

Han Sheng Music Association of Hawaii 漢聲合唱團

c/o treasurer Linda Wyrgatsch; Tel: (808) 486-0554

Mission: To celebrate Chinese choral music and China's musical heritage

History: The Han Sheng Music Association is a choral group specializing in Chinese choral music. It was founded by a group of enthusiasts for Chinese choral works in Honolulu, in the early 1980s. The group's repertoire includes traditional and contemporary Chinese songs sung in several regional dialects. Currently, the Association is under the directorship of Prof. Frederick Lau of the University of Hawaii at Manoa Music Department.

Activities Under the leadership of the Association's former director, soprano Mrs. Maria Au Hoy, the group performed in numerous Chinese and non-Chinese community functions and festivals, such as New Year's celebrations, on Ala Moana Shopping Center's Center Stage, at Associated Chinese University Women's annual festivals, at the "Make Music!" festival of Alliance Francaise, for functions of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and at the Taiwanese Culture Festivals. In 1999, Han Sheng presented a critically acclaimed concert in Honolulu in conjunction with the Chinese Choir from San Jose, California. Most recently (2003), Han Sheng performed a collection of numbers at a well-attended concert called 'Mid-Summer Songs (*Zhong Xia Zhi Ge* 仲夏之歌) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Orvis Auditorium.

The chorus rehearses on the first and third Thursdays of every month at the Honolulu Community Church, from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Occasional dinner gatherings are held at members' homes as well.

Membership:

Currently, the Association has approximately 30 members. Membership is open to all who have an interest in Chinese choral music.



Prof. Fred Lau directs the chorus at a performance in 2003, in Orvis Auditorium on the University of Hawaii-Manoa campus.

Association directors The Association was founded by Julia Tsuei of the University of Hawaii. Following her retirement, Lily Ning, also of the University of Hawaii, took over as musical director. She was followed by Maria Au Hoy, currently of Iolani School. The present musical director is Prof. Fred Lau of the University of Hawaii's Music Department.