

Have you ever stopped to consider the influence music has on the entire educational program?
Here are some examples:

Science: Music is a specialized science which deals with the qualities of sound, acoustics and timbre. Extensive training is given to the aural discrimination between like pitches and those that are different.

Mathematics: Although it is a simplified form of arithmetic, counting in groups of two, three, four and higher are used consistently in all music repertoire. When teaching the values of rhythmic notation, we develop and reinforce the concepts of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

Geography: Music is common, but unique to every culture on Earth. Each music selection that our students present utilizes rhythmic patterns and a specified tonality. Both have their origins from other regions and countries on the globe. When performing these, we raise the awareness of the world around us.

History: Through an appreciation of music, students study the great composers of the past. When musicians understand the intentions of the composer's masterpiece, they gain insight to all historical eras. Music acts as a blueprint, testimonial, and archive to the people and the events of the Antiquity, Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary Eras. As musicians, we are able to experience a piece of history through performance of a musical selection.

Language Arts: When analyzing a music composition, the performer will note the relationship of the concerto / symphonic form with that of the basic essay formate emphasized in writing class. Although a simple framework, the standard exposition-developmental-recapitulation construction of music has a direct correlation with the author's thesis statement-development-conclusion. The phrasing of the musical line in a performance has a direct relationship with the vocal inflections emphasizing portions of the basic sentence.

Foreign Language: The music which our ensembles perform has its inception from western European civilization. With an awareness of the terminology printed throughout the sheet music, performers gain significant knowledge in the Italian language. Depending on the selection's difficulty and composer, German, French and Spanish terms may be introduced. As a result of the terminology, musicians understand the similarities between English and the Romantic / Germanic languages. The root words, prefixes, and suffixes located in the foreign language find their way directly into the English derivative. This goes a long way in building a strong vocabulary base, and will inevitably improve the students' all important standardized test scores.

Physical Education: When starting and developing the wind and vocal musician, a significant amount of time is spent on developing proper breath support and appropriate respiratory habits. Rehearsals, if properly orchestrated, are as intensive and exhaustive as jogging and swimming laps. In addition, motor skills are advanced substantially when playing percussion, woodwind, brass and string instruments. As with all sports organizations, the concepts of teamwork and cooperation are exploited in the band, orchestra and chorus setting.

-National Association for Music Education (NAfME)

Robbinsville School District Choral Music Department

Presents

A Holiday Concert

December 13, 2015

3:00 pm

Robbinsville Performing Arts Center



The Program

Pond Road 8th Grade Choir

Mr. PJ Heckman, Director
Mr. Mark Laseter, Accompanist

Evening Star.....Victor C. Johnson

Pond Road 7th and 8th Grade Choirs

Mr. PJ Heckman, Director
Mr. Mark Laseter, Accompanist

Bring Me Little Water, Silvy.....Ledbetter
Arr. G. Gilpin

The Lion Sleeps Tonight.....Weiss, Peretti & Creatore
Arr. A. Billingsly

Keep Holding On.....Lavigne & Gottwald
Arr. M. Huff

The First Noel.....Traditional
Arr. D. Forrest

S'Vivon (Dreydl Spin).....Traditional
Arr. N. Grundahl

Let There Be Peace On Earth.....Miller & Jackson
Arr. K. Christopher



Please refrain from any video and/or audio recording. As per United States Copyright law any recording of a performance is strictly prohibited.

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Mr. Brian Williams, Choral Director

Pond Road Middle School

Mr. Paul Gizzo, Principal

Ms. Suzanne Guidry, Assistant Principal

Ms. Roxann Clarke-Holmes, Assistant Principal

Mr. PJ Heckman, Choral Director

Concert Etiquette for Audience Members You Are Part of the Concert

The audience members, as well as the musicians, are participants in every concert. When you participate in listening to the music, you will be taking an important part by sharing this experience with others in the audience and with the musicians on stage. Formal concerts are much different from rock concerts or sporting events, and require you to know some specific concert manners. In order to make a concert enjoyable for everyone, here are some tips to remember.

- Enter the auditorium quietly. Once you have been seated, be alert to activity on the stage as the musicians take their place for the concert. The audience should be quiet while the band tunes.
- When the conductor enters, it is customary to applaud politely. Whistling, yelling or screaming is not appropriate at any time before, during, or after a concert.
- Never stand or move around while music is being performed. It distracts listeners around you, as well as the performers. If you must leave for any reason, wait until a piece is finished, and the audience is applauding. Also, return to your seat only between numbers. If you are carrying a screaming child, PLEASE leave quickly!
- It is impolite to talk, or ever whisper, while the music is being performed. Listeners and performers are also distracted by sounds from programs, candy wrappers, jewelry and other objects. Remain still, and be respectful by talking or making sounds only between numbers.
- It is impolite to send/receive text messages, play electronic games, or read from a tablet during the performance. The light from electronic devices disturbs your fellow audience members and makes you seem disinterested in the performance.
- It is impolite to allow small children to wander throughout the auditorium, or to discipline small children during the performance.
- It is impolite to eat or drink refreshments during a concert.
- Always say “excuse me,” if you must pass in front of someone while going to or away from your seat.
- If you must cough or sneeze while the music is being performed, always try to muffle the sound with a tissue or handkerchief. Wait until the piece is finished if possible.
- Watch the conductor when the music stops to decide whether or not to applaud. Some musical works have several parts or movements and the audience is expected to applaud only after all movements have been performed. Other times, the conductor wants a bit of silence before the applause begins. Wait until the conductor’s arms are fully dropped to his sides before applauding.

If you always remember these simple rules, and use your own good manners, you can feel confident attending a concert anywhere.

-National Association for Music Education (NAfME)

RHS Select Choir Mr. Brian Williams, Director Ms. Erica Silver, Accompanist

Riu, Riu, Chiu.....Traditional Spanish Carol
Soloists: Alex Reitter, Kaeleigh Sturgeon, Rachel Leonard, & Erin Godfrey Arr. R. Robinson

Il Est Ne.....Traditional French Carol
Arr. M. Hayes

Gaudete.....Traditional Christmas Carol
Soloist: Etai Clyde Arr. B. Kay

Text Me Merry Christmas.....D. Javerbaum & A. Schlesinger
Soloists: Abigail Valerio & Mark Troy Arr. A. Billingsley

RHS Concert Choir Mr. Brian Williams, Director Ms. Erica Silver, Accompanist

Go Tell It!.....Traditional Spiritual
Arr. J. Schrader

Nanita Lullaby.....Spanish Carol
Arr. E. Rentz

All I Want for Christmas Is You.....M. Carey & W. Afanasieff
Soloist: Lauren Rejent Arr. M. Huff

The Chanukah Song (We Are Lights).....S. Schwartz
Soloists: Anna Given, Lily Coggins, Sean Carr, & Andrew Malabunga Arr. M. Huff

Christmas in Three Quarter Time.....Various Carols
Arr. M. Brymer

The Twelve Days After Christmas.....F. Silver

RHS Concert Choir & PRMS 7th and 8th Grade Choir Ms. Eric Silver, Accompanist

Hope for Resolution.....P. Caldwell & S. Ivory

Pond Road Middle School 7th Grade Choir

Jaelyn Aston-Frye
Jonathan Blando
Valarie Brown
Aidan Carr
Sophia Catalina
Victoria Cheung
Nina Chhor
Shivani Chokkalingam
Alexa Cohen
Isabel Cox
Emmalyn D'Amico
Gavin D'Cruz
Katelyn Delmarco
Olivia DelPrete
Fiona Dennis
Jordan Dicker
Rugved Dikay
Dilvin Dogan
Rafael Ferreira
Francesca Fusco

Abigail Gafgen
Elena Gavlick
Kavyareddy Golamaru
Blake Gommoll
Vivienne Halm
Sarah Hoplock
Elizabeth Howe
Bridget Keeler
Kyle Kempton
Alexa Klepper
Charles Kowalski
Elizabeth Krist
Alisha Kulkarni
Anjali Kumar
Larissa Leigh
Avraelle Liao
Sanya Mann
Marlana Mentzer
Emily Milo
Daniela Miranda

Gabriella Natale
Andrew Nelson
Devan Pandya
Cara Pergament
Jonas Peter
Alexander Previl
Varsha Raghupathi
Samuel Regen
Rhiannon Reinhard
Brianna Riccobono
Abigail Sauerbaum
Apoorva Savanur
Morgan Shapiro
Annakah Smolensky
Keith Terry
Kavya Velliangiri
Amar Vyas
Anand Vyas
Elaine Wolochuk
Claire Yammine

Pond Road Middle School 8th Grade Choir

Madelaine Benowitz
Micaela Bernard
Adrianna Birchenough
Jynelle Boac
Laura Bradley
Keighly Butler
Emilio Cavalli
Jack Cavanaugh-Gialloreto
James Cavanaugh-Gialloreto
Jade Chau
David Cruz
Mykala Davison
Joelle DelPrete
Samantha DeMartino
Jacquelyn Denisco
Deborah Devaraj
Tyler DiNinno
Abigail Dorwart
Adriana Dranoff

Kelley Fernandes
Devon Fruscione
Shreya Jagadeesh
Allana John
Ryan Keating
Samantha Keating
Abby Kelvy
Skyler Kolbe
Hannah Korbman
Luna Lee
Nathan Leonard
Viveka Madhan Prabahar

Shane Maher
Geethika Manojkumar
Aashmi Mathew
Dominick Miranda
Kareisa Nix
Vindhya Pasala
Shriya Patel
Marieli Perez
Francesca Ragusa
Heidi Riad
Megan Sadock
Gemma Santisi
Sarah Scatena
Eric Schreier
Dylan Shah
Amanda Sharp
Gerard Takwa
Elizabeth Young
Kaitlyn Young



Upcoming Performances

PRMS Musical
Disney's Camp Rock

February 19-20
Fri @ 7pm, Sat @ 2pm & 7pm

RHS Musical
Seussical
www.rhswilliams.com/seussical

April 8-10
Fri & Sat @ 7:30pm, Sun @ 3pm
Special Children's Show Sat @ 2pm

100% Hand Crafted Craft Show
Proceeds benefit the Raven Players and Raven Regiment

April 16
10-3pm

Band and Chorus Concert

May 1
3:00pm

Robbinsville Choral Festival
RHS Chorus, 7th & 8th Grade Choirs

May 26
Performance @ 7pm

Senior Showcase
Music Department Seniors perform for the last time

June 7
7pm

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!



Riu Riu Chiu is a Spanish Christmas carol with words and melody that probably date to the sixteenth century and earlier. The title words *Riu Riu Chiu* represent the song of the nightingale to the Spanish speaker.

Il Est Ne (English: He is born) is a traditional French Christmas carol written in four stanzas, and details the birth of Jesus and the wait of 4000 years for the event, as told by the prophets. It both observes the humility of God's birth in a stable and calls on the Kings of the Orient to attend the child.

Gaudete is a sacred Christmas carol, which is thought to have been composed in the 16th century. This arrangement of this piece has been made famous by the King's Singers.

Text Me Merry Christmas is a song popularized by Straight No Chaser and Kristen Bell. Written to convey "how informal communication has become", the song touches on a common theme of the holidays, that of being apart.

Go Tell It! is an arrangement of Go Tell It On The Mountain, a piece that dates back to the oral traditions of slaves in the American South. Homophonic choral textures ornament the stride piano accompaniment for a fresh take on this classic carol.

Nanita Lullaby is a traditional Spanish Christmas carol. This is a very unusual carol, combining a tender lullaby with profound thought over a melody and rhythms of popular Latin authenticity.

In the years since its original release, **All I Want for Christmas Is You** has been critically lauded and has become established as a Christmas standard; it was once called "one of the few worthy modern additions to the holiday canon" in *The New Yorker*, and continues to surge in popularity each holiday season.

We Are Lights is a piece written by Broadway composer Stephen Schwartz. It reminds us during this time of the year there is light, even when times seem dark. We can be the light that we need in this world through music, which links us no matter where we come from.

Christmas in Three Quarter Time combines three holiday favorites all set in triple meter: Christmas in Three Quarter Time, Silver Bells, and It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year.

The Twelve Days After Christmas challenges the notion that the "Twelve Days Before Christmas" gifts were sent by a loved one. The song details the fallout of receiving the copious amounts of ridiculous gifts.

In its juxtaposition of a European chant melody and an antiapartheid song from South Africa, **Hope for Resolution** is a celebration of diversity. The arrangement reflects our respect for divergent musical styles and points us towards our innate (though sometimes neglected) potential for peaceful coexistence.

The Robbinsville High School Concert Choir

Alto

Maya Anand
Carly Anderson
Eva Baer
Jennifer Beaulieu
Sophie Billings
Allison Brower
Gillian Carr
Victoria Distefano
Daria Dittman
Tanis Dorwart
Kim Evans
Sydney Flyge
Erin Godfrey
Grace Goodwin
Jackie Harris
Becca Horowitz
Catherine Hutchinson
Molly Kelvy
Allison Korff
Isabella Lopez
Elizabeth Margeotes
Maryn Matisa
Caroline Maurer

Molly McKeown
Victoria Nardo
Victoria Porchetta
Alexa Sautter
Victoria Skopowski
Jess Smith
Abigail Valerio
Amanda Weigand

Baritone

Marc Caiola
Sean Carr
Michael Gaspari
Michael Gomez
Jacob Katz
Bryan McClary
Sean McCunney
Erik Olsson
John Pakenham
Alex Reitter

Tenor

Etai Clyde
Andrew Malabunga
Mark Troy

Soprano

Jarelle Boac
Kennedy Bruker
Cameron Bruker
Samantha Cicala
Lily Coggins
Anna Given
Amanda Godfrey
Megan Haegley
Katie Henderson
Amanda Hutchins
Abigail Kenna
Daniela Porchetta
Nicole Radosti
Lauren Rejent
Harschel Reyes
Leah Salinas
Manaswi Sawkar
Vanessa Siracusa
Kaeleigh Sturgeon
Mrinali Taskar
Carolina Vieira
Katharine Walls
Sarah Williams



Robbinsville High School Select Choir

Etai Clyde
Erin Godfrey
Michael Gomez
Rachel Leonard

Andrew Malabunga
Caroline Maurer
Bryan McClary
Alex Reitter
Vanessa Siracusa

Kaeleigh Sturgeon
Mark Troy
Abigail Valerio
Sarah Williams



Robbinsville Choir Department

Brian Williams, *Robbinsville High School*
PJ Heckman, *Pond Road Middle School*



Brian Williams, a part of the first graduating class of Robbinsville High School in 2008, was involved in this choral program from its very beginnings. He then went on to continue his music studies at Westminster Choir College where he received his bachelor's of music in music education and his masters of arts in teaching in 2012. Mr. Williams taught at Pond Road Middle School for three years and has recently moved up to the high school. Brian is very excited to be working with such amazing and dedicated young musicians.

Sara Munson is a senior Music Education and Voice Performance major at Westminster Choir College. Sara has been student teaching at Robbinsville High School since September. She is from Rockaway, New Jersey and went to Morris Knolls High School. She is a member of the Westminster Symphonic Choir and the Grammy Nominated Williamson Voices. She is also a member of the Westminster Chapter of NAfME and holds an officer position in the Lambda Tau Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota. Sara would like to thank Mr. Williams for being a wonderful and supportive cooperating teacher and to say to the choral students "Thanks for everything you did, and everything that's past. We have this moment together and I owe this all to you. Thank you for inspiring me to hone my craft and be the best teacher possible."



Peter (PJ) Heckman is a graduate of Westminster Choir College where he studied Music Education with Voice emphasis. PJ has been teaching voice lessons to amateur and pre-professional singers for over a decade. He has taught voice, applied piano, and acting classes across New Jersey and Pennsylvania. PJ has also taught general music and choir at public schools and most recently served as Director of Music at a church in New Hope, PA. In September 2015 he opened ArtsForm - a performing arts studio in Robbinsville, NJ. His favorite projects and experiences include: performing in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil - writing, directing, and presenting original children's plays - and preparing to marry his fiancé next April.

Program Notes

Evening Star is a musical setting of an Edgar Allan Poe poem. The poem is a rumination inspired by looking at the stars at night. The musical setting uses the phrase "o evening star" frequently to convey emotions of wonder, awe, and peace.

Bring Me Little Water, Silvy is an arrangement of an African-American folk song originally composed by Huddie William Ledbetter, better known as Lead Belly. The song was created when Lead Belly would call to his wife, Silvy, while he was working outside plowing with mules in the rural south during the hottest time of year. The song is a dialogue between husband and wife, with Lead Belly singing the repeated chorus, and Silvy responding on the verses.

The Lion Sleeps Tonight is a popular folk song with African origins. The first American recording of the song was released in 1938 and entitled "Mbube" which is Zulu for lion. There have been numerous covers and adaptations of the song with titles like "Mbube", "Wimoweh" and "The Lion Sleeps Tonight." Many may know the song from the repertoire of Pete Seeger's folk music revival in the early 1960's.

Keep Holding On is a 2006 power ballad written by Avril Lavigne. The song was originally the theme song for the movie "Eragon." Although the film was panned by critics, the song itself was praised. The arrangement presented tonight is adapted from a cover first introduced on the television show Glee.

The First Noel is a traditional English Christmas carol which has its publication origin in the late 1800's. There have been many variations on the text and verses, but most of them include a stanza for each of the different "characters" of the Christmas story - the angels, the shepherds, and the wise men.

S'vivon is an energetic traditional Hanukkah song. The piano accompaniment in this arrangement sounds like a spinning dreidel. The miracle of Hannukah is told first in Hebrew and later in English. The song culminates in a rousing ending when the choir sings "Let the holiday begin!"

S'vivon, sov sov sov - Dreidl, spin, spin, spin
Hanukkah, hu hag tov - Hannukah is a great holiday
Hag simcha hu la-am - A joyous holiday for the nation
Nes gadol haya sham - A great miracle happened here

Let There Be Peace on Earth has become a musical favorite across faiths and cultures. Although it is not specifically a Christmas song it is frequently performed during the Holiday season. The text was written by Jill Jackson when she found a peace through her faith after being distraught over the failure of her marriage. The song was first performed in 1955 by an international children's choir and has continued to be an enduring call for peace.