

ECC/EVAE Newsletter, January 14 & 15, 2008

Welcome to new members of the Eugene Concert Choir

Our new members are Soprano II Sandy Hord, Alto I Annie Tracey, Alto II Carey Garber, and Bass II Mike Denlis. Please make them feel welcome.

Auditions will continue on a private contact basis only until next season's formal auditions in August.

Updated calendar for 2007/2008

We have an updated calendar for January through May of 2008, which reflects changes and additions to our original 2007/2008 calendar. Updated calendar schedules are available at rehearsal and on our website [Members](#) page. Go to our website, www.eugeneconcertchoir.org, and click on the word [Members](#) at the bottom of the homepage.

Office volunteers needed

Can you help out with some administrative tasks such as filing, organizing, running errands, or database entry? Diane is again requesting your help as she assembles a small crew of office volunteers to come in at regular weekly times to perform some tasks consistently. Please talk to Diane at rehearsal or send her an e-mail: d.retallack@comcast.net if you would like to help.

Planning ahead

Here are the dates for the Eugene Concert Choir's and Eugene Vocal Arts Ensemble's 2008/2009 season events at the Hult Center. Both choirs will be involved in most of these events, and additional dates will be added at The Shedd and the Wildish Theater. The auction has yet to be scheduled. It will probably be on a Friday in late October.

November

ECC & EVAE

Friday, November 7, 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 9, 2:30 p.m., Soren Theater

Rehearsals Monday, November 3 and Thursday, November 6 in the hall

Rehearsal of Tuesday, November 4 is canceled. It's Election Day.

Saturday, November 8 has been left open to avoid conflicts with Duck football.

December

ECC & EVAE

Saturday, December 13, 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 14, 2:30 p.m., Silva Hall

Rehearsals Friday evening, December 12 and Saturday daytime, December 13

EVAE only

English Madrigal Dinner--yet to be scheduled

March

ECC & EVAE

Saturday, March 7, 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 8, 2:30 p.m., Silva Hall

Possible Kid's show Saturday 11:00 a.m.

Rehearsals Tuesday, March 3 and Friday, March 6

April

EVAE only

Spring concert--yet to be scheduled

May

ECC only

Saturday, May 9, 8:00 p.m., Silva Hall

Rehearsals Tuesday, May 5; Thursday May 7; Friday, May 8

The Practice Corner

EVAE: *L'Amfiparnaso*, Act II, Scene 5, and "All in Love is Fair"

ECC: *Croatian Mass*, movement 2 "Slava" and "Be our Guest"

Prague tour, summer 2009: planning way ahead

Diane is negotiating with a tour company about a concert tour to Prague, Vienna, and Budapest in the summer of 2009. For this particular tour, we would perform several concerts involving a major work with orchestra, conducted by Diane. Dates and arrangements will be announced soon, but, as you are looking ahead and planning for the future, you might want to start socking away some cash for a trip of a lifetime.

Re-evaluations

From Diane: This is the season for re-evaluations for sopranos and tenors of the Concert Choir. Diane has decided to use the "Amen" fugue from "Worthy is the Lamb" from Handel's *Messiah* for re-evaluation materials. Rather than waiting till the end of the season, Diane will schedule re-evaluation times throughout the next few months. New members have recently gone through a formal audition and do not need to participate in re-evaluations in this cycle. Those who need to participate in re-evaluations are sopranos and tenors who joined the choir before September, 2007.

Re-evaluations give Diane an opportunity to hear voices that she hasn't heard for awhile so she can better focus her plans and guidance for the choir. The re-evaluations also give singers an opportunity to raise questions about their singing or participation. Ideally, if you don't have any questions, you will sing your part with ease, and your re-evaluation will last two to three minutes. What is required at a re-evaluation is for each choir member to sing his or her own part independently while a recording of the passage is played. No one will lose his or her membership in the Concert Choir as a result of the first re-evaluation. There are three possible results of the re-evaluation:

1. Singer is congratulated on valuable contribution to the choir.
2. Singer is a valued choir member, with improvement encouraged in specified areas.
3. Improvement is required in specified areas. If improvement is required in any area, the singer must participate in re-evaluations the following year and show improvement in the specified area(s). If there is not adequate improvement in the second re-evaluation, the singer will need to pass a formal audition to continue to sing with the choir in the season following the second re-evaluation.

Music Education

Your scribe, feeling uninspired, was going through some old ECC stuff and came across these gems, which appeared in the *Missouri School Music Newsletter*. They're supposedly excerpts of stories and test questions accumulated by music teachers in Missouri. Stop me if you've heard these...oops, too late!

Probably the most marvelous fugue was the one between the Hatfields and the McCoys.

My favorite composer is Opus.

A trumpet is an instrument when it is not an elephant sound.

It's easy to teach someone to play the maracas. Just grip the neck and shake him in rhythm.

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