



NEWS & NOTES

September 2009

Welcome Back!

I hope that your summer was full of rest and renewal. While we certainly enjoyed our time away, the CBC faculty and staff have also been working toward an eagerly anticipated 2009-2010 season. This year – the 55th in the history of the choir – continues to build on several wonderful traditions of this cherished organization. The latest incarnation of the Singing Christmas Tree (described on page 3) will be a treat for hundreds of families throughout Chattanooga, the tour choir has an exciting itinerary planned for the spring and summer of 2010, and the third installment of the biennial Community Hymn Festival on October 11 will be a certain highlight of the season.

However, 2009-2010 will also be a year of new opportunities for the choir organization. I do realize that the word “opportunity” can be used to describe wonderful, new prospects, but it can also be a thinly disguised way of

FROM THE DIRECTOR

acknowledging difficult challenges or problems. Our economic climate has everyone in the non-profit sector – especially those in the arts – nervously awaiting the final result of balance sheets and donor levels. The increased scheduling, social, and academic demands on children and families continue to test the time and patience of even the most well-intentioned among us.

I know you will join me, however, in feeling optimistic and encouraged about the new opportunities that await the choir. Firstly, I am experimenting with a new scheduling model that gives Handel and Concert choir members and their families a little “time off” from previous rehearsal schedules. This new schedule includes sectional rehearsals and theory labs on Mondays, effectively giving each boy every other Monday off. Our volunteer requirement has been slightly revamped and streamlined this year in order to make the invaluable participation of our choir families easier to manage and to equitably spread out the wonderful work of our families.

Finally, many of you know about the choir’s plans to move to a new space at Second Presbyterian Church in downtown Chattanooga beginning in January 2010. This new location will house both the administrative and artistic functions of the choir, as the CBC joins the concentration of arts opportunities centrally located in the downtown area. We have been fortunate to occupy our space at Brainerd United Methodist Church for over ten years, and we will remain grateful to this loving church for hosting us there. The new opportunities that await us downtown are exciting and varied, with increased opportunity for educational and artistic collaborations, closer proximity to larger performance venues, and a place at the table as the downtown continues its incredible renaissance.

Vic

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The Chattanooga Boys Choir programs are only possible with the generous support of its volunteers - parents, board members, alumni, and friends. This year, the CBC would like to reward the hard work of its volunteers. Each month, on the last day of the month, a drawing will be held for a \$20 gift certificate to various merchants (gas, restaurants, shopping, etc). Entry forms are the volunteer forms that are turned in each time one volunteers. So, if you volunteer four times during a month, you will have four entries that month. While it isn't much, it is our way of saying thank you and to let you know that your are appreciated!

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

CBC families are required to volunteer Each family is required to earn 100 volunteer points throughout the year in addition to 50 volunteer points at the Tivoli during Singing Christmas Tree (SCT) week. Each hour of volunteering is equivalent to 10 volunteer points. See the 2009-2010 CBC handbook to learn what other activity are equivalent to in volunteer points (baking cookies, hosting a visiting choir member, etc). Attending mandatory parent meetings and turning in forms and tuition on time no longer earn volunteer points, and this is offset by the reduction in required volunteer points.

We are pleased to once again introduce Melanie Doss as the CBC's Volunteer Coordinator. Melanie will be helping the staff to fulfill all of its volunteer needs. The Volunteer Opportunities notebook is currently in the CBC office ready for volunteer to sign up for activities. There will also be many opportunities to help the staff during rehearsals, so pop your head in the office and ask if there is anything you can do!

The Chattanooga Boys Choir staff is always looking for the best way to communicate with families. With 140 boys in five different ensembles making nearly 30 appearances throughout the year, there is a lot to keep track of. The CBC uses a Google calendar to post all of its activities. This calendar is accessible from the members section on our website (password p3canz). - be sure to bookmark it for future use so that you don't always have to

OUR CALENDAR

go through the CBC website. This calendar is intended to be for CBC families, not for the general public. (The public should see the "Schedule" section of our website, which lists all of our public performances.

Please spend some time getting to know how the calendar works. Each event is listed on the calendar, and when you mouse over it, some details are displayed. However, when you click on the event, you will find all the information you will need including which choirs are involved, what time the event is at, what time is call time, and what choristers should be wearing. On this detail page you will also find a link to a map if the event is not at Brainerd UMC. In addition, you'll find all regular rehearsals, special rehearsals, and no rehearsals dates listed.

While we try to give you the most complete calendar in you handbook, inevitably, things change. There are even a few events for which we have not been given exact time / location details. The Google calendar will contain the latest information if there are changes. We do not yet have the functionality to alert you to any changes, so we do suggest that you check it frequently. We love this new, interactive calendar and hope that you will too!

The screenshot shows a Google Calendar interface for September 2008. The calendar grid displays events for the week of September 7th to 13th. An event titled "National Assembly of State Arts Agencies" is highlighted on Friday, September 12th. A pop-up window displays the event details:

- When:** Fri, Sep 12, 8:00am - 9:30am
- Where:** 1 Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 37401 (map)
- Description:** Handel & Concert Choir Call time - 8:00am Chattanooga Trade and Convention Center. Attire - tux shirt, tux pants, tux shoes, black socks. This is a private event.

 A blue arrow points from the text "Event Details" to the pop-up window. The calendar also shows other events such as "NO REHEARSALS", "Regular Rehearsals", and "2:30pm Concert / Handel Rehe".

It seems like just yesterday that Santa was declaring that he was “going on a diet” as Mozart choristers dressed as food danced their way across the Tivoli stage. As the choristers at Summer Camp can attest, preparations for the Singing Christmas Tree are fully underway! The theme of this year’s program is “Second Chance Christmas,” and it is the story of a town called Second Chance. Following a mining accident some 30 years ago, the mayor of Second Chance declared there was to be no celebrating and no music any more in the town of Second Chance - until a traveling choir gets stranded in the town. Joining us again this year will be Ballet Tennessee and the Chattanooga Symphony & Opera Youth Orchestra.

SINGING CHRISTMAS TREE

The production the leadership and takes the family. Begin-opportunity to your schedule ber to the SCT Be sure to sign prime times go The Singing without the your handbook advertising as sheet. There are also download tion of the CBC about advertis- us to design an Dawn Oakes in sonal ads are your handbook credits toward in ads.



of the Singing Christmas Tree is under of CBC Board Member Gene Willbourn, hard work and effort of every CBC ning on October 5th you will have the sign up for the volunteer jobs that fit by adding your name and phone num- Volunteer Sign Up book in the office. up early because the favorite jobs and quickly!

Christmas Tree would not be possible support of our program advertisers. In you received details about program well as an ad form and specification extra forms in the office, and you can all of the forms from the Members sec- website. If any business has questions ing in the program or if they would like ad for them, please have them contact the CBC office. All business and per- due on October 16th. See the flyer in for incentives to sell ads...you can earn Spring Tuition by selling at least \$500

Who will purchase an ad? In the past, families have asked businesses at which they work as well as businesses which they regularly patronize (bank, beauty salon, hardware store, etc). Traditionally, families have placed ads to congratulate their chorister as well. There are a few programs in the office that you may peruse to get some ideas. As is everything with the CBC, the success of SCT ads depends on everyone doing their part. We thank you for your hard work and effort in this endeavor.



Parents, don't forget to send us your “atta boys” for the monthly newsletter. In this column we highlight the achievements of CBC choristers outside of the choir - in scouts, school, sports, etc. Send the via email to Dawn Oakes (doakes@cbchior.org) by the 20th of each month to be included in the following month’s newsletter. If you miss the deadline, don’t worry - we’ll put it in the next newsletter!

ATTA BOY!

It's time to Go Nuts for the Chattanooga Boys Choir! The annual Pecan & Nut Sale has officially begun! This is the single most important for the CBC, raising nearly 30% of its total operating budget. The success of this campaign is the reason that tuition rates have

NUTS!

remained the same for six years! Inside your 2009-2010 CBC handbook you'll find all of the details about the sale, incentives, and all

the forms you need. Additional brochures and forms are available in the office and they can also be downloaded from the Members section of the CBC website. See the sidebar for the important highlights that you should know.

We know that there are many organizations for which you are selling items during the fall. We hope that this program is unique and easy for you. The CBC has been selling pecans for **over four decades**, and many people are just waiting to be asked! The nuts are perfect for baking, make great gifts for friends and co-workers and freeze very well.

Picture Days are coming up in October Mozart will have their pictures taken on Monday, October 12, and Schubert, Handel, Concert, and Cantabile will have their pictures taken on Tuesday, October 13. Choristers

PICTURES

should arrive to rehearsal on those days wearing their concert attire (see handbook,) Forms for ordering pictures will be sent home with choristers and will be available on the CBC website. Individual pictures will be taken

ONLY if you order pictures. If you would like to use your chorister's picture for an ad in the Singing Christmas Tree Program, please indicate such on the order form.

The Chattanooga Boys Choir is once again participating in the Bi-Lo Booster Plus and Food Lion Shop & Share programs. Both of these grocery stores donate a portion of your grocery bill to organizations in the Chattanooga community that you designate. It is a simple way to help the Chattanooga Boys Choir by simply doing what you already do - grocery shop! To participate, follow these simple steps:

SHOP FOR THE CBC

Food Lion: fill out the form found in your handbook and turn it in. We have plenty in the office for you to give to friends and family to fill out.
Bi-Lo: When you go to the grocery store, take the form with you to the cashier **once**. They will scan it for you and the Chattanooga Boys Choir will be your designated agency for one year or until you change it. You are able to have up to three designated agencies.

GoodShop & GoodSearch is another program that contributes money directly to the choir. Use GoodSearch as your search engine, and they will contribute 1 penny for each search to the CBC. If you shop online, look for your favorite stores through GoodShop - a portion of your purchase will be contributed directly to the CBC. For more information about this program, click on the link on the left hand

It's Time To Go Nuts!

- Preorders are due October 27
- All families are required to sell 48 bags by the preorder date
- Turn in orders each week by summarizing your order on a Quick Nut Order Form
- Money must be turned in with orders
- Incentive prizes are based on sales through October 27 and will be announced at the SCT dress rehearsal
- Nuts will arrive around the first week of November
- Plenty extra nuts are ordered - people tend to ask for more once you start delivering

CALENDAR

Happy Birthday!

August Birthdays

Grant Heitmuller	1
Trent Sutton	5
Mason Carter	6
Reed Coulter	7
Zadarius Williams	9
Christian Craig	13
Micah Levielle	16
Nathan Strickland	25
Drew Craig	26
J.C. Davis	21

September Birthdays

Tyler Giuliani	2
Jamie Matherley	8
Hunter Almy	14
Chad Henderson	14
Corbin Johnson	21
Sammy Feezell	27
Ben Higley	28
Florian Kirschenbauer	28
Henry Hooks	29
Travis Lytle	30

September

1	Tour Meeting - 5:45pm Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:50-8:45
7	NO REHEARSALS - LABOR DAY
11	Remembrance Day event - Concert & Handel, 10:30am
15	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:50-8:45
20	Cantabile Rehearsal & BBQ - Oakes House - 3:00-5:30pm
29	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:50-8:45

October

7	Hymn Festival Rehearsal - Cantabile - 7-9pm
10	Hymn Festival Rehearsal - Handel, Concert, Cantabile 8:30am-12:00pm
11	Hymn Festival - Handel, Concert, Cantabile 2:15pm call time
12	Mozart Pictures
13	Schubert, Handel, Concert, Cantabile Pictures Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:50-8:45
16	SCT Ads du
19-20	NO REHEARSALS - FALL BREAK
25	Private Event - Handel, Concert
27	Cantabile Rehearsal - 5:45-8:00pm Nut Pre-orders due

November

2	Parent Meeting - 5:00pm
3	Parent Meeting - 5:30pm

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
Stephanie Randall.....	Music Education Coordinator
Dawn Oakes	Administrative Director
Azusa Dance.....	Operations Manager