



Inspire

Season 14
Issue 3
November 2020

The Newsletter of Griffin Choral Arts



The BREATH MARK looks like a comma, but to a choral musician, this symbol means to take a breath. INSPIRE also has a double meaning. It can mean “to fill someone with the urge to be creative;” but, on a simpler level, it can also mean “to breathe in air.”

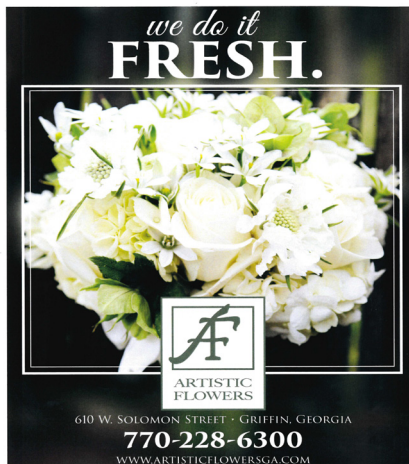
Our First Pre-Recorded Concert

Season 14 continues to be a year of innovation. On October 15, we released our first-ever pre-recorded concert, “To the Nines.” The video, available for a limited time on our YouTube Channel and on our Facebook page, features performances from our 5 platoons of singers. The First Baptist Church of Forsyth provided a lovely backdrop and a terrific acoustic for our small ensembles. With Kitty Grubbs on piano and special guests Marcus Reddick (percussion) and Jayne Widener (flute), the video captures the spirit of a live performance.

With 4 video sources and 5 audio sources, there was a lot of media to manage and editing to be done. I learned so many things and discovered many techniques to implement next time!

Thank you, Donors and Advertisers!

We want to heartily thank our donors and advertisers for their outstanding support in this unusual season. We appreciate your loyalty and encouragement as we pursue our mission this year.



Dr. Stephen J. Mulder
Artistic Director
steve@griffinchoralarts.org

UPDATED Rehearsal Guidelines and Protocols

- Singers are placed in “troops” of 20 or fewer singers.
- Rehearsals include 45 minutes of singing.
- Rehearsals are in the large indoor space of the GFUMC Sanctuary.
- Singers are physically distanced by at least 6 feet.
- Singers, director, and accompanist wear masks at all times.
- Pews and surfaces are sprayed and sterilized between troops.
- Air is circulated between troops for 30 minutes.
- Singers carry rehearsal materials with them (water, music, pencils, etc.)

INSPIRE, the Newsletter of Griffin Choral Arts, is published monthly from September through April. This newsletter is archived on the GCA website: www.griffinchoralarts.org

COMFORT & JOY

December 3, 2020 | 7:30 p.m. | Venue TBA

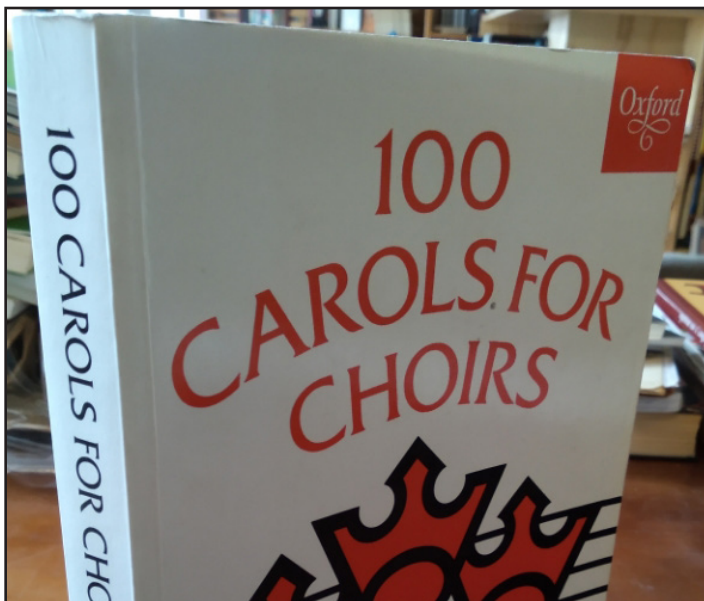
Carols for Choirs

As the weather cools and the leaves start to change colors, we anticipate a different kind of holiday season this year. Riding the safe and successful completion of TO THE NINES, we have gently expanded our procedures to provide a less stressful Monday night rehearsal schedule and provide the added support of a larger group of singers.

Now in two larger groups (or “troops”) of singers, we are rehearsing music from the comprehensive anthology “100 Carols for Choirs.” These carol books, purchased by GCA several seasons ago, contain a wide variety of Christmas

music, including carols settings by British masters John Rutter and David Willcocks, familiar secular favorites, and sturdy arrangements of the standard Christmas carols we all love. For the singers, it is convenient to carry and keep track of one book for Monday nights!

We are not yet sure of the location or method of concert “delivery” for COMFORT & JOY. Planning a live performance still seems elusive and risky, and we have demonstrated that we CAN present a recorded concert effectively. Once a performance plan is determined we will publicize that information here and on social media.



The cover of the anthology “100 Carols for Choirs” is a familiar sight for choir members everywhere!

INSPIRATION AND BEAUTY

--The GCA Podcast

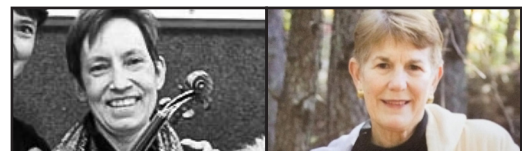


Podcast Guests:

November 1- Michele Mariage-Volz

November 15- Jean Dukes

Twice each month, we produce GCA Podcasts-- interviewing GCA personalities and listening to clips from our audio archive. This month we hear from Michele Volz, violinist and instrumentalist contractor, and Jean Dukes, our second GCA Board President. The podcasts are available for listening and downloading on our website: www.griffinchoralarts.org/podcasts/.



“TO THE NINES” CONCERT PROGRAMS

We regret that some physical copies of our TO THE NINES concert programs were missing 4 pages. The complete program is available on our website (on the “Newsletter” page): www.griffinchoralarts.org/newsletter/