

**English Madrigal Dinner volunteers**

It is time for us to begin preparations for the English Madrigal Dinner, which will take place on Friday and Saturday, December 11 and 12. The members of the Eugene Vocal Arts Ensemble perform as "Lords and Ladies" in an Elizabethan feast, and we need help from many volunteers - spouses, friends, members of ECC - to be servers for the dinner. Servers will be costumed and participate in the pageantry, entering the hall with serving platters as each course of the meal is presented with fanfare and song. (They will also work their tails off serving the guests throughout the evening.)

We also need help coordinating servant costumes and fitting the servers. Volunteer jobs that members of the Vocal Arts Ensemble cover are: table decorations, hall decorations, the castle wall set piece, and program books (yes, books, as opposed to scrolls this year).

Two information sheets will be provided: a Volunteer Information Sheet, which enumerates the responsibilities of the volunteer committees, and a Server Information Sheet. We also have sign-up sheets available at rehearsal tonight for all of these volunteer opportunities.

**English Madrigal Dinner tickets**

We are already close to halfway sold for the English Madrigal Dinner this year. Seating is limited to 16 tables of eight for each night, Friday, December 11 and Saturday, December 12. If you would like to purchase tickets, do so soon. In another week we will do our publicity mailing and general event promotion. Ticket order forms are available at rehearsal and through our website, [www.eugeneconcertchoir.org](http://www.eugeneconcertchoir.org).

**Auction news**

From Angela Egremont, Auction chair: Thanks to EVERYONE who volunteered for ANYTHING to do with the Auction. I absolutely could not have done it without your assistance. Since we had so many auction items, we have a few (very few) left over and will, therefore, conduct a mini auction of the "remains" for choir members at this week's Monday and Tuesday rehearsals. EVAE members, of course, will get first crack at bidding; however, the disadvantage is that they will not be able to counter bid at ECC's rehearsal on Tuesday unless they are there also. One way for you to acquire an item without the back and forth bidding process is to place a "double the cost guaranteed bid," which means you may pay more, but the item immediately becomes yours. That amount is stipulated on each bid sheet. Thanks again for all your help, and good luck!

**ECCO**

ECCO Education Coordinator Jennifer McConochie would like to thank the 14 enthusiastic Ensemble members who came to sing with Marnie Price's first grade class on Friday, October 23rd. We had a good time, and, based on their answers on the evaluation sheet, they liked everything and want us to come back! Several told us they really "loved our songs." It is such a heartwarming experience.

I encourage those who have just been thinking about it to come to our next presentation: Thursday, November 5, at Adams Elementary/Grade 3, 950 West 22nd Avenue,

Eugene. We will warm up at noon and perform at 12:20 p.m.

A heartfelt thanks to the folks who gave their gift of song last Friday: Debbie Sorensen, Kathryn Leonard, Mary MacDiarmid, David Call, Jean and Dick Weick, Jane Dahl, Pat Saxton, Doug Sears, Ron Raynes, Rhodd Caldwell, Fisher, and Tom Hodgin.

Thanks to Mary and David for accompanying on guitar. Mrs. Price said several times, "They are not going to forget this!" I don't think we will either!

### **The Practice Corner**

**ECC:** "Hodie" and The Bells

**EVAE:** Begin memorization of the opening two songs, Ring the Bells on Christmas Day and I Saw Three Ships, and The Twelve Days of Christmas

### **Laura Decher-Wayte**

From Fran Ross: Laura Decher-Wayte, the soprano soloist for our performance of the Brahms *Requiem* in February, has a performance coming up soon.

- What: "Come Spirit" by Larry Wayte. This is a Lane Community College Voice Faculty Chamber Music recital.
- When: 7:30 p.m., Thursday, October 29
- Where: Lane Community College Performing Arts Theatre

### ***Die erste Walpugisnacht and beyond***

"From ghoulies and ghosties and long-leggety beasties and things that go bump in the night, good Lord, deliver us." Happy Halloween.

*Jill Liberty*  
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