

The London International Gospel Choir exists first and foremost to enable members of London's diverse community to meet and make music together, mainly through the power of voice. We cherish the great joy, beauty and spiritual power in African American Christian worship music and all of the genres which sprang from or developed in conjunction with that tradition – be it soul, funk, R&B, jazz, blues, or motown (to name a few). We commit always to honour and respect this music and the people who created it.

The value and role of LIGC in London

We acknowledge the vast challenges inherent in living in a megacity like London in 2020, and how frustrating, stressful and lonely life here can be. We know that the choir has a fundamental and unique place in the life of this city, because it connects people across the boundaries of age, race, class and culture. We believe that it is through community that people truly find themselves - through connection, solidarity, love and togetherness. We believe that a community choir has the power to transform people's lives in the following ways:

- to heal pain and sorrow
- to improve self-respect, through the discipline of music
- to improve self-confidence
- to connect people from all walks of life deeply and intimately with each other
- to connect people with God/the spiritual realm

Access and awareness

We commit to work as hard as we can to continually widen awareness of and access to the choir within the furthest reaches of London's community. We commit to working for and with charitable organisations as much as we responsibly can.

Musical quality

As highly-trained artists, we commit always to strive for the highest standards of musical quality in everything we do, be it standards of work in rehearsals or the standard we in every performance that we give to the general public.

Rehearsal ethos

We commit to making rehearsals fun, joyful, exciting, dynamic, laugh-filled. They will always also be focussed, disciplined, fast-paced, detailed and musically challenging.

Our values

We embrace and cherish the rich diversity of people that live in our city. We believe this is one of the greatest things about London and LIGC. We commit to treat everyone that we work with, within or out with the choir, with the same dignity, respect and sense of being included regardless of age, gender, race, dis/ability or sexual orientation.

We further commit to embody the following values in everything we do:

- To be inclusive

- To be kind
- To be humble and self-reflective
- To be patient
- To try hard to listen carefully and deeply
- To be professional
- To uphold high musical standards at all times

Above all, our commitment is to seek to act in a loving way - in how we treat each other, in how we work together, and through the music that we make together.