



Directed by David M. Rossi



Accompanied by Alfred V. Fedak



Monday rehearsal's at the Inman Center



Mission Statement

The purpose for which the Mohawk Valley Chorus including a children's choir and a youth chorale as well as the main community chorus of mixed voices - was formed to promote the cultural welfare of the community by the encouragement and presentation of musical, dramatic and other cultural activities and performances; to make available to the residents and the youth of the Mohawk Valley, including the counties of Albany, Fulton, Montgomery, Saratoga, Schenectady and Schoharie, the privilege of eligibility for membership in the corporation, based upon interest in musical, dramatic and other cultural endeavors and the ability to perform vocally in choruses, quartets and other choral arrangements and dramatic productions; to make available to the residents the opportunity to educate and offer free instruction in the arts set forth above, with training under professional directors, and the opportunity to contribute to the overall artistic development of the Mohawk Valley area.



Mohawk Valley Chorus

Mohawk Valley Chorus

P.O. Box 612

Amsterdam, NY 12010

**For information on joining
or concert times and locations:**

www.mohawkvalleychorus.org

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Mohawk Valley Chorus



*Music washes away from the soul
the dust of everyday life.*

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Mohawk Valley Chorus History

Mohawk Valley Chorus, in one form or another, has been entertaining audiences around the Amsterdam area since 1935, when Mohasco, then known as the Mohawk Carpet Mills and headquartered in Amsterdam, formed a men's Glee Club. John A. Gillies was the first director. Six years later, the company added a Ladies Choral Club, directed by Reginald Harris. The two groups combined in 1948.

In 1962, the organization, no longer financed by Mohasco, became the independent, self-sustaining Mohawk Valley Chorus, which now relies on corporate and individual contributions, members' dues, grants, fund raising and ticket sales to cover its annual expenses.

In the very beginning, the combined choruses presented a series of concerts and also performed at Army camps, hospitals, television specials and War Bond drives. The first few years of MVC, under the direction of Carl M. Steubing, were highlighted by an appearance at the New York World's Fair in 1964.

It was also in the Steubing era that the group made its first European concert tour. Other appearances included combined concerts with the Mendelssohn Club of Albany and the Musical Club of Troy, more television programs and the 1976 Bicentennial program at Scotia's Freedom Park.

Henry F. Sullivan directed the chorus for nearly 15 years. In that time, MVC greatly expanded its geographical performance area and, for the first time, attained some grants for financial support.

John H. Nethaway took over in 1979 and served for 30 years. His retirement in 2009 made way for the sixth director, David M. Rossi.

The chorus, in recent years, has given special performances with the Olympic Torch Bearers in Amsterdam, at Proctor's Theatre's Organ Dedication ceremony, at the Amsterdam Bicentennial celebration. It has combined with the Depot Lane Singers of Schoharie, the Schenectady County Community College Chorus and Brass Ensemble, the Oneida Area Civic Chorale, the Champlain Valley Chorale and the Pleasant Valley Chorale and performed with the St. Cecilia Orchestra and the Starliters. It has also been featured at numerous local programs, including the Noteworthy Company's Christmas festivities and with the Schenectady Symphony at RiverLink Park.

European singing tours resumed and have been taken every other summer for the past decade or so. A student scholarship established in 1992 is awarded to a high school senior or junior each year.

There are now 100 members from Fulton, Montgomery, Schenectady, Saratoga, Schoharie, Albany and Hamilton counties in the main chorus and three other performing groups. These include a sextet, the Sentimentalists, made up of chorus members, and two youth groups. The MVC Kids and the MVC Youth Chorale are directed by Margaret Lazarou and Theresa Jackson and managed by Grace A. Frederes.

Mohawk Valley Chorus



Amsterdam, N.Y.

Founded in 1935

Community Chorus of 100 Voices

Members Come from 7 Counties
*Albany, Fulton, Hamilton, Montgomery,
Saratoga, Schenectady and Schoharie.*

Auditions are not required but voice placement is offered.

Formal Concerts Performed Three Times Each Season

**Christmas in December,
Classics in March
and Pops in May**

*The chorus does a variety of music, from
sacred and classical to folk and jazz, rock,
blues, spirituals, show tunes and standards,
gospel, country, patriotic, operatic and
everything else in between.*

Dues

\$45 per year (\$15 for full-time students).

Rehearsals are at 7:30 p.m.

Monday nights, September through May,
at the Inman Center
on Guy Park Avenue in Amsterdam.

Other Performing Groups

MVC sponsors three other groups.

There are two children's choruses:

MVC Kids

for youngsters from 5 to 12

MVC Youth Chorale

for middle and high school students

and

The Sentimentalists

There is also a sextet of adult chorus members, **the Sentimentalists**, available for all sorts of special occasions, church and community events. Known for its unique blend and harmonies, the sextet sings a wide variety of music -- from sacred songs to blues and jazz -- although it specializes in American standards and show tunes. It is available for a church service or an hour-long performance. All donations received go to the chorus.



MVC Scholarship

One high school junior or senior is selected from throughout the MVC performing area each year to win a \$500 scholarship, based on his or her performing skills and talent.