

ECC/EVAC Newsletter, February 25 & 26, 2008

Concert Week for ECC

Note from Diane: I love concert week! It's my favorite time of every season. We work toward performance, putting pieces together little by little, and it is exciting to me to see the vision in my head come together on stage. The Eugene Concert Choir is an extraordinary choir that always rises to the challenge with a passion and energy that amaze me, and I am proud to be associated with all of you fine singers. We have a terrific show to put on, with fabulous soloists and some of the greatest Broadway music of all time. I thought this would be an easy show to

program because I have been so involved with musicals from a very young age and on through my life. As it turns out, that's what made it hard! I jotted down about 180 songs I would love to do, just off the top of my head, and then I had to whittle that down to a reasonable show. I have arrived at a show that I think has a great flow to it. But I realize it is still long. The show needs to be fast-paced and fun. And in order to rehearse the whole show in the too-short rehearsal time we have with orchestra, our rehearsals need to be extremely efficient. This is how you can help:

- Arrive at rehearsals EARLY.
- Don't talk in between songs.
- Listen to directions. We will do some staging - walking through the auditorium up onto the stage for "Strike Up the Band" and walking across the stage like a parade of animals in "Circle of Life" for the *Broadway for Kids* concert. Stage directions such as these can eat up enormous amounts of rehearsal time if not everyone is attentive.

I just looked over the concert week rehearsal schedule and was astonished and dismayed to see that I had left out some rehearsal and warm-up times. (Did I really leave out THURSDAY on the schedule? Aaaahhhh!!!) Here is the definitive rehearsal schedule for next week:

Tuesday, March 4	Rehearsal as usual at Emmaus Lutheran
Thursday, March 6	7:00-10:00 p.m., Hult Center
Friday, March 7	7:00-10:00 p.m., Hult Center
Saturday, March 8	9:00 a.m. warm-up before 9:30 a.m. rehearsal, leading up to 11:00 a.m. <i>Broadway for Kids</i> performance
Saturday, March 8	2:00-5:00 p.m. rehearsal, Hult Center
Sunday, March 9	1:30 p.m. warm-up before 2:30 p.m. <i>Best of Broadway</i> performance

Concert dress

For SHOCASE, *Broadway for Kids*, and *Best of Broadway*, we will use color.

Women: ECC blue, green, red, or gold blouses, ECC black skirts. Jeannie Crabtree will outfit you in ECC colored blouses.

Men: Black dress pants and long-sleeved, solid-color shirts, preferably blue, green, red, or gold.

SHOCASE concert

Thursday, March 6: Warm-up at 11:30 a.m. for performance from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m., color concert dress. Shirley and Laura can join us, so we will perform some of the music that features them. Repertoire may include:

- “Strike Up the Band”
- “Oklahoma”
- “You'll Never Walk Alone”
- “There's No Business Like Show Business”
- “Bushel and a Peck”
- “Do-re-mi”
- “Circle of Life”

Broadway for Kids activities

- Coloring contest: Our concert sponsors, US Bank and Jerry's Home Improvement, are offering a coloring contest drawing for kids. You can pick up coloring sheets at any US Bank branch or Jerry's Home Improvement Center, and you'll get a voucher for a \$2 kids ticket to the *Broadway for Kids* concert. Follow the directions on the coloring sheet to enter the drawing. Prizes will be awarded at the *Broadway for Kids* concert.
- Pre-concert activities in the Hult Center lobby will start at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 8 before the 11:00 a.m. concert and will include puppet making, mask making, coloring, a display of the posted coloring sheets, balloon twisters, and a ukulele performance. When the kids leave the performance, we will give them each a balloon. Fun times for kids!

The Practice Corner

ECC: You know what you need to do.

EVAE: Know your Renaissance music well enough to look up and start to move around the stage.

Last Chance for Wine Cellar Raffle

The name of the Wine Cellar Raffle winner will be drawn at intermission at the *Best of Broadway* concert. This is your last chance to gather wine or sell or buy a ticket for the raffle.

Words of wisdom from Dave Barry

“If you had to identify, in one word, the reason the human race has not achieved, and never will achieve, its full potential, that word would be ‘meetings.’ ”

“A person who is nice to you but rude to a waiter is not a nice person. (This is very important. Pay attention. It never fails.)”

“Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative the same night.”

Jill Liberty
jliberty@efn.org