

## ECC/EVAE Newsletter, October 22 & 23, 2007

### **Congratulations to the Eugene Vocal Arts Ensemble**

A note from Diane: EVAE sang beautifully in the *Mostly Mozart* concert. The ensemble brought beautiful music to life for the enjoyment of a very appreciative audience. You worked hard and should be proud of yourselves. It is a privilege to conduct such a fine ensemble of excellent and sensitive musicians.

### **Auction news**

From Charlotte Riersgard, Auction co-chair: The tick, tick, tock of the old Auction the clock is nearing November 9 and our annual Auction fundraising event. It is very important at this point to get all of the donations turned in ASAP. All donations will be listed in the event's program to acknowledge donors and to provide organizational information to the auctioneers and cashiers. That's why we need the lead time.

It also looks as if we really need more donated items. Our invitations read "over 100 auction items available," and we aren't there yet. This is the key time to follow up on requests, seek new donors, and get the items to the Choir office.

Thanks so much for all the items that have come in. There will be some great packages, gift certificates, etc. I can take items to the office if you bring them to rehearsals WITH THE ACCOMPANYING COMPLETED DONOR FORMS.

### **Timing of Auction events**

- 5:30 Doors open - silent auction cocktail hour
- 6:30 Dinner begins with salad course  
Opening remarks by Ed Ragozzino  
Sid Voorhees - auction items during salad course
- 7:00 First silent auction tables close  
Entree served
- 7:30 Second silent auction tables close
- 7:35 Third silent auction tables close
- 7:40 Sid Voorhees - Choir section baskets auction
- 7:45 Ed Ragozzino introduces Choirs  
Choirs perform (Diane is still deciding what!)
- 8:00 Sid & Diane - Direct donation sponsorships  
Sid - main oral auction
- 9:00 Sid - dessert auction  
Sid - revisit any unsold oral auction items
- 9:30 Event concludes - checkout and cashiering

### **Art auction and benefit for Carol Westlake**

From Fran Ross: Eugene artist and jeweler Carol Westlake is undergoing treatment for liver cancer. More than 70 of the Northwest's finest artists and craftspeople have donated their work and are hosting a fundraising event to help with Carol's medical expenses. A selection of Carol's own Virtu Jewelry will also be for sale.

The evening will include live music, silent auction, raffle prizes, refreshments, and a no-host wine bar. Please join us on Sunday evening, November 4, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the MidTown Marketplace and Bel Ami Restaurant, 1591 Willamette Street, Eugene (formerly L & L Market). The bidding will start to close at 7:00 p.m.

### Website with choral parts

From Ellwood Cushman: I have become aware of a website that might be of interest to choir members. The URL is [www.cyberbass.com](http://www.cyberbass.com). It has MIDI files of the voice parts of a number of major choral works, including *Messiah*. There is one version in each work that plays all parts at equal volume (tutti), and other versions that emphasize individual parts.

I believe it is useful for learning notes but not helpful for learning other aspects of the music, e.g., words, phrasing, and dynamics. In the sections I sampled, the tempos chosen seem to be generally slower than performance tempos, no doubt to make it easier to learn the notes.

### Great vocal workshop in Eugene

#### Voice from the Inside Out: Mindfulness, Joy, and Expressive Singing

From Cathleen Wilder, workshop director: Greetings, folks! I hope this announcement finds you well and peaceful. I am writing to let you know that I will be in Eugene to teach an exciting new workshop on November 3 (information below). I hope you will pass this information on to anyone you think might be interested. I would love any leads you have to choral directors, wellness practitioners, or others who might like to know about it.

I will also be available for choral clinics or private lessons during my stay, Thursday, November 1 through Sunday, November 4. Please let me know if you have any interest!

Thanks very much, Cathleen Wilder

#### About the workshop:

- **When.** Saturday, November 3, 2007, 11:00 - 5:00 p.m., Tamarack Wellness Center, Eugene
- **How.** Cost is \$60.00. For details and registration go to [www.laughingspiritmusic.com](http://www.laughingspiritmusic.com).
- **What.** Being fully present in the moment, bringing emotional energy and sensory awareness together, is THE essential tool for powerful, expressive singing.

Learn how relaxation, awareness, and energy combine to speed our musical and vocal skill building, deepen our vocal self-expression, improve our health, and bring us immense joy.

Along the way, we'll learn simple, effective solutions to universal technical issues such as breath-support, register changes, projection, "high" notes, tuning, and harmonizing.

Participants are encouraged (but not required) to perform a short, simple song or excerpt from a song that is meaningful to them.

The workshop is for singers of all levels and styles who wish to deepen their vocal expressivity and improve their technical mastery. JOY IS THE ANSWER. ANY QUESTIONS?

- **For information, contact:**

Cathleen Wilder

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### Questions for the week

Last week's question: Why do bagpipers walk while they play? To get away from the sound.

This week's question is a story problem. You're driving a bus along 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue. At the first stop, three passengers get on the bus. At the second stop, two passengers get off, and five get on. At the third stop, four passengers get off, and seven get on. The question: What's the bus driver's name?

**Birthday greetings** to your scribe's paternal grandmother, Lucia Hart Tebault, born on October 23 in the 1800s. She was a pianist and teacher, and it's thanks to her that I found Middle C and other musical delights.

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