



Ames Children's Choirs

## Ames Children's Choirs February 2009 Newsletter

P.O. Box 1965, Ames IA 50010 ~ 290-1422  
www.ameschildrenschoirs.org

### Something to Sing About!

- **Riley Wilgenbusch** (Chorale) was recognized as an Outstanding Performer at the Story City Piano Clinic, and qualified to play in an Honors Recital on January 17.
- **Julia Meyer** (Concert Choir) was one of 31 - 6th graders in the nation to score a perfect score on the WordMasters Challenge.
- **Mariah Griffith** (Concert Choir) was selected to perform at the Orpheus Honor Band Festival on Tuesday, January 20 at Simpson College.
- **Dr. Munsen** conducted a Chorister's Guild Children's Choir Festival in Rochester, MN, on Saturday, January 31.
- **Maria Consamus** (Concert Choir) and **Thea Brenner** (Chorale) are performing in the Story Theater Company's production of "Peter Pan" on February 1, 6, 7 and 8 in the Ames City Hall Auditorium.
- If your singer has been selected for something special, please let us know! Send your items for "*Something to Sing About*" to: ameschoir@aol.com or call Shon @ 290-1422.

### Welcome New Singers!

We are pleased to welcome four new Prep Choir singers: **Lily Bandow, Eily Mickelson, Sadie Rowley, and Amy Yang**. Please get to know these new singers and let them know how happy we are to have them singing with us.

### Concert Choir Tour Meeting February 10

There will be a Concert Choir parent meeting on February 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the CUMC Annex Auditorium to discuss the 2009 tours. Tour payments of \$100 will be due February 1, March 1, April 1, and May 1. Parents who are interested in chaperoning for the April 5-6, May 1-3, and July 28 tours must apply and be accepted. Only written intent is required for those who have previously chaperoned an ACC tour.

While offering musically and educationally satisfying tours, we must also maintain the financial health of our organization. The ACC Board has determined that ACC can no longer subsidize the chaperones' expenses. At the very least, chaperones will be responsible to cover food and lodging expenses.

### Chamber Singers Perform February 12

The Chamber Singers will perform The Star-Spangled Banner at the Women's Gymnastics meet in Hilton Coliseum on Thursday, Feb. 12. We need one or two parents to drive singers from the church to the coliseum. Each singer and one parent is welcome to stay for the meet.

**Singers, please eat before attending Concert Choir rehearsal.**

**Attire:** Come to Concert Choir rehearsal in red ACC polo shirt and navy blue pants.

Please pull hair back or braid.

**Chamber Rehearsal:** 6:05-6:15 p.m.

**Leave CUMC:** 6:20 p.m. Meet at west entrance on the ground floor of Hilton Coliseum

**Perform:** 7:00 pm

## Concert Choir Retreat February 14

The Concert Choir will rehearse on Saturday, February 14, from 9:00 – 12:00 noon in the Annex Auditorium. This rehearsal is in preparation for the ICDA Festival in Boone, the Randall Fine Arts Series concert, the recording sessions, and the tour. Please bring a water bottle.

## Concert Choir Performs February 19

The Concert Choir will perform in the Iowa Choral Directors Association Festival on Thursday, February 19, at 7:00 pm at Boone High School. Please let Shon know if you can braid hair and/or drive singers to Boone.

**Concert Choir Rehearsal:** 5:25 - 5:50 p.m. Thursday, February 19

**Attire:** Arrive at CUMC Annex dressed in formal attire

**Hairbraiding:** 5:00 p.m. at CUMC Annex

**Depart from CUMC Annex:** 5:50 p.m.

**Directions:** Boone High School – Take Hwy 30 west to the four way stop at Story Street. Proceed north on Story Street to 7<sup>th</sup> Street, turn west and drive 4 blocks.

**Stage Warm-up:** 6:15 - 6:25 p.m.

**Perform:** 7:00 p.m.

**Arrive at CUMC Annex:** 8:30 p.m.

## Prep Choir & Chorale Retreat February 21

This singing retreat is a required rehearsal to prepare the Prep Choir for the mini-concert, and the Chorale for the Randall Fine Arts Series concert. Also, we'll take time to get to know each other and have fun. The **Chorale** will meet on Saturday, February 21, from 9 - 12 noon in the Annex Auditorium. The **Prep Choir** will meet on Saturday, February 21, from 1:30 – 3:30 pm in the Annex Auditorium. You may want to bring a water bottle.

## Chorale & Concert Choir Perform February 22

The Chorale & Concert Choir will be the featured guest artists for the Randall Fine Arts Series at Elim Lutheran Church in Randall on Sunday, February 22, at 3:00 p.m. The concert is free, although donations will be accepted. Please tell your friends and family to join us! Please let Shon know if you can braid hair, photograph the choirs and/or drive other singers to Randall.

**What:** Randall Fine Arts Series

**Where:** Elim Lutheran Church at 350 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Randall

**Directions:** Take I-35 north for 15-16 miles. Take the CR-D65 exit (Exit 128 toward Randall / Stanhope). Turn left onto 380<sup>th</sup> St / CR-D65. Continue to follow CR-D65. Turn left onto 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Attire:** Formal Attire

**Concert Choir Hairbraiding:** 1:15-1:45

**Chorale Rehearsal:** 1:30-1:45

**Mass Choir Rehearsal:** 1:45-2:15

**Concert Choir Rehearsal:** 2:15-2:30

**Chorale Hairbraiding:** 2:15-2:45

**Perform:** 3:00-4:20 p.m.

## Prep Choir Mini-Concert February 23

**What:** Mini-Concert for Parents at end of rehearsal  
**When:** Monday, February 23 from 5:45 – 6:00 pm  
**Where:** Annex Auditorium  
**Attire:** jeans and red ACC t-shirt



## Concert Choir Recording Sessions

The Concert Choir will meet for recording sessions in the Collegiate United Methodist Church sanctuary on Tuesday, February 24, and Thursday, February 26, from **4:30–6:00 pm**. Please note the extended rehearsal time for recording.

## Younkers Fundraiser

The Younkens Community Day Sale is Saturday, February 28. This is a great sale throughout the store, and a wonderful fundraising opportunity for Concert Choir singers to lessen the cost of tour expenses, or for Prep & Chorale singers to accrue money in their account for future tours. The Younkens coupons are sold for \$5 and the coupons are good for **\$10** off any Younkens item! There is a \$5 profit (100%) from each coupon sold. There is also a pre-sale the week before; use your coupons and do your shopping early and the store will hold it until the sale date. There are also opportunities for individuals to sell their coupons in the Younkens store in 2 hour time slots prior to February 28. Please contact Shon if interested.

Coupons will be available during February rehearsals. Checks and leftover coupons should be returned at rehearsal Monday, February 23 – Prep Choir/Chorale, and Tuesday, February 24 – Concert Choir. **Checks received should be made payable to individual singers; the singer's family should then write one check to ACC (no cash, please).** On the memo line of the check, please write "Younkers" – this helps with the accounting.

## Butter Braid Fundraiser

Butter Braid order forms will be handed out on Monday, February 23 to the Prep Choir & Chorale, and on Tuesday, February 24 to the Concert Choir. Singers earn \$4.50-\$5 (dependant upon total sales) for their tour accounts for each \$12 Butter Braid sold. All forms & checks are to be returned Monday, March 9 – Prep Choir/Chorale, and Tuesday, March 10 – Concert Choir. **Checks received should be made payable to individual singers; the singer's family should then write one check to ACC (no cash, please).** Butter braids will be delivered to the Annex on March 24. **We would like parents to assist with sorting the orders on March 24.** Please contact Shon (290-1422) to volunteer!

## Hair Braiding Policy

We would like all ACC girls to provide their own brush & comb for our concert hair braiding. Please mark these items with your singer's name.

## Spring Break for ACC

**Prep and Chorale:** No rehearsal March 16 (Spring Break)

**Concert Choir:** No rehearsals March 10, 12, 17 and 19. Rehearsals resume on Thursday, March 24. This accounts for Dr. Munsen attending the American Choral Directors Association Conference, supervising the student teaching program in Norway and Spring Break.

## Midwest Children's Choir Festival

The Midwest Children's Choir Festival (MCCF) will be held on Friday, April 17, in Stephens Auditorium in Ames at 7:00 p.m. The Festival will feature Dr. René Clausen as composer and conductor and three choirs performing separately: the Allegro Community Children's Choir from Kansas City, the Bentonville Children's Choir from Arkansas, and the ACC Concert Choir. 275 select singers from across the state of Iowa, **including all ACC singers**, will join the featured choirs to form the MCCF Mass Choir totaling 400 singers. **On Friday, April 17, all ACC singers will spend the entire afternoon at CY Stephens rehearsing for the evening concert.** Prep & Chorale singers are to wear nice jeans and their ACC t-shirt; Concert Choir will wear informal attire. A sack supper and a performance t-shirt will be provided for all singers.

Tickets are now available at the Stephens Ticket Office or through TicketMaster @ (515) 233-1888. The cost at the ticket office is \$15 for adults and \$10 for students/seniors.

These are reserved seats, not general admission, so purchase your tickets now!

## Upcoming ACC Concerts/Events

- All Choirs**
- Midwest Children's Choir Festival – Friday, April 17
  - Spring Concert rehearsal – **Thursday, April 23 (4-8:30)**
  - Spring Concert – Sunday, April 26 (1:30-5)
  - Annual singer evaluations – May 4-21

- Prep Choir**
- No Rehearsals – March 16
  - Bring a Friend to Rehearsal – Monday, April 20
  - Last rehearsal – Monday, April 27

- Chorale**
- No Rehearsals – March 16
  - Bring a Friend to Rehearsal – Monday, April 20
  - School Tour – Thursday, April 23
  - Last rehearsal – Monday, April 27

- Concert Choir**
- No Rehearsals – March 5, 17, 19
  - Tour to Wartburg College – April 5-6
  - Bring a Friend to Rehearsal – Tuesday, April 21
  - Review concert & prepare for tour – April 28 & 30
  - Tour to Cedar Falls, Waterloo, Independence – May 1-3
  - Tentative Recording Session – May 5 & 7
  - Concert Choir Rehearsals to prepare for ICDA– July 25-27
  - Tour to IA Choral Directors Assoc. State Conference – July 28