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## It Has Begun!

A new season is underway for Taunton Civic Chorus. The Spring season began on Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> with Music Director Chris Hoskins leading singers, along with Assistant Music Director/Accompanist JJ Ward.

The 63<sup>rd</sup> season for the chorus features folk music of American, Celtic, and heritage. The concert is entitled, *How Can We Keep from Singing? – An Evening of Folk Songs*.



New and old singers show up to the first rehearsal of the Spring season at Berkely Congregational Church in Berkley.



Director Hoskins describes the music as, "A celebration of rote folklore: a tale of old and new, spoken through song."

Some of the selections include American tunes "Shenandoah" and "Down to the River to Pray", a song which was featured in the movie *Oh Brother, Where Art Thou*.

Celtic offerings include the traditional English song "Greensleeves" and "Scarborough Fair" adapted and released by Simon and Garfunkel in 1966.

The traditional Israeli melody "Shalom Chaverim" sends the message of dwelling together in peace - a message that "crosses cultures and bridges language and religion" according to program notes in the music.

**Contact us:**

- **Email-  
taunton.ma.civic.  
chorus@gmail.com**
- **Like us and follow  
us on Facebook**
- **Web -  
Tauntoncivicchorus  
.com**
- **P.O.Box 217  
E. Taunton,02718**

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## New Risers Raise the Bar

Just before Christmas, TCC took delivery of its first set of risers. Until then, the chorus had to get creative by positioning singers, or borrowing risers from schools or other choral groups.

Now, TCC has its own risers, but it was quickly evident at the holiday concert that we needed more to accommodate the growing group. So, it was back to fundraising. And thanks to an anonymous donor, chorus was able to order some more risers

and increase the size.



The chorus will be able to comfortably and safely be positioned on the risers for the next concert.

## TCC to Award Scholarships to High Schoolers

Each year, Taunton Civic Chorus awards a scholarship(s) to area high school students.

The \$500 scholarship is open to graduating seniors from greater Taunton area high schools: Taunton High School, Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School, West Bridgewater High School, East Bridgewater High School, Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School, Somerset-Berkley Regional High School, Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School, Bristol County Agricultural High School, Apponequet Regional High School, Middleborough High School, Norton High School, Oliver Ames High School. An additional scholarship may be awarded to a runner-up applicant.

The student must be a participant in an organized musical activity (chorus, band, orchestra, private voice or instrumental lessons, drama club, dance lessons), and be accepted into a 2 or 4-year college degree program, pursuing any major.

Applications are available through high school guidance/music departments, or [taunton.ma.civic.chorus@gmail.com](mailto:taunton.ma.civic.chorus@gmail.com).

### Join a Committee; Share Your Creativity

Taunton Civic Chorus would love your input. The chorus runs with the help of four different committees- Fundraising, Membership, Scholarship and Public Relations/ Marketing. Please consider joining one!

