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*"...all choirs will be getting primed for the Fall concert, **Magic in the Meadows**, on October 26...Please make sure you get your concert season passes bought and calendars synchronized so you won't miss out! ."*



A Note from the Director By Kevin Tison

Welcome to the first edition of *Crescendo*, our awesome publication of the FVHS Vocal Music Program! Kudos to Amy Beauregard and student editors Vyvian Tran and Cassandra Weed for their hard work in keeping us informed (and entertained) with everything we have on the agenda this year!

For many of you—new students and parents—I extend a very warm welcome to the program! I hope you are getting settled and involved in what promises to be a great year of music at FVHS!

As you have seen, our calendar is full of performances and tours for you to enjoy this year. By the time you receive this newsletter, Troubadours will have already participated in festivals at both CSU Fullerton and CSU Long Beach and all choirs will be getting primed for the Fall concert, **Magic in the Meadows**, on October 26th at the Robert B. Moore Theater at Orange Coast College (7:30 p.m.). Please make sure you get your concert season passes bought and calendars synchronized so you won't miss out on any of these exciting performances!

This year we are very fortunate to have a wonderful staff working with us—Jeremy Wiggins, student teacher from Cal State Fullerton, and our four vocal coaches, Betty Feinblatt, Daniel Babcock, Daniel Cardwell and Laura Harrison.

Please see *Director Notes* on page 2

Voice of the VMPA

By Kevin and Deena Querry, Co-Presidents

The lights flashed on and off...the **dissonance** was almost deafening as the **orchestra** tuned up...the vocalists hummed **chromatic scales**...parents were seen **affrettando**, frantically trying to find out where they were supposed to be...Mr. Tison raised the **baton**...and the **fanfare** began as the Vocal Music Program of Fountain Valley High School exploded into the 2007-2008 school year.

From the **down beat** there were sounds of **festivo** teenagers moving **prestissimo** trying to make it to class on time. **Trouveres**, **Baron Choir**, **Les Chanteurs**, **Concert Choir**, and **Troubadour** students' heart rates were **accelerando** as a brand new year, full of new adventures, was being realized.

The vocal music calendar is jammed packed with choral festivals—four incredible concerts, retreats, exchanges, tours to Las Vegas, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, San Francisco, and a summer Troubadour European tour to France. From beginning to **fine** this year promises to bring some of the greatest musical

Please see *VMPA Voice* on page 3

VMPA Fundraising

By Nancy Johnson and Yolanda McConnell

Fundraising is off to a great start with entertainment books on sale until October 12th. Profits are determined by the number of books sold by all booster groups at FVHS and typically range from \$12 to \$16 per book. Remember, you can sell on-line until the end of the month.

Our next fundraiser will be our See's candy sale starting November 1st. Sees is perfect for holiday gift giving. Profit ranges from 9% to 50%, depending on the type of candy ordered.

Fundraising is a great help in funding attire costs and trip costs with all profit going directly into student accounts. Good luck Fountain Valley Vocal Music—get out there and sell! ♪

Program Ad Sales Standings:

1. Cory Kobel	\$1,870
2. Kaleigh Bancroft	\$535
3. Cristen Antal	\$525

Director Notes from page 1

(On a side “note:” 47 of our students take private voice lessons each week at school!) Our vocal instructors are incredibly talented and energetic, and I am personally thankful for what they bring to the program!

I am also excited to announce that we have begun a middle school program this year at Masuda Middle School. This program currently involves 34 students each Thursday in rehearsals led by myself, Mr. Wiggins and the Troubadours. You will be hearing from the Masuda Middle School Singers at the Holiday Concert, *Sounds of the Season* and then again at the Spring concert. I am encouraged by the enthusiastic support of Principal Cara Robinson and Masuda Middle School and their desire to offer this program. Fountain Valley choirs will benefit greatly from this in coming years!

As many of you already know, we are VERY fortunate to have received a financial grant from the California Department of Education to supplement and enhance our facilities and instructional resources. Additionally we are grateful for a generous grant from the Cecile B. Stevens Foundation. In the next few weeks, this money will be magically transformed into a brand new Yamaha grand piano with Disklavier (a technological phenomenon), a Yamaha Clavinova digital piano (for



use with private voice lessons), new music-specific rehearsal chairs and several video and media items for the rehearsal room. More information will be given soon (including some pictures) and an opportunity for you to see and experience our latest upgrades!

Lastly, I encourage all the parents to get involved in the program in some capacity with the VMPA. You can read more in this publication from Kevin & Deena and a host of our VMPA volunteers who give so many hours to keep the strong tradition of excellent choral music alive at Fountain Valley! We (students, directors, coaches, volunteers, parents, etc) strive to be one of the highest quality choral programs in the State. This is done only through your help!! There are **several** open positions on the VMPA Board so please let Kevin & Deena or myself know if you have any questions or would like to volunteer. Your involvement is critical to the success of this program, and you will gain experiences and memories shared with your student that prove to be very rewarding for years to come!

If I can be of any help to you or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at ktison@fvhs.com. I look forward to welcoming you to **Magic in the Meadows!** ♪

Scrip NEWS!

By Sue Farnsworth

SCRIP is a great way to put money in your student accounts without having to sell anything. You earn money by purchasing gift certificates from local vendors. Your student earns 90% of the profit we make from each vendor. The SCRIP order forms are available online and in the classroom every other Tuesday. Orders are due every other Friday and delivered the following Friday. Even if you only order \$100 in grocery scrip and gas cards each time, you can still earn over \$100 for your account before choir tours next spring.

Our first SCRIP order was turned in the last week of September. Over \$16,000 was ordered and participating students put nearly \$900 into their accounts. It's so easy. Just look over the order form and see if there's anything you can use in the next couple of weeks. There are grocery stores, gas stations, and restaurants, department stores, home improvement stores, movie tickets and more. There is SCRIP for airlines, hotels, rental cars, etc. If you want something not listed on the order form from the retailer list, just write in on the order form. If you want more options, go to www.glscrip.com and check out the retailer list.

The holidays are a great time for purchasing SCRIP. You can use the gift cards as gifts or to make your own purchases. If you have friends and family who want to order SCRIP, just grab an extra order form and make sure they put your student's name down so you get credit for their purchase. See the upcoming SCRIP order and delivery dates at right. If you have questions, contact Sue Farnsworth at 962-7097 or skayeb@gmail.com. ♪



SCRIP dates!

Order Dates	Delivery Dates
October 12	October 19
October 26	November 2
November 9	November 16
November 30	December 5 (Wed)
December 7	December 14

Mark your calendars with these important SCRIP dates!

VMPA Voice from page 1

instruction under the watchful eye, amazing giftedness, and teaching exuberance of our director, Kevin Tison, as well as the most mind-blowing opportunities anyone could ever imagine.

As the Vocal Music Program builds to a **crescendo**, we would like to express our warm musical greetings to all of our old friends as well as new friends to the Vocal Music Program. Come join us as we partner together to make the FVHS Vocal Music Program continue to be one of the best music programs in Orange County as well as California. If you would like to receive more information regarding volunteering in the Vocal Music Parent Association please drop us an email at kquerry@livingwatersoc.com or dquerry@livingwatersoc.com. ♪

Music is full of energy and excitement as well as some very colorful terms. Listed below are the musical terms used in this article along with their definitions.

- 1) **Dissonance** (sounds of unrest, e.g. intervals of seconds and sevenths; the opposite of consonance)
- 2) **Orchestra** (a large group of musicians made up of string, brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments)
- 3) **Chromatic Scales** (a scale composed of 12 half steps)
- 4) **Affrettando** (hurrying)
- 5) **Baton** (conductor's stick)
- 6) **Fanfare** (a prelude or opening, a flourish, usually played by brass instruments)
- 7) **Down Beat** (the first beat; given by the conductor with a downward stroke)
- 8) **Festivo** (festive and merry)
- 9) **Prestissimo** (very, very fast)
- 10) **Trouveres** (entrance level ladies chorus)
- 11) **Baron Choir** (entrance level gentlemen chorus)
- 12) **Les Chanteurs** (auditioned ladies choir)
- 13) **Concert Choir** (auditioned combined ladies and gentlemen advanced choir)
- 14) **Troubadours** (auditioned ladies and gentlemen advanced chamber ensemble)
- 15) **Accelerando** (gradually becoming faster)
- 16) **Fine** (the end)
- 17) **Crescendo** (a gradual, steady increase or a building up to reach a point of great intensity or force)

Concert NEWS!



Fountain Valley High School Vocal Music Presents



Magic in the Meadows Directed by: Kevin Tison
Featuring songs of folk and fantasy.

Friday, October 26, 2007 - 7:30PM
Robert B. Moore Theater, Orange Coast College of Costa Mesa, California

Magic in the Meadows

Featuring songs of folk and fantasy

Friday, October 26, 2007 - 7:30 p.m.
Orange Coast College - Robert B. Moore Theater
2701 Fairview Rd. Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Welcome to our fall concert, introducing all five of our terrific choirs for the coming year! The program will include Brahms' *Zigeunerlieder* "Gypsy Songs", Verdi's *Witch Chorus*, a host of popular folk songs, including moving renditions of *Shenandoah*, and much more!

Concert Ticket Information

- Season Tickets..... \$25.00
- At the door..... \$8.00
- Pre-Concert Sales \$7.00
- Students 18 yrs and under..... \$5.00

Pre-concert sales will be announced by email and flyer from students prior to each scheduled performance. Pre-concert sales are held at FVHS (Rm 307) during performance week.*

For ticket information or to request tickets by mail, contact:
Rhonda Kendrick • 18381 Mt. Kristina St. FV 92708
rkendrick@socal.rr.com

*pre-sales for the October concert will be held at FVHS (room 307) on Wed, Thur & Fri Oct 24, 25, & 26, from 12:00-1:00 pm.



Sounds of the Season

Monday, December 17, 2007 - 7:30 p.m.
Calvary Church
1010 N. Tustin Ave. Santa Ana 92708

Accompanied by a 30-piece orchestra, this concert will surely get you into the holiday spirit with festive favorites such as *Twas the Night Before Christmas*, *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year*, and *Silent Night*. The second half of the concert will feature classic selections from Handel's *Messiah*, Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, and stunning holiday arrangements by John Rutter.

A **Silent Auction** will be held to benefit the Troubadours' upcoming summer tour in France! Auction begins at 6:30 pm in the lobby and continues during intermission. Winners will be announced at the conclusion of the concert. Be ready to shop and support your troubadours!

Making their debut performance on this concert will be the **Masuda Middle School Singers**.

Bring all your family, friends, and neighbors to this special night of music!

Calendar 2007-2008

	Group	Event	Date/Time	Location
Oct	TB	Invitational Choral Festival	Fri. Oct 19 / 1-3:30 pm /Lv noon	CSU Long Beach
	ALL	Fall Concert: <i>Magic in the Meadows</i>	Fri Oct 26 / 4-6:30 Rehearsal 7:30 Performance	Robert B Moore Theater, OCC
Nov	TB	Invitational Choral Festival	Fri Nov 2 / 11-1:00 Lv 10 a.m.	Biola University (La Mirada)
Dec	All	Holiday Concert: <i>Sounds of the Season</i>	Mon Dec 17 / 3:30-6:30 rehearsal 7:30 Performance	Calvary Church (Santa Ana)
Jan	TB	Winter Retreat	Fri - Sun Jan 25-27 / Lv Noon	Catalina Island
Feb	All	Local Exchanges & Guest Clinicians	TBD	TBD
Mar	CC TB	Middle School Recruiting Middle School Recruiting	TBD	Masuda & Fulton Moiola
	TB	ACDA Golden State <i>feature performance</i>	Tue Apr 1 / p.m.	Manhattan Beach
April	CC Parents	Tour Meeting/VMPA Exec.	Thu Apr 3 / 7:00 / 8:00 p.m.	FVHS
	LC	Heritage Music Festival	Fri-Sun Apr 4-6 /Lv Noon	Las Vegas
	All	Spring Concert: <i>America: Of Thee I Sing</i>	Tue Apr 8 / 4-6:30 Rehearsal 7:30 Performance	1 st Congrgational (Long Beach)
	TV, BC	Heritage Music Festival	Fri-Sat Apr 11-12 / Lv Noon	San Diego
	CC, TB	Spring Tour-Heritage National Festival of Gold	Thur-Mon Apr 17-21 / Lv Noon	SLO & San Francisco (Davies Sym. Hall
	TB	Pacific Chorale Invitational <i>feature performance</i>	Mon Apr 21 / 9 am - 9 pm	Seegerstrom Hall (OCPAC)
May	All	Auditions for 2008-2009	Mon-Fri May 19-23 /After School	FVHS
	All	Musical Concert Rehearsals	Wed-Thur May 28-29 /5-10 pm	HBHS Aud.
	All	Musical Concert: <i>Born to Sing! Born to Jive!</i>	Fri-Sat May 30-31 / 7:30 pm	HBHS Aud
Jun	All	Awards Banquet	Tue Jun 3 /TBD	OCC?
	TB	Europe Tour Recording Concert	Mon June 16 / 5:30 Rehearsal 7:00 Performance	St. Wilfrid's Church
	TB	Europe Tour	Fri-Tue Jun 20-Jul 1 / Lv 11:30 pm	France

The Calendar contains all dates and performances which have been scheduled to-date. Other competitions, festivals, or "gigs" will be added throughout the year and all dates and times are subject to change. More information will be given in class and through the mail, as well as any dates/times that are modified.

DETAILS FOR EACH EVENT ABOVE WILL BE SENT HOME VIE EMAIL OR FLYER. DETAILED INFORMATION FOR ALL EVENTS MAY ALSO BE OBTAINED ON MR. TISON'S WEB PAGE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.

Concert Choir Retreat 2007

By Vyvian Tran

At 8:00 in the morning of September 14th, Concert Choir left for retreat at Thousand Pines, where a whole two days of rehearsal awaited us. After we arrived, we went to our assigned cabins, unpacked our things, then headed to the dining hall to start rehearsal. The



newbies to concert choir were shocked when they learned that they would have a whopping fifteen hours of singing! Upon the night of return, everyone's voices were thoroughly sore.

However, it was not all hard work and no play. On Friday, we were allowed two hours of free time to play soccer, volleyball, cards, or just to relax and enjoy the scenery.



Friday night, each cabin came up with a humorous skit to perform for everyone. After skits, we all headed to the amphitheater to eat s'mores and listen to scary stories.

On Saturday, the girls and boys each took turns rehearsing separately and when we weren't singing,



we were rock climbing! The confidence course offered at the camp consists of a ropes course, where teams of three would go through an obstacle course while trying not to touch the ground, and a rock climbing wall. It was a challenging but rewarding experience. "It was a great way for people to connect because they had to support each other through the hardships of the course," said Kelly Self.

Just before departure, Mr. Tison made arrangements for the malt shop to open just for the choir. The shop was totally packed and everyone left with a happy (or overly full) stomach. Though the weekend was a lot of hard work, the choir had a great bonding experience. Alan Nguyen expressed his gratitude: "I had an amazing time at my senior retreat and wish that I could spend yet another year there with the most remarkable choir on earth!" ♪

Mr. Tison's Summer Vacation

By Cassandra Weed



When you first return to the halls of Fountain Valley High School in the fall, the first question you usually ask your friend is, "How was your summer?" However, how many people ask this question to our dear choir director, Mr. Tison? We very well should. He had one of the most interesting summer vacations I've heard about.

To kick off his summer, our teacher went to the tropical island of Tahiti. He was there for a week, and he had a great time relaxing and sleeping in a hammock on the beach. When he wasn't feeling the tropical breeze on his face, he was riding a scooter around and exploring the island.

After his week on the island, he went on to Australia. While there, he ran a marathon on the Gold Coast. There were thousands of people participating in this marathon. Unfortunately, this wasn't one of his greatest races. Once the race was over he went to visit some of his Aussie friends.

With those friends, he went to the Great Barrier Reef. There he became a certified SCUBA diver, which he was quite happy about. Using this new achievement to its full advantage, he spent three days on a boat SCUBA diving. He did mostly night dives and said that he was surrounded by sharks and manta rays the entire time. However, there was a part of this diving that he did not enjoy. Mr. Tison got something called a "mask squeeze." The mask wasn't pressurized, and it popped all the blood vessels in his eyes. Apparently this was not a very pleasant experience, since he said that his eyes didn't look very "friendly" for a month or so.

After about a month in Australia, Mr. Tison headed back to the good old U.S.A. He vacationed with his parents in South Dakota. While he was with them he enjoyed good food and just hung out. He also enjoyed viewing Mount Rushmore for five whole days. Finally, for the last month of summer he came back to California and began to prepare for the upcoming school year.

Concert Choir and Troubadors will have their work cut out for them this year. They will have many performances all over and will have to "defend honors" from the previous year. Concert Choir will be going to a national festival, and Troubadours will be participating in festivals in the fall and going to France in the summer. While Mr. Tison is quite pleased with them, he says that there are certain challenges that these groups will need to tackle. Mr. Tison also says that Les Chanteurs and Trouveres will be very good groups as well, if they work hard.

Notice someone missing? Mr. Tison says that Baron Choir will be his most challenging choir this year. He says these boys are very enthusiastic, energetic, and unique. There is a very wide range of guys this year, and his main challenge is to get them to work together and "gel." There is NEVER a dull moment in 4th period! 😊

For the fall concert, our teacher has decided to do something a little different. He wanted a good variety, and that is exactly what he is going to get. There is music in multiple languages and many folk and gypsy songs as well. For Trouveres there is even a piece in Thai! Out of curiosity, I asked where he would find a folk song in Thai. He told me that he found it simply by digging around.

Mr. Tison's final words of wisdom for everyone are LET'S MAKE SOME GREAT MUSIC! 🎵



Diving on the Great Barrier Reef



Mr. Tison's new Aussie Friend



Trick or Treat?

crescen

Newsletter of the Fountain Valley High School Vocal Music Program



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