

Dear Choral Union Members Past and (hopefully) Future,

It's that time of year again. I'm looking forward to preparing you for three concerts of great music this year.

Please note that our first rehearsal will be on Wednesday, September 4 in room 147 of the Communications Arts & Sciences Building at the SE corner of Red Cedar & Wilson roads. Rehearsal begins at 7 pm but please plan to arrive early to purchase scores and to register. You may also register directly with the Community Music School, online at <a href="https://cms.msu.edu/el/register/index.html">https://cms.msu.edu/el/register/index.html</a> or by phone at (517) 355-7661. Please note that the membership fee is \$53.50 per semester and the student rate is \$41.25 per semester. There is a discount for MSU faculty, staff and students so please ASK when you register.

Our upcoming season includes the following:

Saturday, November 2, 8 pm. Wharton Center with the LSO, Timothy Muffitt, conducting. Mahler *Symphony No. 2*. <u>PLEASE NOTE: we will have a 30 minute rehearsal with orchestra Thursday</u> evening at 9:15 (AFTER church choir rehearsals) and then a full dress on Friday evening.

Sunday, December 8, 3 pm. St. Mary Cathedral, Lansing, with the MSU Symphony, Jonathan Reed conducting. Poulenc *Gloria* and selections from Handel "Christmas" portion of *Messiah* <u>PLEASE</u> <u>NOTE:</u> dress rehearsals on <u>FRIDAY evening</u> and <u>SATURDAY</u> evening (not morning as is typical).

Wednesday, April 22, 7:30 pm. Wharton Center with MSU Symphony Orchestra, David Rayl conducting. Beethoven *Mass in C* (Yes, this concert is on Wednesday evening. Less than ideal, I know. Orchestra dress rehearsals on **MONDAY** and **TUESDAY** at 7:00 pm).

If you know of anyone who would like to join us please let them know that auditions will be held on Wednesday, September 4 and Wednesday, September 11 at 6 pm in Room 147 of the Communication Arts & Sciences Building. Here is a news release that you can share with your friends via email, Facebook, etc.

SCORES: We will use legally Xeroxed scores for the Mahler, but you'll need to purchase the pianovocal score for the Poulenc (\$20). We will use the SAME Bärenreiter score for Messiah that we have used the past several years.

I'm excited about the coming season and look forward to seeing you in September.

David Rayl Director of Choral Programs and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research Michigan State University