

# Eugene Concert Choir / Eugene Vocal Arts 2018-2019

## Newsletter • October 1 & 2, 2018

Dear Singers,

I want to revisit my first letter to you this season in which I wrote about the cohesiveness of our membership. We are all in this together, and we rely on each other to feed a mutual experience of excellence and present the very best to our audiences. Being a member of the Eugene Concert Choir or Eugene Vocal Arts ensemble is a full season commitment. And of tantamount importance is giving effort, energy, enthusiasm and your personal generosity to our major fundraiser, which makes the music possible. What can you do to help make our Gala benefit *Highlights & Harmony* a success?

The number one thing to do is encourage ticket sales! Buy tickets yourself to attend, ask friends, colleagues, family and associates to come, tell people about it, send invitations to potential attendees, share our e-News announcements, like us on Facebook and share our posts, send announcements to your groups, clubs, organizations or other gatherings. My aim for our *Highlights & Harmony* Gala benefit is to make it so much fun that everyone will want to go and enjoy it, even if they have never heard of the Eugene Concert Choir or Eugene Vocal Arts. In fact, this would be a great introduction for us.

What will people experience if they come to our Gala? A social time of tasty hors d'oeuvres and complimentary wine, great music, festivity, opportunities to help us make the money we need in small ways or big, desserts, dancing, friendship and fun.

Another thing you can do to help us is to sign up for a committee. We need a Riser Crew to set up choral risers on Thursday, Oct. 11 at 4:00 pm so we can get the room set up in advance. We need Greeters and Closers, raffle ticket sellers and Wall of Wine volunteers to assist during the event, and Riser Crew and Cleanup to wrap things up at the end. Look at the volunteer Job Descriptions and see what looks like something you could do to help, and then sign up on the Sign-Up sheet.

And, of course, we need you ALL to perform. Don't think that just because we are only singing a few songs, your presence is not that important. The shorter the performance, the less time you have to make an impression. We need to bring our very best to this occasion.

Rehearsal 3:45 – 4:45 at Valley River Inn, Willamette Ballroom, Friday, October 12.

Event begins at 6:00 pm. Wear nice evening attire (not concert dress).

We are all in this together. We depend on each other.

Sincerely,  
Diane

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### Caroling Choir Sign-Up

There was not enough of a response to the Caroling Choir sign-up to form a viable mixed-voice choir representative of the Eugene Concert Choir. It has been Diane's experience that the most enthusiastic response is the initial sign-up, and then scheduling conflicts, illnesses, and other commitments erode the numbers from there.

Diane is not going to push for the existence of this additional ensemble, and we are cancelling the rehearsals that were previously announced. If someone else would be interested in gathering singers outside of our rehearsal venue for a Caroling Choir, we would provide you the sign-up sheet, which was primarily sopranos and altos, but that would be entirely on your own – not a Eugene Concert Choir Caroling Choir. So, thank you for those of you who expressed interest.

### The Practice Corner

Both **ECC** and **EVA**: Gala music

**EVA**: "Credo" movement of the Schubert *Mass in A-flat* and the Brahms songs

**ECC**: Now to the Banquet We Press and Sussex Carol

### Wall of Wine Donations

Thank you to those who volunteered to donate bottles of wine for the Gala Wall of Wine. We have some very impressive promises. Please bring them to the choir office or rehearsal. And please **identify donor and value**. Thank you!

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