



Handbook

updated August 1, 2026

policies subject to change at the discretion of YVF staff

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Introduction

Welcome to Young Voices of the Foothills! We are so glad to have you and your young singer join our community. Young Voices of the Foothills (YVF) is a community choir for children in the Upstate of South Carolina. YVF offers children the opportunity to explore the joys of singing together, make new friends, and find a place of belonging.

Core Values

- To encourage a love of singing in children that will last a lifetime
- To help children share their voices and develop self-confidence
- To invite children to experience many different styles of vocal music
- To embrace and uplift the community by performing concerts in various venues

Staff

		
Laura Ritter <i>Founder and Artistic Director</i>	Michelle Ross <i>Choir Director</i>	Eric J. Lapin, MBA, Ph.D. <i>Executive Director</i>
lauraritter@youngvoicesofthefoothills.org	michelleross@youngvoicesofthefoothills.org	eric@youngvoicesofthefoothills.org

Website

youngvoicesofthefoothills.org

<https://linktr.ee/YoungVoicesOfTheFoothills>



Fall 2026 Choirs, Locations, & Pricing

**Young Voices of the Foothills, LLC is not affiliated with any of the churches used for rehearsals or performances*

Anderson Primary (Grades K-1)

\$50/month–September 1, October 1, November 1, December 1

OR \$180/paid in full (10% discount)

20% Discount for each additional singer in same family–\$160.00 per additional singer

Thursdays 3:30–4:30pm

First Baptist Church, Anderson

307 S. Manning St. Anderson, SC 29624

Anderson Elementary (Grades 2–6)

\$50/month–September 1, October 1, November 1, December 1

OR \$180/paid in full (10% discount)

20% Discount for each additional singer in same family–\$160.00 per additional singer

Thursdays 3:30–4:30pm

First Baptist Church, Anderson

307 S. Manning St. Anderson, SC 29624

Anderson Upper Level (Grades 7–12)

\$50/month–September 1, October 1, November 1, December 1

OR \$180/paid in full (10% discount)

20% Discount for each additional singer in same family–\$160.00 per additional singer

Thursdays 3:30–4:30pm

First Baptist Church, Anderson

307 S. Manning St. Anderson, SC 29624

Pendleton Primary (Grades K-1)

\$25/month–September 1, October 1, November 1, December 1

OR \$90/paid in full (10% discount)

20% Discount for each additional singer in same family–\$80.00 per additional singer

Mondays 3:15–3:45pm

First Baptist Church of Pendleton

351 S. Broad St. Pendleton, SC 29670



Pendleton Elementary (Grades 2-7)

\$50/month–September 1, October 1, November 1, December 1

OR \$180/paid in full (10% discount)

20% Discount for each additional singer in same family–\$160.00 per additional singer

Mondays 4:00–5:00pm

First Baptist Church of Pendleton

351 S. Broad St. Pendleton, SC 29670

Seneca Primary (Grades K-1)

\$25/month–September 1, October 1, November 1, December 1

OR \$90/paid in full (10% discount)

20% Discount for each additional singer in same family–\$80.00 per additional singer

Tuesdays 4:15–4:45pm

Saint Mark United Methodist Church

616 Quincy Rd. Seneca, SC 29678

Seneca Elementary (Grades 2-7)

\$50/month–September 1, October 1, November 1, December 1

OR \$180/paid in full (10% discount)

20% Discount for each additional singer in same family–\$160.00 per additional singer

Tuesdays 5:00–6:00pm

Saint Mark United Methodist Church

616 Quincy Rd. Seneca, SC 29678

Seneca Upper Level (Grades 6-12)

\$50/month–September 1, October 1, November 1, December 1

OR \$180/paid in full (10% discount)

20% Discount for each additional singer in same family–\$160.00 per additional singer

Wednesdays 3:00–4:00pm

Trinity Baptist Church

504 S Oak St. Seneca, SC 29678



Camps

2026-2027 YVF Camps

- Carols & Cocoa
 - December 21, 2026
 - 9am-2pm
 - St. Mark UMC
 - \$50 (\$40 for each additional Young Voice per family)
 - 10% discount for registering and paying with Fall 2026 Registration

- Summer Camp (theme to be announced in Fall 2026)
 - June 2026
 - Times, Dates, Costs & Locations to be announced in Fall 2026

Camp Pricing

A one day YVF camp is priced at \$50. Each additional child in the same family receives a 20% discounted rate of \$40. Early registration discounts available.

A weeklong YVF camp is priced at \$200. Each additional child in the same family receives a 20% discounted rate of \$160. Early registration discounts available.

Each child must be either paid in full or signed up for a payment plan prior to the camp start date. Limited scholarships are available. Email eric@youngvoicesofthefoothills.org for payment arrangements or questions.



Attendance Policy

Choir is a group activity. When your Young Voice doesn't attend rehearsal, it impacts the entire group. While we recognize that emergencies, sickness, and busy schedules happen, we do ask that you make every effort to attend all rehearsals. Concert participation requires regular attendance and is at the discretion of the choir director.

Payment Policy

Each child must be either paid in full (10% discount) or signed up for the monthly payment plan prior to the first rehearsal. Failure to adhere to the agreed upon payment schedule will result in the singer being unable to participate in any YVF events, concerts, or rehearsals until payment terms are met. The preferred payment methods are check made out to Young Voices of the Foothills or Venmo @yvfoothills. Please reach out to eric@youngvoicesofthefoothills.org with any questions or concerns.

Scholarship Policy

Limited scholarships are available. It is very important to our Core Values that ALL Young Voices are able to sing. If finances are preventing your Young Voice from signing up, apply [HERE](#) or email eric@youngvoicesofthefoothills.org with questions.

Refund Policy

All payments to Young Voices of the Foothills for semester choirs or camp are non-refundable at the time of payment. Your timely payment covers the cost of instruction, facilities, music purchases and licensing, and general overhead expenses.

Cancellation Policy

Our YVF Choirs and Camps occur at various Upstate locations. YVF is required to adhere to the facilities and closure decisions of the locations where we rehearse. If the church where we are rehearsing decides to close, YVF rehearsal must be canceled. All registered participants will be notified by email as soon as information is available.

Communication

Email communications for YVF will go to the email address provided at registration. These communications are only sent as necessary and often contain information about closures, cancellations, rehearsals, performances, or upcoming YVF offerings. Please add eric@youngvoicesofthefoothills.org and lauraritter@youngvoicesofthefoothills.org to your address book to ensure you receive all important messages.



Media Release Policy

Upon registration for a YVF camp or choir, guardians will be asked to acknowledge the YVF Media Release Policy. Thank you for allowing us to celebrate your Young Voice!

“I grant permission to Young Voices of the Foothills, LLC, its agents, and its employees the irrevocable and unrestricted right to produce photographs and video taken of my child, myself, and members of my family while participating at Young Voices of the Foothills, LLC events for any lawful purpose including publication, promotion, illustration, advertising, trade, or historical archive in any manner or in any medium. I hereby release Young Voices of the Foothills, LLC and its legal representatives from liability for any violation or claims relating to said images or video. Furthermore, I grant permission to use the statements of my child, myself, or my family members given during an interview or evaluation with or without my name for the purpose of advertising and publicity without restriction to time limit or geographic area. I waive my right, my child’s rights, and my family’s rights to any and all compensation stemming from the use of these materials.”

Social Media

YVF is on Instagram and Facebook @yvfoothills. Please help us by liking, commenting, and sharing our content. This helps us reach more people as we serve our mission to bring the joys of choir to all the children of the Upstate.

Sacred Music

Young Voices is not affiliated with any specific religious group. Due to the nature of choir music, YVF will occasionally sing music with religious texts. These performances are not an endorsement of any religion but are an important part of our choirs singing the best choral literature available.

Church Use

While YVF greatly appreciates the generous use of space, Young Voices of the Foothills, LLC is not affiliated with any of the churches used for rehearsals or performances.