



HOME OF THE BLUE DEVILS

DAVENPORT CENTRAL

Volume 1
Issue 5
December
2006

DAVENPORT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, DAVENPORT, IOWA

Music Department Newsletter

MESSIAH: GIFT TO THE COMMUNITY

The December 8th concert in the Lyceum will mark the 55th consecutive performance of what has become known as the "Messiah Concert."

Begun as a "Gift to the Community" by the Scottish Rite Bodies, the first concert didn't feature the wide selection of repertoire offered in the program familiar to most concert goers. The first performance in 1951 featured the Davenport High School's (now Central) performance of Gian-Carlo Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors." As West and North High Schools were established the performance was expanded to include the choirs, orchestras, and bands of these schools.

This year, brass players from the Central Band will play seasonal music in the foyer as members of the audience enter the Lyceum for the concert. Vocal and orchestra students from all three high schools will join with the wind and percussion players from West to perform five choruses from Handel's "Sacred Oratorio" MESSIAH. Also participating with the orchestra will be the

wind and percussionists who were chosen to perform in the All State ensembles in November.

Opening the musical portion of the concert will be the West Band, under the direction of Dennis Mott. Next, the orchestra will perform three secular and sacred pieces under the direction of the three high school directors, Dr. Margaret Wheeler, Jerry Henry, and Fred Morden.

Finally, the choirs and orchestra will present the following choruses from the MESSIAH:

And the Glory of the Lord

For Unto Us a Child is Born

Glory to God

Lift Up Your Head O Ye Gates

Hallelujah

John Bernatz, DCSD Music Facilitator, said, "This concert is still a big attraction for many members of the greater Davenport community." One reason why the program is so special for the community is that the admission price is free. Citizens who can not af-

ford to attend live concerts return to the DCSD Messiah concert for its tradition and musical quality.

The music from the Messiah represents more than the celebration of the life and death of Jesus. It also represents Baroque music at its height of popularity and the historical context within which it was written. Considered a great work of musical art in its own right and a great teaching "tool", the Messiah contains all the "tone painting," metaphoric use of music, both melismatic (slurring) and syllabic use of text, and the recitative, aria, chorus forms that were developed from the mid 1600's.

At the beginning of the first performance of the "Hallelujah" chorus, the King of England suddenly stood up. As he was the king, everyone else stood as well and a Messiah tradition was born. Today, at the introduction of the "Hallelujah" chorus, audience members rise for its performance. Perhaps, this was the first "audience participation" musical experience. Maybe not.

Orchestra Dept. Launches Music Scholarship

The December 13th orchestra concert is a new venture for two reasons: It will be an added holiday concert to their calendar and the funds from the concert will provide "seed" money for the first music scholarship fund.

Mr. Morden has been thinking about this project for two years. "We give them awards, but not what they really need in college...financial support and scholarship recognition for music." The Orchestra Department is not trying to fund college

educations, only to provide some financial recognition for students who have served the Central music department for four years.

"Even if it's only \$100," commented Morden, "that's a lot of minimum wage hours to save."

Revenue from the concert will also be used to repay the Band/Orchestra Parents Association for the purchase of much needed new violas and cellos. Four violas have been received with four cellos arriving soon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MESSIAH Concert	Dec. 5
Fruit & Nut Distribution	Dec. 7
ORCH. Scholarship Concert	Dec. 13
Vocal Concert at Trinity	Dec. 18
LAST DAY (2 hr. Early Out)	Dec. 22
Classes Resume	Jan. 3, 2007
9th Gr. Choral/Orch. Concert	January 8

CHOIR

By Brian Higdon

Holiday Singers

The CHS Holiday Singers hit the road this week bringing holiday music to the Davenport Community. Divided into two groups, the singers go to many places to spread cheer during the holiday season. Businesses like Lagomarcinos open their doors to Central singers and the Central Quartet each year to provide seasonal music for dinner and for shopping.

“It’s a good avenue to get kids out into the community, and to present Central,” said Ms. Wall.

Annual Winter Concert

December 18th at Trinity Cathedral across the street from CHS. The vocal department will present 10th-12th grade choirs performing music that is both “sacred and secular,” said Mr. Reese. This concert will highlight the growth of the singers and will be wonderful entertainment in the atmosphere of Trinity Cathedral. Things to look forward to at the concert will be collaboration between

SENIOR: EMILY HAYES

By Brian Higdon

Ever since Band Spectacular her seventh grade year, Emily Hayes had wanted to be a drum major at Central High School. Now that she’s been one of the drum majors, she enjoyed the experience.

Even though Emily took her role as drum major seriously, her favorite part of the job was being able to watch part of the show. Her favorite part of the show was watching the rotation box because gave her goose-bumps every time.

One key part of her duties was getting

BAND

the 10-12 choirs, songs sung by the Holiday singers, the refreshments after the concert, and Ms Wall’s new baton. The freshman choir will be having their own separate concert in January with the freshman orchestra.

BOA Results

Marching Band brought home 65th place from BOA. While this is a drop in placement compared to previous years, it was a consensus among parents, staff, and students, that it was their best performance of the year.

Considering the late arrival of the new directors, complexity of the show, and the reduced size of the band, band staff members felt it was a good showing for the organization.

The BOA experience is about more than score placement. “It’s about seeing other groups, learning new things, and working as a team.” Said Kendall Carrier, Director of Band Activities.

Concert Band Starts

the band going during rehearsal and keeping her band-mates motivated. It aggravated her when people acted lethargically. When they did that, she had to get after them, which she said was the worst part about being a drum major. Emily appreciated the new directors’ enthusiastic attitude toward the program that they had just come into, and their desire to help the program grow more. Emily isn’t sure yet where she is going to college, but knows she want to major in pre-dental in order to become an orthodontist.

Good luck Emily

ORCHESTRA

With the beginning of “B” term, band members come inside and begin concert band season. Band personnel also changes as non-marchers join the ensemble.

Jazz Band(s) Begins

Do-bop-dee-bop, yup, the CHS Jazz Ensembles have started rehearsals. If you are interested in jazz be sure to see Mr. Carrier soon.

Orchestra Forms Chamber Ensembles

String players from the orchestra department are preparing to play gigs (jobs) during the rest of the school year. Three Quartets, two Trios, and one woodwind group are being coached by Mr. Morden to perform for dinners, receptions, weddings, and the holiday season.

Each year, string players divide up into groups to play holiday music for shoppers in the Village of East Davenport. Some quartets playing for more formal events of the season. Organized by Lagomarcino’s, players receive donations and goodies from the stores in which they perform. “It’s a nice way to serve the community and make a little extra money for the holidays.” Said Mr. Morden.

PAULSEN: OUTSTANDING TEEN

Katy Paulsen, violinist and baton twirler, was crowned “Miss Scott County” at North High School. Actually, her title is “Miss Scott County’s Outstanding Teen.”

Katy competed for the title last August where she was interviewed by a panel of judges on her platform and current events. She performed her talent (Twirling to “Devil with the Blue Dress On”), modeled active wear and evening gown and answered two on-stage questions.

In June, she won “Miss Majorette of the North” in Minneapolis and placed 9th overall at Miss Majorette Pageant at Notre Dame in July.

ORCHESTRA GRADS TO MEET WITH CHS MUSIC JUNIORS AND SENIORS

What’s the first semester of college like? How is it different for music majors and minors? How can I best prepare myself for the first big semester of college?

These questions, as well as others, will be discussed on Dec. 19th at 7pm in the orchestra room 167 as CHS Orchestra Grads meet with current CHS juniors and seniors.

Central High School graduates a large number of students who continue their musical training in college. The study of

music, at the college level, is difficult, intense, and very time demanding. At some colleges, music students are required to take more credits (classes) than the average students. At one prestigious school of music, music majors are required to take 136 credits to graduate, when 120 is the norm.

Central students have, for the most part, made the transition to college without a snag. According to orchestra teacher, Mr. Morden, this is not good enough. “We can do much better. Every Central grad should

be confident and prepared to make a successful transition to college.” Mr. Morden said that informative communication between grads and current CHS students reduces unpleasant surprises and increases the chances of a positive and productive first semester.

Meeting with

GRADS and CHS Jr.&Sr.

Dec. 19, 7pm, Orchestra Room 167

GO BLUE!

ORCHESTRA (cont...)

9th Graders Join Forces

“We think they can do it.” Michael Reese, Director of Choral Activities.

On January 7th, the 9th grade chorus and the 9th grade string ensemble will combine to present several moments of Vivaldi’s “GLORIA.” This will be an exciting new venture for the CHS groups because traditionally, combined works are not attempted

until students are older and more experienced. Last year, at Centennial Hall on the campus of Augustana College, the CHS Symphony and 9th Grade Strings were joined by the entire vocal department for performances of Mozart’s “Ave verum corpus,” “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” and a popular song.

This year, the combined groups will collaborate again on the Centennial Hall stage but will also prepare joint performances for their trip to New York in May.

Looking to the future, Mr. Morden was excited about the level of growth displayed by this year’s 9th grade class. “This group of 9th graders is ready.” Said a confident Mr. Morden. “They have the potential to play a major role in the music program over the next four years, they might as well start doing it now.”

The Vivaldi performance is scheduled for January 8th in Kahler Auditorium.

Bugisu COFFEE SALES

“If you haven’t tried it, it’s really remarkable...very smooth and delicious.” Fred Morden

Even if you just get one bag for yourself (\$10) it’s worth it.

Turn in dates for sales sheets are Dec. 13, 14, 15th.

If you need more sales sheets, there are additional sales envelopes in Mr. Morden’s room.

BAND PARENTS:

- Band Video from the Newspaper
- Pictures available from Parents’ Night
are all available.
- New website up. Check it out for the most current information. www.dcbands.org

MOSTLY PARENT-TYPE INFO.

For a monthly revised CHS Music Department Calendar, go to www.davenport.k12.ia.us/central
Click on A-Z
Click on “M” for music

SEE THE PREMIERING OF THE 2007 SHOWS OF *BLUE VIBES, & CENTRAL SINGERS, INC.* TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR Show Choir Dinner Theater January 6 (Saturday) 6pm doors open 7pm Dinner 8pm Show (The new BV & CSI Shows)
Tickets: \$15 each. Make checks payable to “CHS Vocal Boosters) Available from any show choir student, Davide Iglehart’s office at 3429 Spring Street—355-3600 or Mr. Reese & Ms. Wall

FRUIT AND NUT DISTRIBUTION DECEMBER 7 PICK UP ORDERS AT

NEW Place!

KLEMME KLASSIC KAR
East side of Brady St. just before the stadium

NEED A PRIVATE MUSIC TEACHER?

Are private lessons required in order to participate in the CHS music program? Private lessons are a huge help in advancing students to higher levels of musicianship, but they are not required to participate in the CHS music

program.

But, the reality of learning to perform music is that a great deal of instrumental and vocal music requires the accumulation of skills, both physical and mental. And, there is one indisputable fact about those students who sit

at the front of their sections or are selected to sing solos, most all take private lessons. Private teachers bring more intense personal attention and motivation to young musicians.

Where can you or your parents find information about private music teachers? Mr. Morden has a list of teachers who accept private students.

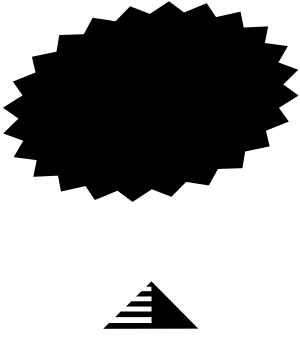
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Are You Connected?

Not receiving emails? Contact the following addresses for the latest Information. We depend on email to quickly get important information And the CHS Music Dept. Newsletter out to everyone.

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CHS Music Dept. Newsletter: mordenf@davenportschools.org

CHECK THE DECEMBER MUSIC DEPARTMENT CALENDAR FOR ANY CHANGES



Caption describing picture or graphic.