



August 2009

Dear New and Returning Parents and Choristers,

We are so excited to be starting our 26th year of providing musical excellence for the children of Contra Costa County. It is hard to believe it was that long ago when we started the choral journey. In these years many friends have been made, exciting performances and tours have taken place and beautiful music sung by children has touched many people's hearts.

Last year we had some wonderful events celebrating our 25th anniversary.

We kicked off the year with an all-chorus picnic. October brought the Hebrew Festival where all choruses performed Hebrew music and dances. In December our Winter Concert featured four premiere compositions, complete with instrumentalists. December also saw the release of our latest CDs – *Holiday Harmonies* and *25th Anniversary Tribute*.

In January we held our Alumni and Pops Concert, featuring 100 alums and Level 4. Also in January, Level 3 and 4 participated in a workshop with Jim Poupolis, a world composer whose songs we have performed. We joined with Clayton Valley High School's choral department for this wonderful opportunity that was made possible by the generosity of an anonymous donor.

In March we hosted a Crab Dinner and Auction Fundraiser, which generated much needed funds for CCCC, and afforded a great time for all who attended.

The highlight of the 25th anniversary celebration was our production of "The Nightingale" Opera performed by Levels 3 and 4, in collaboration with members of the Diablo Symphony. Staged by Michael Sokol with musical direction by Iris Lamanna, the choristers once again experienced the opera genre.

In May, Levels 1 and 2 and San Ramon Choir joined with the Suzuki Strings for a combined Spring Concert featuring Broadway and Disney numbers.

Our summer was filled with our Theater Arts for Kids program with production of a revue called "Broadway Goes West and the musical "Into the Woods". In August our Summer Music Institute for Level 4 was held.

After such a hectic year and with the current economic climate, we are simplifying our program for 2009-10. Iris has selected music each level will enjoy with all the variety of Classics, Contemporary, Broadway and world Music. Emphasis will be on the choral program and performances, with our regular mass rehearsals.

Tuition will be increased this year by a nominal 2%, which reflects an approximately \$2 per month increase. The tuition schedule is included in your 2009-10 Information Packet, along with the Parent Manual and all other pertinent forms.

Beginning for 2009-10 chorus year, the Scrip Program has been updated and all funds will go to the general CCCC account. Please continue to appoint CCCC as the recipient of your eScrip donations.

We have also decided to discontinue the Poinsettia Fundraiser for this year. It is our hope that donations will come in without the "mandatory" requirement to contribute.

Contra Costa Children's Chorus
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We will continue to bring the gift of music to children. Not only does music bring joy to the listener, but instills such self confidence and discipline in the chorister and feeds their inner passion. Music is so powerful!

Please share information about our program with your friends and relatives and encourage your chorister to bring a friend who likes to sing to join us.

We are looking forward to seeing you in September and beginning the chorus year. As always, check the web site and watch for emails to keep you informed.

Artistic & Administrative Staff

Please note the following important information:

FIRST DAY OF CHORUS

- Wear your Red chorus T-shirt
- Come a few minutes early to pick up music folder & name tag
- Bring a filled, and labeled, water bottle
- Turn in payments and all completed & signed medical & information forms, if not already turned in.

Level	First Day	Time
SR1	Monday, September 14 th	4:00-5:00pm
SRE	Monday, September 14 th	4:30-6:00pm
<i>*Levels SR1 and SRE will overlap from 4:30 to 5:00 for their combined pieces.</i>		
WC1	Tuesday, September 15 th	4:00-5:00pm
WC2	Tuesday, September 15 th	4:30-5:45pm
<i>*Levels 1 and 2 will overlap from 4:30 to 5:00 for their combined pieces.</i>		
WC3	Wednesday, September 16 th	4:00-5:15pm
WC4	Wednesday, September 16 th	5:00-6:30pm
<i>*Levels 3 and 4 will overlap from 5:00 to 5:15 for their combined pieces.</i>		
Honors	Wednesday, September 16 th	6:40-8:00pm

SAFETY FIRST

With so many children entering the chorus building, it is too dangerous to have cars drop off or pick up at the lower level. Please park in the upper lot and escort your child down to the chorus rooms, and meet them at the door following rehearsals.

MASS REHEARSALS: All Walnut Creek Choirs will rehearse on these days.

October 18th – Rehearsal Time for each level TBA

November 15th – Rehearsal Time for each level TBA

IMPORTANT FALL SEMESTER DATES (more to be announced)

September ?	Concert for Darfur	WC4
September 27 th , 2pm	Parent Meeting	Parents Only
October ?	Junior Bach Performance	WC4
November 14 th , 4pm	Greek Church Free Concert	WC4
December 12 th	Winter Concert	WC1/WC2
December 13 th , 1:30 & 4:30pm	Winter Concerts	WC3/WC4/Honors
December 14 th , 7pm	Winter Concert	San Ramon Choirs