

It was a beautiful summer evening like many of the nights that I experienced during what was a busier-than-normal summer. Brandon was taking a nap in his crib and Dawn was busy with a project upstairs, so I relaxed on the living room sofa to enjoy some of my guilty pleasures – a big bowl of ice cream and the television game show Jeopardy! This daily half-hour of trivia – now in its 25th continuous season – has been a wonderful outlet for my rarely appreciated talent of knowing tons of useless facts. It is one of the few things that rewards all of the time I spent as a teenager reading through encyclopedias, trivia books, and dictionaries for fun.

It was a pretty close match as the contestants headed down the home stretch of the second round when one of the contestants selected the final “Daily Double” question. In his calculated baritone, Alex Trebek read aloud a clue about a book that was housed at Trinity College in Dublin (Ireland) and given to the university in the 17th century. As the seemingly concerned contestant stared daggers into his podium,

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I jumped up and down - the Chattanooga Boys Choir enjoyed a performance tour through Ireland in the previous summer, and one of the highlights of our time in the Emerald Isle was our time on the campus of Trinity College. The answer was on the tip of my tongue, but I could see that this contestant was utterly clueless! “The Book of Calls... Kales... Kells... YES! That’s it – the Book of Kells!” I shouted at the television, half expecting it to answer me back. As the contestant shook his head in defeat, I let out a gleeful shout as Alex politely read, “Oh, I’m sorry...the correct answer is The Book of Kells.” I was elated that this little nugget of trivia that I acquired from the boys choir tour would come up in a real – though fleeting – way.

After calming down from my small “victory,” I began to reflect on all of the many unexpected things that I have acquired in my experiences with the choir, especially those things which we did not necessarily go seeking after. The Jeopardy! answer is a powerful metaphor for all the special skills, insights, and experiences we have acquired while participating in the choir – especially those things which we don’t even expect to learn. Being a successful part of a group such as a choral ensemble necessarily requires skills such as listening, teamwork, compromise, and a determined work ethic. In addition, choristers have all sorts of varied experiences in rehearsals, performances, and tours that cannot be replicated in any other venue. These experiences instill a unique sense of pride, creativity, and confidence in our choristers which last them a lifetime.

Choir members also gain the very special opportunity to work side-by-side with fellow choir members from all over our community, especially with other children with whom they may not have the chance to work, play, or interact. In this season of highly charged political atmospheres, where name-calling, labeling, and taking sides seem to be so commonplace among adults, it is refreshing to look up and see a collection of such different children who are united by the powerful force of music.

Like most families, you and your son entered the choir with the hopes of gaining invaluable musical and performance opportunities. We look forward to fulfilling this goal during the upcoming season, but I encourage you to look for those extra-musical benefits that your son will receive from his experiences.

Vic

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The **Chattanooga Boys Choir programs** are only possible with the generous support of its volunteers - parents, board members, alumni, and friends. This year, the CBC would like to reward the hard work of its volunteers. Each month, on the last day of the month, a drawing will be held for a \$20 gift certificate to various merchants (gas, restaurants, shopping, etc). Entry forms are the volunteer forms that are turned in each time one volunteers. So, if you volunteer four times during a month, you will have four entries that month. While it isn't much, it is our way of saying thank you and to let you know that your are appreciated!

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

CBC families are required to volunteer, and this requirement has changed slightly from last year. Each family is required to earn 100 volunteer points throughout the year in addition to 50 volunteer points at the Tivoli during Singing Christmas Tree (SCT) week. Each hour of volunteering is equivalent to 10 volunteer points. See the 2008-2009 CBC handbook to learn what other activity are equivalent to in volunteer points (baking cookies, hosting a visiting choir member, etc). Attending mandatory parent meetings and turning in forms and tuition on time no longer earn volunteer points, and this is offset by the reduction in required volunteer points.

We are pleased to introduce Melanie Doss as the CBC's new Volunteer Coordinator. Melanie will be helping the staff to fulfill all of its volunteer needs. The Volunteer Opportunities notebook is currently in the CBC office ready for volunteer to sign up for activities. There will also be many opportunities to help the staff during rehearsals, so pop your head in the office and ask if there is anything you can do!



The **Chattanooga Boys Choir staff** is always looking for the best way to communicate with families. With 140 boys in five different ensembles making nearly 30 appearances throughout the year, there is a lot to keep track of. We are pleased to introduce our 2008-2009 CBC Google Calendar. This calendar is accessible from the members section on our website (password p3canz). - be sure to bookmark it for future use so that you don't always have to go through the CBC website. This calendar is intended to be for CBC families, not for the general public. (The public should see the "Schedule" section of our website, which lists all of our public performances.

A NEW CALENDAR

Please spend some time getting to know how the calendar works. Each event is listed on the calendar, and when you mouse over it, some details are displayed. However, when you click on the event, you will find all the information you will need including which choirs are involved, what time the event is at, what time is call time, and what choristers should be wearing. On this detail page you will also find a link to a map if the event is not at Brainerd UMC. In addition, you'll find all regular rehearsals, special rehearsals, and no rehearsals dates listed.

While we try to give you the most complete calendar in you handbook, inevitably, things change. There are even a few events for which we have not been given exact time / location details. The Google calendar will contain the latest information if there are changes. We do not yet have the functionality to alert you to any changes, so we do suggest that you check it frequently. We love this new, interactive calendar and hope that you will too!

The screenshot shows a Google Calendar interface for the month of September 2008. The calendar grid displays various events, including 'NO REHEARSALS', 'Regular Rehearsals', and '2:30pm Concert / Handel Rehe'. A specific event, 'National Assembly of State Arts Agencies', is selected, and a detailed pop-up window is shown. The pop-up contains the following information:

- When:** Fri, Sep 12, 8:00am - 9:30am
- Where:** 1 Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 37401 (map)
- Description:** Handel & Concert Choir Call time - 8:00am Chattanooga Trade and Convention Center Attire - tux shirt, tux pants, tux shoes, black socks This is a private event

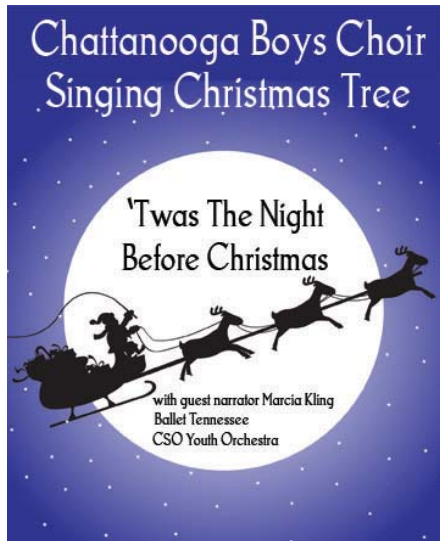
 A blue arrow points from the text 'Event Details' on the right to the pop-up window.

It seems like just yesterday that the last page of the book was being flipped and Santa was making his jolly way across the Tivoli stage. As the choristers at Summer Camp can attest, preparations for the Singing Christmas Tree are fully underway! The theme of this year's program is "'Twas the Night Before Christmas," and it will feature both sacred and secular pieces. We are thrilled to announce that Marcia Kling, or to many of you, "Miss Marcia," will be joining us to narrate the familiar story. Joining us again this year will be Ballet Tennessee and the Chattanooga Symphony & Opera Youth Orchestra.

SINGING CHRISTMAS TREE

The production of the Singing Christmas Tree is under the leadership of CBC Board Member Gene Wilbourn, and takes the October 6th you jobs that fit your the SCT Volun- because the

The Singing port of our pro- about program There are extra forms from the has questions us to design an the CBC office. See the flyer in credits toward



hard work and effort of every CBC family. Beginning on will have the opportunity to sign up for the volunteer schedule by adding your name and phone number to teer Sign Up book in the office. Be sure to sign up early favorite jobs and prime times go quickly!

Christmas Tree would not be possible without the sup- gram advertisers. In your handbook you received details advertising as well as an ad form and specification sheet. forms in the office, and you can also download all of the Members section of the CBC website. If any business about advertising in the program or if they would like ad for them, please have them contact Dawn Oakes in All business and personal ads are due on October 17th. your handbook for incentives to sell ads...you can earn Spring Tuition by selling at least \$500 in ads.

Who will purchase an ad? In the past, families have asked businesses at which they work as well as businesses which they regularly patronize (bank, beauty salon, hardware store, etc). Traditionally, families have placed ads to congratulate their chorister as well. There are a few programs in the office that you may peruse to get some ideas. As is everything with the CBC, the success of SCT ads depends on *everyone* doing their part. We thank you for your hard work and effort in this endeavor.

The Chattanooga Boys Choir has received an exciting invitation to perform at the opening of one of the ses- sions of the National Assembly of Arts Agencies, being held right here in Chatta- nooga on September 12. This is a gather- ing of all of the major arts agencies in the

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF STATE ARTS AGENCIES

entire country, including the National Endowment for the Arts. Not only is in an honor for this conference to be held in Chattanooga, but it is a tremendous honor that the Chat- tanooga Boys Choir to be selected to perform at this specific session. Both the Handel and Concert Choirs will be performing. Congratulations boys!

Parents, don't forget to send us your "atta boys" for the monthly newslet- ter. In this column we highlight the achievements of CBC choristers outside of the choir - in scouts, school, sports, etc. Send the via email to Dawn Oakes (doakes@cbchior.org) by the 20th of each month to be included in the following month's newsletter. If you miss the deadline, don't worry - we'll put it in the next newsletter!

ATTA BOY!

It's time to Go Nuts for the Chattanooga Boys Choir! The annual Pecan & Nut Sale has officially begun! This is the single most important for the CBC, raising nearly 30% of its total operating budget. The success of this campaign is the reason that tuition rates have

NUTS!

remained the same for six years! Inside your 2008-2009 CBC handbook you'll find all of the details about the sale, incentives, and all

the forms you need. Additional brochures and forms are available in the office and they can also be downloaded from the Members section of the CBC website. See the sidebar for the important highlights that you should know.

We know that there are many organizations for which you are selling items during the fall. We hope that this program is unique and easy for you. The CBC has been selling pecans for **over four decades**, and many people are just waiting to be asked! The nuts are perfect for baking, make great gifts for friends and co-workers and freeze very well.

Both Concert and Handel Choir members will be receiving tuxedo performance attire including pants, shirt and shoes. This performance attire will be worn for the performance on September 12. In order for your cho-

WARDROBE

rister to receive his clothing in time, the \$60 wardrobe and music deposit must be turned in by September 9th. If the office has not received the deposit by this date, you will be responsible for finding your own tuxedo

attire for the September 12 performance. \$50 of the deposit will be refunded at the end of the year upon return of all wardrobe attire **and** music.

The Chattanooga Boys Choir is once again participating in the Bi-Lo Booster Plus and Food Lion Shop & Share programs. Both of these grocery stores donate a portion of your grocery bill to organizations in the Chattanooga community that you designate. It is a simple way

GROCERY PROGRAM

to help the Chattanooga Boys Choir by simply doing what you already do - grocery shop! To participate, follow these simple steps:

Food Lion: fill out the form found in your handbook and turn it in. We have plenty in the office for you to give to friends and family to fill out.

Bi-Lo: When you go to the grocery store, take the form with you to the cashier **once**. They will scan it for you and the Chattanooga Boys Choir will be your designated agency for one year or until you change it. You are able to have up to three designated agencies.

It's Time To Go Nuts!

- Preorders are due October 28
- All families are required to sell 48 bags by the preorder date
- Turn in orders *each week* by summarizing your order on a Quick Nut Order Form
- Money must be turned in with orders
- Incentive prizes are based on sales through October 28 and will be announced at the SCT dress rehearsal
- Nuts will arrive around the first week of November
- Plenty extra nuts are ordered - people tend to ask for more once you start delivering

LOOK!



Mozart Choreography Rehearsal
Saturday, November 1
10:00am-12:00pm
Brainerd UMC

CALENDAR

Happy Birthday!

August Birthdays

Grant Heitmuller	1
Reed Coulter	7
Zadarius Williams	9
Christian Craig	13
Ryan Crisp	23
Wyatt Bilbra	31

September Birthdays

Tyler Giuliani	2
Tristan Benedict	3
Nate Oliver	3
Andrew Randall	4
Jamie Matherley	8
Braxton Tracy	15
Hunter Almy	14
Chad Henderson	14
Jared Foshee	15
Xan Tobias	24
Michael Mayhew	25
Christopher Duncan	27
Ben Higley	28
Florian Kirschenbauer	28
Henry Hooks	29
Travis Lytle	30
Will Turner	

September

1	Labor Day - No Rehearsals
7	Handel & Concert Choirs Rehearsal - 2:30-5:00pm
9	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:45-8:30pm
12	NASAA Performance, Concert & Handel, 8:00am call time Chattanooga Trade & Convention Center
16	Cantabile Rehearsal - 5:15-7:15pm
23	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:45-8:30pm

October

4	Barbershop Harmony Convention Performance Concert & Handel Choirs - Details TBA
13-14	Fall Break - No Treble Rehearsals
14	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:45-8:30pm
17	SCT program book ads due
28	Nut Preorders due
28	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:45-8:30pm

November

1	Mozart Choreography Rehearsal - 10am-12pm (BUMC)
3	Parent Meeting - 5:00pm
4	Parent Meeting - 5:30pm
4	Cantabile Rehearsal - 5:15-7:15pm
11	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:45-8:30pm
18	Cantabile Rehearsal - 6:45-8:30pm
25	Thanksgiving Break - No Rehearsals

OFFICE HOURS

Monday	2:00-7:00pm
Tuesday	2:00-7:00pm
Wednesday	2:00-5:00pm
Thursday	2:00-5:00pm
Friday	Office Closed

CHATTANOOGA BOYS CHOIR

Vincent Oakes.....	Executive / Artistic Director
Judy Brittingham	Mozart / Schubert Director
Cynda Holmes	Mozart / Schubert Director
Kristen Wiram	Handel / Concert Assistant Director
Merry Lee Wilson.....	Accompanist
Mark Laster	Rehearsal Accompanist
Dawn Oakes	Administrative Director
Azusa Dance.....	Operations Manager

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www.chattanoogaiboychoir.org