

MUSIC LANGUAGE OF THE CHURCH

by Jim Kasen

There are traditional titles and callings that have a healthy life in the “traditional” Church culture. Frequently, there are callings extended and individuals set-apart to positions that do not exist. For example:

TRADITIONAL VOCABULARY	HANDBOOK 2 LANGUAGE
<p>Chorister</p> <p>This title/calling has been given to many who serve in the auxiliaries (e.g., Relief Society Young Women, Ward Music, Priesthood, Primary)</p>	<p>Music Director</p> <p>This calling is the proper position for those who direct music in Sacrament Meeting/Stake Meetings, Relief Society, Priesthood, Young Women/Young Men meetings</p> <p>(Section 14.2.4, <i>Handbook 2: Administering the Church</i>)</p>
<p>Rest Hymn</p> <p>This title has been used on agendas and on printed programs for many meetings (e.g., Sacrament Meeting, Priesthood/Relief Society, Stake Conference)</p>	<p>Intermediate Hymn</p> <p>This is the correct title for the congregational hymn generally placed in between speakers in Sacrament Meeting and various Stake meetings</p> <p>(Section 14.4.3, <i>Handbook 2: Administering the Church</i>)</p>
<p>Special Musical Number or Musical Numbers</p> <p>These titles have been used on agendas and on printed programs for many meetings (e.g., Sacrament Meeting, Stake Conference)</p>	<p>Special Musical Selection</p> <p>This is the correct title for the musical selections presented by individuals, ward/stake choirs, etc.</p> <p>(Section 14.4.3 & 4, <i>Handbook 2: Administering the Church</i>)</p>

The following chart includes a list of selected music callings.

OFFICE	RECOMMENDED BY	APPROVED BY	SUSTAINED BY	CALLED & SET APART BY
Stake music chairman	Stake music adviser (high councilor)	Stake presidency and high council	Members in stake conference	Stake president or an assigned counselor or high councilor
Ward music chairman	Ward music adviser (member of the bishopric)	Bishopric	Ward members	Bishop or an assigned counselor
Priesthood music director and pianist or organist	Ward music adviser (member of the bishopric)	Bishopric	Ward members	Bishop or an assigned counselor
Ward music director, ward organist or pianist, ward choir director and accompanist, and ward choir president	Ward music chairman	Bishopric	Ward members	Bishop or an assigned counselor
Music directors in ward auxiliaries (except Young Men)	Auxiliary presidency	Bishopric	Ward members	Bishop or an assigned counselor

NOTE

Handbook 2: Administering the Church
Section 19.1
Determining Whom to Call

19.1.1 General Guidelines

“...People who are not members of the Church may be called to some positions, such as organist, music director, and assistant Scout leader. ... The allowance to call nonmembers to some positions does not apply to excommunicated members, who may not have any callings.”