

# BLACK TIE CHRISTMAS FAQ

Several folks have asked me about what this type of production entails. Here is a FAQ to help answer some of those questions!

## **What is BLACK TIE CHRISTMAS?**

Unlike a major musical or a musical revue, this production is simply a choral concert. There will be very little dialogue in this presentation. This concert will be consisting of a series of holiday songs, both solo and full choir. There is no stage movement. The chorus will be seated on risers on stage.

## **Why the name *Black Tie Christmas* and what is the concept?**

A Black-Tie event represents that something special is about to happen and the term is closely associated with the performing arts. My concept is to present, in an organized way, a collection of choral works written by some of the best arrangers of all times. I wanted to present works that all generations can enjoy and appreciate. In this revue there will be something for everyone to enjoy from the traditional standards to inspirational arrangements. These pieces represent songs from a mixture of categories, containing **Contemporary and Traditional** holiday songs.

## **How many people are you wanting to participate?**

Historically, the Black Tie productions have been large ensembles. I will be expecting about 50 voices to participate but love to see a larger involvement.

### **What do I have to do for Auditions?**

There are **NO** formal auditions to sing in this group. A love of singing in a choral setting is all that is needed. You don't have to read music. A casual organization meeting/sing-thru workshop for **BLACK TIE CHRISTMAS 2022** will be Sunday, September 4 at 2:00 p.m., Monday and Tuesday, September 5 and 6 at 6:30 p.m. We will meet in Reception Room #1 at the WBS Playhouse. Coming to this meeting does not commit you to this project.

### **How young can you be to be a part of *Black Tie Christmas*?**

This is mainly an adult choral production. Ages 13 and above who have a maturity about them could possibly participate in the larger choral numbers.

### **What about the Dancing?**

There is no choreography associated with this production.

### **What is the Commitment Factor for this show?**

If you are cast, you are making a commitment of time. This concert will require a minimal but **STRONG** commitment. In the beginning, rehearsals will be 1 day a week from mid-September through early November. We will add rehearsal days when we get closer to the performance. Once you make this commitment, everyone involved will be needed to attend all rehearsals possible. I am flexible to an extent but will expect everyone to work out conflicts.

### **What if I'm chosen as a featured soloist?**

Featured soloists will be required to work on their solos, for the most part, on their own. We will have a couple of rehearsals with set time for solos only to work on style and any notes that are questionable.

### **What about a Costume?**

All cast members will need to furnish their own basic attire. Men will be in black (bow-tie) tuxedos or black suits and ladies in black knee length, tea length or floor-length formals or semi-formal dresses. The tuxedos, suits or dresses do not have to match. They just have to be black!

### **It is Fall and I am in the High School Band/Cheerleader/Football Team! I really want to be in the show. What can I do?**

There are some individuals who are very interested in being a part of the show, but because of school obligations will not be to participate on certain performance nights. I will take all of these on a case by case basis.

### **When is the Show?**

The performance dates are December 8, 9, 10 and 11 on the Mainstage in the Dot Moore Auditorium.

### **When will I know if I made the ensemble?**

Once you indicate to me that you are committed to the project.

### **What is a Workday?**

Since this is a community theatre event and we are all volunteers, all teen-age and adult cast members are expected to help set up our platforms, backdrops and prepare for the show. Part of the fun is the workday. Please be involved.

### **What about Music?**

Music will be furnished to you and remains the property of the Whole Backstage. However, in the past some participants have purchased their own music. Music does NOT have to be memorized.

### **How Long is the Concert?**

The length of concert is approximately 1 hour 25 minutes.

## What does the Rehearsal Schedule look like?

Once you have made a commitment to the ensemble, a detailed (and flexible) calendar will be given to you at a mid-September rehearsal. The particular day of the rehearsals will be determined early on in the rehearsals. A tentative outline of future rehearsals could be:

**Mid-September to early November:** Monday **OR** Thursdays evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45/8:00 p.m. A Sunday afternoon could be scheduled if needed starting at 2:00. Most rehearsals last for 1½ to 2 hours.

**Early November to Performance:** Depending on the needs of the ensemble we possibly could meet 2 days a week. The only Wednesday evening required will be our dress rehearsal the evening before our production opens.

## Odds and Ends:

### Perfume and Colognes:

It is often difficult to sing, and some performers may have high sensitivity to perfumes and colognes. Be aware and respectful of this for rehearsals and performances.

### Listening Link

A Listening Link is available to a few of the choral songs we will be singing. Click on the headphone icon.



### The Black Tie Christmas Web Page

For More Information Click on the Ornament icon.



### Black Tie Christmas E-mail Address

You may also inquire in an e-mail. [btbwbs@bellsouth.net](mailto:btbwbs@bellsouth.net)

## **General Rules for Rehearsal and Performances**

The WBS has a policy that Alcoholic Beverages of any kind (champagne, beer, wine, wine coolers, etc...) will **NOT** be permitted at any time during the rehearsal or performance period.

Smoking will not be permitted on stage, backstage or in the dressing rooms. You may smoke outside 15 feet away from the rear dressing room entrance door. Discard any ashes or butts in proper receptacles.

Please keep the auditorium and the stage area clean and neat. Food and drinks are permitted but it is expected of everyone to dispose of their empty containers and wrappers, and everyone is to regularly help empty ALL the trash cans.

## **Digital Image NOTICE**

The Whole Backstage Theatre is a public-use facility.

Photographs taken anywhere in or around this public venue could be used for security purposes and for the promotion of the organization and its events.

Occasionally digital images of current productions, activities and events, staff, alumni, and visitors can be used to advance the awareness and reputation of this organization. By attending events, participating in productions both onstage or off you authorize the use of your likeness without compensation from the Whole Backstage for the purposes of general internal communication, reporting of news and events and use with media outlets and publications.

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to, print, broadcast, video, CD-ROM, DVD, and electronic/social media.

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A person can decline to be included in any photography related sessions, but it is up to the individual to make the effort to be absent from random group photography in a public venue.