

2009-2010 SEASON

Education

Pacific Chorale

John Alexander, Artistic Director



Mission

California Arts Council

"The education programs are exemplary, a model for other organizations to follow."

Education as Mission

Education programs are central to Pacific Chorale's mission. It is our vision to enrich and educate our community. Toward this aim, Pacific Chorale has produced innovative educational initiatives that have opened the door to the art of choral music and the magic of the creative process for as many as 10,000 students and adults annually.

Education Awards

Orange County Department of Education—2002
Outstanding Contributions to Education Award

Chorus America—1997
Educational Outreach Award
(Inaugural national award)

Intro and Passage to the Arts

The *Intro to the Arts* and *Passage to the Arts* programs are partnerships with local social service organizations and high school choral directors and singers, which provide scholarships for at-risk youth, high school choral music students, individuals with disabilities, and low-income seniors and families to attend our season concerts at the world class Orange County Performing Arts Center at no charge. Program participants have the opportunity to attend Pacific Chorale's season concerts, including thirty-minute educational concert previews and receiving educational study guides before the concerts, and a chance to experience Pacific Chorale preparing for concerts by attending our dress rehearsals .

Concert Previews

Insightful **Concert Previews** give audiences a richer understanding and deeper appreciation for the repertoire being performed.

Musicianship Classes

Addressing a community outcry for affordable training in the vocal arts, Pacific Chorale provides adult singers with opportunities to hone their musical skills using a tailor-made curriculum that includes important concepts such as rhythm, melodic reading, language skills, and practicing and audition techniques. Classes are taught throughout the year from September through June and were initially offered to members of Pacific Chorale. Classes were also offered to the public beginning in the summer of 2009 prior to Pacific Chorale's Choral Festival.

(continued)

Elliot and Kathleen Alexander Memorial Scholarship

Pacific Chorale awards the *Elliot and Kathleen Alexander Memorial Scholarship* annually to an outstanding choral conducting student at California State University, Fullerton.

Young Composers Competition

Pacific Chorale's biennial *Young Composers Competition* was created to encourage the proliferation of America's choral music. In May 2007, the Chorale put out a nationwide call to composers under the age of 35 to submit work samples for consideration. In addition to the premiere performances and a cash prize of \$1,500 each, two young winning composers were guests at Pacific Chorale's American Masterpieces Choral Festival in 2008, where they heard their works performed and had the opportunity to meet and work with Festival Composers-in-Residence Alice Parker, Morten Lauridsen and Eric Whitacre. Selected compositions of the 2010 Young Composers Competition will be performed by the 24-voice John Alexander Singers on the February 12-13, 2010 *A Romantic Affair* performances at Samueli Theater.

Pacific Chorale's Choral Festival

Based on the success of Pacific Chorale's "American Masterpieces Choral Festival," sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts in 2008, *Pacific Chorale's Choral Festival* unites approximately 400 choral singers from throughout a diverse community with members of Pacific Chorale to sing onstage at the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall. Pacific Chorale Festival chorus members, ranging in ages from 16 to 80 and representing several different community organizations including local universities, high schools, churches, temples, senior retirement homes, and community choirs, experience an intensive week of rehearsing great choral works under the direction of Artistic Director John Alexander. The Festival culminates in a free performance at which thousands of friends, family and members of the community will be invited to hear the combined Festival Chorus. Our next Choral Festival is scheduled for August 13-15, 2010.

Upcoming Programs

According to the 2009 Chorus Impact Study by Chorus America, "The decline in choral singing opportunities for children and youth is a key area of concern." In response to this concern and to the current needs of the local arts community, Pacific Chorale will launch a **Youth Honor Choir** in partnership with the 16-year old Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra (PSYO), one of the finest youth orchestras in California. Performing with the PSYO provides an unprecedented and unique experience for area students to perform choral/orchestral works in the region's most professional venue, the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall. Dr. Robert Istad will be the conductor working in conjunction with the PSYO artistic staff.

In the summer of 2010, Pacific Chorale will launch a major new educational initiative entitled **Pacific Chorale's High School Choral Summer Camp**. This program will encapsulate one week of training workshops, rehearsals, musicianship classes and performances for approximately 100 high school students in attendance. The Camp will culminate at Pacific Chorale's Choral Festival in the summer of 2010 with a special performance by the participants as well as the opportunity to join singing on stage with the 400-voice Pacific Chorale Festival Chorus. The curriculum, based on Festival repertoire, will teach students about music literacy (rhythm, vocal production, sight reading, music theory and history) and the art of performance.