



The Viva Voice January 20, 2010
 3703 St. Aidan's St. Victoria BC V8P 2V7 Ph/fax (250) 472-2655
viva@vivachoirs.ca www.vivachoirs.ca
 Viva's 22nd year!



Congratulations to all for your fine performances at the December "Five Gold Rings" concert. Many people have since commented to me how much they enjoyed your singing and music-making. Thanks to all the parent volunteers (and singers) who helped the concert run smoothly.

We've had a busy fall term, with the Olympic Torch Ceremony a main focus in the first half, followed by a performance by the WS choir at the Colwood cenotaph, the Santa Parade, the intermediate and senior level choirs at the MacPherson Theatre, and the YM and CH at the Colwood Golf Club. Thank you to conductors and parents who put in many extra hours organizing and participating in these events.



Boys and Girls Choirs - The BC and GC Tuesday evening schedule has changed slightly this term to accommodate families with children in both groups: both BC and GC singers now begin practice at 6:00 and end at 7:30, and BC and GC separate during the evening to rehearse their own specific music. I will be coming in on Tuesdays every few weeks to allow for longer separate rehearsals; those evenings Marnie and I will each take a group for 45 minutes in the first half of the rehearsal.

Foundation Choir UVic - FNU will again entertain seniors at the Shannon Oaks Retirement Residence one Friday evening this spring - watch for details. (FNU rehearsal still 5:45-6.)



Schools tours will be taking place this term. Please see the Jan 20 **revised schedule** with this newsletter and mark the dates on your calendars now.



West Shore, Boys and Girls Choirs - Other extra events to add to your schedule include the combined WS, BC and GC singing with the Naden Band at Paralympic Opening Ceremonies in Esquimalt on March 6th. Details are being arranged now with the Canadian Forces Base and we'll let you know exact times as soon as possible. The venue will be on Esquimalt Road at the Archie Browning Arena (next to the shopping centre).

ALL Choirs - There will be a massed rehearsal at St. Aidan's on Sat, Mar. 27th, FNU, FNW 1:50-2:45, all other choirs 1-3; including a workshop for CC by members of the Hexaphone vocal sextet (www.hexaphone.org).

****The Concert Choir will also be participating in the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival on April 12 or 13; dates and times have not yet been announced. ****

While there is no major choir tour this year, on April 24th we will be taking a group of singers (ages 10 and up) to a day-long workshop organized by the BC Choral Federation in Nanaimo and lead by composer/conductor Stephen Hatfield. See details on page 2 of this newsletter.



-Nicholas Fairbank, Artistic Director

Upcoming next year – mark your calendars:

- Winter Concert: Dec 11, 2010
- Spring Concert: Apr. 9, 2011
- Concert in Sidney with Via Choralis: Apr. 17, 2011
- Britten's *War Requiem*: November 11, 2011



Other Events - Any singers new this year who haven't had an individual interview are requested to call Margaret at 382-6485 to arrange one. Times are available Saturday Jan. 23 and 30.

CHILDREN'S DAY WITH STEPHEN HATFIELD

Saturday, Apr 24, Nanaimo



Since no Children's Chorfest is scheduled this year, the BC Choral Federation offers a one-day session for young choirs with composer Stephen Hatfield. No accommodation to worry about; no music to prepare beforehand - just a fun day of music-making together.

Stephen Hatfield was born in BC and lived in Newfoundland and Ireland before returning to his native soil. He is in demand as a composer and clinician throughout the world, and inspires singers with workshop techniques that include the use of tai chi and science toys. His music is quirky, high energy, thought-provoking, and inspiring.

The workshop is open to singers Grades 5 and up. Participants will work with Stephen on three of his pieces during the day, and the workshop will end with participating choirs each performing a couple of their own pieces and then joining together in singing the new music.

Schedule:

7:15am	depart from St. Aidan's parking lot
9am	gather at Nanaimo venue TBA, register
9:30am	SESSION 1
10:30am	break
11:am	SESSION 2
12noon	lunch break (bring own lunches)
1pm	SESSION 3
2pm	break
2:30pm	SESSION 4
3:30pm	break
4pm	PERFORMANCE - with participating choirs each offering something of their own repertoire. Families and friends are invited to attend.
5:30pm	leave for home
6:30pm	dinner stop in Duncan
7:45pm	arrive at St. Aidan's

Participants should bring bag-lunches and money for a fast-food dinner on the way down-island; snacks and drinks will be provided throughout the day. Registration fee include the music, which singers will not be required to prepare beforehand. To keep costs down, we will carpool with parent drivers, who will be reimbursed for mileage.

Cost \$40 + per singer (includes GST). . Because music copies need to be ordered, watch for registration forms soon - to be returned to the Viva office by **February 23-25**, and **paid by March 16-18** (the week after our spring break).