

Brian Eno, an English musician often dubbed as the father of Ambient Music (the musical form of artistic impressionism – imagine a musical version of Van Gogh’s Starry Night), has an interesting article in Ode Magazine about singing. He boldly – though somewhat jovially – states that everyone should sing in a group for a variety of reasons:

I believe singing is the key to a long life, a good figure, a stable temperament, greater intelligence, new friends, increased self-confidence, and a sense of humor.

At the Chattanooga Boys Choir, we always espouse these beliefs to both our choristers and their parents – we’re pretty sure we have some of the best kids! The ‘extra-musical’ benefits have always been important, as the music serves as a vehicle to learn additional academic, social, and life skills. In addition to these very important individual benefits, however, Eno continues:

FROM THE DIRECTOR

When you sing with a group of people you learn how to subsume yourself to the group consciousness—because a cappella singing is all about the immersion of the self into the community. That’s one of the great feelings: to stop being me for a little while, and to become us. That way lies empathy; the great virtue....If I were asked to redesign the educational system, I’d insist group singing be part of the daily routine. It builds character and encourages co-operation.

Eno makes a bold statement here about the power that singing has to bridge communities across all divides for the sole purpose of coming together and being a part of something that is truly greater than the sum of its parts. What other exercise demands that its participants work so hard for very little individual glory? In this American Idol world, having the choir to be a part of, to lose yourself in, and to receive so much from, is a wonderful thing. There are few other genuine ways to learn and practice this skill – empathy, as Eno identifies it – though there are several instances in today’s society in which I know many of us would love to see it practiced.

Imagine if our political leaders worked in such a virtuous and dedicated manner, solely and purely for the benefit of their constituents? What if our most popular athletes focused more on helping the team for little individual glory instead of being noticed for their touchdown celebrations and highlight reel appearances? The skills your son will take away from his CBC experience will be long-lasting and important, but the trait of empathy will be especially important as our constantly changing world demands that we understand and work with one another in a genuine, mutually beneficial manner.

Thanks for all you do for your chorister, and for the Chattanooga Boys Choir!

Vic

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Your chorister's safety is of utmost importance, and in the last few weeks there have been some concerns about the movement of children and parent vehicles in the parking lot during pick-up and drop off times when both moving cars and choristers are in the lot. To ensure safety of everyone, the Chattanooga Boys Choir has adopted a pick-up and drop-off policy that will be in effect immediately. The main points of the policy include traffic flow in one direction only from west to east across the parking lot and cars being loaded from one spot - at the bottom of the ramp to the CBC entrance. This will ensure that choristers are not in the parking lot with moving cars.

REHEARSAL DISMISSAL POLICY

We do expect it to take a little getting used to during the first few weeks, and some adjustments may need to be made, but please have patience and know that this is for your chorister's safety. We will have parent volunteers to help things move smoothly and we ask that you be respectful of their instructions, as they are simply enforcing the CBC policy. (You can sign up to volunteer in the office – an easy way to earn volunteer points!)

Many parents park their cars and come in to the office to volunteer or do other work during rehearsals. These parents will be able to walk their chorister to their car once rehearsals have been dismissed. We ask those parents who are in the car line to please yield to the parked cars, allowing them to enter the line and move forward.

Thank you so much for your help in keeping the boys safe! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the CBC office.

- Traffic shall flow in one direction only: entrance from the west end of the parking lot (Brainerd Road—up the hill) and exit to the east end of the parking lot (past the playground).
- Choristers shall be picked up only at the bottom of the ramp to the CBC entrance. Choristers will not be permitted in the parking lot without the accompaniment of a parent. If a parent is parked, the parent must walk to the ramp to pick up their chorister.
- Only two cars will be loaded at a time to prevent choristers from walking through the parking lot.
- All choristers remaining at the CBC 10 minutes past dismissal time will be brought to the Open Door Room to be picked up by a parent. Choristers will not be permitted to wait outside.
- Vehicles moving through the parking lot shall do so with extreme caution and will be alert for others walking through the parking lot.

Need some volunteer hours? There are lots of ways to earn the required 10 volunteer hours between now and May. For about 6 weeks in November and December we will need a few volunteers to follow up weekly with our pecan outlets. This will involve calling the outlet once a week to determine if they need additional nuts, or if they have money that needs picking up - and if so, making the trip to deliver nuts and pick up money. It is of critical importance to our relationship with these outlets that this be done consistently on a weekly basis. See the volunteer notebook in the office to sign up for an outlet near you.

Another way to earn volunteer points is to sign up for volunteering during SCT week beyond the required 5 hours. Up to 5 additional hours will be credited to your "regular" (non-SCT) volunteer hours.

VOLUNTEER

In late April the CBC has its annual fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund. You've already come through for us with great recommendations for caterers. Keep an eye on memos and newsletters as well as the volunteer notebook for requests for volunteers for this event - everything from making follow-up calls for the silent auction to set up and clean up on the day of the event.

Thank you!

October Volunteer Drawing Winner

Shalawn Worbington

will receive a \$20 gift card
to Kohl's
Don't forget to turn in your
volunteer record to be
entered into next month's
drawing!

SCT Week Schedule

Singing Christmas Tree week is busy with a schedule of varied locations and times. Please refer to the Parent Guide in the members section of the website for additional information including what to wear, dismissal procedures, and much more.

Monday	Schubert, Handel, Concert	BUMC	4:30-7:00
Monday	Mozart	BUMC	4:30-6:00
Tuesday	ALL CHOIRS	BUMC	4:30-7:00
Wednesday	ALL CHOIRS	Tivoli	4:00-7:30
Thursday	ALL CHOIRS - Dress Rehearsal	Tivoli	4:00-7:30
Friday	School Performances	Tivoli	9:00-1:30
Saturday	Public Performance I	Tivoli	1:00-4:15
Saturday	Public Performance II	Tivoli	6:30-9:15

Whew!

Singing Christmas Tree week is long and tiring, but so worth it! Help your chorister avoid illness and exhaustion by getting as much sleep as possible, eating well, and drinking lots of water.

Any parent who has been a part of Singing Christmas Tree week will agree that it would not be possible without the help of every family. A tremendous amount of work has already gone into the planning of the program, the design and development of the set, the testing of the lighting, and much more. The week of the performance is

VOLUNTEERING

when the majority of the work happens, from assembling the tree, decorating and lighting the tree, arranging the set, helping the boys into performance attire and costumes, helping

the boys up and down the trees, maintaining a safe and secure environment, decorating the lobby, ushering the over 2500 elementary students and 2000 audience members who will watch the performances...you get the idea. The notebook containing sign-up sheets for all of these jobs has been in the office since October and is filling up quickly. If you have not already done so, be sure to sign up for what you would like to do. Each family (mom, dad, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors) is required to volunteer 5 hours during SCT week. Up to 5 additional hours worked by each family will be carried over to "regular" volunteer hours. Please remember that the only people allowed in the Tivoli theatre are those who are **signed up to volunteer already**.

One of the most critical areas of volunteering is the assembly of the tree itself. At least 20 abled bodies (typically dads) are needed to move the large steel assembly. Work begins at 7:00am on Wednesday and continues until the tree is assembled, usually around noon, at which time decoration and lighting begins. If you can spare a couple hours, perhaps before work, to help with assembly, it will be much appreciated! Along the same line, as many able bodies are needed to disassemble the tree following the final performance. The CBC needs to be out of the theatre by midnight so as not to incur additional charges, so the more help we have, the sooner we can be out of there!

Singing Christmas Tree posters will be going home with choristers in early November in order that everyone might help us get the word out about the performances. Put the posters up at church, work, school. We have plenty extra available in the office, so keep a few in your car and bring them in everywhere you go - restaurants, stores, etc and ask if they will put them up for a few weeks. With over 120 boys in the choir, this city should have them all over!

POSTERS AVAILABLE

ATTA BOY!

Chandler Whittington (Cantabile) auditioned for the Georgia All State Choir Saturday and received a perfect score!

It's Time To Go Nuts!

The Pecan & Nut Sale is off to a great start! At the time of this publication, we have sold 5,219 bags of nuts. We are well on our way to meet

NUTS!

our goal of 8,200 bags. Believe it or not, 3,000 bags is not a lot to sell. We expect the pre-ordered nuts to arrive on November 6th, and they will be ready

for you to pick up at rehearsals on November 10 and 11. When you pick up your nuts, please count your bags to be sure you have the correct amount. We will not be able to adjust your order once you have left the CBC building. When you pick up your nuts, you will also be given postcards that have a pecan recipe on one side along with space to write a brief thank you and signature and information about the Singing Christmas Tree on the opposite side. We have PLENTY of these postcards, so be sure to take enough to give one to everyone who has ordered nuts.

Beginning on November 10th, our nuts will be available for purchase at several outlets around the Chattanooga area. A daily ad will begin running in the newspaper through mid-December and you might get additional requests for nuts. We have ordered extra, and these nuts are available on a first-come first-served basis. As we start to run low on certain nuts, we will send out a message to let you know. Until then, sell away!

A Word About Incentive Prizes All of the incentive prizes are based on orders turned in as of October 28th, however, as is our custom, we will be announcing the winners at the Singing Christmas Tree dress rehearsal. The first 25 choristers who turned in the required 48 bags of nuts will be receiving an invitation to Rock Climbing Day at the Tennessee Bouldering Authority on Saturday, November 14 from 10-12.

Rock Climbers

Dezman Holloway
Josh Davis
Ben Higley
Foster Ligon
Reed Coulter
Ransom McSunas
Will Melton
Scott Hill
Troy Watts
Matthew Taylor
Thomas Clemmons
Drew Craig
Christian Craig
Brady Fryar
Isaac Bird
Matthew Davis
Noah Forrester
Isaac Hill
Tyler Dockery
Jax Wright
Nate Oliver
Clay Oliver
Cade Ghaffari
Michael Hicks
Jeremiah Skinner
Tyler Giuiliani



In these tough economic times, the Chattanooga Boys Choir feels the pain as well. Grants and sponsorships are getting more difficult, as evidenced by the reduced number of ads in this year's Singing Christmas Tree Program. There's a simple way that you can help, by simply doing what you normally do - grocery shop. Both Bi-Lo and Food Lion offer programs that contribute a percentage of your grocery bill to the non-profit of your designation. Enrollment forms are found in your handbook as well as in the choir office. It takes seconds and goes a long way!



LOOK!

Concert & Handel Choirs
Private Engagement
Stonefort Inn
Saturday, November 8
Drop off - 5:45pm
Pick up - 8:00pm

GIVE WITHOUT GIVING

The second program is through SunTrust. Simply by opening a new account and using the debit card once during the specified period, SunTrust will contribute \$100 towards the non-profit of your choice. Choristers going on tour can use this \$100 towards their tour costs, so ask friends and family members to participate as well. We hope that even those families without choristers going on tour will consider participating as an easy way for the CBC to receive a much needed \$100. It takes just a few short minutes to open up the account and makes a world of difference to the choir.

CALENDAR

Happy Birthday!

November Birthdays

Adam Davis	11/5
Dezman Holloway	11/5
Gentry Clure	11/6
Kyle Duckett	11/6
Collin Lindgren	11/6
Jax Wright	11/7
Jalen Ponder	11/11
Brady Fryar	11/18
Scott Hill	11/20
Xavier Salinas	11/23
Felando King	11/24
Austin King	11/25
Michael McFalls	11/25

SCT dismissal forms due November 18

SCT tickets on sale now!

OFFICE HOURS

Monday	2:00-7:00pm
Tuesday	2:00-7:00pm
Wednesday	2:00-5:00pm
Thursday	9:30-12:30pm
Friday	Office Closed

November

3	Parent Meeting - 5:00pm
4	Parent Meeting - 5:30pm
4	Cantabile Rehearsal - 5:15-7:15pm
8	Concert / Handel Performance - Stonefort Inn
11	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:45-8:30pm
18	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:45-8:30pm
25	Thanksgiving Break - No Rehearsals

December

1	ALL CHOIR REHEARSAL - BUMC
2	ALL CHOIR REHEARSAL - BUMC
3	ALL CHOIR REHEARSAL - Tivoli Theatre
4	ALL CHOIR DRESS REHEARSAL - Tivoli Theatre
5	School Performances - Tivoli Theatre
6	Public Performances - Tivoli Theatre
8	Mozart & Schubert Rehearsal - 4:40-6:00pm Handel & Concert, Regular Rehearsals
9	Mozart & Schubert Caroling - 4:30-5:30pm Handel & Concert - Regular Rehearsals
14	Holiday Concert - Crossville, TN - Handel, Concert, Cantabile
16	Handel & Concert Rehearsals
17	Advent Series Concert - St. Paul's Episcopal Church - Handel, Concert & Cantabile

CHATTANOOGA BOYS CHOIR

Vincent Oakes.....	Executive / Artistic Director
Judy Brittingham	Mozart / Schubert Director
Cynda Holmes	Mozart / Schubert Director
Kristen Wiram	Handel / Concert Assistant Director
Merry Lee Wilson.....	Accompanist
Mark Laseter	Rehearsal Accompanist
Dawn Oakes	Administrative Director
Azusa Dance.....	Operations Manager