

Notes from Voices in Harmony

The Newsletter of a Premier Community Choir

An Affiliate of the Crystal Lake Park District

Volume 24, Issue 3

April 2011

Twenty-Fourth Year of Excellence in Choral Music!

Partners In Song:
Heart and Voice

PRESENTED BY

Voices in Harmony
Steven Szalaj, Director

Heartland Voices
through music, the heart soars
Directed by Dr. John Slawson

Two
Great Choirs

One
Dynamic Performance



From The Podium

Steven Szalaj
Artistic Director

Partners in Song: Heart and Voice takes *Voices in Harmony* into a new venture: sharing a concert with another *adult* chorus! **VIH** has collaborated throughout our history with a children's choir, soloists and various instrumental groups, but when **Heartland Voices** joins with us, you will hear two unique choirs with a total of over seventy adult voices.

Heartland Voices, directed by Dr. John Slawson, is a 28-voice choir comprised of professional and professionally trained singers based in Elgin, IL. You can find out more information at www.heartlandvoices.com.

Each choir will sing several selections by themselves, bringing their distinct sound and expression to you. We will be performing four selections together, two of which are written for double choir. All the music on the concert is written by American choral composers. The listener will enjoy the rich diversity of sounds as much as we have enjoyed learning to sing them.

This collaboration also gives **VIH** an opportunity to perform the concert one additional time at a venue in which **Heartland Voices** normally performs. If you are unable to attend the concert at the Raue Center on April 17, perhaps you can attend this performance:

Saturday, April 9, 2011 7:30 PM
First United Methodist Church
216 East Highland Avenue, Elgin, IL

Join *Voices in Harmony* and **Heartland Voices** in this kaleidoscope of American choral gems, **Partners in Song: Heart and Voice**. Sunday, April 17, 2011, 4 pm.

Sunday April 17 @ 4 PM **Raue Center For The Arts**
26 N. Williams Street in Historic Downtown Crystal Lake

Tickets: Adults \$18, Students & Seniors \$15 ★ Children under 12 FREE with paying adult
Group rates available for groups of 10 or more ★ Tickets available at the Raue Center Box Office
815-356-9212 or online at www.rauecenter.org

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This concert is funded in part by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.



www.voices-in-harmony.org



From The Other Podium

Dr. John Slawson
Artistic Director
Heartland Voices

"Greetings from down south in Elgin." It is an honor for Heartland Voices to collaborate with Steve Szalaj and Voices in Harmony on this concert of great American music. One of the great things about choral music is that it can touch the lives of many different kinds of people, i.e., doctors, lawyers, teachers, housewives, secretaries, students, and more, all coming together to do one thing--communicate a great text through beautiful music. It is our hope that you will enjoy the music today and hear the multitude of voices uniting to share this great art form with our audiences. As I tell my singers every time I write to them--Keep a Song in Your Heart!!

Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent. ~Victor Hugo



From The President's Corner

Jennifer Oberbillig

Happy Spring Everyone!! WooHoo!! I can't tell you how wonderful it is to see the snow melt away and the sun re-appear!! The blizzard of 2011 is now a memory!!

As we begin the conclusion of our season **Voices in Harmony** is looking forward to seeing everyone at our spring concert, **Partners in Song: Voices Together**, a combined concert with Heartland Voices. The music will feature double choir music, all of which has been quite challenging.

This has truly been another brilliant year of performing colorful choral settings and arrangements.

Our fall concert, **Partners in Song: Lyrics and Tunes**, featured great music inspired by famous composer and lyricist partnerships including George and Ira Gershwin, Gilbert & Sullivan, Rogers & Hammerstein. Our traditional **Sing-Along Messiah** concert, my favorite, started the holiday season this year on Dec 12th in our 3rd year of partnership with the Raue Center For The Arts. The Raue featured VIH in their program and on their website as a Special Holiday Event.

~~~Repertoire for~~~

## Partners in Song: Heart and Voice

### Performed by Heartland Voices

*Water Night* ..... Eric Whitacre  
*Animal Crackers - Volume 1* ..... Eric Whitacre  
*Make Our Garden Grow* ..... Leonard Bernstein  
*Ride On* ..... Moses Hogan

### Performed by Voices in Harmony

*I Am In Need of Music* ..... David Brunner  
*Come to Me My Love* ..... Norman Dello Joio  
*In His Care-O* ..... William Dawson  
*Shaker Songs* ..... arranged by Kevin Siefried  
*Blow Ye the Trumpet* ..... Kirke Mechem  
*One Voice* ..... Daniel Gawthrop

### Performed by Both Choirs

*This Moment* ..... Mark Hayes  
*Her Sacred Spirit Soars* ..... Eric Whitacre  
*Have Ye Not Seen/Ye Shall Have a Song* ..... Randall Thompson  
*United in Song* ..... Paul Halley

As usual, we continue with a myriad of activities, with our Fundraising Team leading the way. We have begun to restructure our efforts toward fundraising to include setting short and long-term goals for the organization, some of which include an assistant director and sound shell.

This year's fundraising events included a social evening at Pinstripes in Barrington. Who knew bocce ball was so challenging a game?! Bocce ball and bowling were the main events with food galore!! The choir is still raising money through candy sales from the South Bend Chocolate Company, and we are hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Wine Tasting Event hosted by 1776's wine expert Andy Andresky with the Lakeside Legacy Arts Park.

The Illinois Arts Council contributed \$1500 in grant funds toward our concert season and we have applied to the McHenry County Community Foundation for a corporate sponsorship of the Sing-along Messiah for next year.

As they say, see you at the Raue as I hope you will come out to see us perform **Partners in Song: Voices Together** April 17<sup>th</sup>!! Until then, may you enjoy this wonderful spring!!



## Do you enjoy music?

## Do you enjoy singing?

*Voices in Harmony* is a non-profit group composed of area singers who enjoy sharing the gift of music with others. VIH performs a number of concerts each year at the Raue Center for the Arts in downtown Crystal Lake.

A summer concert is performed at Crystal Lake Main Beach.

New members are welcome to join us in June when we begin rehearsals for our summer concert. For more information contact Monica Szalaj at 815-455-4879 or mszalaj@me.com.



*Voices in Harmony*  
is funded in part by a grant  
from the Illinois Arts Council

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Our apologies to those  
patrons not included at the  
time of this printing.

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Woodstock Animal Hospital

All patrons are gratefully acknowledged in our concert programs and newsletters. *Voices In Harmony* is a not-for-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law. Taxpayer ID# 36-3673369. Please make checks payable to "Voices in Harmony." Mail to VIH, P.O. Box 1690, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-1690.

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*Voices in Harmony* is a member of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce

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# VOICES IN HARMONY

*A Premier Community Choir*

P.O. Box 1690

Crystal Lake, IL 60039-1690

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## *Voices in Harmony*

~~~UPCOMING CONCERTS~~~

Partners in Song: Heart and Voice

Saturday, April 9, 2011 7:30 PM

First United Methodist Church
216 East Highland Avenue, Elgin, IL

Sunday, April 17, 2011 4:00 PM

Raue Center for the Arts

Heartland Voices, Dr. John Slawson, Artistic Director/Principal Conductor, will join with *Voices in Harmony* for a celebration of vocal music. **Heartland Voices**, based in Elgin, will bring their unique artistry together with **VIH** to provide a richly varied and dynamic program presenting the best of the choral art. This is sure to be a memorable concert experience.

Summer Concert

Tuesday June 28, 2011 7:00 pm

Crystal Lake Main Beach band shell

VIH invites you to join our Summer Festival Chorus as we present a free program of patriotic and American favorites, with a special focus on gospel, spirituals and folk songs. Come enjoy an evening of fun music! Bring a lawn chair or blanket!

>**VIH Wine Tasting Fundraiser**<

Sunday April 10, 2011 1:00 ~ 5:00 pm

At the

Lakeside Legacy Arts Park

(formerly Dole Mansion)

401 Country Club Road ~ Crystal Lake, Illinois

\$20 per person ~ Tickets available now or at the door

Numerous wine vendors & Refreshments

Entertainment provided by

The Voices in Harmony Ensemble & Together Again ~ A Jazz Duo

Ticket proceeds and a portion of wine sales will benefit the choir

Hosted once again by our long-time, loyal supporters and wine experts from

1776 Restaurant

For more information or to purchase tickets see a choir member or email vih1690@gmail.com or (847) 682-5168
