



**Toronto
Mendelssohn
Choir**

Jean-Sébastien Vallée
Artistic Director

Daniela Nardi
Executive Director

An Exciting Volunteer Leadership Role in the Performing Arts

Become a Board Member of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir



Join with other community leaders as the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir celebrates its 130th season. As a Board member, you'll play an integral role in the future of Canada's leading choral organization. In its magnificent performances TMChoir has amplified celebratory moments in Canadian history. In times of sorrow, it has provided comfort through song. Just like the country, the TMChoir has withstood world wars, economic crisis, devastating diseases, and lately a pandemic.

TMChoir didn't just emerge from the pandemic though, it exploded out with an astonishing three-year artistic plan that reimagined the choir's magnificent history of a multiple concert season, new recordings, and tours. Our ensemble now includes a core of 24 professional singers – the TMSingers, and expands to the full 160 member TMChoir which includes auditioned and experienced volunteer choristers. The flexibility of our different choir sizes means we can fill large, impressive orchestral spaces with the scale of large choir required to honour the magnificence of a



symphonic choral masterwork; while our smaller professional ensemble can deliver more intimate, nimble repertoire pieces in a variety of non-traditional venues, traversing the line between concert and experience.

Our Artistic Director, Jean-Sébastien Vallée's vision is for a balance between tradition and fresh innovation. We are evolving to include diverse, contemporary works in our repertoire, and to reimagine our performances in new, surprising, experiential ways. Embracing our home city's reputation as the most diverse place on earth, and because we are "beyond a choir", our dedication to new choral experiences also extends to creating meaningful and impactful educational and community engagement programs, and to forging new relationships and partnerships with friends and neighbours in the Canadian choral landscape. One example is our annual Composer-in-Residence appointment that brings to light choral compositions by immensely talented, but unknown composers. This commissioning of new works is also one way TMChoir helps to promote and ensure the ongoing development of Canadian choral repertoire.



Jean-Sébastien Vallée, Artistic Director



Board Member Job Description

The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir Board of Directors (the Board) is committed to ensuring that it achieves standards of excellence in the quality of its governance and has adopted the following duties and expectations of its members. They are expected to be familiar and comply with the Duties and Responsibilities of the Board, as set out in the Board's By-Laws and its Charter. Members are also required to comply with the Board's Code of Conduct, Conflict of Interest Policy and other Board policies. Board members will be familiar with and comply with their fiduciary duties, as legally required of Directors of Ontario Not for Profit Corporations. Toronto Mendelssohn Choir invites applications from all qualified individuals. TMChoir is strongly committed to equity and diversity and encourages applications from Black, racialized/visible minorities, Indigenous, peoples, women, persons with disabilities, and 2SLGBTQIA+ persons.

As a member of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir Board of Directors, you would be a trustee of the corporation responsible for:

- Enabling the organization to deliver its mission: To perform choral works at the highest level of musical excellence
- Ensuring compliance with all applicable laws and regulations including, Public Guardian and Trustee, CRA Charitable
- Highest standards of audience and donor relations, including donor designation, honest reporting
- Volunteer and staff safe workplace

Qualities of Board Members

- Commitment to the Mission, Vision and Values of the TMChoir
- Knowledge about and/or experience of the Performing Arts Sector
- Ability to think strategically and engage in sound, collaborative decision-making processes
- Commitment to act with independence of mind and in the best interests of the organization
- Dedication of time required of a Director



Fundraising and Personal Giving

Board members are expected to support all fundraising and development goals and activities of the TMChoir, consistent with the strategic directions approved by the Board of Directors. Members will support TMChoir management in the achievement of specific fundraising goals. At the beginning of the year, each Director will meet with the Chair to confirm their annual personal philanthropic contribution.

Attendance

Board members are expected to attend TMChoir concerts. The Board meets approximately 10 times a year. Members are expected to attend all meetings of the Board and applicable committees. Meetings are conducted in person and virtually. A member who fails to attend 80% of meetings will be considered not to have met an acceptable, minimum standard.



Ambassadorship

Board members are expected help increase public knowledge and interest in TMChoir by

- hosting individuals at concerts
- recruiting qualified individuals to join the Board
- Introducing prospective individual and corporate donors to the organization

Committee Service

Members are expected to serve on at least one Board Standing or Special Committee, as requested by the Chair. Committees generally meet monthly. Members will respect the Terms of Reference of Board Committees.





Ongoing Education, Development and Evaluation

Members are expected to attend an orientation session and ongoing education sessions as scheduled at Board meetings or retreats. Members are expected to have a working knowledge of the TMChoir and its stakeholders, and participate in active self-assessment, evaluation and feedback.

Preparation and Participation

Members are expected to read materials distributed in advance of Board meetings, to come to meetings prepared to participate knowledgeably in discussion, and to vote.

Teamwork and Supporting Board Decisions

Members will develop and maintain effective working relationships with the Chair of the Board, other Directors, and with senior artistic and administrative staff of the organization. Board members are expected to be loyal to the organization, respect the will of the majority and support approved Board decisions. Board members will understand the difference between governance and management and will respect areas that are solely within the purview of management.

Biographies of current Board members, [here](#).