



Don't forget "A Celtic Celebration" at the Creative Discovery Museum on April 19th from 6:00-8:30pm. Plenty of food, fun, and great entertainment!

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Friends & Family Training Choir Recital April 15 at 6:00pm at Hickory Valley Community Church

Friends,

The beginning of spring is a wonderful - yet in some ways awkward - time of year. The fond memories of the recent holiday season (though not the credit card bills) have given way to the new slate of activities of the spring. We have traded our winter coats for t-shirts, shorts, and sandals. The place where you and your family made a small snowman in January has since been replaced with a large, thick pile of yellowish green pollen. In school, we are all conscious of the work left to be done, but we are keeping a firm count of the number of days until the end of the school year. While we crowned Super Bowl champions just over a month ago, spring football practice has already started at many high schools and colleges.

This time also proves to be interesting in the season of the CBC. Though many similar programs are rather quiet in the month of April, the CBC uses this time to showcase the primary mission of this wonderful organization – education. The *Friends and Family Training Choirs Recital* is in its fourth year as a showcase of the CBC training choirs. This event, which will be held on April 15, is a great program where we are given the opportunity to focus on the work of our youngest choirs. Those in attendance are given the opportunity to see how each student progresses from the organization's beginning levels to its advanced choirs.

Additionally, the annual *Catering to the Boys Choir* scholarship fundraising event will take place on April 19 at the Creative Discovery Museum. This fun evening includes wonderful food, fun entertainment, and a great silent auction. The new venue and fun Irish theme for this year's event promises to make this a wonderful evening. Best of all, proceeds from the event benefit our scholarship fund, which enables several boys to participate in our choir's programs of education, appreciation, and performance.

These events are critical to the programs of the CBC. Though they do not take place on our biggest stages, they do represent those things which embody the mission of the choir – the education of our young men, and the support of all those who choose to be a part of our wonderful program.

I look forward to seeing you at these events. Thank you for your support of the choir.

Vic

Catering to the Boys Choir

Catering to the Boys Choir is just around the corner! It is shaping up to be an evening you won't want to miss! *Olt*a has been seen around town at other events and they are truly excited to be taking part in our Celtic Celebration - they are very lively and talented musicians. There are lots of great baskets and other items that will be available at the Silent Auction. If you plan to purchase any of these items or visit any of these business anyway, why not buy the item at a bargain price and at the same time support the CBC scholarship fund? The CBC website contains a full list of items donated to date.

Thank you to the choir captains who are heading up the choir baskets! Everyone should have received information from their choir captain letting them know the theme for the basket and how they can contribute. Concert and Schubert currently have boxes in the office for your contributions.

Finally, **we need your help for this event!** Right now, we need at least 3 people to volunteer to pick up food from restaurants and caterers and bring it to the Creative Discovery Museum. These volunteers will need to call the contact person at the restaurant during the week before the event to confirm pick-up times, which should be between 4:30-5:30. If you are willing to do this, please let Dawn know ASAP. Next, we need several people to help set-up. As the CDM will be open for business until 5:00, that leaves us only **one hour** to set up! Obviously, the more help we have the quicker it will get done. A few people will be needed between noon and 5:00 to do some pre-set-up in the Conservatory at the CDM, which will make the actual set-up run smoothly given the short period of time. We still need many people to take shifts as ticket takers and drink servers, and a few people to help with the closing of the auction. With the event just weeks away, we need to know that we can count on the help we need to make the event successful. **Please sign up now in the Volunteer Opportunities book or by emailing Dawn what you would like to do.**



Concert Choir at Tennessee Tech University

Concert Choir in the rotunda of the Renaissance Center in Dickson, TN

Calendar

April

- 9 Family & Friends Training Choir Recital rehearsal (Mozart, Schubert, Handel)
- 10 Family & Friends Training Choir Recital rehearsal (Mozart, Schubert, Handel)
- 15 **Family & Friends Training Choir Recital** (Mozart, Schubert, Handel)
- 16 Parent Meeting
- 17 Parent Meeting, Tour Meeting
- 19 Catering to the Boys Choir & Silent Auction
- 30 Open House Audition 6-7pm

May

- 8 Open House Audition 6-7pm
- 12 Open House Audition 10am-11am
- 21 *Finale!* Combined rehearsal (all choirs)
- 21 Final Tour Meeting with Witte Travel (5:30pm)
- 22 *Finale!* Dress rehearsal (all choirs)
- CBC alumni choir rehearsal
- 25 *Finale! Concert* (all choirs)

June

- 4-11 Summer Tour

July

- 16-20 2007 Annual Summer Music Camp

August

- 20 Rehearsals resume

CHATTANOOGA BOYS CHOIR

Vincent Oakes Artistic / Executive Director
 Dawn Oakes Administrative Director
 Katie Walters Business Manager
 Merry Lee Wilson Accompanist
 Judy Brittingham Instructor
 Cynda Holmes Instructor
 Daniel Varnell Intern
 Zachary Cavan Intern

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Notes from the Office

- Volunteer points are updated on the website and in the volunteer notebook. It is imperative that you complete the 120 point requirement - many opportunities are available for sign-up in the volunteer notebook.
- With the Friends & Family Recital and the Spring Concert just around the corner, please be sure that clothes fit properly. Any Concert or Handel choir member who needs a new size needs to give us at least two weeks so that we can order new sizes if needed. At this time, the wardrobe contains mainly smaller sizes.
- Scholarship applications are available in the office now. They are due back by May 1
- A non-refundable deposit of \$75 is due by May 1st to reserve a spot for camp. If you know at this time that you will not be attending camp (attendance is mandatory to continue next season) please let the office know ASAP as we will be ordering music in a few weeks.
- We are in need of a few more parents to volunteer for camp this year. If you are interested, please let the office know. We'll need people to help us with recreation, team building activities, art, snacks, and more.

Tour Meeting

April 17 at 6:00pm • McFerrin Chapel

This meeting will follow the Parents Meeting and is **required** for families going on tour. Please come with all your questions!

Recruiting

The first Open House Audition night was held on March 26th and at this time there are 15 boys signed up to audition at the next Open House Audition on April 30th. That is a great start! Several teachers have returned their recommendation forms to us, but many have not. **We need your help!** Please contact the music teacher at your chorister's school to make sure they turn in their recommendation forms.

Tennessee Mini-Tour

On March 11 Concert Choir embarked on one of the best tours in recent years. The tour began with the choir participating in a church service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in downtown Murfreesboro. Following a brief stop at Cane Creek Park in Cookeville for a little recreation, the choir performed for a full crowd at First United Methodist Church as part of their fine arts series. The next morning the boys served as a demonstration choir as Mr. Oakes gave a presentation on the child's and male changing voice to music education students at Tennessee Tech University. Following lunch on campus, the choir traveled to Dickson where they performed in the rotunda of the Renaissance Center, a facility which hosts many performances and classes in all forms of art including stained glass, dance, and theater. On March 13 the boys once again served as a demonstration choir for a music education class at Belmont University. The classes are a unique opportunity not only for our choristers, but for the university students. Not part of a typical curriculum, they were able to ask questions and discuss first hand the unique characteristics of working with children's choirs. That afternoon, following a tour of the Capitol building, the boys performed in Legislative Plaza, one of the main buildings containing the offices of Tennessee legislators, as part of the Tennessee Arts Commission's *Arts Advocacy Day*. In attendance were many of the Hamilton County delegates, in addition to a large crowd of legislators, aides, lobbyists and others in the capitol that day. The concert choir was invited to sing especially for the Hamilton County delegation at a reception sponsored by Allied Arts of Greater Chattanooga. Representatives Vince Dean (also a CBC alum), Gerald McCormick, Tommie Brown, Joanne Favors, and Richard Floyd and Senator Bo Watson were all in attendance and signed Tennessee Blue Books for each of the boys.

The feedback received from this tour has been overwhelmingly positive and it is the hope that we will continue to have similar mini-tour opportunities in the future. To see additional pictures from the tour, visit the CBC website.



Music Education class at Belmont University



Reps. McCormick and Dean, and Senator Watson

Happy Birthday!

Blake Patterson	4/5	Jack White	4/22
Blakely Epperson	4/13	Christian Evans	4/26
Christopher Phillips	4/18	Jonathon Polcari	4/29
Jacob Harrod	4/20		

Atta Boy!

Trey Foshee (Handel) was selected to attend the National Young Scholars Program in Washington D.C. this summer from the National Center for Early Academic Excellence. He was also elected to be Patrol Leader of his Boy Scout Troop 82.

Volunteer Staff Positions

You may not know that the Volunteer Coordinator and Summer Camp Director positions are termed "Volunteer Staff" positions because they have specific job descriptions and come with a full tuition abatement. Glen and Karen Robertson and Galen and Peggy Bell have served wonderfully in both of these positions for the past three years. At the comments and urging of two grant review panels (outside professionals who review all of our scholarship programs), the Board of Directors has decided that these positions should carry a term limit of two years. While the CBC will be sad to lose great families in these positions, it is most appropriate to allow other families the opportunity for these positions. It should be noted that these *are not need based* positions and are open to anyone who is interested.

The office has job descriptions for review, and if you might be interested upon reviewing the job duties please let Dawn know *by May 1st*. Both of these jobs may be shared amongst two families, however the tuition abatement would also be shared in that case. If you have questions, just call or email Dawn.

Rescheduled Parent Meetings

Please plan to attend on either of these days. The same information will be covered at both meetings. They should last no more than 30 minutes.

Monday, April 16 at 5:30pm

Tuesday, April 17 at 5:30pm

In McFerrin Chapel

Training Choir Recital

The 4th Annual *Friends & Family Training Choirs Recital* is a special evening highlighting the three training choirs, Mozart, Schubert, and Handel. It will be held on Sunday, April 15th at 6:00pm at Hickory Valley Community Church. Last week choristers brought home invitations that can be used to invite their family and friends to the performance. The office has extras available if more are needed.

Members of participating choirs have rehearsal on **both** Monday from 4:30-6:00pm and Tuesday from 4:30-5:30pm at Hickory Valley Community Church.

Lookouts Game

The Chattanooga Lookouts have invited us to sing the National Anthem at the game on Friday, April 13. Members of Concert and Handel Choirs will be participating in this event. They should arrive at the ball field no later than 6:15pm (meet at the top of the escalators) wearing their orange shirt from camp, blue jeans, a belt and sneakers. If your shirt is too small we do have a few left over and might be able to exchange it. The game starts at 7:15pm. Each chorister will be given two tickets - one for them and one for a family member. In order to ensure enough tickets, please notify the office of your participation no later than April 10.



Arts are Important!

According to Americans for the Arts, young people who participate in the arts for at least three hours, three days a week for at least one year are:

- Four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement;
- Three times more likely to be elected to class office within their schools;
- Four times more likely to participate in math and science fair;
- Three times more likely to win an award for school attendance; and
- Four times more likely to win an award for writing an essay or poem.

Students with coursework/experience in music performance scored 51 points higher on the verbal portion of the SAT and 39 points higher on the math portion of the SAT than students with no coursework or experience in the arts. Those who studied music four or more years scored a combined 101 points higher than students with no coursework or experience in the arts. (Source: Profiles of the SAT and Achievement Test Takers, The College Board.