

The Grapevine

It Really Grows on You!

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A Message from CC President Hannah Cowell

Welcome, Concert Choir, to a new year! I am so excited for all that God has planned for this group this year; I know that He has placed each one of you here for a reason, at this time and place, and that your presence has a specific purpose. I pray that each one of you is blessed, encouraged, and freshly challenged by your experience, and that we will continually grow together in faith, unity, and worship as the year moves on.

I know from personal experience that showing up to choir practice three times a week can become just another habit as the months pass by and the work piles up. That is why I wish to encourage you at the beginning of the year to constantly keep that big picture at the forefront of your mind and heart. What is the “big picture” I’m asking you to keep in mind? It is the liberating and strengthening truth that we can all forget in these busy times, that in each and every task we are to work not unto man, but unto to the Lord, who rewards those who do good (Eph. 5:5-8). There are many in the choir who do this well! However, if you’re like me, this can become difficult to do as your mind fills up with day-to-day tasks. In that case, I would encourage you to be observant of those around you, to find those members who are living out this art and learn from their example.

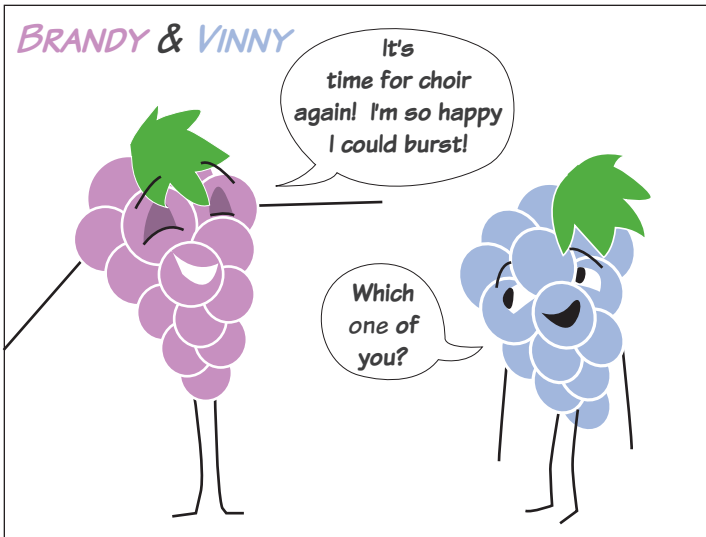


Hannah with her fiancé, Brad Gerrity

From watching and listening to those in this choir who consistently live this way, I have learned that the best rehearsal experiences are always when I am purposely engaged in worshipping the Lord through song, through work, and through simply enjoying the people around me. I certainly have a long way to go in making this “intentional rehearsing” a consistent pattern in my life, but I hope to grow in it this year, and I hope you will join me in making this a personal challenge. I pray that the Lord will bless you with joy as you learn to enjoy Him more in this place.

Let’s make it our group goal to rejoice at every rehearsal “with one heart and one voice” (Romans 15:5-6 – my favorite choir verses!) in the gifts He has given us—the gift of music, the gift of community, the gift of hard work, and the gift of a reason to sing: Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Hannah C.



WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT FRIDAY AND SATURDAY? CHOIR WORKSHOP!

Date	Time	Place	Event
Sept. 3	6-7p	Edman Plaza	Picnic—all ensembles
	7-9p	Edman E. Wing	Choir Workshop
Sept. 4	10a - 12p	Edman E. Wing	Choir Workshop
	1-3p	Edman Stage	All Choir Workshop on Brahms "Requiem"
Sept. 5	NO REHEARSAL (Labor Day)		
Sept. 6	NO MAKEUP REHEARSAL		

MARK YOUR CALENDAR ✓

Date	Time	Place	Event
Sept. 28 & 30	4:30-6p	Edman Stage	Dress Rehearsal for Homecoming Concert
Oct. 2	7p call 8p concert	Edman Stage	Homecoming Concert
Oct. 28	1p call 1:30p concert	Edman Stage	Invitational w/ visiting high schools
Nov. 6	7p call 8p concert	Edman Stage	Family Weekend Concert
Nov. 13	3:30-5:30p	Edman Stage	Tutti Brahms rehearsal
Nov. 20	7p call 8p concert	Edman Stage	Brahms Performance
Dec. 3 & 4	6:30p call 7:30p concert	Edman Stage	Christmas Festival

About Our Conductor

PAUL W. WIENS, Professor of Choral Music and Conducting, directs the Wheaton College Concert Choir, teaches conducting and serves as Coordinator of Technology in the Conservatory of Music at Wheaton College (Illinois). He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Iowa (Don Moses), taught at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (Robert Fountain), and sang with the Atlanta Symphony Chamber Chorus (Robert Shaw).

Choir Motto

"Music's only purpose should be for the glory of God and the recreation of the human spirit!" —J.S. Bach

Editor's Note

Greetings and Congratulations! As part of the Concert Choir you are most likely one of two people: you can sing, or you can sing and juggle seven small cacti while also eating a lava-hot baked potato, in which case you have unbelievable talent and we are glad to have you here and not at the circus.

Whichever species you fall into, I recommend that you get to know your fellow members early on, and who knows. You may learn that a few of us can oil paint with our knees, or better yet you may find lifelong friends and a family away from home.

I hope you enjoy this first Grapevine Issue and will consider submitting your artwork, jokes, funny stories, comments, poems, prayer requests, and announcements. The newsletter's purpose is to inform, educate, and entertain the community of the Concert Choir, and I welcome you to join me in that goal.

Have a great first three days of school,

Julia

How to Get Involved

It's easy, so please do! You can either hand your submissions to me or email them (julia.craig@my.wheaton.edu.)

CC Cabinet Bios



Female Social Chair: Kourtney Krause

Five years ago in a New York City subway Kourtney discovered her talent for brushing her nose against the trains as they whiz by. She credits her superior depth perception to her mother's recipe for steamed carrots with swordfish and llama. After appearing on television and writing a book, *How to Live by the Skin of Your Nose: Tips Toward an Exciting Life*, she continues to practice

her gift on race cars, planning to one day upgrade to ariplanes.



Male Social Chair: Arvin Lee

Now a thirteen-time champion of spoon tennis, Arvin uses his cash prizes to travel around the world and challenge kings. In his spare time he feeds small vermin to Sharon, his pet velociraptor, and models for shoe catalogs (apparently he has very shapely feet, great toes, and knock-out ankles). Arvin hopes to one day go

whaling with the king of Tonga and spear a humpback whale as it leaps from the ocean.



Publicity Manager: Molly Kinsel

After jumping out of a small building two years ago and breaking her legs, Molly took up rapid needle-point to ease her recovery. As a result she developed vigorous biceps, which she named Crime and Punishment. She currently dates an Australian fanny pack model who got in the way of her car and fell "head over heels." They plan to marry, live in Australia, and start a

new line of fanny packs called, "Kanga-Pouch."



Secretary: Julia Craig

For seven years Julia has managed "Rust-Busters," a squirrel farm in Tennessee where she trains them to ravenously attack and eat scrap metal. Inspired by her furry friends, she also works as a professional tree hugger, specializing in neglected pine trees and fake christmas trees that need loving. She takes pride in a tattoo that says, "Me + Tree = no more pinning." She plans to become a deep sea diver

and hug prickly coral species.



Librarian: Lauren Ide

Since she was eight, Lauren has made a living as an undercover superior-pitch-black-belt-ninja-spy for the Center of Intelligent Agents, where she coined her famous move, "The Ide and Shriek." Being tender at heart, she felt the urge for a more relaxing interest on the side and took up feeding waffles to underprivileged ducks. She now runs her own shop called "Lauren's Snacks for Quacks," where she gets business

from medical practitioners, as well.



Business Manager: Eric Lowe

At age six Eric dedicated his life to making the biggest leaf pile, which is now five miles high and covers two states. His corporation, *Leaf it to Me*, uses insanely large blimps to collect leaves from 168 countries and several galaxies. Also, having an unparalleled passion for bengal tigers, Eric drinks tigress milk daily, which enables him to crumble rocks with his bare hands. He

plans to move to India and become a bengal chief named Shiibaba.



Vice President: Kieth Dufendach

Ever since he was born in a hot air balloon over Zurich Kieth has loved the breeze. Now a traveling trapeeze artist he enjoys daring stunts, his most famous being a backflip-summersalt-quadruple-deathspin, which can cause hernias. He also enjoys lynx hunting in Alaska with his pack of fanged boars and weaving lace skull caps for old women bikers. One day he plans to

film a documentary, *Destined from Birth: My Life in the Air*.



President: Hannah Cowell

When only three years old, Hannah expressed incalculable joy at lifting her parents off the ground. Now a robust bodybuilder, she has a secret passion for bench pressing watermelon kabobs, one arm at a time. Partly to maintain her sizeable muscle mass, she constantly trains for and wins food-eating contests, recently devouring a cow in 44 minutes. She plans to marry

Brad Gerrity and name her kids Gary, Harry, Mary, and Charity.

MEET YOUR SOCIAL CHAIRS: KOURTNEY & ARVIN

I asked a few questions of our new socialites in order to get a sneak peek into their ideas, gauge their silliness, and find out more about each of them. Sure enough, these two know how to have fun; their responses promise an exciting year of choir.

1. *What activities do you have in mind for choir this year?*

K: I hope to work with Arvin and have fun choir get-togethers. We'd have a few "dinner at Doc's" and/or picnics. I'd also like to do a few weekend activities, like BBQ's and a great big volleyball game! Maybe even section vs. section! We should also have "special days" where we dress up according to different themes! I'm feeling Hawaiian or Hippie day—or superhero day!

A: Kourtney and I want to make this year exciting and productive. One of my personal goals is to see everyone talking to everyone else, to get out of their comfort zone and talk to people that might not necessarily be their friends, and Kourtney and I are here to help. The big events, such as the Thanksgiving Party, Christmas Party and the Banquet are going to be awesome because, with Kourtney's crazy awesomeness and my chillness combined, I have no doubt that we will create some of the most memorable choir moments.

2. *If you could bring the whole choir anywhere and do anything, where would you go and what would you do?*

K: Guam. I just really like the word. We could play with the Guamanese or Guamish, or is it Guman or Gumane children? I think it'd be really fun to travel to a country that is little-known and just enjoy the culture!

A: I would love to take the choir to Disney World and have a chance to perform there. Disney World is just awesome! It's the Bomb dot Com! It's not just another theme park—it's where dreams come true.



3. *If you could get the choir to sing one Disney song, which song would it be?*

K: CLEARLY hakuna matata, or the theme song from the Lion King. I just like singing the African words. No matter how many times I hear it sung, everyone always sings their own interpretation of the lyrics.

A: "I'll Make a Man Out of You" from Mulan.

4. *If you were on an island, what four things would you bring to remind you of each of the four voice parts? why?*

K: A chalkboard with nails scratching it for the sopranos (to hear them less), a microphone for the altos (to hear them more), a pitch pipe for the tenors (to keep them from flattening) and a fog horn for the basses (for that constant thudding we feel in our chests....)

A: Basses—A Boston Cream Donut because it's rich, creamy and oh so very manly. Tenors—A Teddy Bear because no matter how



angry you are, a teddy bear can take all those problems away, plus it's flawless and the best thing in the world. Altos—The poster with the woman flexing her arms that says "We Can Do It!" because she didn't care what people said about her, but was proud to be doing what she did. Yea Altos! Sopranos—A life-jacket because even though we think we're good enough swimmers, we need them.

5. *What was a very embarrassing moment for you on tour last year?*

K: Passing out . . . yea, that was awesome [with Kourtney's permission I add that during the concert she motioned for me, the one girl behind her, to partially unzip her top and so enable her to breath better. I guess I didn't unzip it enough . . .]

A: We were high up inside the Washington Monument and I saw a picture of George Washington on the wall. I turned to Grant and asked, "Wait, if they have a monument for Abraham Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson, why wouldn't they make one for George Washington?" They thought I was joking . . . but I wasn't.

6. *If you could tell us one thing about yourself, what would it be?*

K: I make really strange noises—all the time actually. I'm sure you'll find out soon enough.

A: Apart from singing my passion is to act and make films. One day I want to be an actor and eventually make a production company in Hollywood that makes films with good Christian themes and messages. ❖

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