



# Get Ready to Sing, Starting Monday!

## Christmas in August

It's always kind of hard to consider Christmas songs during the hot, sticky dog days of August, but that's when it all begins, for the singers, that is. Summer was not yet under way when our Director, Bob Burnett, completed framing out the concert plans for fall and spring had hardly peaked when our Board established the primary concert venues. Our Accompanist, Brittany Bache, has had a lot of new music to learn over the summer, as well as some favorites to refresh. It is probably safe to say that the expression 'seasonal music' has different meanings for different listeners. But, for all of us, whenever we listen to it or sing it, holiday music is nostalgic, powerful, whimsical, and evokes happy and meaningful times. From the "Gloria Fanfare" of Michael Cox to "Santa's Going on a Diet", the Chorale's fall season is full of musical surprises, laughs and beauty. Peter Schickley (of 'P.D.Q. Bach' fame), Giancarlo Menotti, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Jester Hairston, John Rutter and many other composers offer distinctly different perspectives to this favorite music genre, and the result will be lively and wonderful.

The fall season moves very quickly, as we all tend to suddenly realize sometime in October. It's time to get it started now. The Chorale's Adult Chorus will begin rehearsing on Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm, with the Youth Chorus starting on September 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 pm. All rehearsals will be held each Monday evening at Open Door Baptist Church (754 Germanna Hwy - that's Rt. 3 - in Culpeper: about a half mile before Rt. 3 crosses Rt. 29).

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## CHORALE NOTES Winter, 2016



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### *BRC's 2016 Winter Events and Performances*

First Practice: August 29<sup>th</sup>,  
6:30pm – 8:30pm, Monday

Private concert for residents at  
Dogwood Village on Monday,  
November 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Concert: Prince Michel on Friday,  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm

Concert: State Theatre, Culpeper.  
Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm

Our concerts will be offered on the first weekend of December at Prince Michel Vineyard in Madison, and the State Theatre in Culpeper. We'll also sing at Dogwood Village in Orange County, and we may add one to two more performances.

Looking back at our joyful, relaxed, funny and oh-so-musical Irving Berlin concert last

Spring, and given the wonderful variety our Christmas season holds, it will be a stellar season for the Chorale, and great fun to join in! New and returning singers are all welcome. Come see what we are all about, and bring a friend!

For more information call 540-219-8837 or email [info@brcsings.com](mailto:info@brcsings.com).

*Did You Know That... In 1941, Bing Crosby sang the first live performance of Irving Berlin's classic Christmas song, "White Christmas"? The following year, when he recorded the song for the first time, it took him only 18 minutes. That recording went on to be the best selling single of all time, according to the Guinness Book of World Records, selling over fifty million copies.*



**Singing "White Christmas w/the youth chorale. Under the direction of Cathy ter Weele – Director of Youth Chorale.**



**Choristers**



## Directors Corner – Bob Burnett

The concert for the winter season is entitled “Sing Gloria Sing”. The program will contain both sacred and secular music with everything from a Christmas Cantata to Leroy Anderson’s “Sleigh Ride” to our audience Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long. We will end the concert with our traditional favorite by John Ritter “We Wish You a Merry Christmas”.

We would like to invite you to join The Blue Ridge Chorale and be part of “Sing Gloria Sing”! Our first rehearsal will be Monday, August 29 at 6:30pm at the Open Bible Baptist Church at 754 Germanna Highway. Hope to see you there.



## Note from the President – Patti Christie



Hello All,

Well here we are again getting ready for a new season. As always, this one too brings great music that our director has chosen, music on which we can reflect and with which we can have lots of fun. Peggy and I went to a short but interesting presentation geared toward nonprofit organizations. There were about 25 different representatives, such as those from the medical help groups, animal help groups, even a save the ferret group. Initially I thought, “We are here because we are nonprofit, but we don’t fit the profile of most of these others. We aren’t a hands on fix you, give you food, take you in type of organization, so how do we affect our communities?”

My answer: We individually and collectively are a value to our communities giving of ourselves by making joyful music for your heart; music to make you remember, to make you laugh, maybe to make you cry, to help you just relax for an hour or so and forget all your daily worries. Of course on top of that, each season we learn more about singing, choral presentations, new music and meet so many delightful others with diverse but same interests. So I would say we have the best of both worlds learning and sharing what we love to do with others. Tell the people you know, that you are proud to be a part of our little group and encourage them to join us. Come to hear us and support the arts.

I am looking forward to a fun season.

Patti

# Look how much fun we had last season!



**Director Bob Burnett Strutting his Stuff**



**Director Bob Burnett dancing to  
"Puttin' on the Ritz"**



**Dressed for an Easter Parade**

**Claire Thomas & Jeremiah  
Aida from the Marie School  
of Ballet. Dancing to  
"Puttin' on the Ritz".**



# Our Soloists



**Martha Smith singing "Doin' What Comes Natur'ly"**



**Althea Schottman & Fred Schottman singing "Always"**



**Wanda Osborn singing "I Got the Sun in the Morning"**



**Jerry Baker singing "Say It Isn't So"**

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**Chorale Notes** is the newsletter of the Blue Ridge Chorale, your community chorale. Email [info@brcsings.com](mailto:info@brcsings.com). Website [www.brscings.com](http://www.brscings.com). Will you donate to the Chorale? See how at our website, or mail a check to Blue Ridge Chorale, PO Box 1871, Culpeper, VA 22727. We're a non-affiliated 501(C)3.



**Jodi Stone singing “What’ll I Do”**



**Mary Schreiner & Rachel Cieplak  
Singing “Sisters”**



**Lisa Zinn singing  
“Give Me Your Poor”**



**Debbie Gilbert playing for “Count  
Your Blessings Instead of Sheep”**

**Come *Join Us* This Season!**

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