

Fall 2007



# High Notes!

a publication of the Iowa Youth Chorus



IOWA YOUTH  
CHORUS

*Raising Iowa's Finest Voices*

## Youth Chorale impresses the UK

Our international touring choir, Youth Chorale, spent an unforgettable week in the United Kingdom in July taking in the sights and performing at several prestigious venues. In addition they further enhanced IYC's international reputation by competing at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales, where they were the highest scoring mixed choir in their division. Overall the tour was a richly rewarding experience.

The tour started with sightseeing in London and a performance at Southwark Cathedral. Choristers visited Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London and took a trip on the London Eye. On the way to Wales they stopped at Stratford on Avon (home of William Shakespeare) and performed at Trinity Church. At the Eisteddfod in Wales they represented their country well marching in the opening parade and competing on the pavilion stage. Then

it was on to Scotland with a performance at Stirling Castle and St. Giles Cathedral ... Continued on page 2



Youth Chorale performs at Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales.

## IYC establishes new early childhood music education program



In an extension of our mission Iowa Youth Chorus has established **Beginnings**, an early childhood music education program located at St. Mark Lutheran Church at 12th and Grand in West Des Moines. We chose to extend our mission by

acquiring the equipment, lease and customer list of the former Music and Movement Center. In order to maintain quality and continuity we also hired their highly qualified and experienced teachers, Barb Klubal, Natalie Steenson and Lori Lindberg.

**Beginnings** will continue to combine the curricula of Kindermusik and Musikgarten. We believe this combination offers the best balance of learning and enjoyment. Classes are offered for children from birth through age 8 and seek to develop musical skill with age appropriate movement activities and musical expression. With the addition of **Beginnings** IYC offers musical education for children from birth through childhood.

## Indianola is home for our newest Children's Chorus

Indianola hosts two of Iowa's premier singing establishments, the Des Moines Metro Opera and Simpson College. Now there are 3, as the Iowa Youth Chorus has established a Children's Chorus rehearsal location there. 13 singers between the ages of 8 and 12 have been rehearsing in the Amy Robertson Music Center since September under the direction of Jane Johnson, our Newton Outreach Choir Director. The choir has drawn children from Indianola and surrounding communities

## Upcoming Events

- November 17:** Youth Chorale girls and Chorale perform with the Moscow Ballet at Ames City Auditorium 7:30 PM
- December 1:** Candy Cane Concert, All choirs perform, Valley Free Evangelical Church, West Des Moines, 4 PM
- December 9:** Chorale, Children's Chorus and Primary Choir perform at DMACC Ankeny campus, 2 PM
- December 9:** Youth Chorale, Chorale and Girl's and Boy's Chorus perform at the Botanical Center, 4 PM
- December 12:** Youth Chorale will perform at St. John's Lutheran Church Noon Recital series in Des Moines

## Letter from our Board President, Gary Mathems

Your Iowa Youth Chorus has been incredibly busy since last spring. Youth Chorale toured the UK, Chorale toured to St Louis and we had another successful Musical Madness Summer Camp. The news doesn't stop there, in fact far from it. Over the summer we moved to a new west side rehearsal location. Covenant Presbyterian Church in West Des Moines kindly offered the use of their space. IYC also decided to expand by opening a rehearsal location in Indianola under the able direction of Jane Johnson (conductor of our Newton Outreach Choir). The choirs also recorded a CD after last April's *SpringSing!* This excellent CD is now available for purchase and to donors.

But the news doesn't stop there. During the summer the opportunity arose to expand our mission into early childhood music education. The result was born ***Iowa Youth Chorus Beginnings***. We now offer music education activities for children from birth through childhood to college age.

Join me in thanking Kristen and Steve and all IYC's conductors and accompanists for their tireless efforts. Their efforts are paying off in yet higher enrollment and a higher profile for IYC in the central Iowa arts community.

The one thing that never changes is the need for community generosity. Tuition covers about half of IYC's operating costs. We are fortunate to receive grants from the Iowa Arts Council, Bravo and other organizations, but we count on individual donations. Our growth has been fueled by your generosity. If you like what you're reading in this newsletter please consider making your tax deductible donation today. You can even choose to receive our latest CD for your kindness.



**Youth Chorale at Buckingham Palace**

### **Youth Chorale in the UK cont'd from pg 1.**

In addition they took in some of the sights of Edinburgh, including the Elephant House, the coffee shop where J.K. Rowling wrote the first of the Harry Potter books. Some of our boys took the opportunity to pronounce themselves honorary Scots and purchased kilts, and, of course, most of our choristers left the UK with suitcases bulging with souvenirs and keepsakes.

### **Chorale enjoys choir exchange with Kirkwood Missouri Children's Chorale**

Chorale also had the pleasure of a summer tour, a choir exchange with the Kirkwood Children's Chorale of Kirkwood, Missouri. Over a long weekend in June Chorale performed at Six Flags and at the Kirkwood United Methodist Church. Kristen

### **Covenant Presbyterian Church welcomes IYC**

Iowa Youth Chorus had rehearsed at the Walnut Hills United Methodist Church for many years. Over the summer IYC found a new west side rehearsal location. Covenant Presbyterian Church was happy to invite IYC to establish themselves at their location at 28th and Ashworth streets in West Des Moines.

Tuesday's are a busy night at Covenant Presbyterian with rehearsals by our Primary Choir, West Children's Chorus and Youth Chorale. IYC's Artistic Director, Kristen Stanton, had this to say about the facilities at Covenant, "The church has been very accomodating to our needs and we hope to have a long relationship with them." Youth Chorale will perform at Covenant's Sunday service on November 11.

Stanton called them, "an exceptional group of young ambassadors who represented us well in every way." She also noted that they seemed to especially enjoy the home stays.



**Chorale performs at Kirkwood UMC**

# Views of our Lion King summer camp at the Temple for the Performing Arts

**Summer Fun!  
The Lion King**



## Pasta Dinner and bake sale at St. Theresa's

Good food and great music were in abundance Saturday October 20th at St. Theresa's Catholic Church. All our choirs performed at the event sponsored by our Board of Directors and the Iowa Youth Chorus Parent's Organization. The funds raised will assist in providing chorister tour scholarships and general operating funds. A number of organizations generously donated food and/or merchandise as part of the effort (kudos to the five Hy-Vee stores that helped out). In addition choristers were asked to bring baked goods to sell in the bake sale. The final numbers indicate that this event raised about twice as much as last year.

## Personal Accomplishments!

A hearty congratulations to **Emma Negrete** who won the Sprouts Division of the **Bill Riley Talent Contest** at this year's Iowa State Fair.

**Selected to Direct the 5th and 6th grade Opus Honor Choir:** our own Artistic/Executive Director, Kristen Stanton

**Selected for All State:** Jacob Barker, Tom Chandler, and Anne Rueve

**Selected for Opus:** Joe Biegger, Cecilia Shutt and Laura Swartz

**Performed with the Des Moines Metro Opera:** Josiah Appell

**Selected for Kathryn Houser and Barry and Michele Griswell scholarships:** Jacob Barker and Anne Rueve

## CD Release, *Silver Jubilee!*

We are proud to announce the release of a CD honoring our 25th Anniversary, Silver Jubilee. The CD was recorded at the Temple for the Performing Arts last April just after the *SpringSing!* It highlights all of our choirs including an all IYC mass choir. The CD includes the two works that Youth Chorale competed with in Llangollen, Wales, Eric Whitacre's *With a Lily in Your Hand* and Guido López-Gavilán's *El Guayaboso*.

The CD can be purchased for \$15 or is being made available as a premium to donors of \$50 or more (while supplies last). **Donors please note:** per IRS regulations, if you elect to receive the CD as a premium the tax deductible value of your donation will be reduced by \$15.



**To make a donation or order a CD please use this form:**

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Please accept my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and send me a CD (offer good while supplies last). I understand the tax deductibility of my donation will be reduced by \$15. Minimum donation \$50.

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Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ CD(s), payment of \$15 each is enclosed.

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Donors will receive an acknowledgment letter

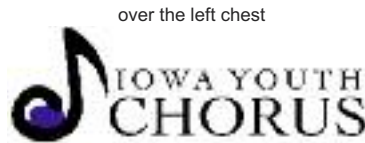
# Own a piece of your Iowa Youth Chorus

The Iowa Youth Chorus Parent's Organization (IYCPO) offers a wide variety of IYC branded merchandise. Proceeds from the sales of this merchandise supports tour scholarships (a very worthy cause).

## Also Available:

- Long-sleeved t-shirts** (children's sizes only) - \$5
- Decals (bumper sticker)** - \$3 each or 2 for \$5
- Luggage tags** - \$1
- Water bottles** - \$3
- Photo frames** - \$10
- Tote bags** - \$15

## What cool attire has these two exciting designs on it??



**Answer:** Iowa Youth Chorus hoodie sweatshirts

**Just \$25: available in Red, Navy or Gray in sizes from Youth Sm to Adult XXL**

To order any of this merchandise contact Steve Chandler at the IYC office at: 515-262-8312 ext. 10, email him at [stevechandler@iowayouthchorus.org](mailto:stevechandler@iowayouthchorus.org) or write to him at: 206 6th Ave, Suite 1015, Des Moines, IA 50309

## Alumni Corner

This will be a fun place where we'll dig out some old photographs so our alumni can reminisce. Have fun!



For the current IYC staff these photos are complete mysteries. Any information alumni can provide is greatly appreciated. We are always looking to connect with alumni and would love to bring them into our fold. If you know the whereabouts of anyone shown in the photos please contact the IYC office with an address and we'll happily mail them this newsletter.

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