

Eugene Concert Choir & Eugene Vocal Arts

Choir Newsletter 2021–2022

Published on November 15, 2021

Dear Singers,

Congratulations to Eugene Vocal Arts for opening our 47th season with a beautiful concert performance *A Garden of Bells* – Excellent singing on some very challenging repertoire, beautiful visuals, and a standing ovation from an appreciative audience. Some comments from the audience:

“Wonderful concert this afternoon. So great to EXPERIENCE the sights and sounds of a LIVE performance. Moving selections. Stunning photos. Thank you.” –Lexy Wellman

“Thank you ALL for a wonderful concert! The choice of songs was a delight, and I loved the visuals that accompanied them. Not only were the photographs lovely and appropriate, they were presented just right, not too fast, not too slow, and became a part of the pieces....in other words, it all worked!” – Jean Murphy, former ECC alto and enthusiastic fan of both EVA and ECC!

“Thank you for an exceptional Eugene Vocal Arts concert this afternoon. Glenn Newland’s falsetto work in *The Lion Sleeps Tonight* was just amazing. All those rehearsals and hard work really paid off for this concert! This was the best medicine for our COVID-induced blues.” – Camilla Pratt

“Brava! Brava! Diane! Especially the last song: *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*, with Glenn Newland as the soloist.” – Helmuth Plant

We accomplished a lot in the last few rehearsals, and I felt it was a very bonding experience. Very independent musicianship was needed, but good to feel like a choir again.

Proud of you!
Diane

Welcome New Member

Eugene Vocal Arts, please welcome new bass 2 Brian Hamill, just moved to Eugene from the Seattle area.

Brahms Requiem at Carnegie Hall

We want to encourage more of you to join us on the trip to New York City to perform the Brahms *Requiem* in Carnegie Hall on June 20, 2022.

Anyone who has been sitting on the fence, jump into the group and join us now!

The second deposit for singers who have already signed up is due by December 1, which is \$200 made payable to Eugene Concert Choir. If you are just joining us as a singer, the total for first and second deposits is \$500. And if you are adding a non-performer accompanying member on the \$499 package, that deposit is \$300.

You can read about the trip on the For Choir Members page of our website, and we have a summary handout you can pick up at rehearsal. The Brahms *Requiem* is a glorious masterwork, and it will be wonderfully satisfying to perform it both in Eugene on May 8 and in America’s most iconic and acoustically beautiful hall in June.

Rehearsal Schedule and Practice Corner

The Practice Corner directions are rather simple at this point in our rehearsals. Practice all of your holiday music in preparation for our concert *A Holiday Celebration* on December 12.

After the holiday concert, we will take a break from rehearsals until January 10 and 11. Pass the word that we are holding auditions for new members on Tuesday evening, January 4.

When we resume rehearsals in January, both ECC and EVA will begin rehearsals on the Brahms *Requiem*, so everyone will need a score by then. We are using the Peters edition, in German. As most singers already have a Brahms score, we are asking those of you who don’t have one to order and purchase your own score. You can ask Troy in the Concert Choir office if you need assistance.

When we resume rehearsals in January, in addition to rehearsing the Brahms *Requiem*, EVA will rehearse the Vivaldi *Gloria* and the Mozart *Vespers*. You can purchase those scores through our ECC library. ECC will rehearse the *Movie Magic* repertoire that is checked out to you through our ECC library. Until January, it is holiday repertoire all the way.

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KWAX Airing Holidays Around the World

For their community spotlight, KWAX 91.1 will introduce the holiday season by airing the audio recording of our *Holidays Around the World* program on Friday, November 19 at 10:00 am. Tune in and tell your friends and family, as KWAX begins to promote our *Holiday Celebration* concert through this community spotlight program.

Help Spread the News!

Eugene Concert Choir and Eugene Vocal Arts, along with renowned soul singer Theresa Thomason and a combo led by guitarist Don Latarski, will joyfully bring in the spirit of the season with their concert *A Holiday Celebration* on December 12, 2021 at 2:30 pm.

Artistic Director and Conductor Diane Retallack will lead the celebration as Christmas carols and glorious expressoins of jubilation fill the Silva Concert Hall. The full-voiced Eugene Concert Choir will remind us all what a great big, luscious choir sounds like, and the "Lords and Ladies" of Eugene Vocal Arts will harken back to Times of Olde with Renaissance carols, motets and madrigals in elaborate Elizabethan dress.

You may purchase tickets in person at the Hult Center Box Office, by phone at (541) 682-5000, or online at the Eugene Concert Choir website, EugeneConcertChoir.org/A-Holiday-Celebration

For non-ticket related questions, please contact the Concert Choir office at (541) 687-6865, or you can email us at choir@eugeneconcertchoir.org

There are quarter sheets and other marketing materials available at the office. We encourage you to share this information with your friends and family in the area, and look forward to another exciting performance.

Michelle Ferguson, Marketing Director
Troy DeShazer, Office Administrator

Need Volunteers to Help with Costuming for A Holiday Celebration

We don't have a lot of Dickens attire in our storage, but Diane would like help from a few volunteers to go through the storage and pick out what we may have to distribute to Concert Choir members for the holiday concert. We do have a lot of top hats, and some shawls and capes. Anyone willing to help, please contact Diane.

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Diane Retallack, Artistic & Executive Director
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