



Ames Children's Choirs

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January 2012 Newsletter

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

www.ameschildrenschoirs.org

Something to Sing About!

- Congratulations to all singers on an enjoyable Holiday Concert – thank you for your hard work and commitment to the program!
- A special thank you to all the parents who volunteered at the concert ~ those who sold tickets, tied ties, braided hair, videotaped the concert, provided refreshments and clean-up, etc. We couldn't have done it without you!
- Joanna Held (Concert Choir) was selected to participate in the Iowa Junior Honors String Festival held on November 18, 2011 at Fisher Theater, ISU campus.
- Jeremy Meyer (Chorale), Julia Meyer (Concert Choir), Isabel Polashek (Concert Choir), and Zander Reed (Prep Choir) participated in *Nutcracker Ballet* productions in Ames/Des Moines in December.
- 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.

♪ January Rehearsals Resume ♪

- Tuesday, January 3: Concert Choir (5-6:45 pm)
- Monday, January 9: Prep Choir (4-4:55 pm)
- Monday, January 9: Chorale (5-6 pm)



New Singer Auditions for Spring 2012

Auditions will be held January 3 & 7 for new Prep Choir & Chorale singers. Please let your friends know and encourage them to join us for the spring season! If you recruit a new singer who joins ACC, you will receive a \$25 credit/singer toward your tuition! They can call Shon @ 290-1422 for more information about the program and/or to arrange for a specific audition time.

Concert Choir Parent Meeting January 3

Mr. LeVasseur will meet with Concert Choir parents from 6:15-6:45 pm on Tuesday, January 3 in Annex Room 202. This event is new to your schedule!

Concert Choir Retreat January 14

The Concert Choir will meet for an all-day retreat on Saturday, January 14, from 9:00 am-4:30 pm in the Annex Auditorium. Please bring your water bottle.

9:00 am-3:00 pm - rehearsal (lunch will be provided)

3:00-4:30 pm - wrapped gift exchange – either something from home, or a \$2 item

Prep Choir & Chorale Parent Meeting January 16

Prep Choir parents will meet from 4:55-5:05 pm in CUMC Annex Room 202. Chorale parents will meet from 6:00-6:10 pm in the Annex Auditorium. This event is new to your schedule!

Prep Choir & Chorale Jam Session February 4

Saturday, February 4 is a required rehearsal in the Annex Auditorium to prepare the Prep Choir and the Chorale for upcoming concerts. Note the date change from the original schedule!



Please bring a water bottle. If your singer will be unable to attend the lunch, please let Shon know so she can order pizza accordingly.

9:00-11:30 am	Prep Choir rehearses
11:30-12:00 noon	pizza lunch provided for Prep Choir singers
12:30-1:00 pm	pizza lunch provided for Chorale singers
1:00-4:00 pm	Chorale rehearses

Prep Choir & Chorale Extended Rehearsals February 6

The extended rehearsal is new to your schedule!

4:00-5:15 pm Prep Choir extended rehearsal

4:45-6:00 pm Chorale extended rehearsal

Prep Choir & Chorale Perform February 10

The Prep Choir & Chorale will perform for the Mid Iowa Foster Grandparent Program on Friday, February 10 at 5:30 pm in the Bethesda Lutheran Church. This event is new to your schedule!

What: Mid Iowa Foster Grandparent Program

Where: Bethesda Lutheran Church, 1517 Northwestern Ave., Ames

Warm-up: 4:45 pm in Music Room – enter church through west door.

Perform: 5:30-6:00 pm Commons Room

Attire: Informal; girls, please pull hair back

Concert Choir Retreat February 18

The Concert Choir will rehearse on Saturday, February 18, from 9:00-12:00 noon in the Annex Auditorium in preparation for the Randall concert and the recording sessions. Please bring a water bottle. Note the date change from the original schedule!

Chorale & Concert Choir Perform February 19

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 19 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 and/or drive other singers to Randall.

What: Randall Fine Arts Series

Where: Elim Lutheran Church – 350 4th Street, Randall

Directions: Take I-35 north for 15-16 miles. Take the CR-D65 exit (Exit 128 toward Randall / Stanhope). Turn left onto 380th St / CR-D65. Continue to follow CR-D65. Turn left onto 4th 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: 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Prep Choir Mini-Concert February 20

What: Mini-Concert for Parents at end of rehearsal
When: Monday, February 20 from 4:40-4:55 pm
Where: Annex Auditorium
Attire: jeans and red ACC t-shirt



Concert Choir Recording Session February 21

The Concert Choir will meet for a recording session on Tuesday, February 21 from 5:00-6:45 pm in the Collegiate United Methodist Church sanctuary (2622 Lincolnway). Enter through the south door.

Notes from our Conductors

One of my favorite choral selections is a song titled "Sing Me to Heaven". During the month of December I had the pleasure of having my musical cup filled with beautiful music. Here's a list of performances I had the pleasure of attending and/or participating in: the Broadway musical *Wicked*, Ames Children's Choirs holiday concerts, Ames Middle School holiday concert, Ames High School Madrigal dinner & concert, Ames Chamber Artists holiday concert, CY Stephen's presentation of the *Nutcracker Ballet*, Bethesda's presentation of Vivaldi's *Gloria*, and three wonderful Christmas Eve & Day services. What a joy it is to be in a vibrant musical community that offers so many opportunities for us to not only attend musical events but to also participate in a variety of ensembles. I am truly thankful for this and for all of you for being a part of my "musical cup" of December joy!
"SING" cerely, Gene LeVasseur

I would like to personally thank all of the Prep Choir and Chorale singers and parents for making our first semester a success. I feel that we have progressed in many ways this semester, and I look forward to singing with the students in the coming months. We had a large percentage of singers with perfect attendance last semester – let's keep that streak going! This really contributed to the wonderful sounds that were made on stage. Please continue to encourage your child to practice the music and use the rehearsal CDs at home. This will reinforce what has been taught during the rehearsals and improve their singing skills more quickly. Again, thanks for all your hard work and dedication to ACC. Enjoy the New Year with your families, and congratulations on a job well done.
~ Mrs. Renze

2012 ACC Concerts/Events

All Choirs

- Spring Concert Rehearsal – Monday, April 30 (4:00-8:00) New to schedule!
- Spring Concert Rehearsal – Thursday, May 3 (4:00-7:30)
- Spring Concert – Saturday, May 5 (3:00)
- Annual singer evaluations – TBA

Prep Choir

- Rehearsals Resume – Monday, January 9
- Jam Session – Saturday, February 4 (9-12)
- Mid Iowa Foster Grandparent Program – Friday, February 10
- Mini-Concert – Monday, February 20
- No Rehearsals – March 12
- Bring a Friend to Rehearsal – Monday, April 9
- Church Tour – Sunday, April 29 (8-12:15)
- Last rehearsal – Monday, May 7

Chorale

- Rehearsals Resume – Monday, January 9
- Jam Session – Saturday, February 4 (12:30-4)
- Mid Iowa Foster Grandparent Program – Friday, February 10
- Randall Fine Arts Series – Sunday, February 19
- No Rehearsal – March 12
- Bring a Friend to Rehearsal – Monday, April 9
- Celebrate Singing Choral Festival – Friday, April 20 (3:30-8:30)
- School Tour – Tuesday, May 1
- Last rehearsal – Monday, May 7

Concert Choir

- Rehearsals Resume – Tuesday, January 3
- Rehearsal/Retreat – Saturday, January 14 (9-4:30)
- Rehearsal/Retreat – Saturday, February 18 (9-12:00)
- Randall Fine Arts Series – Sunday, February 19
- Recording session – February 21 (5-6:45)
- No Rehearsal – March 13
- Bring a Friend to Rehearsal – Tuesday, April 18
- Recording Session – May 8
- Concert Choir Tour to Washington D.C. – May 24-29