



Showmen sought for Singers spring session

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Auditions for Mask & Mirror community choir set for Jan. 20

Mask & Mirror, Tigard and Tualatin's local community theater, is looking to expand its fledging singing group.

The Mask & Mirror Singers, a choir comprised of Tigard and Tualatin residents who sing at events free of charge, is looking to increase its numbers after it spent its first few months caroling at holiday events across the area.

The choir is holding auditions on Monday, Jan. 20, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Faith Journey Church, 11265 S.W. Gaarde St., in Tigard.

"It's a lot of fun," said Cindy Green, the group's director. "There are folks in the community that want to have an outlet to sing."

The choir performs concerts in the spring and fall, sings carols during the holidays and performs at nonprofit events, senior homes and civic activities as community service.

"We exist to support the communities of Tigard and Tualatin," said Gary Romans, president of Mask & Mirror. "It was obvious to us that Tigard and Tualatin lacked an outlet for all the singing talent that was coming in our theater group."

The group began last year, after Bridgeport Village contacted the theater troupe to provide entertainment at local events.

Green, a member of the community theater's executive board, helped to form the choir to give the members a chance to perform.

"We threw things together in about five weeks and gathered all the folks we knew who liked to sing," said Green. "It caught on so well that we decided to continue."

The choir, which so far has two dozen singers, plans to hold a special concert near the end of April.

After April's concert, Green hopes to take excerpts from the show on the road, to perform at schools, assisted living centers and other venues.

"At some of those assisted living centers, the people have nothing throughout the year (to keep them entertained)," she said. "The only time anybody goes there to perform is to sing Christmas carols. We want to book things throughout the year."

Green has been singing since she was a young girl, but said she couldn't find a place to perform since moving to Tigard.



by: TIMES PHOTO: JAIME VALDEZ - Sarah Ominski and Gary Romans perform during a Mask & Mirror production in 2012. The theater troupe is holding auditions this month to expand its traveling choir which performs across the area.

“(When I found Mask & Mirror) I went, ‘Oh my God, I have been looking to do something like this for a long time,’” she said. “They are like a second family to me. I love it to death, and I love all the people.”

Green said no choral experience is necessary to join the group.

“We have some folks that can read music, others that learn by ear and others that don’t do music at all,” she said.

That’s part of Mask & Mirror’s mission, Green said. Getting people to connect with performance and learn the ropes.

“It’s for anybody,” Green said. “We teach them the basics. Many of them learn it by rote. You don’t have to be a professional.”

Auditioners are asked to have a song prepared to show off their voice range. Musical accompaniment isn’t necessary, but Green said an accompanist will be on hand.

“I don’t care what they sing, they could do ‘Happy Birthday’ or ‘Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star’ if they wanted to,” Green said.

The choir is also looking for a volunteer pianist to play during rehearsals.

The group will rehearse on Tuesday evenings. Green said the choir will likely perform a variety of different styles.

“There will be a little classical, a little pop music, some show tunes and gospel and probably some solos or duets in there for anybody who wants them,” she said.

For more information about the choir, visit maskandmirror.com, call 503-524-2058, or email info@maskandmirror.com.