

FALL 2011

Choruspondence

Virginia Lynn Vann, Editor
The Memphis Symphony Chorus

Hello Everyone!

Letter From the Editor

My name is Ginny and I am the new editor of Choruspondence! It was an honor to have been asked by Lisa to take over Choruspondence. I also want to thank Martha for her dedication to this Newsletter for the past two seasons, and showing me the ropes as well! I just I thought since I am new to this, I would take the time to introduce myself! I am 29 years old and I was born and raised right here in Memphis. I graduated from Ridgeway High School in 2000 and attended The University of Tennessee, Knoxville (Go Vols!). I came back to Memphis in March of 2009 to help my mother who was diagnosed with Ovarian Cancer. I have always loved to sing even as a young child and missed it after not singing anywhere for over a year. When I found out about the Memphis Symphony Chorus, my mother was the first person to encourage me to audition. This is my third season with this great organization and I have loved meeting new people and singing fabulous songs. When my mother passed in the summer of 2010, I couldn't wait to get back to rehearsals with the chorus and the chorus is one of the reasons I was able to make it this past year. I really don't know what I would have done without the incredible people in the chorus and I thank each and every one of you for a wonderful two years so far!

I want to welcome all the new people to the Memphis Symphony Chorus and I hope your first season in the chorus will be as amazing as my first season was for me! If you are finding it difficult to keep up, don't get discouraged. Remember Larry would not have chosen you if he did not feel like you would be an asset to this chorus. You are not alone please talk with your buddy, or any of the board members will be happy to give you any advice you may need. Also thanks to our amazing Assistant Director Jeremy Warner we have an amazing tool on our website that I am sure you will find useful. We often have rehearsal and listening tracks downloaded by Jeremy on our website. I know this will come in handy to you all since we have not one but three upcoming concerts, and they are all back-to-back-to-back! Even other choruses around the world have found this useful! Congrats again to you all, and to everyone, here is to an awesome season! See you guys on Mondays Nights,

Ginny Vann

New Members Fall 2011: Congrats and Welcome!

Sopranos

Rosemary Winters S1

Janyce Cash S2

Emily Huseth S2

Carole Martindale S2

Mckenzie Mitcham S2

Cristi Okello S2

Altos

Cassandra Walters A1

Catherine Bilow A2

Cathy Ginn A2

Tenors

Joe Anderson T1

*Aaron Gilmer T1

Basses

James McClanhan B1

Joey Miller B1

*Malcolm Payne B1

Herb Zeman B1

*Aaron Gilmer and Malcolm Payne will join us in January!



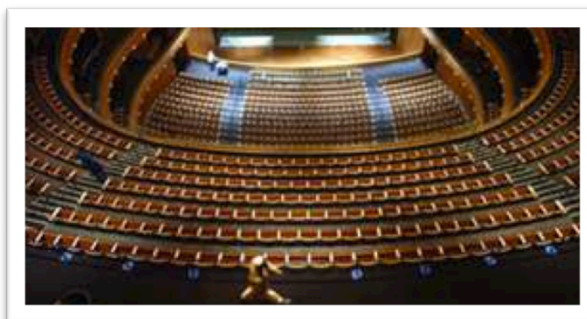


Love in the Chorus!
Hey single ladies, there is still hope!
You may find your Prince in the chorus.
Rae Williams nee Clark found hers! Rae
married Tenor Matthew Williams on August
4, 2011. Matt proposed to Rae on a trip the
University Singers took to Germany!
Congrats to the newlyweds!

Choral Risers Campaign

Attention All Chorus Members: You all may have heard Lisa talking about this. The chorus has been asked to help contribute to the cost of the new risers that have been purchased by the Symphony. The chorus board felt that this was a reasonable request, because the chorus will benefit directly from the use of the risers when we perform at the Cannon Center. Here is an exciting piece of news; we will be able to use the risers for the Broadway Rocks Pop Concert on October 22nd! The risers are being purchased by the Symphony partly with a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The chorus has agreed to pay \$7,500 for our portion for the remaining cost of the risers, but we would love to be able to offer the Symphony more than that! The profits from our fruit sale this year will be going toward this campaign! In addition, we are asking that each chorus member consider making a personal donation. We know times are hard, but any monetary amount would be greatly appreciated! We as a board discussed it at our most recent board meeting, and as a united body have decided on 100% participation of board members to donate an amount to this campaign in the near future. We would love for every member of the chorus to stand with us in this campaign as well. Remember we directly benefit from these risers. Larry has pushed to keep the shell closed for as long as we have been performing at the Cannon Center, and we are finally beginning to see the benefits. These risers are smaller than the ones we have used in the past, and we should be able to keep the shell CLOSED! This move will really enhance the artistic quality of our work.

If you would like to make a donation, please see our treasurer Elizabeth Buls on a Monday night. You can also make a donation online via our website at www.memphisymphonychorus.org.





Annual Fruit Sale!



You all ready to start selling some fruit? Well ready or not here it comes. The annual Fruit Sale will kick-off October 17th and will run through November 21st. As usual there will be a ton of great incentives!

There are going to be a few new items added to the order forms this year! There will now be five junior boxes added. These have been added due to comments that some fruit boxes are just too big for one or two people, so if you have had customers make that statement, please point out these new items to them.

Pick-up for the fruit is set for December 10th and 11th and the location for our fruit pick-up has changed so please let your customers know this change. The church we have used in the past has been sold and we had to find a new distribution center. The new pick up location for the fruit will be Knights of Columbus Council #616 (The Catholic Club), 707 S. Highland between Park & Central. Let's sell some fruit everyone!



Upcoming Rehearsals and Performances



Day/Date	Time	Location/Event
Monday, October 10, 2011	7:00pm	Balmoral Church/Rehearsal
Monday, October 17, 2011	7:00pm	Balmoral Church/Rehearsal
*Thursday, October 20, 2011	7:00pm	Balmoral Church/Conductor Rehearsal (Broadway Rocks!)
*Friday, October 21, 2011	7:00pm	Cannon Center/Orchestra Rehearsal (Broadway Rocks!)
*Saturday, October 22, 2011	1:00pm	Cannon Center/Orchestra Rehearsal (Broadway Rocks!)
*Saturday, October 22, 2011	7:15pm	Cannon Center/8:00pm Performance (Broadway Rocks!)
Monday, October 24, 2011	7:00pm	Balmoral Church/Rehearsal

*Denotes Attendance Required!

Attendance Policy

***Remember you can only miss one rehearsal between now and Broadway Rocks! There will not be a make rehearsal for this concert! In addition keep in mind three tardies equals one absence!**



Steven Reineke, Guest Conductor, Broadway Rocks!



We will not have the pleasure of being conducted by Mei-Ann until we perform the Mahler in April, but the upside to that is we get to work with associate conductor, Stilian Kirov for the first time in the Holiday Pops concert, but first things first. We will get to work with a very accomplished conductor for Broadway Rocks on October 22, Steven Reineke!

Steven Reineke developed an interest in music at a very early age in Tipp City, Ohio. He started playing the trumpet, and at the age of fifteen, he taught himself how to play the piano. Mr. Reineke is a graduate of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio where he earned not one, but two bachelors of music degrees one for trumpet performance and the other in music composition.

Mr. Reineke has served as Principal Pops Conductor of the Long Beach and Modesto Symphony Orchestras, and has also served for fifteen years as Associate Conductor of the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, where he was a composer, arranger, and conducting protégé of the celebrated pops conductor, the late Erich Kunzel. Mr. Reineke made his Boston Pops and Philadelphia Orchestra debuts in 2009. He has also been honored with conducting the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Reineke served as the Music Director of the New York Pops in the 2009-2010 season. Most recently he was appointed Principal Pops Conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra for the 2011-2012 season.

Mr. Reineke has been busy traveling both in the US and in Canada guest conducting. Not only will he be our Guest Conductor for the Broadway Rocks! concert, but he also will be a Conducting Toronto Symphony Orchestra in Toronto Ontario, Canada and also the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington D.C. the two weeks prior his coming to Memphis. Then he makes his way back to Long Beach, CA after he leaves Memphis, and will remain busy well into 2012. Mr. Reineke currently resides in New York City.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Maestro Steven Reineke to Memphis and I for one cannot wait to perform in the Broadway Rocks! under his direction!

*For all you who did not sing in the Centennial Concert please remember to check your attire and make sure it fits and that you have every piece. If you are singing in Broadway Rocks! you need to make sure ASAP!



Facebook

For those of you on Facebook you should join our **New** Memphis Symphony Chorus Facebook group. Yes new! There are two Memphis Symphony Facebook groups. Here is how you tell the difference between the old group and the new group: the old group has a picture of the chorus as the group's photo, the new group has the Memphis Symphony Chorus logo as the group's photo.

We want everyone who has a Facebook account to join the new group. We are going to post important information, as well as concert information. This is also going to be another way for us to let you all know whether we are going to be cancelling rehearsal due to inclement weather.

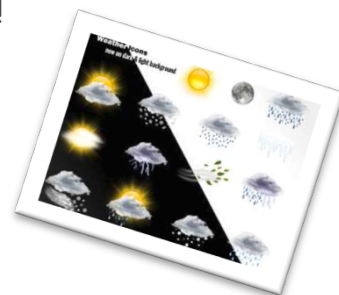
There is one more important step we need you to take. If you are currently in the old group, we need you to un-join it. In order for Facebook to take the old group off we need everyone who is currently a member to un-join so it will be empty. There is currently no administrator for this group because the person who started the group deactivated from Facebook and now there is no admin for the group, so no one is able to make changes to the group. This is so important. When you get the chance please remember to do this. It would be helpful for us! Thanks!

Weather Policy

All you returners probably remember the strange weather that we had in late winter and early spring, when we had to to cancel a few rehearsals. There was a lot of confusion and some people did not get messages that rehearsals had been cancelled.

If a rehearsal is cancelled due to bad weather we will try to notify everyone to the best of our ability. That is usually through email, but we know not everyone has email, so if there is bad weather, and you think that rehearsal may be cancelled, please do not assume that is cancelled. You may call the bad weather line at 678-3767. If rehearsal is cancelled you will hear a recording from Larry stating that indeed the rehearsal that night has been cancelled.

For those of you on Facebook, we have also decided to start posting the status of rehearsals on there as well. So if you do have Facebook please like the **NEW** Memphis Symphony Chorus group, and if the weather is questionable please look out for messages stating rather rehearsal has been cancelled or not!





University of Memphis Centennial Kick-Off Concert

For those of you who could not perform in the U of M Centennial Kick-Off Concert, you missed a very special night. It was wonderful and all the performers were fantastic. Not only did we sing with the University Singers and the University of Memphis Symphony Orchestra, but there were also special performances from U of M Alums, Sound Fuzion, and from the Grammy Award winning music recording artist, Aaron Neville. There was also a very touching slide show of the University throughout the last 100 years with a very special song composed by Professor James Richens that went along with it, "Presidential Portraits." The University's Symphony Orchestra played that song along with "Centennial Fanfare," also composed by Professor Richens, and many other familiar tunes! It was an amazing night and a great kick-off for a wonderful year for The University of Memphis! Thanks to everyone who was able to participate!



Upcoming Symphony Concerts!

Date	Time	Event/Location
October 15 & 16, 2011	8:00pm/2:30pm	Dvorak's "New World" Symphony/Cannon Center
October 22, 2011	8:00pm	Broadway Rocks!/Cannon Center
November 10, 2011	7:30pm	Al Kapone at The New Daisy/The New Daisy
November 19 & 20, 2011	8:00pm/2:30pm	From the Blue Danube...to the Pines of Rome/Cannon Center

