

Mansfield University  
Butler 105  
Spring 2009

Greetings to all interested in the Mansfield University choral program!

I am writing to share my enthusiasm for the coming year's choral activities. Included with this letter is the calendar of choral events. As you can see, the events and performances feature a wide array of choral activities and a very special appearance by the Concert Choir at the National Collegiate Choral Conference held at Yale University in November!

The choral program welcomes singers from all fields of interest, music majors and non-majors alike, and singers from the surrounding community. Please visit my web site at [www.peggydettwiler.com](http://www.peggydettwiler.com) for more information about the various ensembles, including sound bites. Over 200 singers regularly participate each year!

The theme for this year's holiday choral concerts is "Behold a Star." Music for men's, women's, and mixed choirs that features music about stars in the sacred and secular world will resound from Steadman Theatre on December 4th & 5th and then in the Troy High School Auditorium on December 6th. Songs from the Renaissance to the Contemporary will be featured and familiar carols with audience participation will add to the holiday spirit. During the spring semester, the Festival Chorus will perform the annual major choral work with full orchestra and professional soloists. You won't want to miss being a part of some great choral music-making!

All of those interested in participating in a choir must sing for placement on Saturday through Monday, August 29 - 31 in Butler 105. You may sign up for an audition time on the bulletin board next to Butler 105. There will be a form to fill out. Note the performance requirements for each ensemble included with this letter.

I will be available when you arrive on campus to answer any questions, or you may call me at (570) 662-4721. My e-mail address is [pdettwil@mansfield.edu](mailto:pdettwil@mansfield.edu). I look forward to seeing you and hearing you sing!

Sincerely,

Peggy Dettwiler, D.M.A  
Director of Choral Activities  
[www.peggydettwiler.com](http://www.peggydettwiler.com)

## **CHORAL PLACEMENT AUDITIONS - FALL 2009**

The choral program is designed to provide students with an opportunity to continue their choral music participation during their college years. Both music majors and non-music majors are invited to participate in any of the groups.

**To be held Saturday through Monday, August 29-31, in Butler 105. When you arrive on campus, please sign up for a time on the door of Butler 105. Incoming freshmen are encouraged to find a time on Saturday or early Sunday. All voice majors must sing placement auditions and be in a large ensemble - either Festival Chorus or Concert Choir.**

### **AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:**

#### **Festival Chorus (meets Tues. 7 - 9 pm and Thurs. 7 - 8 pm for women & 8 - 9 pm for men)**

A large mixed chorus open to all university students as well as community singers. Rehearses three hours a week and performs a variety of choral repertoire including major choral works. Has performed Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *B Minor Mass*, Verdi's *Requiem*, Brahms's *Requiem*, Fauré's *Requiem*, Haydn's *Creation* and *Paukenmesse*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, and Mozart's *Requiem & C Minor Mass*. Also joins with the Concert Choir to form separate women's and men's choruses. Students must audition for voice placement into sections.

**Please be prepared to sing a brief solo of your choice or "My country 'tis of thee". You will also be asked to vocalize for range.**

#### **Mansfieldians (meets Mon., Wed., & Fri. 3:30 – 4:20 pm)**

A highly select ensemble of 12 singers which specializes in vocal jazz as well as music for the vocal chamber ensemble. Rehearses three hours a week. Will perform with the M.U. Concert Jazz Ensemble in October and will present a Holiday Dinner concert in December. Frequent off-campus performances. Audition required. **Same audition as Concert Choir. Call-backs will include some assigned jazz and madrigal music.**

#### **Concert Choir (meets Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 11:30am – 12:20 pm, and Thursdays 7 - 8 pm for women & 8 - 9 pm for men)**

A select mixed choir of about 50 voices. Rehearses four hours a week on choral literature spanning five centuries and in a variety of languages. Joins with other choruses for festival concerts and takes an annual tour. The group has performed at state, regional, and national conventions each of the last sixteen years, toured Europe in May of 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, and 2008 and produced eleven compact discs. Audition required.

**Please be prepared to sing a brief solo of your choice that displays your best tone quality. You will also be asked to vocalize for range, sing tonal memory patterns, sightread, and sing the excerpts on the handout attached to this paper. Choose the melodic line according to your voice part and sing with the text. Work for musical accuracy and precision.**

**MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY MUSIC DEPARTMENT  
CHORAL CALENDAR of EVENTS for 2009-2010  
(All events in Steadman Theatre unless otherwise noted)**

Sept. 11-12	Concert Choir Retreat Weekend
Fri. Sept. 25, 8 pm	Prism Concert (Concert Choir & Mansfieldians)
Sat. Sept. 26, 7 pm	Prism Concert (repeat concert)
Sat. Oct. 10, 7 pm	Prism Concert (for Homecoming)
Fri., Oct. 23 (all day)	Young Men's Choral Festival with Scott Tucker, Conductor
Sat., Oct. 24, 8 pm	Mansfieldians/Jazz Ensemble Concert
Sat., Oct. 31, 7:30 pm	Choral Collage (all choral ensembles)
Nov. 5 – 7, 2009	Concert Choir to Yale University for NCCO Conference
Sat. Nov. 14, 8 pm	Opera Workshop
Sun., Nov. 15, 3 pm	Opera Workshop
Fri. Dec. 4, 7:30 pm	Holiday Choral Concert -“Behold a Star”
Sat. Dec. 5, 7:30 pm	Holiday Choral Concert (repeat performance)
Sun. Dec. 6, 7:30 pm	Holiday Choral Concert in Troy Memorial Auditorium
Thurs. Dec. 10, 6:30 pm	Mansfieldians Holiday Dinner Concert at Wren's Nest
February 10-13	ACDA Eastern Division Convention
February 25-28	Musical Theatre Production
March 21, 3 pm	Mansfieldians Spring Concert (St. James Episcopal Church)
April 9 & 10	Festival Chorus major work performances
April 15, 7 pm	Mansfieldians Jazz Concert
April 17, 7:30 pm	Concert Choir Home Concert
April 22-24	PMEA State Conference