



Singing Christmas Tree tickets go on sale October 16th!!

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Thomas Friedman's *The World Is Flat* is an intriguing account of the recent past, the exciting present, and the uncertain future of our world as the new era of globalization – the “flattening” of our world through the lowering of societal barriers and the technical advances of the digital revolution - continues its wide-sweeping effects through society. There are two points from Friedman's book that have struck me recently as I look through the evolution of the choir and the important roles that the organization plays not only in the lives of our members and families, but in our larger society.

Friedman says, “On such a flat earth, the most important attribute you can have is *creative imagination* - the ability to be the first on your block to figure out how all these tools can be put together in new and exciting ways...” A creative imagination is important not only for the individual but, in our case, for our entire organization. How does a choir that is over 50 years old remain a relevant and visible part of a community – and world – that has placed so much more attention on solo performances, mp3 players, and the “glitz and glam” of the popular music world? I think Friedman's approach requires us not to change *what* we do, but to help others see, in ways they probably haven't seen before, *why* the things we do are so important. Yes, the public performances are significant, but what do people outside of the choir know about our music education curriculum, our internship opportunities, or how our boys grow in innumerable ways personally and socially through their adventures with the choir?

Finally, *The World Is Flat* is filled with examples of how the world is moving from a value-based system of top-down (vertical) hierarchies to connect-collaborate (horizontal) models. What does this mean for the choir? I take it to mean that the time has passed when we can simply do things because that's how they've “always been.” We must rely more on collaborations, partnerships, and relationships between schools, businesses, community entities, other artistic organizations, and others in order to keep the choir as a viable and visible presence in our community. Surely, you know the significant worth that the choir has had for your son and your family. By working in this way with others, we can help others to see the choir as you see it – not just as a performing organization, but as a source of growth, friendship, and positive change in every boy's life.

*Vic*

## Fall Picnic & Chili Cook-off

Mark your calendars for the annual fall picnic on Saturday, October 14 at Stephenson Park Pavilion in Fort Oglethorpe from 10-2. New this year, a Chili Cook-off has been added to the picnic events. Anyone can enter, everyone can vote, and the winner will get to throw a pie in Mr. Oakes's face! If Mr. Oakes wins, he will get to choose who he wants to pie! Don't miss the excitement! Friends and family are all invited to the picnic. Please RSVP in the CBC office by October 4. Fill out a registration form to enter your chili in the

Fall Picnic &  
Chili Cook-off

To enter your chili:  
Fill out the entry form below  
and turn it in to the office by  
OCTOBER 4.

When: Saturday, October 14  
Time: 10-2  
Where: Stephenson Park Pavilion  
Fort Oglethorpe (see web site for  
directions)  
In office by October 4th  
RSVP:  
Bring: A volunteer will call you to let  
you know what to bring

contest. Each family attending will receive a call from a volunteer requesting to bring something (cheese, fritos, etc.) See you there!

## Notes from the Office

**Weekly Memos** contain important information about times and locations of events, due dates and reminders. They are emailed and posted on the bulletin board and website each week.

**Extra Irons** The CBC is in need of a simple, small iron and ironing board. Let us know if you have one that you would be willing to donate.

## Thanks to 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! Volunteers have been busy in the wardrobe room taking measurements and issuing attire, in the office taking pecan orders, and out and about helping with picture day and being hall monitors. The volunteer sign-up book makes it easy to find a job that interests you at a time that you are available. Thank you, thank you!

## October

- 7 SCT Warehouse Workday
- 9-10 Fall Break; No Rehearsals
- 14 Fall Picnic at Stephenson Park Pavilion, Fort Oglethorpe 10am-2pm
- 16 Singing Christmas Tree tickets on sale in CBC office
- 17 Deadline to qualify for Rock Climbing Day Pecan Prize
- 20 **DEADLINE FOR SINGING CHRISTMAS TREE PROGRAM AD COPY**
- 21 SCT Warehouse Workday
- 28 Rock Climbing Day for first 30 choristers to sell 48 bags of nuts  
Krystal Square Off World Hamburger Eating Championship (Concert, Handel)

## November

- 4 SCT Warehouse Workday
- 6 Pecans scheduled to arrive (may be a couple days earlier or later)
- 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)
- 9 *Sounds Like Christmas* at Catoosa Colonnade (all choirs)
- 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)

## 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

## Additions to Calendar

The CBC has received several invitations to perform over the coming months, some of which we had to turn down, but many which we were able to accept. Please be sure to add these performances to your calendar. If unavoidable conflicts exist, please let the office know ASAP. This will help the directors to prepare the choirs appropriately. Details, including times, locations, and directions, will be announced as soon as they are confirmed. Times listed below are **approximate** to aid in your planning.

**October 28** *Krystal Square Off World Hamburger Eating Championship*

**Concert and Handel Choirs** will be performing the National Anthem for this event, which will be nationally televised on ESPN2! Choristers will need to be there approximately 3:00PM-5:00PM. Additional details and exact times will be in the weekly memo as soon as they are confirmed.

**December 8** Holiday Caroling at Wellington Place

**Mozart and Schubert Choirs** will be caroling for the residents of Wellington Place in Hixson at approximately 4:00PM. Details on time will be in the weekly memo as it gets closer.

**December 9** *Sounds Like Christmas*

The CBC received a special invitation to be the highlighted performance at this first annual event at the Catoosa Colonnade, hosted by the Church at Catoosa. This event is being highly publicized in Catoosa County and it is a wonderful opportunity for new audiences in North Georgia. **Concert and Handel** choirs will be participating. Full details will be in the November newsletter and in weekly memos.

Please note all of the other performances and events that are on the calendar found in the CBC Handbook.

## SCT Tickets Go on Sale!

Tickets for the Singing Christmas Tree public performances at 2:00PM and 7:30PM on December 2 will go on sale in the CBC office on October 16. 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.



## Program Ads

The Singing Christmas Tree relies on the revenue generated from advertising in the program in order to break even. Your help selling ads is critical! The deadline for ad copy is **October 20**, which is quickly approaching.

**Incentives** Have you seen the SCT commemorative mugs? Every family selling \$100 or more in ads will receive one of these mugs for free! Would you like to reduce the cost of camp or tour? Sell \$500 or more in ads and a percentage of the sales will be credited to your account—10% for renewal ads and 20% for new ads!

**Personal ads** Many families like to congratulate their choristers with a personal ad in the program. New for this year, pictures can be added to personal ads. Check the bulletin board for some ads that are ready for this year's program.

## Pecan Thank You Notes

The CBC will have thank you notes available when the nuts arrive in November. The thank you notes include a pecan recipe and space to write a short note on one side and an advertisement for the Singing Christmas Tree on the opposite side. Please distribute these to with the nuts to all customers. The office has plenty, just ask if you need more!

## From the Volunteer Coordinators

**It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.**

Preparation has begun for this year's Singing Christmas Tree. Gene Wilbourn, Producer and his associates Dale Oxendine and Mike Roesch (Boys Choir alum parents) have another great show planned for this year. There are lots of jobs to be done, including warehouse workdays (check the calendar and sign up in the office) and checking lights during rehearsals in October.

There is a second notebook in the office that contains all of the jobs at the Tivoli. Several jobs require people to do a job at a specific rehearsal **and** a specific performance. Please pay attention to the dates and only sign up for these jobs if you can be there for both dates.

For safety and security reasons, the only people who will be allowed in the Tivoli during rehearsals and performances are those signed up to work or those with a ticket (attending the performance). Rehearsals are closed. Additional information will be sent home regarding pick-up and drop-off procedures in a few weeks.

Sign up now to get your pick of jobs. If you have a question, see our parent volunteer coordinators, Glen and Karen Robertson or phone them at 894-7976.

## Happy Birthday!

Josh Ridings	10/1	Addison Coleman	10/21
Jack Chandler	10/7	Eli Sargent	10/21
Braden Bush	10/14	Graham Jones	10/25
Noah Genovesi	10/16	Trey Foshee	10/27

## Atta Boy!

**Gentry Bell** (Concert) is playing football on the 7th grade football team at Westside Middle School.

**Harrison Holmes** (Handel) was elected Student Council Representative for his 5<sup>th</sup> grade class at Thrasher Elementary.

**Tad Black** (Cantabile) won Grand and Reserve Champion Breeding Guilts in two classes, Duroc and Hampshire, at the North Georgia Regional Fair. He won the same at the Polk County Fair along with first place in showmanship.

**Zach Cavan** (CBC Intern) won two Miss Annie Awards for Best Supporting Actor and Best Featured Actor of the Season in *Beauty & the Beast* at the Chattanooga Theatre Center.

## SCT Invitations & Posters

New this year, special postcard invitations are available to invite friends and family to the Singing Christmas Tree. These postcards feature the Appalachian Christmas theme on one side and have room for a personalized note on the opposite side. The CBC will be mailing these by bulk mail, so you may take them home to address and personalize and bring them back to the office to be mailed. However, in order to take advantage of the bulk rate, postcards must be returned to the CBC office by **October 31**. If you chose to mail the postcards on your own, **a full-priced postcard stamp must be used**. If they are mailed without a stamp the CBC will risk losing bulk mail privileges, as our permit number is listed on the card.

Singing Christmas Tree posters are now available for distribution all around town. Choristers received two posters already, but there are plenty available in the office. Stop by if you would like more. Hang them up at your church, your place of business, and at other businesses you frequent.

Use the postcards and posters to get the word out about the Singing Christmas Tree. Let's fill the Tivoli!

## Pecan Update

Congratulations to Graham Jones, Rafiq Malek, Hunter Potter, Thomas Santos, Hunter Almy, Jake Pendergrass, and Nathaniel Weaver! These choristers are the first to sell their minimum 48 bags of nuts and to be invited to the Rock Climbing Day on October 28<sup>th</sup>. The Rock Climbing Day is open to the first 30 choristers who sell at least 48 bags of nuts. The next 30 choristers to sell 48 bags will receive a certificate for a rental at Blockbuster.

The Top Seller prizes (free camp, dinner at the Oakes house) will be announced at the Singing Christmas Tree dress rehearsal on November 30. All sales through November 28 will count towards the top prizes. See the CBC Handbook for details. Each week the bulletin board is updated with nut sales numbers, sales by choir, and the top 5 sellers in the choir.



Our goal is 10,000 bags

We've sold: 959 bags

(as of printing on 10-2-06)

## Thank You, Thank You!

A HUGE thank you goes out to Jack and Jacob Case, Tony and Nathaniel Weaver, Bill Lindgren, David Bracket, Ellis and Ron Walters, Mick and Debbie Hazelwood, and our fearless Singing Christmas Tree Production Crew Gene Wilbourn, Dale Oxendine, and Mike Roesch for all their hard work at the Warehouse Workday in September. The saying "many hands make light work" was certainly



*This dumpster was full in 2 hours!!*

true. After only 2 hours the warehouse was cleaned out, sorted, and organized and nearly 4 tons of unusable material was thrown away! The warehouse looks fantastic and is ready to be used to put together this year's set. This amazing feat could not have been accomplished without their help. Many, many thanks!