

# The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus

## Shari Bierman Singer Fellowship

The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus (COC) is offering fellowships for undergraduate and graduate students pursuing a degree in a music-related field during the 2026-2027 academic year. Up to four **Shari Bierman Singer Fellowships** may be granted, each in the amount of \$3,500. Students must have demonstrable skill, evidenced through a combination of academic and musical talent, GPA, and performance ability. Applicants must be able to commit to the full rehearsal and performance schedule of The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus. Fellowship recipients will have additional guidance and mentorship opportunities from the staff of The Cleveland Orchestra.

### ELIGIBILITY:

- College undergraduate and graduate level students pursuing a vocal performance, music education, conducting, or similar music-related degree during the 2026-2027 academic year.
- Students must be enrolled full-time.
- Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Students must be able to commit to the full rehearsal and performance schedule of the COC.

### APPLICATION PROCESS – all materials due by **3:00pm Monday, April 27**:

- Complete application - available online at <https://forms.gle/a6xb8pmrrCwjN2CX7>
- Performance resume
- One letter of reference supporting musical background and character from current or most recent studio/private director or ensemble director
- A personal statement about how your participation as a chorus member would contribute to your long-term goals (not to exceed 500 words)
- A copy of your most recent transcript (an unofficial transcript is acceptable).

Application materials should be submitted to [chorus@clevelandorchestra.com](mailto:chorus@clevelandorchestra.com).

Auditions will be heard by appointment on **Thursday, April 30** at Disciples Christian Church, 3663 Mayfield Road, in Cleveland Heights. Upon completion of the online application, candidates will receive the link to schedule an audition appointment.

### AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

- Perform two contrasting pieces, each approximately 3 minutes in duration. At least one selection should be in French, German, or Italian.
- Sight-read selections of the director's choice, with accompaniment.
- Sing scales, arpeggios, or other technical exercises as directed.

**CHORUS SCHEDULE** The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus rehearses on Monday evenings from 7:00pm – 10:00pm in University Circle, with some additional Sunday evenings and every night during concert weeks. Fellows will attend rehearsals beginning August 31, 2026, and ending May 27, 2027. A detailed schedule is available at [www.cochorus.com/auditions](http://www.cochorus.com/auditions).

Members of the COC perform with The Cleveland Orchestra in subscription and Holiday Concerts. Season highlights include the U.S. premiere of *Eternity in an Hour*, a new piece by Eric Whitacre and conducted by the composer; Brahms *Ein deutsches Requiem*; taking Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* on tour to Carnegie Hall; Haydn's *The Creation*; and Strauss's opera *Die Frau ohne Schatten*.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISIONS** Decisions will be announced by email no later than May 24. Questions regarding the application process should be sent to [chorus@clevelandorchestra.com](mailto:chorus@clevelandorchestra.com).