

# MasterLine

periodic news from the masters of harmony

April 16, 2021

## Masters of Harmony Relaunches Email Newsletter

We are pleased to announce that **MasterLine**, our email newsletter, is back as a way of maintaining personal contact with our loyal fans and friends. Although we are not performing publicly at this time due to the pandemic, we think it's important to provide our subscribers with up-to-date news about **Masters of Harmony** programs and activities on a periodic basis. While we use social media (Facebook and Instagram, in particular) to promote the chorus, we think an email newsletter is a more effective way to stay connected with our audience. MasterLine seeks to accomplish that goal.

As performing arts theaters, convention centers and concert halls begin to open their doors to live, in-person entertainment, we hope to provide news about possible upcoming performances later this year, as well as our plans for international competition in 2022.

Thanks for your love and continued support of the Masters of Harmony.



## Our First-Ever Virtual Christmas Show

When the coronavirus hit us last year, our musical world totally changed. We canceled all in-person rehearsals as well as our 2020 Spring Show. Thanks to the vision of President **Joe D'Amore**, we began to explore the possibility of presenting a virtual Christmas show. The problem was that none of us had any idea of how to do that. We channeled the spirit of all great MOHers who had gone before us and adopted the attitude of "whatever it takes!"



We settled on a one-hour show that would feature two virtual songs by the current active chorus as well as video recordings of the best **Masters of Harmony** performances from past Christmas shows. When it was all said and done, we were able to spread the joy of our holiday music to many of our friends and family that had never experienced the Masters or quality barbershop of any kind. We know that the show was viewed by people from South Korea to Rome to Israel as well as many of the 50 states.

The initial response to "Making Spirits Bright" was overwhelmingly positive. The show was visually appealing and flowed smoothly, the music was solid, and more than a few MOH hearts were touched by the appearance of our former gold-medal directors leading us in our last number, "Silent Night."

## Sing with Champions!

Auditions are now being held for singers to join the nine-time international champion chorus, Masters of Harmony. To qualify for membership, you need to demonstrate that you can sing on key, harmonize, and do some basic choreographic moves. Reading music helps, but isn't necessary. The process is easy and fun.

Join us now! Become a better singer and performer. Learn from top-notch directors and coaches how to develop better singing skills, vocal production, listening ability, and showmanship. Take your place on the risers with men of all ages, from all walks of life. Our

**AUDITIONS ARE NOW  
BEING HELD FOR MEN  
WHO LOVE TO SING!**

ranks include CEO's, attorneys, engineers, teachers, police officers, salesmen, computer specialists, students, retirees, judges, and others throughout Southern California and beyond. What we have in common is our love of four-part harmony performed at the highest quality level, and the desire to share our music with others.

We rehearse Wednesdays from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Although we are currently rehearsing (and auditioning) online only, we look forward to in-person rehearsals at our new home in La Mirada.

Visitors are always welcome. If you are interested in membership or want to learn more about the Masters of Harmony, please send inquiries to [membership@mastersofharmony.org](mailto:membership@mastersofharmony.org).

## New Technology Makes Performance of Music Over the Internet Possible

Who would have guessed that we would be forced to hold geographically distance rehearsals? Singing together is the very definition of harmony. While we were singing alone/together via Zoom, our remarkable deep talent pool came through with a solution. We discovered JackTrip, a technology that allows us to rehearse from the extended corners of the Greater Los Angeles geography using software and equipment to reduce the sound delay inherent in digital sessions. We can **sing with and hear** our brothers in harmony!

With JackTrip, we have found a way to hold rehearsals without time in Southern California traffic. This won't replace the joy of singing together in person, but may occasionally replace the I-5 with the Internet highway.



Management at United Methodist Church of La Mirada says that the church's pastoral chain of command is still 90 days away from authorizing in-person worship services. That is going to affect our being able to use the church's fellowship hall for regular rehearsals as we had planned. As a result, we will continue to hold Zoom rehearsals on a weekly basis until further notice.

With the knowledge and experience we gained from our first-ever virtual Christmas show, we are now considering presenting another such show this Christmas if necessary.