blend our voices in harmony, friendship, and fun!



Region 8's 2024 Regional Contest Winners!

In addition to occasional singing opportunities in the area, Bella Voce strives to prepare a very high level musical package for Rocky Mountain Region 8's annual regional competition every spring. With 23 members we qualified to compete in Louisville at the international level in 2023, and now as a mid-size chorus, we won our region's contest in April 2024 for the first time, on track now to compete at Internationals again in 2025 in Columbus, OH! It is our continual goal to be one of the very best small barbershop choruses in the world.

See our Bella Voce Show Chorus Facebook page!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bella-Voce-Show-Chorus/118615924837806?fref=ts>

How Do We Work?

Practicing Together

Because of our unique geographical spread, Bella Voce operates differently than other choruses across the globe. We only meet all together 4 times a year for special coaching and rehearsal weekends to prepare for contests. These weekends are planned in different locations to accommodate our member spread. We car-pool where we can and sometimes we stay in hotels together, but for those concerned about travel costs., there are usually opportunities to be housed in local members' homes.

**Due to the extremely limited number of times our chorus has together, these few coaching/rehearsal weekends are of vital import and every member should make attendance at every one of these a very high priority.

In between those weekends, we get together a couple times for small group rehearsals and one-on-one practice with directors as needed.

Passing Off with the Directors

Qualifying with a director to compete with Bella Voce can be accomplished either through singing live (in person, video call, etc.) or via audio/video recordings. Fully interpreted learning tracks of our music are posted on our website for practice purposes at home. It is expected that each member will be passed off on specified music and skills before each coaching session.

What Members Can Expect From Bella Vocé

- A high level vocal experience in instruction and performance
- A positive and upbeat learning environment with new friends!
- Expert coaches in the barbershop style to help not only the chorus members be better singers, but the directors to improve, as well
- Strong and unified Management Team
- Sheet music of the songs for the year
- High quality vocal learning tracks for practice at home in MP3 format
- Any extra costume accents/props necessary for contest
- Choreography videos for practice at home
- Some local, small group rehearsals as opportunity provides
- Directors eager to help every single member succeed



This is how we feel on stage. Every time.

What Bella Vocé Expects Of Its Members

- Member dues for necessary functioning of the chorus
- First half chorus dues paid in Aug; see attached dues schedule for further payment details
- Planned attendance at every coaching/rehearsal weekend and all of contest weekend
- Memorizing/practicing the music and choreo on your own so vital chorus time can be used to its maximum efficiency on high level performance and unity skills
- An enthusiastic work ethic (Working hard together to achieve something exceptional is FUN!)
- Purchase of chorus costume (plan for about \$50) if needed that year
- Own transportation to the coaching weekends and contest (We often carpool together.)
- Purchasing/preparing own personal food needs minus the lunches Bella Vocé provides on Saturday rehearsal days
- Purchasing own basic, black character shoes for the stage; these usually run about \$30; we might have some in your size that you can borrow or buy cheap off someone else

Bella Vocé 2024~2025 Scheduled Dates



Don't we just glow with joy?

Feb 7-8 (Fri-Sat) Rehearsal Weekend in Salt Lake City area. We will rehearse together Friday night about 7-10 pm, then rehearse on Saturday about 9-3 pm.

April 25-26 (Fri-Sat) Rehearsal Weekend in Grand Junction. We will practice Friday night about 7-10 pm, then Saturday about 9-3 pm.

May 15-17 (Thur-Sat) REGIONAL COMPETITION in Cheyenne, WY. We will rehearse together Thursday 2-4 pm before contest meetings begin. Contest events end Saturday night.

Aug 8-9 Rehearsal Weekend in Craig. We will rehearse together Friday night about 7-10 pm, then Saturday about 9-2 with a local show from 3 to 4!

Sep 26-27 Rehearsal Weekend in Denver. We will rehearse together Friday night about 7-10 pm, then Saturday 9-3.

Oct 20-25 (Mon-Sat) INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION IN COLUMBUS, OHI More details to come.

What It Costs

Chorus Dues 2024-25

\$200 per adult

\$100 per youth (25 yrs and younger)

Regional Dues

\$130 adult

\$105 youth

International Dues

\$125 adult

\$62.50 youth

Total for the year

\$455 adult primary members*

September 13-14 (Fri-Sat) Rehearsal Weekend in Salt Lake City. We will rehearse together Friday night about 7-10 pm, then again on Saturday about 9-3 pm.

November 8-9 (Fri-Sat) Coaching Weekend with Vickie Maybury in the **Denver** area. We will rehearse together Friday night about 7-10 pm, then coach with Vickie on Saturday about 9-3 pm.

Between Dec-Feb Regional Rehearsal Day with your area members, date/time/location TBD by each group.

\$267.50 youth primary members*

*Dual members pay their regional and international dues through their primary chorus, so they only owe chorus dues. THESE TOTALS DO NOT INCLUDE ANY COSTUME PURCHASING NEEDS. See previous page.

PRIMARY MEMBERS: Pay your regional and international dues when they come due. You will be alerted when that is.

All payments go to Tanya Bergstrom, Finance Manager (contact and payment options on next page under "Contact Information").

FAQ's

What is Barbershop?

Barbershop is the musical art of four-part vocal harmony with no instrumental accompaniment. Traditional barbershop is different from modern a cappella singing in that its music clearly denotes a tonal center with emphasis on Barbershop (dominant and secondary dominant) seventh chords that resolve primarily around the circle of fifths. Barbershop music is also known for its symmetrical form and standard meter.

For more information go to:

<http://www.rmr8.org/about/barbershop>

What is Sweet Adelines, International (SAI)?

Sweet Adelines, International is a highly respected worldwide organization of women singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education, competition and performance. This independent, nonprofit music education association is one of the world's largest singing organizations for women at over 23,000 members.



For more information go to:

<http://www.sweetadelineintl.org>

What is Rocky Mountain Region 8?

Rocky Mountain Region 8 is one of many regions spread across the world under the SAI parent organization. Region 8 encompasses the states or parts of the states of Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Utah. Every region is responsible for hosting an annual competition in the spring.

For more information go to:

<http://www.rmr8.org>

What is Regional Competition?

Under the direction of Sweet Adelines, Int'l, every region hosts an annual competition for its members in the spring anywhere from mid-March to late May. This is for chartered quartets and choruses. Choruses compete with each other according to size: 15-30 members (small), 31-60 members (mid-size), and 61+ (large).

Contest can happen in different locations each year as determined by the regional board. The first official orientation meetings always begin on a Thursday evening for quartets and chorus leaders. Friday is when the quartets compete and the choruses compete on Saturday. Celebration and fun with our regional friends go late into that night and members usually stay the night to return home Sunday morning.

The actual time on stage before the judges is very short—JUST ENOUGH time to perform TWO contest barbershop songs OR your audience choice package. After that the members head out to the audience to enjoy

watching the rest of the competition together. However, that isn't the end of the singing in general. There are regional songs that everyone sings together during and after the contests as well as extra opportunities throughout in formal and casual settings all over the host hotel. It is a unique experience for sure!

Winners or those earning a high enough score from the judges during regional contest are eligible to then compete at the international level the next year in the fall (which also takes place in different locations).

What kind of singing experience do I need to have?

No formal music or vocal education is necessary. You don't even have to be able to read music. Choruses use audio learning tracks for convenient learning and practice at home. Four-part a cappella is a great challenge to do well, but if you love to sing and can carry a tune, you will likely have no problem passing Bella Vocé's simple audition process. We have a lot of fun at rehearsals working hard together to make a great unit sound.

Am I too old or young to sing with the chorus?

Because of the nature of the focus and maturity required to conquer this genre, we mostly cater to teens and adults with no upper age limit. If you can pass the audition process and make it to necessary rehearsals, you are welcome to join.

So, come sing with us now!

Contact Information

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You gotta be serious about barbershop to do this on stage.

BELLA VOCE CHORUS DUES
2024 – 2025 Contest Season
(by Tanya Bergstrom, BV Finance)

We are attempting to keep our dues as low as possible, so we are **not** increasing our chorus dues! They will still be \$200. Secondary members will only owe \$200 for Chorus dues as their Regional and International dues are paid through their Primary Chorus.

Summary:

Primary Members - \$455
Secondary Members - \$200
Primary Youth - \$267.50

HARD AND FAST, HOLD MY PLACE COMMITMENT

Aug 31st \$100 ALL MEMBERS

Feb 28th, 2025 \$100 ALL MEMBERS

By your personal annual renewal date, ALL must be paid up to compete with BV

Except for the Hard and Fast, Hold my Place Commitment of \$100, I am always willing to work with any members who cannot meet this schedule and may need extra time. And of course, anyone who wishes to pay ahead or in full is always welcome!

Venmo payments to **@bellavocechorus**

PayPal payments to bellavocefinance@gmail.com

Zelle payments to 970-290-5195

Checks made out to Bella Voce, mailed to Tanya Bergstrom PO Box 2595 Loveland, CO 80539