



CHORISTER

Fall 2019

News From The Jefferson Choral Society

The President's Message

Dear JCS friends,

As summer fades and leaves begin to fall, I eagerly await the official beginning of our **30th anniversary season**. At 7:00 pm on Sept. 9th at Timberlake United Methodist Church, Aaron Garber's baton will drop and the sound of music will fill the sanctuary, reminding us of the pure pleasure of raising our voices in song. The Jefferson Choral Society's Board of Directors has an exciting season planned, and this fall newsletter is designed to give singers and our constituents the details of the exciting things to come. Please consider this your personal invitation to join in the fun of producing or enjoying "Not just classical music for some, but great music for all!" in the coming season.



Martha S. Coffey, President, Jefferson Choral Society Board of Directors

The JCS is governed by a Board of Directors. This board is made up of individuals who agree to serve three-year terms as directors, plus four officers who serve without term limits, all of whom act according to the Society's bylaws. Board members work closely with Director Aaron Garber, Accompanist Rose Peak and Business Manager Kim Downey, who has replaced former Business Manager Melissa Williams, to conduct the business of the society. The board meets four or five times throughout the season and in July held a special planning retreat during which time goals for the next five years were set. All regularly scheduled board meetings are open and may be attended by any interested individuals.

Meet the JCS Leadership Team

In addition to the officers and directors on the board, two leaders from each of the four voice parts serve as liaisons between the Board of Directors and choir members, checking singers in at

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Aaron Garber, Director

SHADES OF THINGS TO COME

JCS Music Director Aaron Garber does more than just prepare the choir to perform glorious music. In his spare time he also composes. Indeed, the centerpiece of this year's Christmas concert will be the performance of his setting of the Magnificat text, a piece with an interesting back story. According to a recent interview with composer Garber, his Magnificat, scored for full orchestra and soloists, was originally written for Mid-Atlantic Productions and was slated to be premiered by a choir at New York's famed Carnegie Hall. While that event met an impediment and had to be cancelled, the work was later premiered by the Jefferson Choral Society over ten years ago. Fortunately for current choir members and concertgoers in December, Aaron's Magnificat will be performed again, this time with a chamber orchestra and soprano soloist.

Maestro Garber is currently putting the finishing touches on his most ambitious composing project to date, his nearly two-hour opera *Romania: Revolution 1989*. This modern opera features twenty-four roles and is scored for full orchestra. In this work, Aaron recounts through song the events of the uprising in Romania that led to the overthrow of the country's tyrannical Communist leader, Nikolai Ceausescu. Fundraising for production costs for the December 15, 2019, world premiere of *Romania: Revolution 1989* is ongoing. (For additional information on this project, please see <http://www.amherstglebeartsresponse.org/opera.html>) The JCS is fortunate to be led by a musician who possesses both conducting and composing talents.

SEASON 2019-20 CONCERT DATES

Sat., Dec. 7, at 7:30 pm and Sun., Dec. 8 at 4:00 p.m. at Heritage UMC (combination of classical, traditional, and popular Christmas music.)

Sat., February 22, 2020 at 7:30 pm at the Academy Center of the Arts and rehearsal w/orchestra Sat. 10:00 am until noon (More Chart Toppers of the Past)

Sun., Apr. 26, 2020, at 4:00 pm at Heritage UMC (Mendelssohn's *Elijah*)

Singers will finish their season with the annual D-Day Concert at the National D-Day Memorial in May with traditional patriotic numbers and three new selections - *The Mansions of the Lord*, *The Stars and Stripes Forever*, and *American Anthem*.

Patrons can now purchase their tickets online at our website www.JeffersonChoralSociety.org including the Concierge Season Pass. Season passes are \$55.00 each and single tickets are \$20.00.

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rehearsals, distributing needed materials, providing attendance rosters for concert programs, and relaying any concerns of choir members to board members. These section leaders play a vital role in the life of the choir.

Jefferson Choral Society Board of Directors for 2019-20		
President	Martha S. Coffey	marthascoffey@gmail.com
Vice President	Connie Sowa	gracememorialconnie@gmail.com
Rec. Secretary	Linda Hawthorne	ljph48@aol.com
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Director	Dan McLaughlin	danpatmc@embarqmail.com
Director	Michael Logan	michael.logan@att.net
Director	Carolyn Prince	carnieart@aol.com
Director	Nona Puckett	Jdonapuckett@hotmail.com
Director	Ann Shepherd	revannshepherd@gmail.com
Dir. Emeritus	Myrna Blake	ownut5149@aol.com

Section Leaders (Great source for questions! Please check in with them each week!)

Soprano 1:	Cathy Montgomery, gracememorialcathy@yahoo.com
Soprano 2:	Connie Sowa, gracememorialconnie@gmail.com
Alto (A-0):	Beth Rinckel, mrinckel@aol.com
Alto (P-Z):	Carole Royer, cmroyer01@gmail.com
Tenor:	Bob Morriss, bobmorriss44n@gmail.com
Tenor:	Chuck Thomas, cbthomas@aol.com
Bass:	Kim Downey, kdowney300@aol.com
Bass:	Bill Hetzel, whetzel@jetbroadband.com

HOW WE KEEP SINGING WONDERFUL MUSIC

Annual Fundraisers

A **Holiday Craft Fair** is slated for **Saturday, November 9, 2019, from 9 am - 2 pm** at the Lakeside Dr. Moose Lodge. This event draws vendors from far and wide who purchase table space to display their wares for hundreds of buyers searching for the perfect gifts. In addition to money collected from vendors for table space rental, singers and other JCS friends donate handcrafted items, a variety of baked goods and frozen casseroles, and food for the concession stand to sell that day. The chairwoman of this event is JCS Treasurer Elsie Lemke, who is fond of reminding the choir that it takes 100% participation to organize and execute this major fundraising event.

An **Indoor Yard Sale** will be held on **Saturday, March 7, 2020, from 8 am - 1 pm** at the Lakeside Drive Moose Lodge. For this popular event, singers and other JCS friends, their families and neighbors donate their cast-offs for sale. (No item is either too large or too small to sell.) Many JCS folks collect items throughout the year in anticipation of this event. What better excuse to clean out closets, basements, garages and attics and turn those no-longer-needed items into cash for your favorite non-profit organization? Margie Wiedner has been trained by long-time chairwoman Carole Royer and takes the reins as this year's event chairwoman.

Business Advertisers for Concert Programs

At the beginning of each season, singers make a concerted effort to sell area businesses advertising space in our concert programs. Ads are offered at various price points and run the entire season. The purchase of these ads is a great way for businesses to attract new customers and show their support for quality choral music in Central Virginia. This season's ad sale will begin September 16 and run through October 28.

Kroger Rewards and Smile.Amazon

JCS singers, friends and families are encouraged to donate when they shop at Kroger and/or online at Smile.Amazon.

Five percent of eligible Kroger items purchased are donated back to JCS on a quarterly basis. With the holidays coming, now is a good time to make sure you are signed up through your rewards card or open a new account today by visiting the Kroger.com website. Sign in or create an account from the top right hand corner. Then go under "My Account," look over to the left side and select "Community Rewards." Here you can select or change your organization to Jefferson Choral Society (#LC273). Now every time you use your rewards card or punch in your alternate ID at the grocery store, you are contributing to JCS.



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For Amazon shoppers and Prime members, be sure to visit the Smile.Amazon.com site when you order, where 0.5% of purchases made are donated back to JCS quarterly. Log in or create an account and under "Accounts & Lists", click on "Your AmazonSmile" to select or change to JCS. Then you'll notice every time you visit your account on Smile.Amazon, right under the search bar, is "Supporting: Jefferson Choral Society."



Greater Lynchburg
Community Foundation



Chorister is a quarterly publication of the Jefferson Choral Society and sent via email to subscribers.

To be added to the Chorister email list, contact the JCS office through the email listed below.

jeffersonchoralsoc@gmail.com

Jefferson Choral Society is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Gifts can be made online through the website:

www.jeffersonchoralsociety.org