

Eugene Concert Choir & Eugene Vocal Arts Choir Newsletter 2021–2022

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Dear Singers,

We just had the most successful Gala fundraiser ever! We raised over \$70,000!!! After a year in which we all felt the absence of live music, people seemed to dig deeper to support what they know is important in our lives. And a LOT of that came from all of YOU – in every way: cash donations, auction items, auction bidding, volunteer work and singing your hearts out. Even muzzled, we could hear how beautifully you sang, and some attending the event expressed having been moved to tears. Bill Hulings is a great MC – I hope you heard his adorable Kermit the Frog parody – “It’s Really Easy Giving Green” – and Siri Vik knocks everyone’s socks off with her powerful and soulful voice. Together with our talented pianist Brad Schultz and the Gus Russell Trio plus Marc Siegel for LeBop Hot, the music was cooking.

Our tiny staff of two new people who had never experienced our Gala fundraiser before put in long hours and tremendous effort, and it all came together terrifically. Thank you to Troy DeShazer, Office Administrator and Michelle Ferguson, Marketing and Public Relations Director! Michelle’s contacts with Patton’s Country Gardens were responsible for the gorgeous flowers throughout the décor. Sid Voorhees is a fantastic and congenial auctioneer who gets the best out of everyone, and Sid and his crew give his services gratis. We were grateful to have the auction assistance and cashiering of Kirsten Albright and her team, and all the professionals who added their expertise in sound – Velvet Thunder; lighting – Eye Beam Event Services; and live-streaming – Antonio Anacan. Chef Kevin Ables at Market of Choice Catering and their catering director Jennifer Henry delivered on a splendid meal and event. And our own Eric and Kimberly Wick sponsored the complimentary wine. The ECC board sponsored the raffle items, and board member Connie Fehlman of Edward Jones was event sponsor.

Many hands came together in support of what we do. We are important to the community. That support, in so many ways, inspires me, and I feel very grateful for all of you and how we enrich our own and each other’s lives. Thank you!

Diane

The Practice Corner

EVA: Next week is concert week, so . . . everything!

ECC: Sleigh Ride, The Twelve Days of Christmas?????, The Little Drummer Boy

Singing in the Rain and You’ll Never Walk Alone/ Climb Every Mountain are for our *Magic of Movie Music* concert in February. You can retire those selections until we start up again in January after the holiday break.

Rehearsal Schedule

ECC – This week and next we are continuing the split rehearsals with overlap:

Tuesday, Nov. 2nd:

Sopranos and Basses 7:15 – 8:45
Altos and Tenors 8:15 – 9:45

Tuesday, Nov. 9th reverse order:

Altos and Tenors 7:15 – 8:45
Sopranos and Basses 8:15 – 9:45

As COVID cases continue to decrease, and the community continues to increase vaccinations, I think it will be time to resume a regular rehearsal schedule of 7:15 – 9:45 for everyone starting November 16.

EVA – Concert Week Schedule

Monday, Nov. 8th – regular rehearsal
7:00 – 9:45 at Grace Lutheran Church

Friday, November 12th, 7:00 – 10:00 pm at the
Hult Center, Soreng Theater

Saturday, November 13, 7:00 – 10:00 pm
dress rehearsal in concert dress. Peter Patricelli
will take photos.

Sunday, November 14th, concert performance at
2:30 pm, warmup at 1:00 pm.

Please enter through the Stage Door in the alleyway between the Hult Center and its parking garage. We will have Soreng dressing rooms. You may leave concert dress overnight in the dressing room.

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In Celebration of Women on KWAX

As we push to market EVA's Garden of Bells concert, KWAX will play the audio recording of *In Celebration of Women* on Friday, November 5 at 10:00 am. We will also be releasing a few single videos from the full program: *We Shall Walk Through the Valley*, *Love Bears All Things*, and *O Love*; leading up to the Garden of Bells concert. We want everyone to know what a marvelous ensemble Eugene Vocal Arts is, and we would like all of you to encourage people you know to buy tickets to their concert, Sunday, November 14 at 2:30 pm. The title of the concert comes from a choral piece by Canadian composer R. Murray Schafer which has you imagine that you are walking through a garden, and all of the flowers ring like bells. We will have beautiful images of flowers projected on a screen to enhance the experience.

Concert Dress and Renaissance Dress

Eugene Vocal Arts - *A Garden of Bells* – EVA concert dress: women – black and blue dress, black shoes, minimal jewelry; men – tux with white wing-collar shirt, EVA blue vest and tie.

A Holiday Celebration – EVA members will be outfitted in Renaissance dress by Mary MacDiarmid.

Eugene Concert Choir – Do some of you still have Dickens attire? There will be variations in concert dress for the *Holiday Celebration* concert that we will discuss later, but those who have Dickens attire can help make things look festive. We will also add holiday colors to our concert dress, with scarves, shawls, ties, and other accents.

Black Folders

Black folders are supposed to arrive on Tuesday. Members of ECC may purchase them with cash or a check for \$30 payable to Eugene Concert Choir. If EVA members would like to get their folders before next week, they can stop in to the choir office. We ordered enough for everyone who signed up on the order list, plus several more, so there are some extras.