

The Miami University Men's Glee Club



Handbook

Fall 2010

A NOTE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Brothers,

Welcome to Glee Club. There is much in store for this year of transition, and as your 100th president, (yes, I know this is not our 100th year, but there were 4 years without a president and Kevin Kuethe informed me that I am in fact the 100th president) I would like to take this chance to tell you all of the opportunities that we as the 104th Glee Club have on this campus. This will be a year to take a few steps back and reflect on what it is that truly makes this group unique on campus.

We have the opportunity to represent ourselves as the best of Miami, and with the eyes of the media focused on our university, some good publicity from us will go even farther than it would normally. This summer we will even be given the opportunity to spread our name and reputation overseas on our international tour. I ask from all of you to do as you have for over a century. Continue our tradition of excellence, expand our brotherhood, and grow as a musical ensemble.

Your Brother In Song,

Chris Greenland
President 2010-2011

FROM THE PODIUM

Welcome to the 104th year of Glee Club at Miami University! It is with great excitement to serve as your conductor this year! The musical reputation of this Glee Club is among the finest of all collegiate glee clubs in the United States. Continued excellence from any music ensemble or organization requires adaptability, dedication, passion, and a willingness to work diligently for the betterment of the group. We can continue to have and build upon a strong presence around the campus and the Oxford community and to the music profession throughout the region, state, nation, and world. I am dedicated to helping maintain and challenge the musical success and artistic prominence that the Glee Club has celebrated for over a century.

With Great Anticipation,

Dr. Jeremy D. Jones
Conductor

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE GLEE CLUB

Founded in 1907 by Raymond Burke, the composer of Miami's Fight Song and Alma Mater, the Miami Men's Glee Club has maintained a tradition of excellence throughout its first century. Numbering over 100 singers selected by audition from the Miami University community, the Glee Club is among the oldest and largest groups of its kind in the nation.

In 1927, the Club made its first European tour, and since that time, the Club has toured Europe ten times, most recently in May 2005, where the tour concluded with a performance at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. In the summer of 2001, the Glee Club traveled to Puerto Rico and Guadeloupe, where they were the first American chorus to host the Karukoral, the annual choir festival of the French West Indies. In 2003 members of the Glee Club participated in Miami's first musical tour to Russia, Estonia, and Finland where they performed with professional orchestras in St. Petersburg Philharmonic Hall and Moscow's Tchaikovsky Hall, and in 2008 the Glee Club made its first tour to China to perform at a pre-Olympic Arts Festival. In March 2004, the Glee Club sang at the National Male Chorus Conference at Harvard University. Again in the spring semesters of 2006 and 2008, they were invited back to the IMC Conferences held in Eau Claire, Wisconsin and Washington, D. C.; and in 2010, the Glee Club was selected to host the National Male Chorus Conference at Miami University. Each year the men of the Glee Club tour the United States, performing for churches, civic groups, and schools.

The Glee Club's repertoire encompasses everything from Gregorian chant and Renaissance motets to modern popular music, folksongs, and spirituals. Several small groups within the Glee Club specialize in popular music and jazz arrangements, often including choreography.

Whether giving impromptu concerts, singing for local churches, serenading freshman women's dorms, or presenting international concert tours, the Glee Club has always presented music of the highest quality. It has been a tradition for over an entire century, and will continue to be the standard by which the Glee Club operates.

THE MIAMI UNIVERSITY MEN'S GLEE CLUB

MUS – 100 B (2 Credits) – Fall 2010

SYLLABUS

Dr. Jeremy D. Jones, conductor
Office: Presser Hall 204
Office Tel: 529-6009
e-mail: jonesj5@muohio.edu
Office Hours: TBA (or by appointment)

Rehearsals

Monday – 7:00-8:15 pm

Tuesday and Thursday – 2:15-3:30 pm

Rehearsals are held in Presser Hall 222

Club Dues

In order to help fund musical and social needs throughout the semester, the Glee Club collects dues at the beginning of each semester. The dues are **\$35 per semester** and must be paid to the treasurer by the appointed date. Members not paying dues on time may owe an increasing amount of money for each week dues are turned in late.

Attendance & Grading Policy

Grading is based on your attendance and participation in all rehearsals and scheduled events. Attitude, focus, energy, and discipline in rehearsals will also impact your final grade.

The following criterion will be used to evaluate your final grade for the course:

1. Two (2) unexcused/unannounced absences from regular rehearsals are allowed per semester. Each absence after three results in the lowering of the final grade by one letter. (for example, three absences = B, four absences = C, etc.).
2. Five (5) unexcused/unannounced absences may result in a failing grade for the course at the discretion of the conductor.
3. Students must adhere to the attendance policies and rehearsal expectations found below.
4. An unexcused/unannounced absence at a dress rehearsal or concert may result in a failing grade for the course at the discretion of the conductor.
5. Music provided must be returned at the end of each semester. Students pay for any lost music at a cost of \$5.00 per piece. A temporary grade of "I" (incomplete) will be issued to any student who has not returned or paid for missing music by the time grades are submitted for the quarter.

Attendance

It is expected that all members who have been selected as members of the **Miami University Men's Glee Club** realize that this is a performance-based ensemble and music organization based on high expectations and standards of excellence. Therefore, our time together in rehearsal is very precious and requires your full mental and physical commitment. Each of you needs to enter the rehearsal with the attitude that the Miami University Men's Glee Club could not possibly perform at its best without you. To this end, it is assumed and expected that all members will make the necessary effort, and perhaps sacrifice, to attend all mandatory events, which include regular rehearsals, extra rehearsals, dress rehearsals, concerts, retreats, tours, and any other mandatory events as scheduled.

Excused absences relating to family or health emergency will carefully be taken into consideration, as will sudden onset of sickness, etc. with appropriate documentation. Excused absences will not be granted for work conflicts, campus clubs, or other extra-curricular activities, or personal conflicts. An unexcused absence at a dress rehearsal or concert will result in an automatic "F" for the semester.

In the event of any absence, there are two steps that need to be taken:

- 1) Your secretary, Jarod Garel, must be notified via e-mail prior to rehearsal. Failure to communicate in advance may result in an unexcused absence. Please email gleeclubsecretary@gmail.com for absences. You may also reach me via email or office phone.
- 2) Written documentation must be submitted within one week of the absence, and all appropriate supporting documents must be attached (a doctor's note, a note from another professor, etc). Failure to provide the necessary documentation in a timely manner may result in an unexcused absence.

All scheduled events are mandatory unless stated otherwise. In particular, dress rehearsals and concerts are considered exams for the course. Attendance at these events is required in order to pass the course.

Requests for excused absences from extra rehearsals, retreats, tours, dress rehearsals, concerts, and all other mandatory events must be **made in writing** and submitted to the secretary by the beginning of the second week of the semester (Tuesday, September 7). Requests will be accepted or denied at the conductor's sole discretion. In general, excused absences will be granted for irresolvable conflicts with other Miami University classes (such as mid-terms or finals), and for extenuating circumstances (such as unavoidable emergencies, death in the family, serious documented illness, etc.).

Please remember, this is an *ensemble*, not a *class*. The difference is that when you miss a class, only you lose. If you miss a rehearsal, everyone loses. You are responsible for yourself, but you are responsible to us all.

Rehearsal Expectations

COME TO REHEARSALS...

with your music.

with a sharpened pencil.

with a positive, energetic and respectful attitude.

with the intention of remembering what was rehearsed previously.

with incredibly high expectations for yourself, your colleagues, and your conductor.

Required Materials:

1. Glee Club dues of \$35 are required each semester and are due by **Tuesday, September 7**. Dues paid after the set due date will increase by increments of \$5 per week. Dues must be paid before a student can participate in any required dress rehearsal or performance.
2. Black, three ring binder for music. (no clear plastic covers or writing on binder)
3. Pencil for every rehearsal

CONCERT ATTIRE, DUES, & ANTICIPATED COSTS

You must have the following by our first performance:

TUXEDO (approximately \$200):

Tuxedo pants and jacket
Wingtip collar shirt
Bow Tie
Cummerbund
Studs and cuff-links

INFORMAL WEAR:

For informal concerts, Clubbers should wear a nice shirt & tie outfit:
Dress slacks (no jeans, but khakis are ok)
Dress shirt (your choice of color)
Tie (no cartoon characters allowed)
Dress socks & shoes

The Glee Club properties manager will assist you in obtaining concert apparel if you request.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Reason We Are Here:

We are all here because we love to sing, we love to make music, and we love to perform. By this point, most of us realize how lucky we are to have music in our lives. We know that a choir is capable of creating something that no individual can create on their own. We are here because we want the best musical experience possible from this year and this Club.

The Point We Sometimes Miss:

No one in this ensemble deserves special privileges. It is a privilege to have music in our lives, and to have such a dedicated group of men to share it with - it is no one's right. Please treat our time together, the music we sing, and the people we sing it with the respect they deserve.

How to Make the Most of This Opportunity:

BE RESPONSIBLE: Be on time and work hard while at rehearsal. Please do not be discourteous to those who have the respect to be prompt and focused.

LISTEN: When the music has stopped, please be silent and listen to the next instructions, even if you think they are not for you.

MARK THE MUSIC: The score is nothing but a blueprint; it will come alive for you only if you understand it. Have your pencil ready in rehearsal at all times. Mark sections you know you need to work on. Mark changes made to the piece in rehearsal. Make any markings that will help you sing the piece better.

STUDY: Make sure you do not make the same mistakes repeatedly. After we have worked on a piece several times, you will know where your individual problems lie. Don't make the group suffer for them. Go contact your section leader, plunk out your part at the piano after rehearsal, or listen to a recording.

THINK: Choral singing can be one of the most exalting of human experiences, but it is also one of the most demanding and complex: instrumentalists can rely on the muscle memory of fingers and lips to find pitches; singers must pull their notes from the air around them. Use your brain to steal your pitch from another part, or find it on your own - thoughtful theft is often as good as invention, and more reliable than divine inspiration.

Respect:

The Miami University Men's Glee Club will not discriminate in a way inconsistent with the policies of Miami University, the laws of the United States of America, and/or the State of Ohio on the basis of race, color, age, gender/sex, creed/religion, national origin, political affiliation, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation. If violations occur, we will follow the appropriate University policies, procedures, and practices. Members of the Glee Club are expected to familiarize themselves with all policies and laws governing discrimination and to obey them at all Glee Club events. Please familiarize yourself and consult the **Miami University Student Handbook**, which can be located at <http://www.units.muohio.edu/secretary/documents/2009-2010StudentHandbook.pdf>.

Additionally, please familiarize yourself with the **University hazing policy**, which can be located at <http://www.units.muohio.edu/saf/sac/pdf/2010-11HazingPolicyMiami%20University.pdf>

The Glee Club Listserv: Club uses an email listserv to facilitate communication about choir events and changes in schedule. Should you wish to post a message to the listserv, send it to gleeclub@listserv.muohio.edu. All active Club members must subscribe to the listserv. Do not abuse the listserv for anything inappropriate. Doing so will result in your removal from the listserv in addition to other possible consequences including but not limited to removal from the organization. The listserv is a privilege not a right.

Blackboard: You can find a copy of this semester's schedule as well as a list of upcoming Club concerts and all sorts of other fun information about Club on blackboard under our course number – MUS 100 B. Blackboard will be up and running soon. An announcement will be made when it becomes available.

Final Thoughts: The famous poet, Ben Johnson, once said, “All performances of human art, at which we look with praise and wonder, are instances of the resistless force of perseverance.” I firmly believe that the great works of humankind come from tremendous work and effort more than raw talent. I often think that anyone whom we think of as talented is just someone who works hard. The point being, we have the potential to do great things here. We, as performers, are in the business of recreating great works of music. We have the privilege to work on some wonderful music. Let's cherish every moment of it and try and give it the time and energy it deserves.

THE 2010 – 2011 MIAMI UNIVERSITY MEN’S GLEE CLUB

Dr. Jeremy D. Jones, *conductor*

Adam DePew (fall), Sean O’Neil (spring), & Chris Walsh (year), *student conductors*

Chris Walsh & Luke Williams, *accompanists*

Chris Greenland, *president*

Corbin Mathias, *vice-president*

Jason Jones, *treasurer*

Jarod Garel, *secretary*

Billy Brunner, *winter tour*

Mark Aiken, *historian*

Jon Grice, *librarians*

Ben Pope, *fundraising*

Dan DeRubbo & Elliot Zetzer (spring), *sports*

Colin Atherton, *chef*

Matt Fitzgerlad & Tony Ramstetter (Spring), *newsletter*

Adam Saxe, *formal*

Chris Walsh, *publicity*

Doug Allen, *properties*

Ryan Cook & Corbin Mathias, *webmaster*

Harrison Hale & Dan Baker, *recordings*

James Tafelski & Adam Chambers, *social*

Sean O’Neil, *alumni*

Wyko Ter Haar, *photography*

LEADERSHIP DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

THE CONDUCTOR:

- The conductor is a member of the university faculty and therefore has the ultimate responsibility for any and all facets of Glee Club operations.
- Dr. Jeremy D. Jones is the conductor of the Miami University Men's Glee Club.

GLEE CLUB OFFICERS:

- To assist the operation of Glee Club, the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary are elected at the conclusion of the second semester. Their terms of office will begin at the conclusion of the academic year in which the elections are held and last for one year.
- The Winter Tour Manager will be elected at the end of each Winter Tour and serve until the end of the following year's tour.
- New elections will be held immediately to fill any office left empty due to resignation or expulsion.

ELECTION PROCEDURES:

1. Elections for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary will occur at the end of the spring semester each year. Elections for the Winter Tour Manager will occur at the beginning of spring semester each year. The date, time and place of the election will be announced by the conductor at least seven days prior to the election.
2. The election shall be conducted by a chair who is the highest ranking current officer who will NOT be seeking one of the positions up for election. In the event that none of the current officers are eligible to chair the election, the director has the discretion to choose a member in good standing who will not be seeking office to chair the election
3. A quorum of the members in good standing must be present for the election. Members in good standing are those current participants in club who are current financially with ALL their obligations. It is the responsibility of the Treasurer to inform the Chair of those members not in good standing.
4. End of year elections will occur in the following rank:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. Secretary

5. The procedure for electing each officer will be done with the following steps, in this exact order for each individual officer.
 - a. Nominations.
 - i. President seeks a motion to open the floor for nominations, with a second
 - ii. In the elections for Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, candidates who have lost an election for a higher ranking office may choose to run for a lower office without further nomination.
 - iii. Members present nominations, with a second and acceptance by nominee. Nominees may decline if they so desire. If a nominee is not present he must send correspondence verifying his wish to run.
 - iv. All nominees must be members in good standing.
 - v. Member moves to close nominations, with a second.
 - vi. Closure of nominations requires at least a super majority (two-thirds) of the present voting membership.
 - b. Speeches
 - i. All candidates for a particular office will leave the room.
 - ii. Candidates may then speak on their own behalf in alphabetical order by last name.
 - iii. The candidates will not hear each other's speeches
 - iv. There will be no formal debate by the voting membership.
 - c. Voting
 - i. All candidates will leave the room and the membership present will vote.
 - ii. Election to an office requires a simple majority of the voting members present. In the event that more than two candidates are running and no one candidate receive a simple majority during the first round of voting, candidates without a mathematical possibility of achieving the majority are eliminated and a new round of voting will begin with the remaining candidates. A candidate is defined as not having a mathematical possibility of achieving the majority when the total of the votes he received added to the votes cast for all candidates who received less votes than he did does not equal a majority.
 - iii. Votes will be counted by current officers not running for new office.
 - iv. In the event of a tie a recount vote will be taken.
 - v. If the tie still exists it will be resolved by the highest ranking officer counting votes, who will cast the tie breaking vote.

PRESIDENT:

1. Assist the conductor as requested.
2. Organize transportation for activities and events.
3. Coordinate the activities of other officers.
4. Convene regular meetings of the officers which are held weekly during the academic year.
5. Prepare the agenda for all meetings.

VICE PRESIDENT:

1. Assist the conductor and president when requested.
2. Plan all Glee Club social events.
3. Welcome and work with new members (i.e. Oversee the instruction of the Miami Fight Song and Alma Mater, Johnny Schmoeker, Java Jive)

TREASURER:

1. Maintain current and accurate financial records of appropriate Glee Club accounts.
2. Present a financial report at every officers' meeting.

3. Submit all Glee Club financial records to the internal auditor's office at the conclusion of each academic year after filing a copy with the conductor.
4. Prepare all requisitions, check requests and "S" numbers for the conductor.
5. Monthly statements of the Glee Club activity accounts are to be kept on file in the conductors office.
6. Coordinate with the fundraising chair in anticipating fundraising events.

SECRETARY:

1. Check attendance during all rehearsals and performances of Glee Club on and off campus.
2. Maintain a current roster of all members.
3. Provide a directory to each member of all current members of Glee Club each semester.
4. Provide regular attendance updates to all current members of Glee Club.
5. Provide a weekly report, to the conductor and president, of members who missed any rehearsal that week and those individuals' current attendance records.

TOUR MANAGER:

1. Plan Winter Tour.

Other officers may be appointed to fulfill specific tasks at the discretion of the president.

MEET THE LEADERSHIP:

Chris Greenland: President. Hey guys, (new guys especially) my name is Chris Greenland but everyone calls me Greezy. This is my 7th semester in club, but at the current rate I'll hit 12 before I graduate. (yeah, I'll be a super super senior) (this is because of a late major change and large medical issues, neither of which I recommend, so try to avoid both) I'm a physics major from Dover, Ohio. I could tell you more, but this already feels like what I imagine a web dating service would be, so come talk to me in person if you want more details of my life.

Corbin Mathias: Vice President. Corbin is a junior majoring in Social Studies Education, German Education, and German. I'm very much looking forward to this year for Club. It will be a time of readjustment, but more importantly, I think we'll find it will be a year of reconnecting with our identity as the Miami Men's Glee Club throughout the years, our timeless traditions, honing our ever growing, ever greater musicianship and building even further upon our sound brotherhood. Author Richard Bach writes "Every person, all the events of your life are there because you have drawn them there. What you choose to do with them is up to you." We have an awesome year ahead of us. Through our brotherhood, through our music, we have ability to not just hope for this year to be better than the last, but to claim this year as ours, and work together to make it even greater than we could ever hope.

Jason Jones: Treasurer. Jason is a senior, majoring in Finance. This is his 7th semester in Club. In his spare time, Jason is an RA in Stanton Hall (aka: Stanton Studs) and is a member of the National Residence Hall Honorary. Jason grew up a Catholic, but has now converted to semi-Judaism. He can't wait to embezzle and set up Glee Club as his front for many various activities. Lastly, this year Jason is very proud to bring back the "Worthwhiles," whose rehearsals are every Monday night at Brickstreet.

Jarod Garel: Secretary. Jarod is a sophomore psychology/pre-med student who has been with the Glee Club (and the Cheezies!!) since his freshman year. He was a "theater kid" in high school but started singing his senior year and hasn't looked back. When not singing he also enjoys working for IM sports and competing with fellow glee clubbers in soccer, football and hockey. He'd like to welcome back all his returning brothers in song and extend a gracious hand to the new guys who are sure to make this one of Club's best years yet!

THE MIAMI UNIVERSITY MEN'S GLEE CLUB
FALL 2010 EVENTS

FALL CONCERTS: The Glee Club will present its first concert on campus in Hall Auditorium, featuring patriotic selections as well as others in a different spirited vein. The Fall Concert will be on **Friday & Saturday, October 29 & 30** at 8:00 pm. The **Dress Rehearsal** is scheduled for **Thursday, October 28** from 7:00-10:00 pm in Hall Auditorium.

HOLIDAY CONCERTS: The Winter Concert is a time for us to reflect musically on more serious topics and has tended to be mostly sacred in nature. We will be returning to two favorites: Morten Lauridsen's *O Magnum Mysterium* and Franz Biebl's *Ave Maria* as well as exploring other beautiful sacred and secular literature. The performances will be on **Friday, December 10** at 7:00 & 9:00 pm in Hall Auditorium. The **Dress Rehearsal** is scheduled for **Thursday, December 9** from 7:00-10:00 pm in Hall Auditorium.

WINTER TOUR: Probably the most anticipated and enjoyed event of the year, Winter Tour is when Club spends a week on a bus watching classic films and singing concerts for adoring fans around the United States and Canada. Every year Clubbers return for the Spring semester in a strange haze not remembering much of what seems to have happened to them. The Winter Tour group will return early from Winter Break on **January 2**, depart Oxford on January 3 and travel throughout the Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois. We will return to campus on January 8 just in time to start classes on January 10.

LOOKING AHEAD . . .

MALE VOCAL ARTS DAY: The Glee Club will host and sponsor an all-day event for high school men to sing with us. The event will culminate in an evening performance. Date and Time TBA.

ALL-CHOIR CONCERT: Featuring all four choral ensembles at Miami University with guests, the May Festival Youth Chorus. **Saturday, February 12** at 8 pm in Hall Auditorium.

SPRING CONCERTS: The Glee Club will present two concerts to sold-out audiences on **Friday and Saturday April 8 & 9** at 8:00 pm in Hall Auditorium.

INTERNATIONAL TOUR: The Glee Club is organizing an amazing tour to Luxembourg for Summer 2010. Details will be forthcoming as soon as possible. Save your pennies!