



Arizona Choral Arts Association Quarterly Newsletter.

News

Grayson Hirst, Conductor of the Sons of Orpheus called to bring awareness of the sale of the Benedictine Monastery. If your chorus has ever performed there you know

what an incredible place it is for intimate performances, and for recording. What would it be like to have that as a permanent location for Tucson Choruses? Imagine shared office space, shared performance/recording space, rooms for rehearsals or conference meetings, even rooms for housing a visiting choir. How could we find a way to reach the Historical Society and make use of this wonderful property instead of watching it be turned in to a boutique hotel or something else? We (ACAA) will be discussing this at our next meeting which is *Sunday, May 7 at 7 PM at Ascension Lutheran Church*. Please come and join us, we'd like to pool our resources for this.

Group Discussion from our last board meeting – How many concerts does your group typically do? Frank (Tucson Barbershop Society/Tucson Sunshine Chapter) mentioned they had about 4 concerts this year plus a contest. SAWC does 2 major ticketed concerts annually plus ~12+ outreach concerts. The Sons of Orpheus does one spring ticketed (twice), a fund raiser for the food bank, San Xavier with the Boys Chorus and other concerts as contracted.

Joint Chorus Festival - Who would be audience for ACAA performance? Our own choral audiences. Suggested we bring in a well-known director for mass choir. March was brought up as a good date. Frank thought Memorial Day at Udahl park would be better – sing patriotic songs. 5000+audience. We'll ask our respective choirs. Let's poll other choruses for 2018.

Summer Chorus

Rehearsals begin Monday June 5, 7-8:30 PM at Ascension Lutheran 1220 W Magee Rd. All are welcome. Concert July 28, our theme? "What's on the menu?"

New Members to ACAA

We welcome the Tucson Barbershop Society/Tucson Sunshine Chapter.

Featured Chorus -- Arizona Repertory Singers

As of the publication of this newsletter, we will have finished our 2016-2017 season, the premiere season with new music director Elliot Jones. Our December holiday concerts, *Radiant Dawn*, held at three venues, were a big success. "The choices of music, variety, and quality of the singing were gorgeous!" and "It just doesn't get any better than this!" are several comments from the audience survey.

Triumphs!, our spring series, highlighted music from *The Triumphs of Oriana*, a fascinating collection of madrigals from 1601 by the best composers of the time. New music was also featured, including a piece by Robert Convery, *The Beautiful Land of Nod*, first performed in 2016. ARS was also invited to perform two one-hour benefit concerts at Mission San Xavier, to support the conservation efforts of Patronato San Xavier.

To bring music to our community's young people, ARS has, for the third year, partnered with Act One. Act One engages students from Title 1 Schools in arts learning opportunities with field trips. We performed selections from our winter concerts in December and from our spring concerts in May, both at Berger Auditorium.

Want to know more about the Arizona Choral Arts Association? Check us out at www.azsings.org. Become a member and get involved with choral life in Tucson