



March 7, 2011

Dear NCYC Families,

Thank you so much for a wonderful year! It is hard to believe we are a little over four weeks from our spring concert "Walk, Dance, Sing!" In this mailing you will find a 2011-2012 registration form, a 2011-2012 calendar with our concert dates and rehearsal information as well as placement interview materials. It is our hope that by giving you next year's calendar so far in advance, you will be able to avoid any scheduling conflicts now. Please continue reading to find about some exciting and important changes in store for next year.

When we first opened NCMA in the late fall of 2005, we knew that our choir and the rest of our programs that we offered would be amazing. We had an enthusiastic, dedicated, educated and well-respected faculty and staff and we attracted families who desired an exceptional music education for their children. The Northwest Community Youth Choir offered our youth and children an opportunity to challenge and develop their musicianship as well as cultivate leadership qualities and artistic sophistication.

In just five years we have accomplished a tremendous amount:

- ❖ **2010-2011** - Students selected to National Honor's Choirs at the American Choral Director's Association Convention in Chicago. January, 2011 marks our Sixth Cabaret and Silent Auction.
- ❖ **2009-2010** – Encore Choir Tour to London, England. Guest choir with ABBA Mania at Raue Center. Students selected to American Choral Director's Association Central Division Honor's Choirs.
- ❖ **2008-2009** – Encore Choir performs in Carnegie Hall as part of the National Children's Choir. Hosted Joint Concert with the National Children's and Youth Choirs of Guatemala.
- ❖ **2007-2008** - Hosted first ever Singing the Masters Festival. Invited to sing as guest performers with the Prairie Singers and at the Festival of the Lights
- ❖ **2006-2007** – Encore Choir Tour to Italy. Sang with Pat Boone Christmas Show at the Raue Center.
- ❖ **2006** – First Concert February 24-26, 2006 as the Northwest Community Youth Choir to three sold out audiences

We are ready to build on our success and have two important announcements about the future of NCMA and NCYC. After several years of debate and planning, we are working on changing our name to **Encore Music Academy**. The choirs will be called Encore Youth Choir but still be named Aria, Bella Voce, Cantabile, Di Canto with our touring choir Encore Choir, reflected in the name of the whole choir.

Also, we have examined our rehearsal schedule and have decided to **move all our rehearsals to Monday night**. There are many reasons for these changes both practical and logical. We feel that switching to Mondays will reduce conflicts with school choir and band concerts especially at the high school level. The planned schedule is below:

Encore Youth Choir Rehearsals on Mondays beginning September 12, 2011

6:00-7:15pm Aria Choir, Mrs. Tucker and Mrs. Black

6:00-7:15pm Bella Voce Choir, Mrs. Snodgrass and Mrs. Taylor

7:30-9:00pm Cantabile Choir, Mrs. Tucker and Mrs. Black

7:30-9:00pm Di Canto Choir, Mrs. Scherrer and Mrs. Taylor

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Remember your placement interview determines which choir you will be singing in for next year. At that time you will turn in your music and costume (if in Cantabile or Di Canto), pay for any damaged or missing music or items and receive your year bar or plaque award.

Many of our families may be able to take advantage of several types of discounts offered. For the choir, there are sibling discounts of 10% and a referral discount of \$50. Also, families who register before June 1 for choir and our summer programs receive the following early registration discounts:

- ❖ Lock in the lower tuition rate with a \$50 deposit and retreat fee (Aria/Bella Voce= \$25, Cantabile/Di Canto=\$110). The remaining tuition balance may be paid in installments, please see registration form.

| Choir | Annual Tuition | Retreat Fee |
|--------------|--|--|
| Aria | \$485 early / \$500 after June 1 st | \$25 |
| Bella Voce | \$485 early / \$500 after June 1 st | \$25 |
| Cantabile | \$585 early / \$600 after June 1 st | \$110 early / \$145 after June 1 st |
| Di Canto | \$585 early / \$600 after June 1 st | \$110 early / \$145 after June 1 st |

- ❖ Join us for our Summer Programs
 - Art of Music for ages 7-12. July 25-29, 2011
 - Tuition \$160 early / \$185 after June 1st
 - Art of Music Jr. for ages 4-7. July 25-29, 2011
 - Tuition \$95 early / \$110 after June 1st
 - Middle School Musical *Music Man Jr.* for 6th-9th grades. July 25 – Aug. 5, 2011
 - Tuition \$200 early / \$225 after June 1st
 - All camp participants will be cast in the show

We are very proud of each of our students and we cannot thank our families enough for the wonderful year we have had. Please call us at 815.356.7464 (SING) with any questions or concerns you may have. We look forward to next year with great anticipation!

Sincerely,

Ann S. Tucker
Artistic Director, Encore Music Academy (formerly NCMA)

Enc. 3 – 2011-2012 registration form, 2011-2012 calendar, placement interview information