



Take Note . . .

Mac Arthur Choir News

Mac Arthur Choir Booster Club

September, 2008

Note from the President



By Sheila Dunn

Dear Choir Parents:

Welcome to another exciting year for the MacArthur Choir Boosters! If you were lucky enough to be able to attend the potluck Aug. 22 you know we have a lot of great things in store!

First, congratulations to Mr. Woodward for taking over as Director and welcome to our new Assistant Director Caitlyn Griffith. Many of you might recall Ms. Griffith was a student teacher at Mac last year so we are thrilled to have her back!

The first fund-raising program for the year has come home, so please keep an eye out for it. There are many new, wonderful items and remember, a percentage from all sale amounts go into an account for your student. So, think about those Christmas presents and at the same time help pay for your student's uniforms, fees, etc.

On a more personal note, I am thrilled to serve as president this year, but I can't do it alone. In addition to a wonderful booster board, I need YOUR help.

I understand we are all busy, but if every choir family donated 1 HOUR of time over the school year, we would have more than enough help. In this newsletter you will find a volunteer form. Please take a moment and see what you can do to help! Everything we do is for the students!

Remember, students who have parents who are involved in school do better in school.

You'll be hearing from me again over the year. If you would like to contact me, please feel free to email me at sd2828@grandecom.net.

Sheila Dunn

MacArthur Choir Boosters President 2008/2009

2008 – 2009 MAC Arthur Choir Booster Officers

President	Sheila Dunn	sd2828@grandecom.net	494-0423
Vice President	Andrea Schaper	theschapers@sbcglobal.net	826-4848
Secretary	Sherryl Walsh	walshsk@aol.com	822-5551
Treasurer	Theresa Whitefield	thewhitefields@sbcglobal.net	545-9444
Volunteer Coordinator	Elizabeth Perez	eperez329@satx.rr.com	857-4742
Hospitality	Alisha Chini	alishachini@gmail.com	273-6371
Newsletter	Karen Rogers	karenhrogers@usa.com	829-1168

"Our purpose is to support the MacArthur Choir Program and the students involved in that program. We are the behind-the-scenes network of support for the teachers and students, focusing on fundraising, volunteering and doing whatever would benefit the choral program. Every parent or grandparent is automatically a member of the Choir Boosters." KR

Noteworthy



Booster Club Meeting Dates: *General Membership Meetings*

Tuesday, September 23, 2008 6 pm Choir Room

Tuesday, November 18, 2008

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Tuesday, April 28, 2009 (elections)

The Booster Club Board has asked Mr. Woodward for a wish list of items for the choir program. Purchase of these items will be considered at the Booster Club meeting on September 23.



UPCOMING CONCERTS

**Tuesday, October 7
Fall Concert, 7:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, December 4
Holiday Concert, 7:00 p.m.**

A big thank you to all those who helped with the Pot Luck Dinner and Uniform fitting and checkout!!! You are appreciated!!

VOLUNTEERS – You are always needed and appreciated!

Volunteer Coordinator

Elizabeth Perez

eperez329@satx.rr.com

857-4742

Hospitality Coordinator

Alisha Chini

chini@uthscsa.edu

273-6371



CHECK OUT THE MAC CHOIR WEB PAGE . . .

<http://www.neisd.net/mac/choir/>

The Essential Chord



Fundraising, Volunteers, etc.

Who put the FUN in FUNdraising? . . . Andrea Schaper

Contact her with any questions . [.theschapers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:theschapers@sbcglobal.net)

826-4848

- Student account fund raisers are being planned during the fall and are awaiting approval by the administration. Dates will be released when approval is received.
- A dinner and silent auction is being planned for the Pre-UIL Concert on March 24, 2009. Please contact me soon if you have any contacts with potential donors.

Hospitality

I would like to thank all the parents who donated items for the goodie bags for region auditions - the kids will really enjoy them! We all appreciate your time and effort. Region auditions are coming up soon - October 4 is the first one! So if you would like to donate items, please send them with your student to the choir room by 9/26/08. Items needed are individual size chocolates, hard candy, sweet and salty snacks, bubble gum, and Ozarka water bottles. Please remember that all items have to be individually packaged and I cannot accept any baked items. Any donations are greatly appreciated!

Thanks again,

Alisha Chini, Hospitality Coordinator

alishachini@gmail.com

273-6371

Volunteers . . .

needed for FALL CONCERT on OCTOBER 7

need to arrive by 6:30 p.m.

Door Monitors (need 2)

To sell flowers (need 1)

To sell CDs. (need 1)

3 - 4 Chaperones needed for:

October 4, Region Phase Auditions

October 11, Mixed Region Auditions

October 25, Treble Region Auditions

Please contact Elizabeth Perez at 857-4742 or eperez329@satx.rr.com or any board member.

Getting to Know You . . . (or us, that is)

Sheila Dunn is Marketing Director/Editor for the San Antonio & Austin Wedding Guides and Bridal Extravaganzas, a position she has held for 11 years. Before that she spent over 15 years as a newspaper reporter and editor. A firm believer that students with involved parents do better in school, Sheila has been a school volunteer since her daughter Hannah, now a junior, was in kindergarten. Sheila has served as home room parent, a Girl Scout leader and general volunteer. She is also involved with the local chapter of the American Marketing Association, and currently sits on the board of directors and is a past president of the chapter. She also presents training seminars for small businesses on marketing, media buying and event planning for various organizations in the US and Canada.

Andrea Schaper: My position on the board this year is Vice President, which means, fund-raising!! This will include several student led projects, and then the silent auction dinner in the spring. This will be a big year for fund-raising, as the kids are going on an out of state trip. My oldest daughter Alex is a sophomore in the MacArthur choir, and sings in our church choir at Trinity Baptist. My younger daughter is in 7th grade at Garner. I work part time in pharmaceutical sales, and my husband Darrell works in insurance and investments. He also sings, he had his debut in "Meet me in St. Louis" with Alex last year! We look forward to a wonderful and melodious school year!!!

Sheryl Walsh: I'm your secretary this year. My daughter Mackenzie is in freshman treble choir. She also likes drama and is enrolled in Oral Interpretation. Her brother and sister are Mac choir alumni, and both sing in the Philharmonics, a mixed a cappella group at Rice University. A renegade band alum, I learned to carry a tune in church choir growing up. I work part time as a software consultant on school days. I'm the financial manager for my church's children's theater program, the Northwood Jr. Players. Mac PTSA, Forensics Boosters, and other church activities also keep me off the streets and out of trouble. I am convinced from experience that parental involvement can be a basis for improved communication with teachers and our teenagers...which will help keep them off the streets and out of trouble!

Theresa Whitefield: is the Choir Booster Treasurer this year. Theresa was born and raised in Milford, Michigan. When she married her husband, Jeff, in 1985, she became a Navy wife and moved all over the country. She has four children: Corinne (21, born in FL), Collier (19, born in MD), Cailee (15, born in IL), and Colton (13, born in OK). Theresa is a substitute teacher at Bradley Middle school, sings in the Parkhills Baptist Church choir and PraiseSingers, and loves to cross-stitch and watch movies.

Elizabeth Perez: is the Volunteer Chairman this year. Elizabeth is Briana's mom and is super busy at work right now, so she will be featured in a future newsletter.

Alisha Chini: My name is Alisha Chini and I am the hospitality coordinator for the Choir Booster Club. This is my third year as a choir parent and my second year in hospitality. My daughter Alex is a senior in Concert Chorale and Premiere this year and is having the time of her life! Volunteering for the choir booster club has been a fantastic experience - the choir directors are wonderful and the parents that I have met through the booster club are some of the nicest people I have ever worked with. Plus, I get to know the students and be involved in something that is so important to my daughter.

Karen Rogers: I am beginning my eighth year of involvement with the MacArthur Choir Boosters as the newsletter editor this time around. Currently, Robert (a junior) is a member of the Mixed Chorale and Final Cut. His older sisters, Meredith and Kim, participated in the Choral Music Program at Mac and both continue to sing at Texas Tech University. I was a member of the varsity choir in high school and sang in the church choir from first grade through high school and later as an adult. Our family enjoys vocal music and has performed together in the past in a talent show at church where we were teasingly called the "Family von Rogers." My husband, Steve, and I operate a property management company that manages the six Alamo Mini Storage facilities in San Antonio and Victoria. While Steve does the daily operations and personnel supervision, I am the bookkeeping component.

As the Music Stands . . . Director's Notes

❖ Matt Woodward

Matthew S. Woodward graduated Magna Cum Laude from the International School of the Americas here in San Antonio in 2000. He received his Bachelor of Music Education from Loyola University New Orleans in 2004, graduating Cum Laude. While at Loyola, Matt had the privilege to sing 4 main stage roles in Loyola University Opera productions. He sang as "Fiorello" in The Barber of Seville, "Frank" in Die Fledermaus, "Guglielmo" in Così Fan Tutte, and "2nd Priest" in The Magic Flute. He has been active as a singer in the New Orleans Opera and the Baltimore Opera. From 1994 to 1999, he sang with the Children's Chorus of San Antonio, and was a featured guest soloist at the CCSA Gala fundraiser in 2005. In 2002, Matt was asked personally by Moses Hogan to sing on the "Lift Every Voice for Freedom" CD with the Moses Hogan Chorale. Matt sang tenor in a barbershop quartet called 'The Nile Manski Trio' and was awarded Third Place at the International Barbershop Collegiate Contest in both 2002 and 2004. He is currently the tenor section leader for the San Marcos Marcsmen, the 2008 International Barbershop Youth Chorus Grand Champions. Along the same lines, he has performed in "The Music Man" twice, both times in New Orleans, both times as the tenor quartet member. Matt has also sung for several churches as Section Leader and Soloist. His experience as Bass Section Leader and Soloist at Christ Church Cathedral in New Orleans allowed him to transition into singing as an Alto at Old St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Baltimore and Bass Section Leader and Soloist at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in San Antonio. His previous work experience includes teaching middle school music in Baltimore, private voice lessons in San Antonio, and as the Assistant Choir Director at East Central High School. Recently, he was asked to coach the Austin Chord Rangers barbershop chorus. In 2004, he began composing and arranging music and has had many of his arrangements performed here at MacArthur HS. His wife, BriAnne, teaches choir at Driscoll Middle School. His passions in life include his wife, cooking, hi-fi stereo audio, and teaching people to love the talents they are given.

❖ Caitlyn Griffith

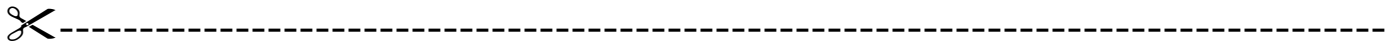
This is my first year at MacArthur and I am absolutely thrilled to be a part of this stellar Choral Department! I am so proud of all of the hard work and effort that the choir students have put in this far, and look forward to the months to come as we continue to improve our skills and grow. The MacArthur Choral Department is truly a program of excellence and I consider myself truly privileged to be a part of this wonderful group!

I graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Music in Music with an emphasis in music studies and a Minor in Psychology. I also completed studies in the Honors College, graduating with Tier II honors after completing an Honors thesis. I had the privilege of student teaching at MacArthur and was amazed by the caliber and passion of the Choral Department.

During my time at UTSA, I studied voice with Dr. Diana Allan and sang with the UTSA Women's Choir, UTSA Concert Chorale and the San Antonio Mastersingers. I am a member of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity and served as a member of the UTSA Ambassadors, a university service organization. In May 2008 I traveled to New York City with the Mastersingers and sang in Carnegie Hall! It truly was the experience of a lifetime!

I attended Fox Run Elementary, Wood Middle School and Madison High School. I graduated from Madison summa cum laude.

In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, singing, cooking, and watching movies!



Choir Directors

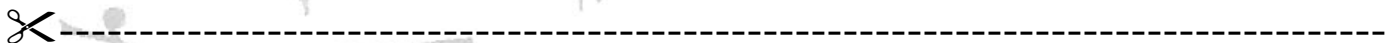
Matt Woodward

(210) 650-1100, Ext 359
Fax: (210) 650-1195
mwoodw@neisd.net

Caitlyn Griffith

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Fax: (210) 650-1195
cgriff5@neisd.net

Clip and Save



Choir Council



Listed below are the members of **Choir Council** who were elected by all the choir students.

President- Ryan Green

Vice President- Taylor Perez

Activities Director- Alex Baker, Logan Combs

Historian- Briana Perez, Ryan Pinkerton

Secretary- Amy Kaster

Librarian- Rachel Wharton, Susie Cardenas-Acosta

Treasurer- Emily Keller

Newsletter Correspondent- Zoe Grosskopf

INTRODUCING ... 2008-2009

Premiere



Ryan Green

manager

Taylor Perez

dance captain

Alex Baker

Jordyn Crain

Hannah Curtis

Briana Perez

Alex Schaper

Ashley Teague

Amanda Villareal

Cailee Jo Whitefield

Final Cut



Micah Baker

Manager

Robert Rogers

Manager

Johnathan Doemel

Matt Fabilenia

Josh Garrison

Johnny Holman

Tim Johnson

Marcus Kang

MacArthur Choirs



Here at MacArthur we have nine performing ensembles. A brief description of each follows.

Camerata

This choir is intended for young ladies who are beginning singers or who may have skills to improve upon.

Treble Choir

This choir is for freshmen girls who were in choir as eighth graders. All of the girls are expected to have some choral experience.

Cantate

This is our advanced women's choir. This choir goes to UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest, therefore it is necessary that these girls have previous choral experience, good sight-reading skills and excellent eligibility. All of the girls in this choir are required to audition for the TMEA Treble Region or Mixed Region Choir during the fall semester.

Men's Choir

This choir is intended for men who are beginning singers or who may have skills to improve upon.

Concert Chorale

This is our advanced mixed choir. This choir goes to UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest; therefore it is necessary that these students have previous choral experience, good sight-reading skills and excellent eligibility. All of the students in this choir are required to audition for the TMEA Mixed Region Choir during the fall semester.

Varsity Men

This choir consists of the men from Concert Chorale and any men from Men's Choir that are interested. This choir goes to UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest as a men's choir. Varsity Men meets completely outside of the school day throughout the year and participation in this ensemble is required as part of the Concert Chorale class.

Varsity Women

This choir consists of the women from Concert Chorale. This choir goes to UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest as a women's choir. Varsity Women meets completely outside of the school day throughout the year and participation in this ensemble is required as part of the Concert Chorale class.

Premiere

This is a show choir consisting of ten girls. They meet as a class during the school day and are required to be in either Women's Chorale or Concert Chorale as well. Throughout the year, they sing pop music, selections from musicals, a cappella arrangements, and much more. At Christmas, they do at least 15 performances throughout the community for nursing homes, civic organizations and private parties.

Final Cut

This is an a cappella ensemble consisting of six to eight boys. They meet as a class during the school day and are required to be in Concert Chorale as well. Throughout the year, they sing barbershop, pop and other a cappella selections. At Christmas, they do at least 15 performances throughout the community for nursing homes, churches, civic organizations and private parties.

PFC

PFC is a group consisting of all of the members of Premiere and Final Cut. They combine several times throughout the year singing a variety of musical styles.

Calendar Notes



Choir Calendar - Fall Semester

September

- 10 - Mixed Region \$\$ is due \$10.00 **Required for Concert Chorale**
- 23 - 6 PM - Choir Booster Meeting in the Choir Room
- 24 - \$200 Trip Deposit due!

October

- 2 - 7 PM - Men's Chorus Concert at Madison H.S.
- 4 - 9 AM - Mixed Region Phase Audition at Churchill H.S.
- 7 - 7 PM - Fall Concert at MacArthur HS
- 8 - Treble Region \$\$ is due \$10.00 **Required for Cantate**
- 11 - 7 AM - Mixed Region Audition at New Braunfels H.S. **Required for Concert Chorale**
- 15 - 5:30 PM - Brahma March at Mac
- 24 - Trip Payment deadline
- 25 - TMEA Treble Region Choir auditions at Lee HS all day. **Required for Cantate**
- 28, 29 - 4:15 PM - Musical Auditions

November

- 13 - Trip Payment Due
- 14 - TMEA Region Clinic: approx. 4:00-8:00 PM
- 15 - TMEA Region Clinic (all day) and Concert at 5:00 PM
- 18 - 6 PM - Choir Booster Meeting in the Choir Room

December

- 2 - 4:15 PM-11:00 PM Pre-Area Auditions at MacArthur
- 4 - 7 PM - Holiday Concert at MacArthur H.S.
- 11-13 - 7 PM - Musical Performance
- 16 - 7 PM - Concert Chorale and Symphony Concert
- 19 - Trip Payment Due



Trip News



MacArthur Choir goes CRUISING!

March 12-16

Total Cost \$750.00

Includes bus trip to and from New Orleans with some touring there and a cruise to Cozumel, Mexico.

The trip to Mexico will require a passport, so you will need to get started on that right away.

Choir Trip 2009 has been approved!

Student reservations are limited to the first 49 students.

Deposit of \$200 and your reservation form is due September 24, 2008.

Paying it reserves your spot!

Additional Notes:



The rule about no cell phones or electronic devices is going to be strictly enforced this year at region/area auditions. It was discussed that we need to encourage them to bring cards/ games and other activities.

MacArthur Choir Parent Volunteer Form

Dear Parents:

Volunteers are essential to a successful choir program. Just a little bit of your time helps our wonderful Mac Choir students do so many things.

We are all busy, but you'll be surprised at how little time it takes to make a difference. If every parent/family donated **1 HOUR a YEAR**, we would have more than enough help. Some jobs take more time, others less. We have a volunteer opportunity for every schedule. Please consider sharing a little of your time and/or talents to help. Just let us know where you want to help!

Thank You,
MacArthur Choir Booster Club

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities:

_____ **Telephone Committee:** Help make phone calls to arrange volunteers for events and donations. Estimated time needed: **1 to 2 hours a semester**

_____ **Newsletter/Publicity:** Put together Choir Booster newsletter as well as put notices in the PTSA newsletter and local papers. Estimated time needed: **1 to 2 hours a month plus booster club board meetings.**

One Time Volunteer Opportunities:

_____ **Door assistance at concerts:** Help sell flowers, CDs, etc. at concerts, including tickets at Pop Show. Estimated time needed: **½ hour prior to concert.** (Sign up for **ONE** concert).

_____ **Fundraising:** Help compile student orders and sort orders upon arrival. Estimated time needed: **2 hours per fundraising event. Volunteer for ONE time.**

_____ **Silent Auction:** Help solicit and gather items for spring silent auction. Estimated time needed: **Flexible**

_____ **Chaperone choir events (region/area auditions):** Attend events with students offering support. Estimated time needed: **1 day per event.**

_____ **Provide snacks, drinks and/or paper goods:** Provide refreshments for student competitions. Estimated time needed: **During your regular grocery-shopping trip.**

_____ **Wardrobe assistance:** Help students pick up/return choir uniforms. Estimated time needed: **2 to 3 hours in fall or spring.**

_____ **Sewing (mending choir dresses and tuxes).** Estimated time needed: **As needed**

Didn't see a good fit? What can you help us with? _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Student's Name: _____