

ECC/EVAE Newsletter, January 11 & 12, 2010

New and returning members

Auditions last Thursday were excellent; we welcome many new members to the Choirs.

EVAE: Welcome 1st alto Elizabeth Boggess and 2nd alto Aleta Katra, and 2nd bass Scott Manton.

ECC: Welcome 1st sopranos Siv Serene Barnum and Elizabeth Neer; 2nd soprano Chelsea Young (current member Lisa Young's daughter); 1st altos Elizabeth Boggess, Zena Foster, and Kathy Heater; 2nd alto Tasha Wulff; 1st tenors Nick Whisman and Ron Heater (yes, spouse of 1st alto Kathy Heater); 1st bass Ron Tinsley; and 2nd bass John Dinsmore.

Welcome back to several former Concert Choir members who have returned: 2nd soprano Lisa Young, 2nd alto Kathryn Madden, 2nd tenor Larry Maltz, 1st bass Ken Duckworth; and 2nd basses Reggie Tonry and Mike Stark.

Brahms Requiem: Several members of the Eugene Vocal Arts Ensemble have joined us to sing the Brahms *Requiem*.

A merry party in all! Let us join our voices together for a stellar experience of the Brahms. "Experience" is certainly the word; it is more than just a "performance." The process of preparation can be as wondrous as the performance.

The Practice Corner

All choir members are expected to spend some time outside of rehearsal on their own study and preparation. Concentrate on the parts of the music that are a challenge for you. As a guideline, Diane indicates in "The Practice Corner" a portion of the music that she intends to focus on for the following rehearsal. It will enhance the rehearsal experience for everyone if you are prepared for the next rehearsal.

ECC: Brahms, movement 3

EVAE: Leonardo (again), and The Ballad of Green Broom. New members, please look over The Fool on the Hill; continuing members already know it rather well.

Member Handbooks

The Choir Member Handbook has recently been revised and updated. Please take one and read through it. The section on attendance policies is particularly important. The Handbook is also available online on our website, www.eugeneconcertchoir.org. Scroll to the very bottom of the homepage and click on the word "Members" to take you to the members page of documents.

Dates for next season

As you will read in the attendance policies section, vacation and work conflicts are not excused absences from performances. Please plan your vacations around next season's dates and inform your employers well in advance if participating in a performance is an issue with your employment. Next week we will announce our season programs (watch this space!), but for now, here are the dates:

Friday, October 15, 2010	Auction/Dinner Fundraiser - ECC and EVAE
Saturday and Sunday, December 4 and 5, 2010	Holiday Concert - ECC
Friday and Saturday, December 10 and 11, 2010	English Madrigal Dinner - EVAE
Saturday, February 26, 2011	Major Choral Work - ECC
Saturday, April 16, 2011	Spring Pops concert
Morning (Kids) – ECC and EVAE	
Evening (full concert) - ECC and EVAE	
Saturday, May 7, 2011	EVAE Spring concert

Please note that the Concert Choir concludes its season in April and that the Vocal Arts Ensemble continues into May. This is a change from past seasons.

Two singing workshops this weekend

The Heart of Singing: Deepening Expression Through Technique

- **What:** Explore how passion and intention, energy and motion, sensory-awareness and surrender combine naturally to solve any technical vocal issue and make us more expressive singers. Learn to apply these tools to issues of breath support, projection, register changes, range and, ultimately, effective musical communication. Singers of all levels and styles benefit greatly from this extraordinarily simple and effective vocal technique.

- **When:** Saturday, January 16, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- **Where:** Eugene Mennonite Church, 3590 West 18th Avenue, Eugene, OR

The Heart of Singing: Deepening Expression in Performance

- **What:** Whether you are a “non-singer,” a shower singer, an amateur performer, or a seasoned professional, this workshop will show you how to draw upon the fundamental human ability to express yourself vocally to take your performances to a different level. Learn to get past technique, get out of your head, and use your body, heart, and soul to deepen your level of expression, and really move (even transform) your audiences.

- **When:** Sunday, January 17, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

- **Where:** Eugene Mennonite Church, 3590 West 18th Avenue, Eugene, OR

Information and registration

The cost for the Saturday workshop is \$60. If you participate in both the Saturday and Sunday workshops, the total cost is \$100. Contact Cathleen Wilder at the Laughing Spirit Music Project, info@laughingspiritmusic.com, or (505) 819-9831. You may also reach her via Skype: laughing spirit! or AIM: Cathleen Wilder. JOY IS THE ANSWER: ANY QUESTIONS?

Is it true that there are no dumb questions?

In its most recent Sunday Travel section, the Register-Guard reported some questions tourism offices have received. Here are a few.

- When does the Loch Ness monster get fed?
- Can you tell me which beach is closest to the ocean?
- Why did they build so many ruined castles and abbeys in England?

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