



Choral Canada | Canada Choral

Starting a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch at your university/place of education

Are you interested in becoming more directly involved with your professional national choral organization (Choral Canada) while pursuing your post-secondary education? Start a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch! You will need a Branch Advisor (usually the choral director/professor), a Student President, and a group who wants to share in your choral work and passion. An application form can be found in a separate document (*CCSCB Application Form*). Please note that all personnel in the Branch group must be members in good standing of Choral Canada.

What are the benefits of a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch?

Each branch will have its own set of goals and activities. However, the overall benefit for each branch is offering an incentive for students to share their passion for and become more committed to the art of choral conducting during their educational formative years through learning opportunities beyond the classroom/rehearsal. Benefits can also include the development of leadership skills, providing professional development opportunities, and contributing supportive services to the choral area and music department when possible.

How much organization is involved with a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch?

You can choose how little or how much organization you want! A successful branch will be one in which the students determine how they want to function, guided by their Branch Advisor (usually the choral director/professor). Ideally the branch would provide encouragement to and opportunity for the student outside the classroom and choral rehearsal that directly relates to, but is not in competition with the choral program or other music programs.

Are meetings involved and does it take extra time?

It depends on the goals and activities that you choose to do, and how you choose to do them! The goals and activities of the Branch will likely dovetail seamlessly and relatively effortlessly into your choral studies within your music program.

GOALS of a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch should include:

1. Sponsoring activities and sessions at the local level that engage in the training and experience of student choral musicians.
2. Encouraging student attendance and involvement at Choral Canada's national biennial conference—Podium—through applying for student oriented programs and opportunities, and through attending the conference.
3. Encouraging and stimulating student membership and involvement in Choral Canada at the local, provincial and national levels.
4. Promoting and recognizing the involvement of Student Chapter Branches on university campuses.

ACTIVITIES of a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch may include:

1. Student workshops and symposia
2. Conducting masterclasses
3. Reading sessions
4. Other professional development and educational opportunities
5. Sponsorship of activities and sessions at provincial choral conferences (where possible) that directly relate to the training and experience of student choral musicians

**Check List for
Starting a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch (CCSCB)**

- Discuss interest in starting a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch with a choral conductor/professor at your university/college. From that discussion, Identify a faculty member (likely the choral conductor/professor) who will be willing to be the Branch Faculty Advisor.
- Review the goals of the choral program at your university/college and determine the advantages of forming a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch, and potential goals and activities of the Branch that would support the program studies.
- Encourage students to join Choral Canada and your CCSC Branch. Choral Canada Student Membership fees are \$39.55 (2018-2019) and run from Oct 1 to Sept 30. Membership can be done online through the Choral Canada website (choralcanada.org).
- Obtain any necessary approval of university/college officials to become a recognized student organization on your campus.
- Send completed application form to become a Choral Canada Student Chapter Branch to Chair, Student Chapter (*CCSCB Application Form* and mailing information are in a separate document).
- Send an annual report to the Choral Canada Student Chapter Chair by June 1 each year (*CCSCB Annual Report* form is available in separate document).