



No Rehearsals February 19 for Presidents' Day.

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 Presidents' Day**

Strong Roots

On January 29 and 30, members of the **CBC Handel Choir** performed at the Tivoli Theater with choirs from several area schools, talented soloists, and the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera Youth Orchestra in a production of *The Journey of Sir Douglas Fir*. The music-filled allegorical tale tells the story of a majestic Douglas fir tree which falls in the woods remarkably, without splitting or splintering. The once strong and proud tree wondered in doubt with his animal friends (among them were a bear, a robin, and a highly energetic squirrel) about his future. Knowing he could not be placed back into the ground, he worried about the possibilities of becoming a boat, or a church pew, or, as his friend Bully the Bear suggested, "a million teeny tiny toothpicks." After enjoying the encouragement of his friends, a thrilling train ride, and several twists and turns, the story ends in a grand fashion with Douglas proudly unveiled as...well, perhaps I'll let you find out the end yourself at a future performance!

I was particularly proud that our Handel Choir was able to perform on this program. Their experience in the CBC epitomizes the experience relayed in the story – that strong "roots" carry us through to success in all situations. The people these boys meet in Mozart Choir, the experiences they share while in Schubert Choir, and all the rest of their experiences build upon each other to equip them for success at every level.

Even though the Handel Choir members are not yet actively participating in the "most experienced" choir level, they certainly made a great showing at this event because of their training and experience. This element of education and training is such an important aspect of the CBC. It is the part of our mission that remains largely outside of the public eye, but it perhaps the most important thing we do.

Thank you for your role in supporting this important aspect of the choir and all aspects of this wonderful organization.

Vic

Catering to the Boys Choir

Some exciting changes to the annual *Catering to the Boys Choir* event were announced at the Parents Meetings in January. The event, which is the single fundraiser for the choir's scholarship fund, is being chaired by Board Member Sylvia Friedl. She announced that it will be held at the Creative Discover Museum, and building on their *Amazing Castles* exhibit and the choir's tour to Ireland this summer, the theme for the evening will be "*A Celtic Celebration*." The Celtic band *Olta* will be performing traditional Irish music on the upstairs deck as well as in the main exhibit. "I'm so excited about this year's event! It is truly going to be a fun party!" Sylvia told parents at the meeting.

The event will be held on Thursday, April 19th from 5:30-8:30pm. It is an adult event, and attendees will be able to sample food from 20 of Chattanooga's finest restaurants and caterers, enjoy the entertainment, and bid on some great items in a Silent Auction. Tickets are \$25 each, but choir families will be able to purchase up to 4 tickets for \$15 each **during the month of March only**.

Your help is needed! Help will be needed in the following areas:

- Invite friends, family, and co-workers to the party! (Use the Save-the-Date email to let them know about it)
- Solicit items for the auction
- Make follow-up calls to businesses to solicit item donations
- Pick-up food from caterers and bring to CDM on the day of the event
- Set-up, clean-up, decorate on the day of the event

Please contact Dawn ASAP to let her know what you would be willing to do.

Look for these great items at the auction:

- Playset from PlayCore
- Bathroom Vanity
- Three passes for raft trip from Nantahala Outdoor Center
- McCallie Day Camp or First Camp
- One week Baylor Campership
- Chattanooga Lookouts tickets
- Southern Belle tickets
- Sticky Fingers gift certificate
- Two night stay at Hilton Garden Inn Downtown Chattanooga
- Two tickets to *Steel Magnolias* at the Chattanooga Theatre Center
- Family Pass to Ruby Falls

Calendar

February

- 11 Simmons-O'Neal Memorial Concert (Concert Choir)
 17 Wedding, UTC Patten Chapel (Concert Choir)
 19 **No Rehearsals** (Presidents' Day)

March

- 10-12 Spring Tennessee Tour—Madisonville, Cookeville, Nashville (Concert Choir)
 19-23 **No Rehearsals**—Spring Break
 31 Open House Audition 10am-12pm

April

- 2 Parent Meeting
 3 Parent Meeting
 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)
 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-12pm
 21 *Finale!* Combined rehearsal (all choirs)
 21 *Finale!* Dress rehearsal (all choirs)
 CBC alumni choir rehearsal
 25 **Finale! Concert** (all choirs)

July

- 16-20 2007 Annual Summer Music Camp

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

- We are looking for an iron and an ironing board to be donated. If you have a spare one, or are looking to replace yours, keep us in mind!
- We are setting up a single-octavo library to be used by area music educators and have a need for bookshelves. If you have any not being used, we'll use them!
- Please try not to schedule dentist, orthodontist, or "well doctor" appointments on rehearsal days.
- **Handel Choir** members who are not going on tour should return their gray polo shirts by February 13th. It is your responsibility to make sure polos are checked back in properly—please do not leave it in the office without someone checking it in for you.

Spring Mini-Tour

March 11-13 the Concert Choir will be traveling around Tennessee for a Spring Mini Tour. Here's the schedule so that you can tell friends and family who live in the area:

Sunday, March 11

St. Peter's Episcopal Church	Murfreesboro	8:30 & 11am
First UMC Fine Arts Series	Cookeville	7:00pm

Monday, March 12

Tennessee Tech Music Ed class	Cookeville	closed to public
Renaissance Center Concert	Nashville	7:00pm

Tuesday, March 13

Belmont University Music Ed class	Nashville	closed to public
Tennessee Arts Commission	Legislative Plaza	1:00pm
Arts Advocacy Day	(Nashville)	

Simmons-O'Neal Memorial Concert

The annual Simmons-O'Neal Memorial Concert is coming up on Sunday, February 11th at 3:00pm at Olivet Baptist Church. This concert is a collaboration with the Chattanooga Choral Society for the Preservation of African-American Song honoring directors of both choirs: Edmonia Simmons and Everett O'Neal. One of the favorite concerts for both choirs, this performance is a fantastic display of talent. Though only Concert Choir is performing, all choristers are *strongly encouraged* to attend.

The Journey of Sir Douglas Fir

The Handel Choir joined the CSOYO and several other local schools for the production of the children's musical *The Journey of Sir Douglas Fir* on January 29 and 30. The story tells the tale of Douglas, a respected 350-year-old fir tree and all his forest friends at Shawnigan Lake. The CBC received many compliments on their professionalism and flexibility. Thank you to all parents for their patience dropping off and picking up—with so many children participating, this was a challenging task. The Tivoli security staff were very impressed with CBC parents for their discipline!



Handel Choir as part of the combined choir

Rigoletto

Five members of the Chattanooga Boys Choir were invited to participate in the CSO's production of Verdi's Opera *Rigoletto* in January. Tyler Guiliani, Josh Robertson and Zach Zettel played the role of pages, and Jordan Hicks and Austin Hale played the role of sentries. Through all the costume fittings, hair & makeup, and even wig fittings, these choristers had a great time and represented the CBC very well. Every so often the CSO requests some of our choristers—keep an eye out for other opportunities!



Austin, Tyler, Josh, Zach, and Jordan in their costumes

Reminder!

Concert Choir permission slips and fees for the March mini-tour are due February 9th

Happy Birthday!

Caleb Smith	2/2	Chandler Whittington	2/12
Christopher Richards	2/4	Josh Robertson	2/17
Quinn Flanagan	2/5	David Couter	2/18
Taylor Brittingham	2/8	Jacob Davis	2/21
Rodney McCullough	2/12	John Peter Davis	2/21

Atta Boy!

David Couter (Concert) appeared in *It's a Wonderful Life* at the Chattanooga Theatre Center in December. In the fall he was seen in multiple roles (Mayor of Munchkinland, Flying Monkey, and Ozian) in the Chattanooga Theatre Center's musical production of *Wizard of Oz*.

Drew Craig (Handel) is one of the editors of the new school newspaper at CSAS.

Collin Lindgren (Mozart) has made star student status at Nolan Elementary for both report cards he has received this year.

Andrew Piper (Concert) was cast in *Little Women* at the Catoosa Colonnade in October. He was nominated by the director for Best Young Adult Actor for his part as Laurie.

Ron Walters (Cantabile) was chosen to attend the Tennessee Governor's School for International Studies at the University of Memphis. Previous Cantabile boys who have been chosen include Rudy Foster and Chris Lipscomb.

Harrison Holmes (Handel) made the Honor Roll at Thrasher Elementary.

Harrison Holmes (Handel) and **Dakota Dunn** (Schubert) sang a duet of *Carol of the Bells* accompanied by Dan Landrum on Christmas Eve at Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church.

Mark Laseter (Concert) filled in for his mom as rehearsal accompanist for Schubert Choir.

Sylar Holmes (Concert) made the Faculty Representative List and Headmaster's List at McCallie.

Noah Albritton (Mozart) was asked by his music teacher to talk about the CBC during morning announcements at school.

Music Educators Open House

On Tuesday, February 13th the CBC will be hosting an Open House for area music educators. This is an opportunity for them to learn more about us, tour our facilities, try out the computer lab, and observe rehearsals. Please make sure your chorister's music teacher received an invitation and encourage them to attend!

Volunteer Points

An updated volunteer points list is on the website and in the Volunteer Opportunities notebook. There are significantly less opportunities in the spring than there are in the fall, so if you still need hours be sure to sign up soon. There are lots of hours available with Catering to the Boys Choir, including follow-up phone calls that can be made from home on your own time. The CBC is also in the middle of cataloging a single-octavo library and is in need of volunteers to work on some data entry. This can be done at home at your convenience provided that you have Excel.

Arts Advocacy

The Chattanooga Boys Choir is supported in part by grants from the Tennessee Arts Commission, which is funded by the Tennessee Legislature. Did you know that a portion of the fee for **all** specialty license plates (not just the Arts plate) funds the Arts in Tennessee? It is important for us to let our elected officials know that continued funding of the arts in Tennessee is important to us, and we need your help. There are Advocacy Packets in the office that provide a guide for writing a brief note to elected officials and contain a listing of their addresses. Simply write a brief letter of thanks, sign it, and return it to the CBC office—we'll even mail it for you. Imagine the impact 120 letters might have! We'll make sure you get 5 volunteer points for each letter you write.

