

Chapter History of Phoenix West Threshold Choir 2025

The first meeting of the Phoenix West Threshold Choir took place in August 2012. The organizer was Marilyn Rampley. Enthusiasm was high. Marilyn had attended a regional gathering in Taos and knew that an upcoming one in Albuquerque would be a kick starter for their chapter.



Albuquerque Gathering

The Phoenix West Threshold Choir began singing bedside in January 2013 and started to grow. The choir started singing at the largest non-profit hospice in the U.S. (Hospice of the Valley). In the beginning, the choir sang at a Glendale hospice care unit, but soon thereafter added one in Paradise Valley, another one in Scottsdale, and just a year ago one in Surprise. These are all in the Phoenix area, but are spread out geographically.

In 2015 the choir hosted a Southwest Conference Gathering with Doreen Conte as our leader. This was the first gathering we held after Kate Munger announced her retirement. The choir was anxious to do a good job and the feedback was very positive.

Many of our members have attended other gatherings as well, and believe that these are more than instructive. They also touch our hearts and strengthen our commitment.

The Phoenix West Threshold Choir invited the Flagstaff chapter to meet them in Sedona for a one-day workshop, then attended their gathering and the Tucson Gathering a few years later. In 2019, the Phoenix choir held a retreat at a member's mountain home.



Tucson Gathering

Phoenix West Threshold Choir's current membership is 19. Its members sing at four care units each week. The choir has lost a few members through the years because of moves and illness, but the same core members are still around. Most of them believe that singing bedside at hospice, memorials, conventions, and homes as requested is the most meaningful part of their lives. It brings life and vitality, grace and beauty, respect and love.

Edited Leah Kier 9/30/25