

Dial-A-Carol FAQ

How do I request a carol?

Call us at 1-217-332-1882!

How did Dial-A-Carol start?

Dial-A-Carol was started in December 1960 by Betty Gordon, an area office secretary, and the residents of Snyder Hall who wanted to spread some holiday cheer around campus. Since then, Dial-A-Carol has grown to answering 16,000+ calls with the help student volunteers in Snyder!

What do volunteers do?

Volunteers spread holiday cheer by singing nearly any requested holiday song! Volunteers also help record the names and locations of those calling in so there is a record of Dial-A-Carol's journey over the years.

Do I have to volunteer for a certain amount of time?

There is no requirement for a minimum number of hours. However, after 5 hours of volunteering, you'll receive a FREE Dial-A-Carol shirt!

When do you need volunteers?

Dial-A-Carol runs 24/7 during finals week, and volunteers are needed throughout this time. Feel free to volunteer as much as you'd like, but don't feel obligated to over commit yourself. You can sign-up in advance or walk-in to help.

Do you only sing Christmas songs?

Nope! While carols are typically for Christmas, we actually sing nearly any holiday or seasonal song that callers would like to hear.

What do I say when I answer the phone as a volunteer?

There will be stations set up in Snyder lobby. At each station, there will be a small script for what to say, so don't fret. Also, there will be a binder full of the most requested songs for your reference.

Do volunteers have to memorize all sorts of songs?

Of course not! Volunteers are provided with a binder with 130+ lyrics that for the most commonly requested songs. Still, if someone requests a song that the volunteer doesn't know, volunteers will give the option of badly singing their request or singing a different song instead.

What do I get for volunteering?

The joy of knowing you're spreading holiday cheer! Also, Dial-A-Carol can provide verification for service hours. To show appreciation for volunteers, any one that volunteers for 5 or more hours over the week will receive a FREE Dial-A-Carol shirt!