



Mark your Calendars Parent Meetings April 2 and 3 and Catering April 19.

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No Rehearsals March 19-23 for Spring Break.	

Friends:

As I write this, I am preparing to take the Concert Choir on a short weekend trip which will find the boys making six appearances over three days in the middle Tennessee cities of Murfreesboro, Cookeville, Dickson, and Nashville. While it is always fun to explore our beautiful state, I am also impressed with the very different nature of the stops which these boys will be making on this trip:

- service music for an Episcopal church in Murfreesboro;
- performance for a community subscription arts series Cookeville;
- performance on a recital series for an arts and technology education and performing arts center in Dickson;
- performance for the state legislature and arts supporters at the annual *Arts Advocacy Day*

The performances mentioned above will all be enjoyable for both audiences and choristers, but for the sake of our boys, I am perhaps most excited about the other two stops on our trip. On consecutive days, the choir will make appearances in music education methods courses at Tennessee Tech University and Belmont University. They will be demonstrating for future music teachers the pedagogy behind the often tricky subject of working with children's voices, and particularly the changing male voice. These visits are unique because the boys will be imparting their hard work to others not for the purpose of performing, but for the purpose of sharing knowledge. The child's voice is one that should be treated with the utmost care and concern, and the complicating factor of the voice change, particularly in boys, must be handled with supportive sensitivity. Our boys will present an informative demonstration which will give these future teachers a memorable experience on which they will hopefully draw upon for years of successful teaching.

Thank you for all you do to support this organization.

Vic

Catering to the Boys Choir

Planning for *Catering* is going very well and items continue to come in daily. Thank you to the volunteers who are following up with businesses and to those who stepped up to be the coordinators of the choir baskets. They will be contacting you shortly to let you know what the theme is for your choir's basket, and how you can participate.

During the month of March we will be stocking the "wine cellar" item. This is a simple way that you can make a contribution to the *Catering* event. Board member Brad Tucker started the cellar with a few of his favorite bottles. You can drop off wine bottles in the office at any time during March.

Tickets are on sale now. Choir families can purchase up to four tickets at the reduced rate of \$15 each during March only.

Your help is needed! Help is needed in these areas:

- Invite friends, family, and co-workers to the party! (Use the Save-the-Date email to let them know about it)
- 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

Sign up sheets are in the Volunteer Opportunities book in the office.

Great items added to the auction:

- Family membership to Chattanooga Nature Center
- Passes to Dollywood
- Riverbend pins
- Passes to High Museum of Art in Atlanta (has new Louvre exhibit!)
- Passes to Inside CNN in Atlanta
- Little Caesars pizza party
- Passes to Ripley's Aquarium in Gatlinburg
- Taco Mac gift certificate
- Passes to Tennessee Aquarium
- RAVE movie passes
- Season tickets to Mocs Football
- \$50 certificate to Fred Astaire

Calendar

March

- 10-12 Spring Tennessee Tour—Madisonville, Cookeville, Nashville (Concert Choir)
 19-23 **No Rehearsals**—Spring Break
 24 Wedding (Concert Choir)
 26 Open House Audition 6-7pm

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

- **Handel Choir** members who are not going on tour should return their gray polo shirts as soon as possible. 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.
- 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.
- We still need about 10 people to sign up for the Food Lion *Lion Share* program before we can start receiving benefits. Please ask your friends, and family if they would be willing to sign up. Forms are on the bulletin board.

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	11:00am
First UMC Fine Arts Series	Cookeville	7:00pm

Monday, March 12

Tennessee Tech Music Ed class	Cookeville	<i>closed to public</i>
Renaissance Center Concert	Dickson	7:00pm

Tuesday, March 13

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

Recruiting

It is the goal of the CBC to have 60 boys beginning in Mozart next year and we need your help! Please encourage your school music teacher and church choir director to send us the contact information for boys whom they believe could benefit from our program. If you know of someone who might be interested, fill out one of the pink recruiting slips in the office - if they audition you'll receive 25 volunteer points and if they join you'll receive 50 volunteer points! Let the office know if you have any questions or would like any informational brochures.

Simmons-O'Neal Memorial Concert

On Sunday, February 11th, the Concert Choir joined the Chattanooga Choral Society for the Preservation of African American Song and the Chattanooga Youth Chorale for the 14th Annual Simmons-O'Neal Memorial Concert. Olivet Baptist Church was the host of the concert, which had the highest attendance in recent years with nearly 400 people attending the performance.

The Concert Choir performed many songs for the first time this year including *Deo Dicamus Gratias*, *Salvation is Created*, and *Cuncti Simus*. The CCSFPAAS performed six pieces including *My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord*, *Don't You Let Nobody Turn You 'Round*, and *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*. The concert ended with the choirs combined singing Moses Hogan's *God's Gonna Set This World On Fire*.



Combined choir performing *God's Gonna Set This World on Fire*

Pecan Winner Dinner

In February the top pecan sellers from each choir gathered at the Oakes Home in Ringgold for a celebration dinner. The boys created their own pizzas, competing for the most creative pizza. There were several pizza faces and even a pizza mountain! A ping-pong tournament was held while the pizzas were cooking. The evening ended with an ice cream sundae bar!



Top pecan sellers Tyler Dockery, Quinn Flanagan, Graham Jones, Jalen Ponder, and Emmerson Miller

Happy Birthday!

Jake Montgomery	3/11	Harrison Holmes	3/17
Sam Crumbliss	3/13	Austin Morgan	3/28
Chris Wallace	3/16		

Atta Boy!

Jack Paulson (Handel) made the Honor Roll at McCallie, and he sings with the praise and worship team on Youth Sunday at First Baptist Church Fort Oglethorpe.

Blakely Epperson (Concert) made the Chattanooga Valley Middle School soccer team.

Jordan Epperson (Concert) has made all A's this year.

Mark Laseter (Concert) was a January Caring Character Trait Award winner and his CCA Destination Imagination team won the regional competition in Knoxville and will be competing on the state level in Nashville on April 14.

Tyler Giuliani (Concert) made the All County Band and he won an academic award.

Andrew Piper (Concert) was accepted into CCA for Musical Theater.

Music Educators Open House

You might have seen some unfamiliar faces roaming the halls and working in the computer lab on February 13th. The CBC hosted the first annual Open House for music educators. The event was a chance for school music teachers and church music directors to learn about the CBC first hand. Attendees observed both Schubert, Handel, and Concert rehearsals and tried out the computer music theory software. The CBC received many emails and phone calls with positive feedback about the event and encouraging us to hold it again next year. Many of the attendees have already returned their list of recommendations. Thank you to the parents who helped welcome our guests, and a special thank you to Board Member Susan Pierce for arranging for the wonderful food!

Mandatory 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 2 at 5:30pm

Tuesday, April 3 at 5:30pm

In McFerrin Chapel

Community Hymn Festival

In the fall of 2005 the CBC presented a Community Hymn Festival which, in its planning stages, had a goal of 100 participants. The event ended up including over 200 participants with over 800 audience members! So much positive feedback was received that the CBC has begun planning for the second Community Hymn Festival in October 2007. If you think that your church choir director would be interested in having their choir participate, please give us their contact information **by March 16** so that we can send them all of the information about the event that they will need in order to make a decision about participation. You do not need to talk to them first to gauge their interest - we'll send them the information and invitation. Due to the limited amount of space for the mass choir and the overwhelming response from last year's Festival, the number of participants will be limited to approximately 200 on a first-come-first served basis.

Camp Changes

In late February a letter was sent home detailing some exciting changes to camp - it is moving from an overnight camp at Oxford College to a day camp held on the Baylor School campus. There were several reasons for this change, but the driving force was the potential to open this great opportunity to more Chattanooga children in the future. The CBC believes that the week long music camp provides for a top-notch music education experience, and it is an opportunity for the CBC to further serve the greater Chattanooga community. This year's camp will be for CBC members only, however the vision is to have a dual-track camp in the future.

In addition to the outreach potential, other benefits include additional activity time (time that used to be spend traveling, setting up, and cleaning up), an increase in music staff and junior counselors, and a significant cost reduction.

The CBC is aware that a day camp is disappointing to many, as most boys look forward to their week away from home. In addition, we understand that it will be more challenging to get the boys to and from camp each day. We encourage you to think about carpooling; the office can provide you with a contact list so that you can contact families who live near you. If you find your family struggling to make the week work out, please let the office know. We will do everything we can to make the transition as easy as possible, and we appreciate your flexibility.

The CBC staff and Board of Directors feel confident that this is a very positive change for the CBC. Change is never easy, but we hope to have everyone's support in making this a great camp!