



July 1, 2011

Subject: Bishop's Confidential Recommendation for Mormon Tabernacle Choir Audition

Applicant Name: _____

Dear Bishop,

The above member of your ward is auditioning to become a member of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. A critical part of the application package is your confidential recommendation. Please complete the attached form and return it to the applicant in a *sealed envelope*. **As the applicants must have their completed application package postmarked by August 15, 2011 your prompt attention is appreciated.**

Individuals must meet the following requirements to become a member of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir:

1. Be a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in good standing and qualify for a temple recommend.
2. Be between 25 and 55 years of age. **The applicant must be 55 years of age or younger on August 15, 2011 when the application materials are due.** The mandatory Choir retirement age is 60.
3. **Currently** reside within a 100-mile radius of Temple Square. *We strongly discourage applicants moving to the area for the purpose of auditioning for the Choir.*
4. Be in good health to permit consistent participation in long rehearsals, demanding travel, and other performance-related requirements.
5. Be able to commit to maintaining the required levels of attendance *while still being able to take care of all family and work responsibilities*. Choir membership will mean 10 – 20 hours of rehearsal per week depending on projects and schedules.

Singers in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir are called and set apart as musical missionaries by authority of the First Presidency of the Church through the Choir President. This call becomes the individual's principal Church calling, often precluding other service in the ward except as a home teacher or visiting teacher. We encourage Choir members to be active in their own wards, to attend their meetings, participate in activities that do not conflict with rehearsal and performance schedules, and to keep their lives in harmony with the teachings of the Gospel.

In order to evaluate this application for membership in the Choir, we ask that you consider if the applicant meets the following requirements for membership:

1. Observes the principles of the gospel in his or her personal life
2. Is an active member in his or her ward
3. Has no conflict between family responsibilities and Choir membership
4. Is a worthy representative of the Church in all personal actions
5. Can otherwise accept what the First Presidency considers a missionary calling

You may wish to interview the Choir member (and spouse) to insure unified support of this potential call to missionary service in the Choir. Let me assure you that your response will be held in confidence. Please place this completed letter in a sealed envelope, sign across the back flap, and return to the applicant for submission to the Choir Office. **As the applicants must have their completed application package postmarked no later than August 15, 2011 your prompt attention is appreciated.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mac Christensen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mac Christensen
President

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Applicant Name: _____

The applicant named above lives the principles required for membership in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Yes ____ No ____

Bishop's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Comments, if any:

Bishop's Name: _____

Bishop's Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Bishop's Telephone Number: _____

Ward: _____ Stake: _____