



Don't forget to sign up to volunteer during Singing Christmas Tree week!

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Reading, 'Riting, 'Rithmetic...and Respect, Responsibility, etc.

Having re-entered the classroom this fall, I have deepened my already enormous appreciation of the educational process, and especially for the tremendous feat of making all of the many components of a school work together. Schools are inherently complicated in their never-ending task of equipping students with all of the tools necessary for success. Beyond the "basic" tasks of teaching and assessing complicated curricula, schools today devote significant time, effort, and resources to areas including character education, safety, health, guidance, and a whole host of other things which we try to fit into the school day. While some see this as things that should be taught at home being off-loaded onto schools and teachers, others view this as a necessary supplementing beyond the "Three R's" to keep our children safe, competent, and skilled in an ever-changing and growing world.

I don't remember my school experience as having such things built in to the school day. They might have been cleverly slipped in between nap time and science experiments when I was a child, but I see many kids today differentiating between those things which are academic and those things which I refer to as "life skills." Some even go so far as to delineate them as those things which "count" and those that "don't" - i.e., "Am I going to get a *grade* for this?" I am hopeful that these students aren't regarding the books as important and the life lessons as unimportant. Even more so, I am hopeful that there is not a separation of the two when it comes to living out life beyond school.

What I love about the Chattanooga Boys Choir is that these two items – the content *and* the skills – are absolutely intertwined and connected. In order to learn all of the repertoire, music theory, and voice skills in the CBC, the skills of teamwork, self-discipline, and work ethic are absolutely necessary. Likewise, these skills are in practice every time we open a new piece of music, sing a chord in tune, or perform any number of tasks like the choir undertakes on a regular basis. It is for this reason that whenever someone asks about the Chattanooga Boys Choir, I'm never sure what to answer! Repertoire...music theory skills...respect...they are all intertwined, and I'm grateful for it. Thanks for all you do to support the efforts of these boys, and their learning which goes far beyond the music.

Vic

I was looking through the pictures on the CBC website and was reminded what a significant role the choir played in my life. I miss everything about it and think of my experiences often. Even though my career prevents me from practicing the musical knowledge I gained with the CBC, the leadership and confidence I learned is used everyday in my work. I also keep in touch with numerous alumni, host families I stayed with, and staff members to this day, and wouldn't trade those relationships for anything.

Lee Hope, Chattanooga Boys Choir 1984-1992

Fall Picnic & Chili Cook-off

What a perfect day for a picnic and Chili Cook-off! Choristers, friends and family gathered at Stephenson Park on a sunny Saturday for food and fun. While choristers joined in a game of football, parents had an opportunity to get to know one another better.

New to the picnic this year was the chili cook-off. Nine pots of chili were entered into the contest with Nathaniel Weaver taking the prize and getting the honor of putting a pie in Mr. Oakes's face! You won't want to miss this event next year!



Crossville Concert

Concert Choir will be performing at Fairfield Glade Community Church on Sunday, November 12. Choristers should arrive at Brainerd UMC at 12:30pm wearing black tux pants, white short-sleeved undershirt, gray polo shirt, black belt, black tux shoes and black socks. Please eat lunch before arriving. Bring a water bottle and \$7.00 for a dinner stop on the way back. The bus will be arriving back at BUMC at 10:00pm. Permission slips must be returned to the office in order to travel.

Thank you Volunteers!

The CBC would not run nearly as well as it does without the help of volunteers. Thank you so much to the friends and families who have put in hundreds of hours already! Thank you to the following families who have already completed their general volunteer requirement:

Asa/Noah Albritton	Gentry Bell	Hunter Brittingham
Brady Fryar	Tyler Giuliani	Marcus Dalton
AJ Morgan	Clay/Nate Oliver	Jack Paulson
Christopher/Mathew/Andrew Randall		Gus/Jack White

November

- 4 SCT Warehouse Workday
- 6 Pecans are ready for pick-up
- 11 Mozart Choir Rehearsal and costume fitting
SCT Warehouse Workday
- 12 Fairfield Community Church Memorial Service, Crossville (Concert Choir)
- 13-14 Parent Meetings
- 27 All Choir rehearsal at BUMC
- 28 All Choir rehearsal at BUMC
- 29 All Choir rehearsal at Tivoli
- 30 All Choir DRESS REHEARSAL at Tivoli

December

- 1 Singing Christmas Tree School Performances (all choirs)
- 2 Singing Christmas Tree Public Performances (all choirs)
- 7 Cloud Springs Elementary Faculty Appreciation Dinner (Cantabile)
- 8 Holiday Caroling, Wellington Place (Mozart & Schubert)
- 9 *Sounds Like Christmas* at Catoosa Colonnade (Concert & Handel)
- 10 Caroling with the Fishes (Caroling Choir)
- 16 Floral Crest Seventh Day Adventist Church (Cantabile)
- 20 St. Paul's Episcopal Church Advent Series (Concert Choir)

January

- 8 Rehearsals resume, second semester tuition due
Parent Meeting
- 9 Parent Meeting
- 15 *No regular* rehearsals—Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Sir Douglas Fir rehearsal at CSAS (Handel & Concert Choirs)
- 22 Sir Douglas Fir rehearsal at CSAS (Handel & Concert Choirs)
- 28 Sir Douglas Fir dress rehearsal at Tivoli (Handel & Concert Choirs)

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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One Singing Christmas Tree poster

One Singing Christmas Tree poster that was hung up at a parent's place of employment resulted in four tickets to the Singing Christmas Tree, two bags of nuts, and two auditions! You might not think that hanging up a poster or sending out a postcard makes a difference, but it does! There are lots of posters still available in the office—take as many as you would like and hang them up all over Chattanooga! If just one chorister made this difference, imagine what 130 choristers could do!

December Activities

There are a number of performances after the Singing Christmas Tree. The schedule on the following page lists the dates and the choirs which are involved. Weekly memos will provide details as to locations, times, and wardrobe. Please be sure to check your email, the website, or the bulletin board for this important information. Rehearsals will also continue following the Singing Christmas Tree. As each choir has different engagements, the weekly memos will detail the final rehearsals of the year for each choir.

Mugs for Sale!

The Chattanooga Boys Choir has two different types of mugs for sale. One is a 2006 Singing Christmas Tree mug with the Appalachian Christmas graphic on both sides. The second has the CBC logo on one side and the mission statement on the opposite side. The mugs are \$5.00 each and are a great way to show your pride at home or at work. (And they make great Christmas gifts!) There is a limited supply of Singing Christmas Tree mugs, though the logo mugs can be reordered at any time.

SCT Tickets On Sale Now!

Tickets for the Singing Christmas Tree public performances at 2:00PM and 7:30PM on December 2 are on sale in the CBC office until November 29, after which they can be purchased at the Tivoli Box Office. Tickets purchased before November 14th will be available for pick-up at the CBC office on November 20th. All other tickets will be at the Will Call Booth at the Tivoli on the day of the performance. Tickets are \$11.00 for all seats and are available on a first-come first-served basis. Tickets will not be held without payment. A 5% service charge will be added for any credit card orders, but cash and checks are accepted as well.



Krystal Square-Off

On October 28th the Handel and Concert Choirs were invited to sing the National Anthem at the Krystal Square-Off World Hamburger Eating Championship at the First Tennessee Pavilion. While they didn't make it onto the televised portion on ESPN, they performed to a large, enthusiastic crowd after being introduced as the "finest boychoir in the world!" Certainly not a typical performance event for the CBC, this was most definitely one of the most fun.



Singing Christmas Tree Week

It's hard to believe that the Singing Christmas Tree week is just around the corner. It is, without a doubt, the busiest week for the Chattanooga Boys Choir, and it can be a confusing week, especially for new families. Your chorister will be bringing home a "Singing Christmas Tree Week for Parents" manual that details the schedule, when to be where, pick-up & drop-off procedures, parking, volunteering, and much, much more. After reading the manual, please bring all of your questions with you to the Parents Meetings on November 13-14. This is a great opportunity to have all your questions answered. Ask your questions out loud—if you have a question about it then there are certainly other parents who are wondering the same thing! (And don't forget, you'll earn 10 volunteer points just for attending the meeting!). Remember, there are rehearsals and performances all week long that ALL choir members should be attending—check the calendar for those details.

Happy Birthday!

Tad Black	11/3	Jalen Ponder	11/11
Rafiq Malek	11/4	Hunter Potter	11/17
Asa Albritton	11/6	Brady Fryar	11/18
Kyle Duckett	11/6	Michael McFalls	11/25
Collin Lindgren	11/6	Antonio Herndon	11/27
Cameron Close	11/11		

Atta Boy!

Mark Laseter (Concert) was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society at CCA. He is also in the cast of *Thoroughly Modern Millie* at the Tivoli.

Nathaniel Weaver (Concert) and the Soddy Daisy Marching Band earned 2nd place in the top division at the A.B.C. competition in Cleveland, TN.

Kyle Duckett (Handel) has a solo in Wolftever Creek's show of George M. Cohan's *Music Man*. Kyle sings "Yankee Doodle."

Tyler Giuliani (Concert) received an academic award and made the Star Roll at Loftis Middle School.

Matthew Capps (Handel) made honors chorus for the second year in a row.

SCT Volunteering

The production of the Singing Christmas Tree is an enormous undertaking requiring the help of every family to be successful. From constructing the tree on Wednesday morning to providing chili for the production crew, there is a job for everyone. Many jobs require some manual labor or creativity while others just require a friendly smile. Many jobs are during the day, while others are only at night. The volunteer coordinators, Glen and Karen Robertson, have compiled a sign-up book that is located in the office. Please visit the book, if you have not already done so, and sign-up for time slots and jobs that fit your schedule. We are still in need of as many men as possible for the critical job of constructing the tree on Wednesday, November 29th—the more people that show up for this task the quicker it will be completed. Work begins at 7:00am. If you have any questions about what the jobs entail, don't hesitate to ask Glen & Karen or the office staff. Thank you to those who are already hard at work checking lights, mending uniforms, and building the set!



Choir dads construct the 2005 Tree

Pecan Update

The pecans are here! All orders that were turned in by October 31st are available for pick-up. There were plenty of extra nuts ordered, so if people ask you for more, tell them yes! Nearly half of the pecan and nut sales happen *after* the preorder period. All sales through November 28th will be counted towards the top seller prizes (free camp for the top seller and dinner at Mr. & Mrs. Oakes house for the top seller in each choir). Top seller winners will be announced at the Singing Christmas Tree dress rehearsal on November 29th.



Our goal is 10,000 bags

We've sold: 3,783 bags

(as of printing on 11-2-06)

Rock Climbers!

On Saturday, October 28th the first 30 choristers to sell 48 bags of nuts gathered for a day of rock climbing at the Tennessee Bouldering Authority. Check them out!



Jonathan Polcari



Noah Albritton



Hunter Brittingham

Mandatory Parents Meetings

The same material will be covered at both meetings, with the exception that Tour information will only be covered at the Monday meeting.

Monday, November 13 @ 5:30pm

Tuesday, November 14 @ 5:30pm