

LAKESHORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Lakeshore Choirs
5771 Cleveland Ave.
Stevensville MI 49127

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To the Parent(s) or Guardian of:



Lakeshore Public Schools
Lakeshore Choirs
Quarter Notes

News and Information for the Choir Families. Fall 2011

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Lakeshore Choir Motto:

Respect... Dedication... Passion...
Family... Quality



INTRODUCTION FROM THE BOOSTERS PRESIDENT

Lakeshore Choir Boosters is an organization comprised of choir directors, parents, community members, and students whose goal is to raise community awareness of the vocal music program and provide monetary and volunteer support to enrich the students' musical experience. The boosters meet monthly to discuss fundraising opportunities, upcoming vocal music events, and other matters relating to the success of our music program. We raise and provide funds for scholarships, programs, equipment, and other miscellaneous costs.

With resources tighter than ever, it is important to have parent volunteers willing to commit time, energy, and money to contribute to the program's success. If our students are passionate about our choir program, we need to be passionate about it too.

Please contact me via email at nancy@suncoastpkg.com or call me at 269-930-3622 to find out how to become involved. You can also contact your student's choir director for information.

Thanks for your consideration,

Nancy (Kniola) Poelker
Lakeshore Choir Booster President

Upcoming Choir Booster Meeting Dates:

Monday, Oct. 24, 2011, High School Choir Rm. 149, 5:30 PM

Monday, Nov. 28, 2011, High School Choir Rm. 149, 5:30 PM

Monday, Jan. 9, 2012, High School Choir Rm. 149, 5:30 PM

2011 Summer Scholarships

Six students from the High School (HS) and Middle School (MS) received Choir Boosters scholarships for summer study.

Congratulations to Katelyn Tillstrom (HS), Taylor Stilwell (MS), Kate Lafrenz (MS), Mallory Mishler (MS), Sara McGilvra (MS), and Audrey Smith (MS)!

Note: *Details about 2012 scholarships will be in an upcoming newsletter.*

CHOIR CONNECTIONS

Contact Info for Lakeshore Choirs

High School Choir Director	Katie Rohwer
krohwer@lakeshoreeps.org	(269) 428-1402 ext. 2102
Middle School Choir Director	Carole Conrad
cconrad@lakeshoreeps.org	(269) 428-1408 ext. 3099
Hollywood Elem. Music Teacher	Ann Sterk
asterk@lakeshoreeps.org	(269) 428-1414 ext. 4050
Stewart/Roosevelt Elem. Music Teacher	Nancy Hourigan
nhourigan@lakeshoreeps.org	
Stewart: 428-1418 ext. 6050; Roosevelt: 428-1416 ext. 5050	
Choir Boosters President	Nancy Kniola Poelker
nancy@suncoastpkg.com	(269) 429-3976
Choir Boosters Vice-President	Maria Millham
queenmillham@msn.com	(269) 556-9478
Publicity	Alisa Koch
lakeshorechoirsinfo@gmail.com	(269) 757-6420
Newsletter Editor	Ted Conrad
jtconrad@sbcglobal.net	(269) 313-7844
Volunteer Coordinator	Valerie Stacey
staceycarwash@aol.com	(269) 471-5144

Open Positions on the Choir Boosters Board:

Secretary, Historian, and Fundraising

For information about the open positions on the Choir Boosters Board, please contact our president, Nancy Poelker.

HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR DIRECTOR NOTES

“If words are the pen of the mind, then music is the quill of the soul.” I heard this quote on a radio program yesterday afternoon, and thought how lucky we are to spend part of our day at Lakeshore High School enriching our souls with music. The High School Choirs – Chorale, Bella Voce, the all-treble Concert Choir, and the recently auditioned jazz group Knightlife are already making great progress and creating beautiful sounds. Many students took voice lessons this summer, attended summer music camps, performed in productions around town, and are applying what they learned in their singing during the school day.

In preparation for the year, both the Chorale and Bella Voce enjoyed “Fall Retreats,” where we rehearsed, played, and developed our sense of community. The Choirs would like to thank Kellie Meyer and the Stevensville United Methodist Church for hosting our Saturday activities. In addition, an octet from Chorale attended the SWMVF Fall Workshop with Dr. Kimberly Dunn Adams, Director of Choral Studies at WMU, on September 23rd. This workshop is part of the Southwest Michigan Vocal Music Festival, which Chorale will attend in March. It provides an opportunity for select students to learn the music with the Festival Conductor, and then serve as leaders in the ensemble as we rehearse for SWMVF throughout the year.

In mid-October, Lakeshore Choir students will audition for the Michigan School Vocal Music Association Regional Honors Choir (please refer to handbook for specifics). The Honors Choir program provides a once in a lifetime opportunity to sing with the best of the best across the state. The first audition will take place on October 15th at WMU.

Of course, the students and I are already looking forward to Spring Break and the Lakeshore Choir Tour to New York City. Many thanks go to the students and families who attended the informational meeting on September 26th. Informational packets are still available in the HS Choir Room. A deposit of \$50 is requested by October 7th to reserve your student’s slot.

This is an exciting year for all groups, and I’m looking forward to the music and learning experiences we will share. Please feel free to contact me at anytime at krohwer@lakeshoreps.org or 269-428-1402 ext 2102.

Musically yours,
Katie Rohwer

HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR INFORMATION

New High School Choir Officers

The student officers, elected by choir members in the spring, along with individual choir representatives, form a council/board for the program that meets regularly with the director to discuss artistic improvement, social activities, concert PR, and recruitment. In addition, student board members are active participants in the Choir Boosters.

The 2011-2012 High School officers are:

President.....	Brittany Millham
Vice-President.....	Kersten Claeys
Secretary.....	Molly Benedict
Treasurer.....	Brendan Dent
Librarian.....	Alicia Gilford
Historian.....	Sara Buckle

Performing & Visual Arts College Fairs and Much More

College-bound students who attend the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) Performing and Visual Arts College Fairs are able to meet one-on-one with admission representatives from colleges, universities, conservatories, studios, festivals, and other educational institutions with specialized programs in the visual and performing arts. Attendees learn about educational opportunities, admission and financial aid, portfolio days, audition and entrance requirements, student life, and more.

The nearest PVA Fairs are scheduled at Roosevelt University Chicago College of Performing Arts (Chicago) on Wednesday, October 12th from 6:30-9:00 PM and Interlochen Arts Academy Corson Auditorium (Interlochen, MI) on Sunday, October 9th from 1:00-3:00 PM (post-fair workshop, 3:00-4:00 PM, “College Search: What’s Right for You in the Performing and Visual Arts”). For additional information, go to the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) website.

The NACAC website is a helpful resource for college-bound performing and visual arts students. Information includes degree options, types of schools, the application process, assessing your abilities, tips for attending a college fair, frequently asked questions about fairs, and a downloadable checklist for what to ask admissions reps. The web address is www.nacacnet.org/EVENTSTRAINING/COLLEGEFAIRS/PVA/Pages/default.aspx

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR DIRECTOR NOTES

The middle school choirs are off to a great start! We have a total of **161 singers** in: a sixth grade choir, two seventh grade choirs, and an eighth grade choir. We also have our Honors Choir which is made up of selected 7th & 8th grade choir students and meets after school on Tuesdays. All of these choirs are preparing for the **Jazz Concert** with the high school choirs, which will be **October 25th**. Following that concert we will begin working on music for the **Holiday Concert**, which will be **December 8th**. The Elementary Choir will join us for the Holiday Concert. Both of these concerts begin at 7:00 pm in the high school auditorium and both have a warm up time of 6:15 pm (singers need to be there by then). In both cases we will have an Auditorium Rehearsal the day before (which is also required). We will ride school buses to the auditorium and parents need to pick up (or plan a car pool) following that rehearsal. For more information, please see the Choir Handbook and watch for notes coming home 1-2 weeks prior to the concert.

Twelve singers are also preparing for the Middle School Invitational Choir, which will be on November 1st. This Invitational choir will work with a guest conductor, sing with other middle school choir students from other schools, and put on a concert together. Our **8th grade guys** have been invited to sing in a **Men's Ensemble** with other 8th-12th grade men on **November 7th** at the Howard Performing Arts Center.

With all of these singers involved in concerts and other events, there may be questions that I don't fully explain or notes that don't make it all the way home! Parents, please contact me any time you need more information. Email is easiest: cconrad@lakeshoreps.org, or call me: 428-1408, ext. 3099. By communicating, you can help us keep moving forward and cut down on any confusion or misunderstanding. I really appreciate your involvement!

Please make sure uniforms are ready for the October 25th concert (see the Handbook for details). The singers are working hard on their jazz, which gives us great opportunities to read music, work on vocal tone, blend, and the unique stylistic flair that makes jazz so fun to sing. I can't wait for you to hear these talented young singers!

Mrs. Carole Conrad

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR INFORMATION

Congratulations 2011-2012 Middle School Honors Choir!

Soprano

Abby Austin
Izze Miller
Deanna Fife
Hannah Colford
Kaitlyn Fetzner
Nicky Yerington
Taylor Stilwell
Rebecca DePumpo
Kaylee Thompson

Tenor

Nicholas Ventura
Zayne Knuth
Jakob Knuth
Ricky Wallsten
Bryan Marcuzzi
Nathaniel Prince

Alto

Kate Lafrenz
Ella Larson
Rachel Achterberg
Hannah Lane
Tabitha Hoskins
Becca Walsh
Sidney Olmstead
Sam Peters

Bass

Andrew Nasstrom
Nick Orlando
Matt Montgomery
Jalend Coleman
Jaxson Lybbert

Middle School Invitational Choir Participants for 2011

Sam Blankenship
Madison Daniel
Sarah Hagadorn
Ell Morse
Jacob Brown
Savannah Balute

Nicole Burch
Jackie Davis
Samantha Morris
Ariana Warfield
Bryce Robinson
Darrin Wolters

Musical Notes – Choir Quotes

Mrs. Conrad asked her 8th grade class to express what music means to them. Below are a few of the responses. We plan on getting more input from students for future publications.

“Music is enchanting wings that make you fly!”

Heather Duschek

“Choir lets me express my emotions in song.”

Alyssa Harris

“Music is like medicine to me when I am feeling down.”

Sara McGilvra

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES/FUNDRAISERS

Century Resources Fundraiser Sept. 30 - Oct. 14

This annual fundraiser, which benefits individual student accounts as well as overall choir programs, features food, gift items, candles, and more. Orders are due to the directors on Friday, Oct. 14. If your student didn't bring home a packet, you may request one directly through Mrs. Conrad 428-1408, Ext. 3099 or Ms. Rohwer 428-1402, Ext. 2102. We appreciate your prompt assistance with collecting and turning in payment once the orders arrive in early November.

Other fundraisers will be announced as they are finalized.

MS/HS Fall Concert..... Tues., Oct. 25 at 7:00 PM **"An Evening of Jazz"..... Lakeshore Community Auditorium**

The middle and high school choirs will present a variety of jazz and contemporary-style selections in a combined fall concert, "*An Evening of Jazz*," at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, October 25**, in the Lakeshore Community Auditorium. A \$1 donation is requested for admission. The call times for students are: High School, 6:00 PM and Middle School, 6:15 PM. Middle school attire for this concert will be black choir T-shirts, black pants, and black shoes. Students need to be in their concert attire when they arrive.



A concert rehearsal is scheduled for Monday, October 24 in the auditorium. Middle school students will be transported to the auditorium by bus, but they must be picked up from the auditorium at 5:00 PM. High school students will rehearse until 6:00 PM. We need a few parents to help with student supervision during the rehearsal. If you would like to help, please contact Mrs. Conrad.

St. Mary's Festival, Bella Voce Nov. 17 or 18 O'Laughlin Auditorium, Notre Dame, IN One day only—watch HS sign for the actual date and time.

HS Holiday Concert..... Thu., Dec. 1, at 7:00 PM 1st Congregational Church, 2001 Niles Ave., St. Joseph

MS/Elementary Holiday Concert Thu., Dec. 8, at 7:00 PM Lakeshore Community Auditorium

HIGHLIGHTS AND MISCELLANEOUS INFO

Century Resources Fundraiser

September 30-October 14

This annual fundraiser, which benefits individual student accounts as well as overall choir programs, features food, gift items, and more. Packets are available from the directors.

Middle & High School Choirs Fall Concert

"An Evening of Jazz"

Tuesday, October 25 at 7:00 PM
Lakeshore Community Auditorium

Next Choir Boosters Meeting

Monday, October 24 at 5:30 PM
High School Choir Rm. 149
Enter using Door #3
Please join us!

Elementary Choir Registration

All 4th and 5th graders who like to sing are encouraged to register for Elementary Choir! **Starting on Tuesday, October 11, weekly rehearsals will be held in the Roosevelt Music Room from 3:45-4:30 P.M. on Tuesdays.** Hollywood and Stewart students will be transported by bus to Roosevelt. All students need to be picked up at Roosevelt when rehearsal ends. Registration forms and the details are available from Mrs. Hourigan and Mrs. Sterk.

More Musical Notes – Choir Quotes

(From Mrs. Conrad's 8th graders)

"Choir opens doors to life for many people...without it the world would be much more bland."

Matt Montgomery

"I believe music is the path to a person's soul."

Leah Foster

"Music helps me show how I really feel without even saying anything."

Allie Matti

CHOIR BOOSTER NEWS FOR EVERYONE

Everyone Loves a Good Contest...so here you go!!!

We are looking for a new name for the Choir Newsletter and we want help from the choir students. Here are the rules. You must be a Lakeshore Choir participant to enter (this includes Elementary Choirs). Provide us with your best name for the newsletter and the Choir Boosters will select one lucky entry to win a \$25 gift certificate to Target. All entries must be submitted **by email** to Ted Conrad (jtconrad@sbcglobal.net), Newsletter Editor, by November 15, 2011. The new name will first appear in the winter edition of the newsletter, which will be published in January 2012. You can only win if you enter...so give it a try.

Volunteer Sign Up:

Our directors are counting on us to help with a variety of tasks, anything from being a chaperon to helping with choir events and fundraisers. We welcome parents, grandparents, other interested family members, and friends as volunteers. If you didn't already complete and turn in a Volunteer Form along with your student's other registration forms, please sign up by contacting Nancy Poelker, Choir Boosters President, at 429-3976 or nancy@suncoastpkg.com.



Picking Up Your Child

Please do not block parked vehicles when you pick up your child from practices or performances. Parked vehicles must be allowed to leave the parking lot when they are ready.

Wanted: Choir Shoes for Middle School Singers

Every year, we have middle school singers who do not own black shoes for choir. For some students, this creates a financial hardship. Since we have singers every year who are ready to discard their outgrown shoes, we are again accepting donations of choir shoes. They must be black, closed toe, low heel, and in good condition. Donations may be dropped off at the Middle School Choir Room. Thank you!



Last Minute Updates About the Choirs

When choir events are coming up, please be sure to watch your e-mail and the High School sign. We put whatever we can in our newsletter and on the website, but sometimes we need to share information on short notice, anything from weather cancellations to festival performance dates and times. In these circumstances, we must rely on group e-mails and the High School sign. We may not be able to get a last-minute change posted on the website.



Are You In Our Database...Are You Getting Choir E-Mails?

The directors and Choir Boosters use group e-mail to issue reminders, last minute changes, volunteer alerts, etc. All choir parents should have received an e-mail by the time of their student's first concert. If you haven't, it's most likely because your spam filter isn't letting our e-mails go through or there's a problem with our master database. Your spam filter is less likely to be a problem if you enter the following email addresses (from the Choir Connections page) in the Contacts section of your address book:

Choir Director(s), Publicity Chair, and Volunteer Coordinator

If you are still not receiving our emails, then check that you are in the master database by sending an email with "Sign Me Up" in the subject line to LakeshoreChoirsInfo@gmail.com.

Choir Website

You can access our calendar, latest newsletter, and more by going to our website at www.lakeshoreschools.k12.mi.us. Start by clicking on any school. The choir program appears in the drop down menu under "Extracurricular Activities."

Help Keep Our Mailing List Up-to-Date

Please let us know if you move during the school year. This will make sure that you receive choir mailings in a timely manner. Even though you let the school office know of a change of address, this information may not make it into the choir database. In addition, if your student is also in band, you need to let both know about address changes. Please advise the Publicity Chair of any address changes.