

## VOICE PARTS IN BARBERSHOP SINGING

There are certain things you may want to know depending on the part you will be singing. Most of us are familiar with the SATB or SSAA choral music, where the melody is usually in the First Soprano line, above all others. The voice parts in barbershop harmony for women have different names and functions than they do in other SATB or SSAA vocal styles. The **LEAD** voice generally sings the melody and is below the **TENOR** harmony; the **TENOR** part sings the highest note in the chord; the **BARITONE** part fills in the all-important missing note in a chord that may be above and below the melody; the **BASS** part supplies the harmonic foundation (root or fifth) of the chord. Similar to choral music, minimal vibrato should be apparent in barbershop singing. Wide and obvious vibratos tend to hamper the “lock and ring” that we look for in our chords.

**TENOR** is a harmony part sung consistently above the lead. The tenor should have a light, sweet, pure tone that will complement but not overpower or overshadow the lead voice. Light lyric sopranos generally make good tenors.

**LEAD** is the melody and must be sung with authority, clarity and consistent quality throughout the lead's range. The lead sings with limited vibrato to add color and warmth to the sound. With too much use of vibrato, the chord will not “lock” or “ring” or produce the unique, full and “expanded” sound that is characteristic of barbershop harmony. The lead is responsible for conveying the interpretation, emotion and inflections of the song.

**BARITONE** covers approximately the same range as lead. The voice part is similar to the equivalent of an Alto I except that baritone harmony notes cross the lead notes. Primarily sung below the lead but sometimes sung above, depending on where the melody is situated, baritones must constantly adjust their balance to accommodate their position in the chord. They must have a good ear.

**BASS** is the lowest note in the barbershop chord. Singers should have a rich, mellow voice and generally sing the root and fifth of each chord. The bass sings a relatively straight, well-produced tone with a minimum of vibrato. The range is comparable to that of a contralto or Alto II in traditional choral music. Similar to the baritone, this part is written in the bass clef an octave lower than it is actually sung. A bass sings with a heavier tone quality than the others and generally with more volume, to fill out the “cone.” The bass part provides the foundation of each chord.

### THE BARBERSHOP CONE

Barbershop harmonies have a different balance than the traditional cylindrical balance of SATB or SSAA ensemble music. Our top voices sing with less weight and intensity than our lower voices.



## “A Day of Barbershop Singing”

### Registration Form

#### Student Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Voice Part (circle or bold all that apply):

Tenor/S I      Lead/S II      Baritone/Alto I      Bass/Alto II      Uncertain

#### **School and/or Chorus Information (at the time of the festival)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Current grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Chorus Name: \_\_\_\_\_ # Yrs \_\_\_\_\_

#### Chaperone Information (for students 17 and younger at time of festival)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt Size (circle or bold one):    S      M      L      XL      XXL      3XL

Please e-mail form to [Blgooden5@msn.com](mailto:Blgooden5@msn.com) or by mail to

Texas Harmony Chorus YWIIH  
P.O. Box 153534  
Irving, TX 76051



## **Agreement of Parent or Guardian Young Women in Harmony Chorus Participation**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_  
hereby give my permission for her to participate in a Young Women in Harmony (YWIH)  
Chorus, sponsored by Texas Harmony Chorus Chapter of Sweet Adelines  
International and agree to the following:

1. I understand that I shall be legally and financially responsible for her participation in events, including but not limited to rehearsals, performances, regional and international events, coaching sessions, fund raising, and social activities as well as any other activities that may arise.
2. I shall be responsible for her transportation to and from all activities set forth in item 1 of this agreement.
3. I agree to be responsible for the payment of any and all expenses related to her participation in the YWIH Chorus including but not limited to travel, hotel accommodations, costumes, and makeup.
4. I agree to accompany her to all events. In the event that I cannot accompany her as agreed, she may be accompanied by a sponsor or chaperone, approved by me and the sponsoring chorus.
5. In the event that she is accompanied to any event by a sponsor, I agree to provide the sponsor with a Youth Member Emergency Medical Release on a form approved by the sponsoring chorus.
6. I agree to release Sweet Adelines International Corporation and any and all of their agents from any and all liability arising from or in any manner related to her transportation to, attendance at, or participation in any event.
7. I agree to all the above agreements which will be in effect through my daughter's eighteenth (18) birthday.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Sponsor Agreement and Emergency Medical Care Release

I, \_\_\_\_\_ parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_  
who participates in the Young Women in Harmony Chorus, sponsored by  
Texas Harmony Chorus \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter of Sweet Adelines International, hereby  
gives permission for \_\_\_\_\_, to act as her sponsor in accordance  
with Sections 4 and 5 of the Agreement of Parent or Guardian. I give this permission so  
that she can attend and participate in (circle one):

1. All events and activities between \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_,  
(Date) (Date)

*or*

2. The following event (describe)

The Young Women In Harmony Festival; A Day of Barbershop Singing  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In the event of a medical emergency, I give my permission to the physician selected by  
the sponsor to provide all necessary and appropriate medical care to the minor child  
including but not limited to hospitalization, injections, anesthesia, and surgical  
procedures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature

I agree to act as sponsor of the above-named minor according to the terms and  
limitations described herein.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor signature



**Emergency Medical Information for Minor Child**

1. Minor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. Father's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. Mother's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. Physician's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. Dentist's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_
  
6. Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Group No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Insured: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_
  
7. Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Group No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Insured: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_
  
8. Does Youth Member have any allergies? \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_
  
9. Does Youth Member have restrictions on activities? \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_
  
10. Does Youth Member have any other medical conditions of which we should be aware?  
If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
11. Does Youth Member take any medications of which we should be aware?  
If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
12. Blood Type: \_\_\_\_\_





# Sweet Adelines International

Young Women in Harmony Program

## Youth Photo/Recording Release

Youth Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address/State/Zip/Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Day phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parental Agreement:

I, being the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby give permission for Sweet Adelines International and any of its affiliated organizations, including, but not limited to its regions and chapters, to use the name of my child and/or photographs/artwork/videotapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings of my child on an ongoing basis for promotional, news, or public relations purposes in print and/or electronic media.

Furthermore, I hereby consent that such photographs/artwork/videotapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings shall be the property of Sweet Adelines International and any of its affiliated organizations. They shall have the right to duplicate, reproduce and make other uses of such photographs/artwork/videotapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings as they desire free and clear of any claim whatsoever on my part. All rights to fees, commissions, royalties, or profits received as the results of the distribution, sale, or lease of the recordings in any form are assigned to Sweet Adelines International to be used in any manner consistent with the purpose of Sweet Adelines International.

Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Frequently Asked Questions

**How will I get music for the festival?** After you send in your registration form and fee, you will receive the music you will be performing at the festival (and all other information) via email. It is very important to learn your music BEFORE the festival so that you will be prepared for festival rehearsals and activities. You will receive pdf sheet music and audio tracks.

**What does my registration fee cover?** Your registration fee covers a variety of expenses associated with the festival, including music, learning tracks, t-shirt and two meals.

**How do I make a payment?** You can take care of your registration fee by mailing a check (made payable to Texas Harmony Chorus) to the mailing address at the bottom of this page or by visiting [www.texasharmony.org](http://www.texasharmony.org) to make an online payment.

**Can Choral teachers and/or Chorus chaperones observe the festival?** Adults who are bringing students to the festival, whether they are teachers, chorus members, or chaperones, are welcome to observe all or part of the festival activities.

**Who can come to the Saturday night performance?** Please invite family and friends to hear you perform at the evening performance. Texas Harmony Chorus and Titanium Quartet will also perform at the festival. The festival performance is free of charge for anyone who wants to come and support you!

**Any other questions?** Please contact your Festival Coordinator listed below if you have any other questions about the program.

Beverly Gooden

[Blgooden5@msn.com](mailto:Blgooden5@msn.com)

(248) 515-6903

Texas Harmony Chorus YWIH

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