

## THE *Director's* NOTE



During the holiday season, I had the opportunity to do some baking in the kitchen. Baking during the holidays is always such a treat for me: mixing, chilling, kneading, forming the dough...

Two types of recipes satisfy my need to create. There are those that I repeat year after year because they are too good to leave out, and there are the new experiments I attempt simply because I want my taste buds to have a new adventure (with hopes that I will discover something amazing)!

CCM has been busy in the musical kitchen lately, too. Many of you have tasted and observed the hearty diet of musical knowledge that young choristers receive twice a week when you visited CCM's Open House in October. And who can forget the Concert Choir's amazing performance of a familiar holiday set, Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, at the Holiday Concert on December 3!

So what about the new recipes we've experimented with? A group of thirty parents and students took a 10-day adventure in July to Vienna, Salzburg, and Prague. In October of this year, the Concert Choir went to Pennsylvania for a day of delicacies. We experienced a drum circle, vocal improvisation, and coaching from composer Stephen Hatfield at Hatfield Day! Just a few weeks ago, a group of twenty students took on the challenge of performing with Eileen Ivers, a seven-time Irish Fiddling champion and star of the original *Riverdance*. And of course there is the exciting new satellite program in Laurel, Maryland, developing under the leadership of current staff member, Caroline Desmond.

And it doesn't end here! Check out the menu for the upcoming months:

- Spring Concert: *Sonnets of the Earth*
- Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* with Baltimore Choral Arts Society
- MUSIK Workshop for area music educators
- Tour to Hawaii in July 2008

The next few months promise to be delicious; I hope you will be able to enjoy them with us!

Bon Appetit!

Mairce Pantz

## CCM LOOKS AHEAD...

**NO REHEARSAL – SPRING BREAK  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 17**

CLASSES RESUME WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

**CARMINA BURANA REHEARSAL**

Starts April 2; see page 5 for full information.

**NO REHEARSAL**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 7**

**PERFORMANCE FOR ROTO-ROOTER  
FRANCHISEE ASSOC. NAT'L CONVN.**

DATE: Tuesday, April 17

TIME: 5-8:30pm

WHO: Concert Choir

WHERE: Corinthian Room, Tremont Hotel,  
222 Saint Paul Place, Baltimore

**\*\*SPRING CONCERT**

**GRAND REHEARSAL #1**

DATE: Wednesday, April 25

TIME: TBA

WHO: All Students

WHERE: Towson University Center for the  
Arts, Towson University (Corner of  
Cross Campus Drive and Osler Drive)

**\*\*SPRING CONCERT**

**GRAND REHEARSAL #2 & AWARDS**

DATE: Saturday, April 28

TIME: TBA

WHO: All Students

WHERE: St. Timothy Lutheran Church

**\*\*31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT**

DATE: Sunday, April 29

CALL TIME: TBA

CONCERT: 3pm

WHO: All Students

WHERE: Towson U. Center for the Arts

**CARMINA BURANA WITH BCAS**

DATE: Sunday, May 6

TIME: 7pm

WHO: Select CCM students (see page 5)

WHERE: Meyerhoff, Baltimore

**MUSIK WORKSHOP FOR KODALY  
MUSIC EDUCATORS**

DATE: Saturday, May 12

TIME: TBA

WHO: Lyric & Concert Choir Students

WHERE: Trinity Episcopal Church,  
120 Allegheny Ave, Towson

**\*\*DENOTES MANDATORY EVENT**



On July 15, 2008, CCM will embark on a 9-day excursion to Hawaii.

What makes this festival experience unique? CCM Choristers will:

- Sing authentic ethnic choral literature from Pacific Rim countries
- Learn Polynesian dances with native instructors
- Practice text and language with native speakers
- Discover musical instruments and dance implements from Polynesia
- Observe ethnic music and dance performances of Pacific Rim cultures
- Stay at the luxurious Turtle Bay Resort on the north shore of O'ahu
- Perform at 2 major Hawaii Concert venues
- Interact with Children's Choruses from Hawaii and Pacific Rim countries

We hope you will make plans now to join us for this exciting trip!



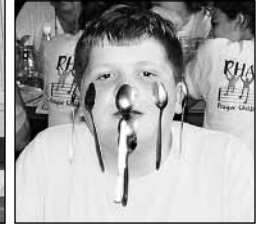
#### LET THE WORLD REJOICE!

Scenes from before and during CCM's December concert.



#### COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE

- Bios of our 2007 Graduates...
- ...and coverage of CCM's exciting spring performances!



## ON THE GRAND TOUR

Artists, they say, must learn to “suffer for their art.” And last summer’s European tour sure taught CCM’s Traveling Choir the meaning of suffering! The long airport waits...the tiny hotel rooms and noisy late-night corridor parties...the long rehearsals, in a freak heat wave that sent temperatures soaring to almost Baltimore-worthy heights...the sore feet, after hours spent exploring yet another picturesque castle or cathedral.

Here’s a secret, though: everybody had a fabulous time!

The tour, organized by Classical Movements, Inc., sent 17 Maryland choristers, plus teachers and family members, to Vienna, Salzburg and Prague from June 29 to July 10. The reason for the trip was Rhapsody, an international festival of youth choirs—an amazing chance for our singers to meet their peers from around the world. The groups traveled separately, but joined forces for meals, rehearsals and performances; the CCMers mentored the young singers from Hong Kong’s Chinese Whispers, serenaded Ontario’s Oakville Children’s Choir with the Canadian national anthem (the Canadians returned the favor on the Fourth of July), and made fast friends with Harmonies, a choir of young Latinas from Los Angeles.

Highlights of the sojourn in Vienna included a master class, trips to the Hofburg and Schonbrunn palaces for a look at the lifestyles of the rich

and Hapsburg, and singing mass in St. Stephan’s cathedral. En route to Salzburg, the travelers visited Mondsee, where Joan Gregoryk, their tour conductor, led them in rehearsal in the famed wedding chapel from “The Sound of Music.” In Salzburg—whose citizens were celebrating the 250th birthday of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart—the choruses performed their first concert, at St. Andra Church.

The first stop in the Czech republic was the beautifully preserved medieval burg of Cesky Krumlov. Then on to hip and historic Prague for gala concerts at Sts. Simon and Judah Church (Mozart played here, too) and Smetana Hall, and mass at Tyn Church, a Gothic wonder. The group also took in one of Prague’s black-light theatres, and shopped-til-they-dropped at the craft booths on Charles Bridge.

As for parents, they used rehearsal time for some serious sightseeing, or perhaps the hunt for the perfect sachertorte.

Every participant has a list of favorite moments. But I think all will agree that a major element of the trip was the friendships made—and strengthened. Travel is bonding, whether suffering through a heat wave together, or raising voices in joyful, impromptu song on a Viennese sidewalk. Is there any wonder that everyone is looking forward to CCM’s next trip: Hawaii?! (See sidebar at left for details.)

—Lynn Jensen, CCM Parent

# RESTING ON OUR LAURELS (NOT!)

For over 30 years, Children's Chorus of Maryland (CCM) has successfully provided the greater Baltimore area community with superior quality choral music education and performance opportunities for children. Embraced throughout the world, the models upon which the CCM curriculum is based have proven, both by research and by application, to produce better results than other approaches to choral music education. As a result, CCM has developed choirs with a higher level of music functioning than most. CCM choirs are known for their outstanding performances of musical sophistication, range of expressiveness, diversity of style, accuracy of musical interpretation and dynamic richness and beauty of tone. They are even better known for their ability to read music fluently, without the assistance of a piano or other instrument. The music theory, sightsinging, eartraining, and other education that CCM students receive is second to none.



It has been a long-term goal of Children's Chorus of Maryland to expand the reach and effectiveness of its program and to offer the benefits of its curriculum and experience to children in other regions of Maryland. After having served many hundreds of families and children over the past thirty years, CCM is ready now to implement a music education and performance program following CCM's model in a central Prince George's County location. In addition to serving children in Prince George's County, this program will also enable children from Washington, DC, Anne Arundel County, and Howard County to have more convenient access to a source of enriched choral music education.

Last year, with the invaluable support of Congressman Steny Hoyer and CCM Advisory Board members Jack and Tim Lyon, CCM received federal funding through the United States Department of Education for the start-up phase of this new project. CCM is now actively pursuing further funding to provide the full staffing, offices, classrooms, rehearsal space, performance facilities, equipment, supplies, marketing, recruiting and teacher training necessary to implement a comprehensive program of this scope. In the meantime, CCM is launching an initial version of the program in Laurel starting in January, 2007. Caroline Desmond, CCM's Laurel Program Music Director, will teach one class, and Liliya Lyon, CCM's Laurel Program Early Childhood Music Specialist, will teach one class. With adequate funding, the Laurel Program will expand to encompass 10 graded levels of formal instruction and 3 levels of Early Childhood Music Program classes.

—Ramona Galey, General Director

## CCM Satellite Choir Begins!

Your friendly teachers at CCM use a strategy for music education. This method begins by planting the seeds of learning a concept by repetition, awareness and discovery. Once these seeds have taken root, and the student becomes aware that there is "something new," a definition and name is given. After this, repetition helps to firmly plant the concept, and learning has occurred. Among your teachers, this process is simply referred to as the "3 P's": Prepare, Present, Practice.

The unwittingly talented staff of CCM has taken this method and applied it to their newest project—a satellite choir in Laurel! After many months, 2007 will begin to see the blooms of a project long in cultivation.

### PREPARATION

In 2005, the staff of CCM determined that Laurel would be a prime location for a new branch of the choir. Laurel's proximity to three counties in Maryland allows for students from many different areas to attend rehearsals.

Amy Schacht, Pastor at Laurel Presbyterian Church was more than happy to allow CCM to use the building for rehearsal space. This large church was very attractive to the staff, as it was close to I-95, and had plenty of classrooms. CCM found the staff at LPC to be very helpful, gracious, kind, and as excited as we were to see the start of the choir!

After a visit in the winter of 2006, I quickly saw an organization I wanted to be a part of: one that raises the bar for music education, treats young students with respect and love, and challenges each individual to be the best musician possible. Of course, this organization was Children's Chorus of Maryland! I was very excited to come on board as the Laurel Program Director in August of 2006.

The CCM office worked hard at organizing contacts and mailing information to these new parts of Maryland on top of the many duties that needed to be performed to keep the Timonium program running smoothly. Wow!

*continued on next page*

# Meet CCM's Staff



## Ramona Galey

General Director **CCM Tenure** 2000 – present **Professional Training** B.M. in Music Education from Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, M.M. in Orchestral Performance from Rice University, Masters Certificate in Leadership in Nonprofit Management **Favorite folk**

**songs** "Greensleeves", "Tom Dooley", "Motherless Child" **Favorite composers** Bach, Vivaldi, Mahler, Copland, Walker, Bertaux **Favorite books** Jack Whyte's *Camulod Chronicles* series; Janet Evanovitch's *Stephanie Plum* series; *The Beekeeper's Apprentice* & *A Monstrous Regiment of Women*, by Laurie R. King; the *Outlander* series by Diana Gabaldon.



## Patti Amato

Accompanist **CCM Tenure** 1981-87 accompanist, 1987-88 Interim co-conductor/director of CCM, 1988-89 accompanist, 2002 – present **Professional Training** BMusEd with piano minor from Catholic University of America, MM in Piano Chamber Music/Accompanying from University of

Houston, Certificate in Lieder/Chamber Music: AIMS, Graz, Austria; Certificate in Opera/Chamber Music: AIMS, Graz, Austria; Post-grad piano study with Marilyn Neeley at UMBC/CUA **Favorite folk songs** "Clouds", "Mockingbird", "Puff the Magic Dragon" **Favorite composer** Johannes Brahms **Favorite books** From childhood, *Charlotte's Web* and of recent times, Ann Perry's historical murder mysteries.



## Andrea Burgoyne

Concert Manager **CCM Tenure** This is our 13th year as a CCM family, and my first as an employee **Professional Training** BA in Vocal Performance from Towson U (student of Ruth Drucker). Piano training at Peabody Prep. **Favorite folk songs** "The Water is Wide,"

"Come All Ye Fair and Tender Ladies," "Buttermilk Hill" (Johnny's Gone for a Soldier) **Favorite composers** That's too hard! Bach, of course; Brahms, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Prokofiev (and a bunch of other people!) **Favorite books** *The Shelter of Each Other* by Mary Pipher; *Einstein's Dreams* by Alan Lightman; *The White Hotel* by D.M. Thomas; anything Dave Barry writes.



## Martha Talbott

Office Assistant **CCM Tenure** 2003 - present **Professional Training** BA in Business Administration **Favorite folk songs** "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" & "Barb'ry Ellen" **Favorite composer** George Gershwin **Favorite book** A good mystery! **Favorite**

**authors** Anne Perry and Ruth Rendall.

## KIDS TAKE FLIGHT...WITH CCM

Do you know a child who soars with music?

...wants to develop his voice? ...is looking for friends who love music, too? ...would be delighted to perform with orchestras, on tours, and other local performing organizations? CCM is the place! Contact us today for more information: 410-494-1480 or [www.ccmsings.org](http://www.ccmsings.org). **Enrollment for the 2007-2008 Season begins March 1, 2007.** Come sing with us!



**SING OUT** A CCM chorister during the December concert.



**READY TO SING!** Treble Choir members in a Saturday group practice.

## LAUREL PROGRAM

*continued from previous page*

### PRESENTATION

After joining the CCM staff in September, we began cultivating the small seeds that had been planted in Laurel over the past months. With the enormous help of Betty, Mairee, and Martha, contacts were made, posters were displayed, letters were mailed, and schools were visited. It was exciting to tell members of the Laurel community about the wonderful opportunity that would be coming their way.

In November, a Parent Information Night was held at Laurel Presbyterian. Betty, Ramona, Lilliya and I spoke about the program which would be beginning in January. Excitement was in the air and eagerness could be seen on the faces of students, parents, and all of the CCM staff!

### PRACTICE

After many hours of work and organization, we are looking forward to a wonderful beginning in January. The program will begin with two classes, one choir, and an Early Childhood program. An Early Childhood program for musicians aged 3-5 will be held on Saturdays, while I will teach Beginner I and Intermediate I on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The first concert is planned for early May. Check back soon on the Laurel page of CCM's website for more details!

As the Laurel program begins to grow, you can help nurture this little sapling by spreading the word to interested singers nearby!

—Caroline Desmond,  
Laurel Program Director



**HARD WORK LEADS TO GREAT SOUND**  
Lyric Choir members in performance.

# NEW TO CCM THIS YEAR

Thank you for the great welcome we've had to CCM this year. We are fortunate to be here, from Annapolis.

My daughter's school music teacher recommended CCM. Emma-Rae handed me the card with enthusiasm and tales of singing at Disney World and at the White House. Her spirit was catching, and I was excited.



**ALL THE WAY FROM ANNAPOLIS** New Treble Choir member Emma-Rae Pyle (L) with her mother, Holly.

Then I found out CCM was in Timonium. "No," I stated firmly.

Next, her classroom teacher spoke to me of Emma-Rae's love for singing. Auditions were now, and Emma-Rae was already loyal to CCM. So we came, and we haven't looked back.

Through each class, the spirit of the teachers transfers to my daughter. She skips out of class energized, often holding a classmate's hand. Smiles matching. In the car, she beautifully sings the songs she's learned already, and I know, "This is why it's worth the drive."

My seven-year-old says it best, "I really love chorus. I want to stay in chorus as long as I can. And I'll make sure I take my children here if they really want to sing. I absolutely love it."

—Holly Burgess Pyle, CCM Parent

## BE PART OF CARMINA BURANA!

Below is the full schedule of rehearsals for Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, which is being performed in May by the Baltimore Choral Arts Society along with select CCM and Peabody Children's Chorus students. (Information as to how to be considered for this project will come shortly.)

### CARMINA BURANA REHEARSALS

DATES: Monday, April 2; Monday, April 9; Monday, April 16  
 TIME: 6-8pm  
 WHERE: St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 100 E. Timonium Road, Timonium

### CARMINA BURANA REHEARSAL

DATE: Monday, April 21  
 TIME: 1:30-2:30pm  
 WHERE: St. Timothy Lutheran Church

### CARMINA BURANA REHEARSAL

DATE: Monday, May 2  
 TIME: 6-8pm  
 WHERE: St. Timothy Lutheran Church

### CARMINA BURANA REHEARSAL

DATE: Saturday, May 5  
 TIME: 7-8pm  
 WHERE: Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, 1212 Ca

### CARMINA BURANA REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE

DATE: Sunday, May 6  
 TIME: Rehearsal 3-5pm  
 CALL TIME: TBA  
 PERFORMANCE: 8pm  
 WHERE: Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall



From the 11th-13th Century *Carmina Burana*, a collection of love and vagabond songs.

# Birthdays

## JANUARY

- 11 Ellen Nikirk
- 20 Daniel Bertaux
- 22 Christopher Plimpton
- 27 Renee Bertaux
- 29 Kaitlyn McCoach
- 30 Amna Hashmi

## FEBRUARY

- 2 Nickolas Epps
- 10 Emma-Rae Pyle
- 20 Jamila Purnell

## MARCH

- 1 Christina Gary
- 5 Shaelyn Rhinehart
- 22 Louise Sutter
- 27 Rachel Williamson

## APRIL

- 2 Emily Franklin
- 4 Olivia Hurley
- 7 Jenna Williams
- 8 Bridget Kajs
- 10 Claire Mueller
- 11 Kayla Johnson
- 13 Zinna Moore
- 17 Julia Scheinberg
- 19 Maria Morozov
- 21 Kendall McCoach
- 23 Danya Adams
- 30 Emma Popp

## MAY

- 7 Alyssa Ince
- 13 Elana Bell
- 15 Ariona Mayo
- 21 Spencer Allen
- 22 Alicia Carcerano
- 23 Danielle Farmer
- 27 Samuel Bishop



# HATS OFF TO HATFIELD

## CCM Choristers Attend Stephen Hatfield Day

On October 21st, 200 youthful voices filled Central Bucks High School with energy as they sang, "Run, children, run!" Conducted by the composer, Stephen Hatfield, this final piece was the culmination of an exciting day of music making. The day-long festival was sponsored by the Bel Canto Children's Chorus, based in Red Hill, PA, and hosted by the Central Bucks High School West choral department. The festival was intended to provide opportunities for children's choirs to enjoy musical experiences that are typically not possible in their weekly choir rehearsals. CCM joined the Princeton Girlchoir, the Pennsylvania Girlchoir, and the Bel Canto choirs for the event. The Central Bucks High School -West Chamber Choir, directed

by Dr. Joseph Ohrt, joined the combined choirs for the final concert.

Each choir experienced three dynamic clinicians—jazz vocal improvisation with jazz pianist Skip Wilkins, drumming with Lehigh Valley Drum Circle's Moe Jerant, and the original compositions of Stephen Hatfield. Hatfield, a Canadian composer, conductor, clinician, dynamic workshop leader, and lecturer specializing in choral music, writes many works specifically for

youth choirs. Participating director Betty Bertaux said, "The session with Stephen was quite special...[he was]...kind, demanding, and natural."

To close the day, each choir performed a selection under the direction of their own director, followed by Hatfield conducting each choir on one of his compositions. All the choirs combined to perform the final Hatfield selection, "Run, Children, Run!"

—Joy Hirokawa, Artistic Director  
Bel Canto Children's Chorus



**MAKIN' NEW FRIENDS AND KEEPIN' THE OLD** CCM Hatfield Day participants socialize with their counterparts from New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

*Newsletter design by Kathrine Forster Kuo, Rebecca's mom*



100 EAST PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE  
SUITE 202  
TOWSON, MD 21286