

ECC/EVAE Newsletter, February 1 & 2, 2010

Can you get four friends to attend the Brahms *Requiem*?

From Diane: If you've ever wanted to do something to help the Choir, this is the time. Ticket sales are a bit slow this year, and we lack a corporate sponsor for the Brahms *Requiem*. There are several things each of us can do to take advantage of this opportunity.

We have a big, appealing concert on February 27, and we expect to have 1000 or more seats unfilled. If we can fill 500 of those seats, we can generate enough revenue to close our budget gap for this season.

We in the choir can pitch in to fill seats. Your friends and family do not want to miss this one. If each choir member can increase our audience by four, we'll fill 500 seats! There are discounts available to make your friends feel special:

- There is a **\$10.00 church discount** on section A and B seats for church members. Church members need only ask for the church discount at the Hult Center box office to receive this special price. This information can be put in a **church bulletin announcement**. Churches usually do not print notices in their bulletins unless there is a direct connection to one of their church members. We are asking you personally to take an informational flyer announcing the church discount with a sample blurb for the church bulletin to your church office. Please sign up on the church list sign-up sheet so we know which churches are being approached. We have sent letters regarding this special discount to choir directors at some of the larger churches. If you are in a church choir, you can help by reinforcing this message at your church choir rehearsal. If your church choir director has not received information about this offer, let us know at the choir office, and we will send a letter to your church choir director.
- There is a **25% discount voucher** for up to four tickets. If you haven't already taken advantage of our prior discounts and purchased your tickets, you are welcome to use this discount voucher. If you have already purchased your tickets, please pass these vouchers along to other friends and colleagues and encourage them to attend this extraordinary concert.

Memorial contributions

From Diane: In addition to promoting ticket sales for the Brahms *Requiem*, we are seeking community sponsorships to support the performance of this glorious work. We will print on a special dedication page in the program the names of departed friends and family in return for a donation to the choir. A single remembrance is available for \$25.00. For a contribution of \$500, we will dedicate a

movement of the *Requiem* to a departed loved one. It is a dignified and traditional way of honoring the dead and comforting the living. Informational flyers about the memorial contributions have been mailed to all of you. You should receive them this week. We also have some informational flyers and donor cards available at rehearsal for you to take to let your friends know about the remembrance program.

The Practice Corner

ECC: Brahms *Requiem*, movements 4 and 5

EVAE: Continue memorization of Elegg, and begin memorization of Io Piango. Constantly review Leonardo.

ECC Store—Items for sale this week

- Choral concert folders: \$28 (If we run out, put your name on the sign-up sheet. A new batch of folders will be ordered.)
- ECC tote bags: \$10. These totes are more like soft cloth attaché cases than bags.
- ECC T-shirts: \$5. The last of the order. Get them while they're cheap.

ECC women’s concert dress blouses

ECC women, please return your red, green, and gold blouses. Keep the blue ones, our standard attire. There are two ways to return your dry-cleaned or hand-washed blouses:

- Bring them to ECC rehearsal and give them to Jeannie Crabtree, ECC concert dress coordinator, in the plastic bags in which you received them if at all possible. Jeannie needs more plastic cleaners’ bags. If you have a surfeit of such bags, please give her some.
- Take them to the Eugene Concert Choir office, 1590 Willamette Street, Suite 400, Eugene. Call the office, 541-687-6865, to make sure someone will be there when you arrive.

ECC social break

Tonight there will be an extended break to allow us to mix, mingle, and get to know one another. Please wear your nametags and talk to someone you haven’t met yet. Thanks to the 1st and 2nd tenors for providing the goodies.

Nametags—from Theresa Wymer

I apologize to the new members of the choir who haven’t received their nametags. If you need a nametag or would like a new one, please e-mail me at twymer212@comcast.net. Thanks for your patience.

Ed Ragozzino—the end of an era

Ed Ragozzino passed away Saturday morning. Service arrangements are pending. Some of us might not know who he was, but he had a profound and lasting impact on the quality, progress, and success of the arts in our community. (For more details about his career, especially in Eugene, see the Register-Guard of Sunday, January 31.)

Ed’s productions, especially in musical theater, raised performances in Eugene to new heights. He founded the Eugene Festival of Musical Theater.

It was largely because of Ed’s tireless efforts that the Hult Center came to be. Our arts community and the community at large have been immeasurably enriched by his gifts of talent, time, drive, dedication, and vision. He made our lives more enjoyable for nearly five decades.

Thank you, Ed. We’ll miss you, but we’ll be comforted by the knowledge that your gifts and your legacy live on.

Oooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooops

From your scribe: Remember last week when I said I wasn’t a math whiz? Well, I was right. Upon further calculation, I realized that I won’t have officially been doing the paper newsletter for 25 years until the summer of 2010, the occasion of ECC’s first summer newsletter. If I could insert an emoticon here, it would be blushing. Oh, well, it seems like 25 years.

Kids in Church

- A little boy’s prayer: “Lord, if you can’t make me a better boy, don’t worry about it. I’m having a great time the way I am.”
- A four-year-old’s prayer: “And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets.”
- In response to a Sunday School teacher’s question about why the children should be quiet on their way to the church service, a little girl replied, “Because people are sleeping.”

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