

CMI International Office
Thurlow Spurr/ Founder, Director, Producer
Kathy Spurr/ Producer, Director
116 E. Harding Street
Orlando, FL 32806
407-473-0313
www.cmichoir.org



Welcome...

TO THE WORLD OF CMI
&
THE MICHIGAN/OHIO CONCERT CHOIR!

We are so very grateful that you have decided to join us in “Taking Music (Jesus) To Our World.” For nearly 45 years we have been most fortunate to have some of the finest musicians and singers become members of our musical family. You follow a rich tradition.

Now that you are actually here let's begin with some **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

- Every member of CMI adult choir must be 17 years old or older. (Our youth program is for ages 5 -21.)
- We become partners by having a brief but important audition. It is not difficult, but it will help *us* to help *you* find the exact place to fit into the Choir family during this coming year and beyond.
- We conduct the auditions on your initial day of rehearsal. If we hear soloists and think you might qualify for a special part in “The Thurlow Spurr Singers” we will likely extend the audition a bit longer and a bit more intense. You will be told your status before the audition is over so that there is no delay.
- All members receive monthly letters via email to keep everyone up-to-date on all the information available.
- We rehearse on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 12:30 to 4:00 pm. Our concert tour happens the 1st, 2nd and 3rd weekends of November and includes an extra rehearsal on the 4th Saturday of October (More details will be released in plenty of time to make your plans easily to attend all regular and special rehearsals as well as limited extra performance opportunities that sometime present themselves).
- Most of your written music and/or CDs and DVDs will come to you via the internet in a PDF/MP3/MP4 form from the international office staff in Orlando, FL.
- Children are welcome only if they are 5 to 20 years old and are enrolled in **Miss Kathey's Academy for the Performing Arts.**
- Members must be able to join their colleagues in going up and down the custom built risers. We must all be willing and able to learn choreography which is best compared to something you would experience if you were in a Barbershop Music Group. Since we

believe that people listen with their eyes...we want to entertain with this in our focus...creating a professional show that would compare with something on Broadway. We have leaders with Master's Degrees in music and dance, instructing us and helping us. This concept will give us a clear advantage over a choir that stands and sings from a book. How fun it is...but you must be ready, willing, and able to try the "new."

- You will be allowed to miss only **2** rehearsals in a concert year. The reason is clear...we take pride in knowing the music and contributing fully to a superior performance. We believe God has perfect pitch and "doeth all things well!" (Mark 37:7) How can we give Him less than our best?

Some other **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

- CMI is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization...just like a local school, college, university or your church. We are governed by a Board of Directors and our books are audited by a Certified Public Accountant. All monies received are carefully allocated according to strict budgeting and multiple person controlled. Just as you would give to support the work of your church we receive the funds to pay our obligations by asking our members to contribute to the cost per person of approximately \$20 per month incurred in maintaining an organization like CMI. Many of our members pay \$220 for the entire year at the beginning of the year...thus saving \$20. As a courtesy to some who might want to pay in equal installments we offer the option of three equal payments of \$80 in January, February, and March.
- *Just a note of clarification regarding support of the ministry of CMI. Over the almost 45 years of Concert Ministries, Inc. history we have been so grateful that each of the members involved have proudly supported this ministry so that the expenses can be met in a timely and honorable manner. As we go into this new year we would like to be sure that we all are in agreement on how this is possible. Our year runs from December 1 through November 30. Dues are \$240 for the year. However, if you pay within the first month of joining (or as a continuing member) you are entitled to only pay \$220...a savings of \$20. If for any reason you choose to make payments, you may take up to 3 months **from the time of joining** to pay in equal \$80 installments. Many people give extra gifts to CMI throughout the year to help cover unusual expenses, for improvements in equipment and to use wherever needed. Some are supporting our YOUTH PROGRAM each month. We are also grateful for bequests, gifts of property, inclusion in wills, and any instrument that one would normally use to support a church, educational institution or not for profit organization.*
- See separate due sheet for Miss Kathey's Academy for The Performing Arts
- You also will want to buy your show attire at the proper time with sufficient notice to make it painless and fun.
- All members seek to include their relatives, neighbors, co-workers, business associates, church members and friends in the joy that our program provides to all. We all commit to selling 20 tickets so that our home town venue is sold out in advance of our performance.
- Every member of CMI is expected to participate in all six of our scheduled concerts so that our program is consistent in quality.
- All members must be current with their contributions, attendance, and their support in making 20 tickets available to their world in order to sing. This commitment makes the experience of CMI a thing of beauty and an awesome deposit in a lifelong wonderful bank of precious memories.

And finally our **SOUVENIR PROGRAM BOOK**,

- CMI provides a full color Souvenir Program for the people who attend our concerts. It is 32 pages...chock full of stunning pictures and interesting biographies and stories as well as the concert program along with the names of every CMI member. We give it FREE and without charge. Naturally it costs several thousand dollars to create, produce and print. This cost is underwritten by business and professional friends who become partners with us in sponsoring this beautiful book. Each member of CMI **selects someone who they know would like to be associated with us and would like to** place an ad in our book so that many thousands of potential customers and clients will know about their goods and services and select to do business with them throughout the coming year.

One more important procedure **REGISTRATION**

- You will arrive early at each rehearsal in order to allow time to greet friends and be seated in your voice section by starting time. Prior to each rehearsal **sign in at the registration table.**
- You will receive a special name tag. Please wear it at all rehearsals. It will also serve as a stage pass with our security system at concerts.

In **CONCLUSION**

- At each rehearsal get ready for 3½ hours of exciting action packed singing, praising, sharing, learning, crying, laughing and worshiping. We welcome your creativity and assistance in any area of interest and qualification. Let us follow this dynamic truth. Our simple act of commitment brings all sorts of unforeseen people, events and circumstances that will rise up and assist us. So...

“Let the music begin!”

CMI Executive Leadership

Thurlow Spurr, President/Founder/Director	thurlow@thurlowspurr.com	(407) 473-0313
Kathey Spurr, Vice President/Co-Director	kathey@thurlowspurr.com	(407) 473-0313
Keith Euler, Treasurer/CPA		
Jan Callison, Executive Administrator	Jan.callison@gmail.com	(810) 348-0737

2015 Leadership

Chapter	Name	Phone	Email
Brighton/Novi	Lennie & Becky Brousseau	810-287-6234	Care_tek@yahoo.com
Dearborn	Kevin & Shari Stephens	248-736-2384	Shari.stephens@att.net
Flint/Saginaw	Mary LaBrie	810-417-6107	cmimary@airadv.net
Lansing	Beverly Finch	517-980-4780	scndsoprano@tds.net
Macomb	Carl & Cathy Winowiecki	248-335-8932	ccwinowiecki@sbcglobal.net
Toledo	Quran & Tracey Karriem	313-799-2585	tkarriem@yahoo.com
Youth	Vickey Priest	734-697-9470	vickeyp05@sbcglobal.net