

**WVC Strategic Plan (SP)  
Member Survey Summary  
January 28, 2020**

The survey was conducted the week following the January 18, 2020 concert. The response rate was 91% (62/68). Cross themes through all SP investigation can now be identified. All groups were overwhelming supportive of WVC and our AD. All groups support equally the sisterhood and raising the level of musical excellence. All groups identified an interest in collaborations and outreach, as long as it did not become burdensome in terms of time or cost. All groups desire a balance of musical styles. Specific to the member survey, members revealed they are willing to work on their own to improve preparedness.

1) Compared to 5 years ago, retention rates have improved

- Fewer members have been with the chorus for less than 5 years - 48% then to 26% now
- 6-10 years - insignificant difference - 26% to 29%.
- 11-15 - exactly the same 17%
- More than 16% - increase from 19% to 24%

2) Mission: All but one member support or highly support 2 aspects of the mission - to be a welcoming place and musical excellence. The support in the other 2 categories revealed a wider spread with more support for choral works for women than by women.

3) Sisterhood: Important or very important to 90% of responders.

4) Excellence of chorus: 90% support raising the quality of the chorus up at least one category compared to where they rated the chorus today.

5) Rehearsals:

- Combined responses show support for taking personal responsibility to learn parts.
- There is strong support (about 73%) for various skill training, although it is not clear whether this should be done during rehearsal, sectionals, or some other method.

6) Repertoire: balance of styles: important and very important 90%

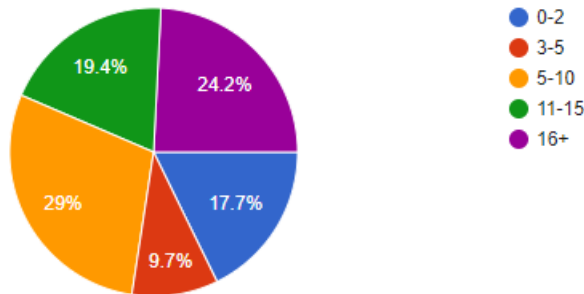
7) Activities beyond regular rehearsal and concerts were a bit more ambiguous. Comments revealed newer members assumed these activities would fall on nights other than Mondays or the trips would be self-financed. Support for Summer Chorus remains strong at about 75%

**Responses: Jan. 19-27, 2020**

62 responses received out of a possible 68 (91%)

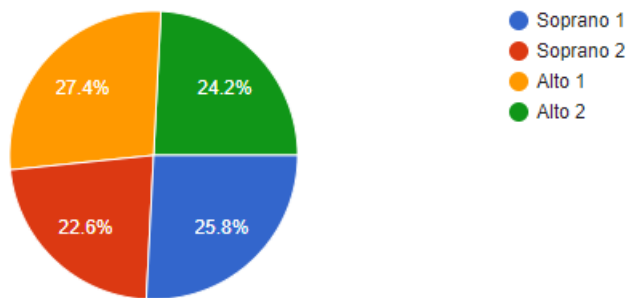
How many years have you been singing with WVC?

62 responses



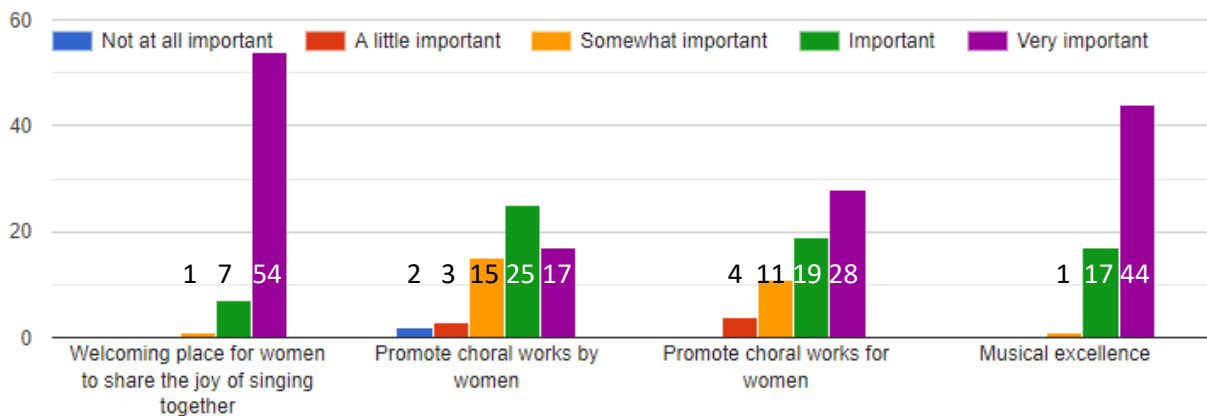
What part do you sing?

62 responses



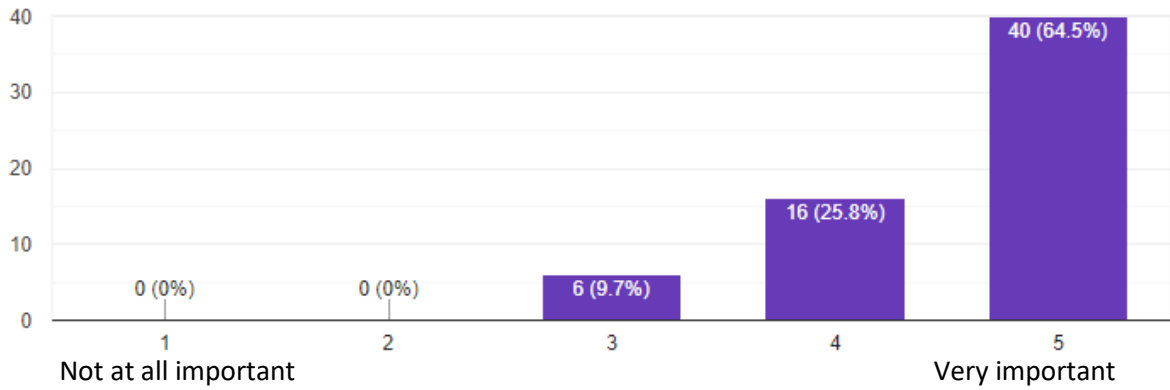
Mission statement: The mission of Women's Voices Chorus (WVC) is to provide a welcoming place in the Triangle for women to share the joy of singing together, promote choral works by and for women, and strive to achieve the highest standards of musical excellence. ....

How important to you is each of these 4 components of our mission:

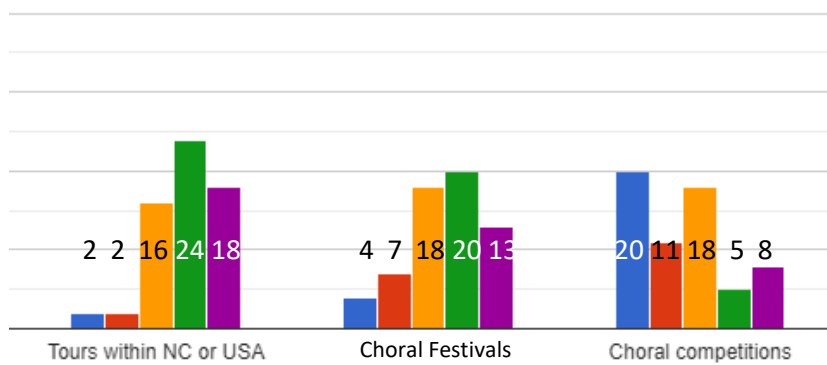
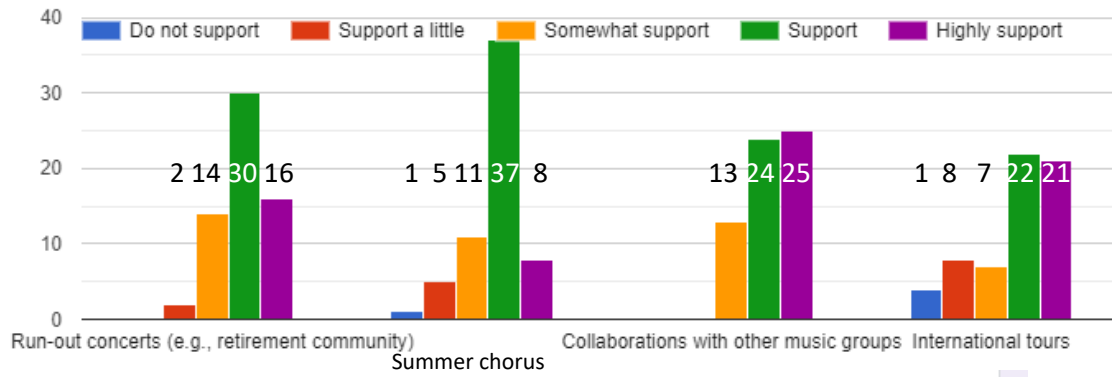


### How important is our culture of sisterhood?

62 responses

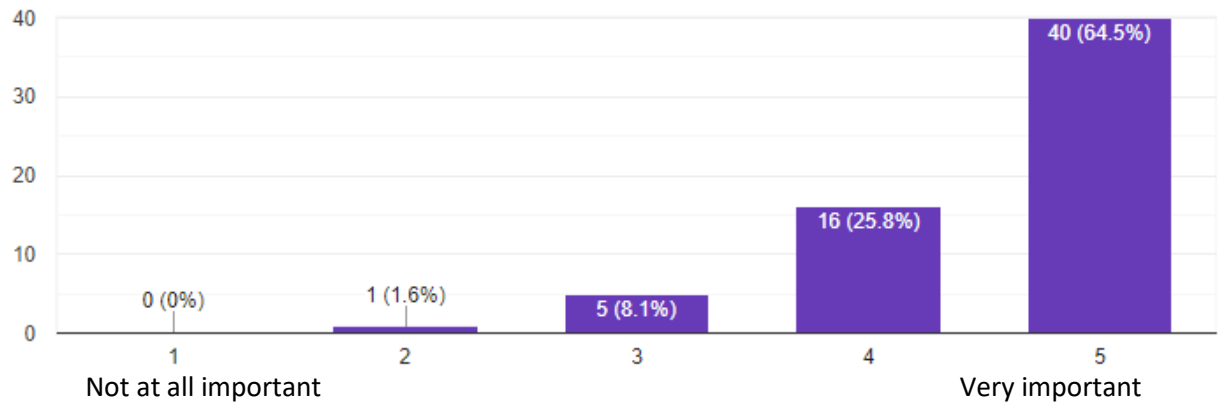


### Support for activities beyond regular rehearsals and concerts:



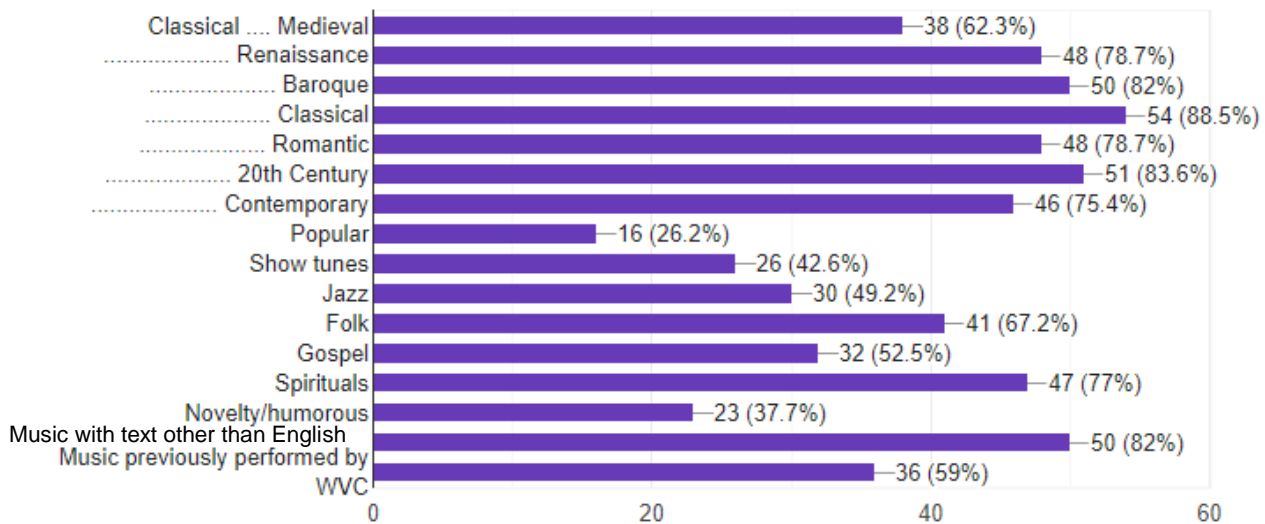
It is important to me to sing a balance of music representing various styles and genres.

62 responses



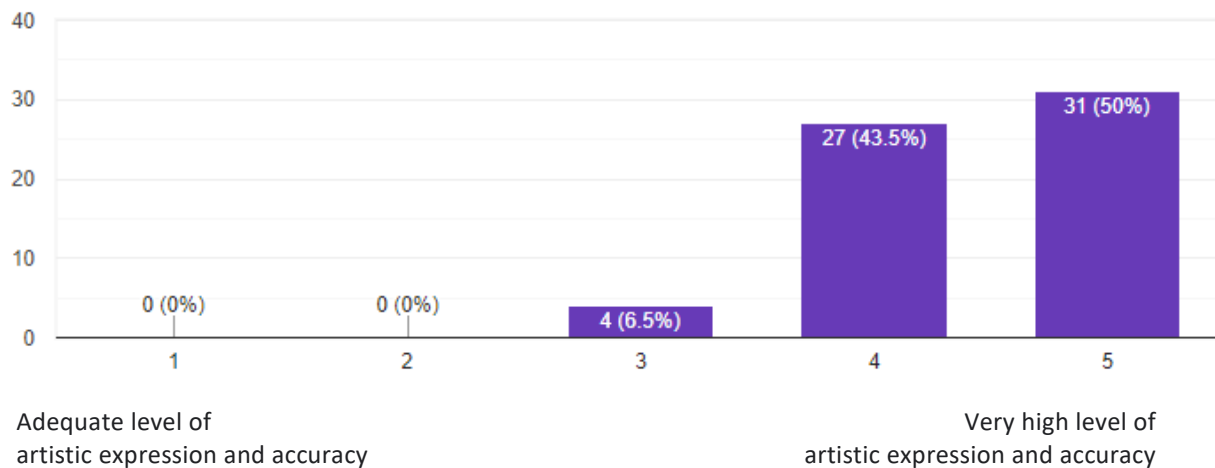
The styles and genres I enjoy are: (Check all that apply)

61 responses



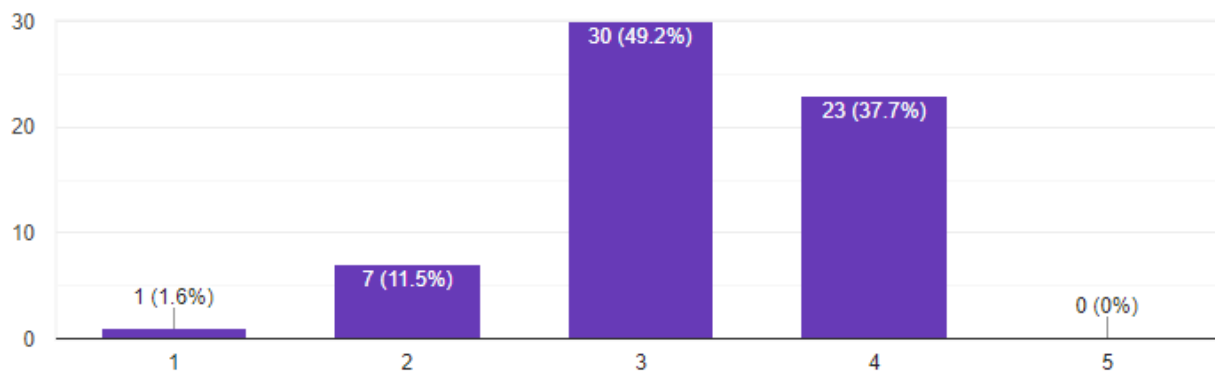
### Where would you like WVC to fit into the scale below?

62 responses



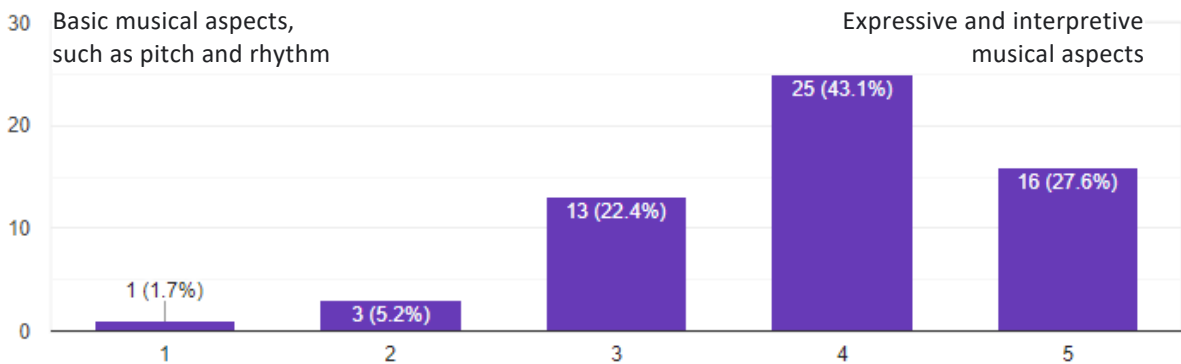
### Where do you think WVC fits into this scale?

61 responses



### During rehearsals, after the first few run-throughs of a piece, I expect to focus on:

58 responses



What do you do to help yourself sing in tune? Select all that apply: 61 responses

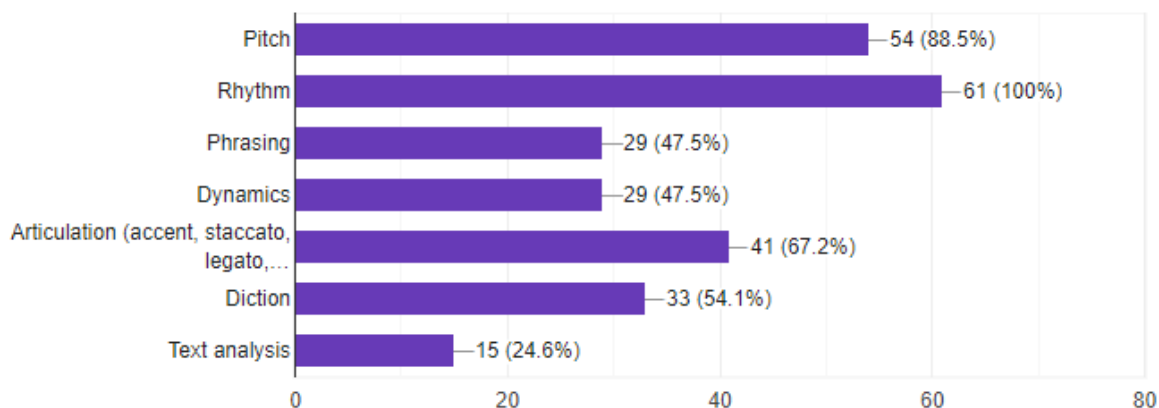
- Individual practice with a tuner – 12 (19.7%)
- Individual practice of interval skills – 18 (29.5%)
- Self-awareness and heightened listening during rehearsal – 60 (98.4%)
- Understanding the melodic and harmonic function of the pitches I sing – 30 (49.2%)
- Other:
  - Practicing with electric piano/keyboard - 9
  - Using practice files/recordings - 9
  - Sectionals
  - Try to sing sharp – 3
  - Singing in mixed formation is helpful

How do you learn music? Select all that apply: 62 responses

- Rehearsals – 60 (96.8%)
- Reviewing at home – 53 (85.5%)
- Using a tuning system – 6 (9.7%)
- Using online practice files – 51 (82.3%)
- Listening to recordings – 47 (75.8%)

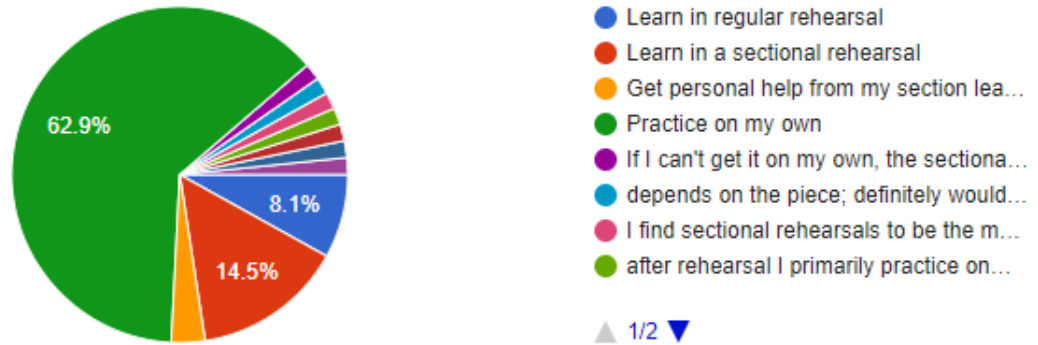
When you practice outside of WVC rehearsals, which aspects of the repertoire do you work on? (Check all that apply)

61 responses



When you encounter a piece with challenging pitches or rhythms, what is the primary way you expect to learn the piece?

62 responses



Responses other than four listed:

- after rehearsal I primarily practice on my own, study the music, listen to the mp3s provided to us, sing with recordings
- depends on the piece; definitely would practice on my own but outside help might be needed as well, eg Laura's A2 recording of "The Valley" was SO wonderful! And the sectional where she helped Janet with "My People are Rising" was exceedingly helpful.
- I find sectional rehearsals to be the most helpful, but I don't expect that to be the primary way to learn.
- If I can't get it on my own, the sectionals are very helpful.
- Practice repeatedly with MP3 files, then with my keyboard. Rehearsals (regular and sectional) are also very helpful.
- Scorch

Are you interested in learning about all aspects of functional musical literacy, including both reading and aural skills?

62 responses

