

STRAUB CHOIR DEPARTMENT NEWS

Giving back to the community was the focus for 31 choir members on the morning of Saturday April 4. They prepared and performed a 4-part choral version of the National Anthem during the West Salem Little League Opening Ceremony. It was a full house with T-ball, baseball and softball teams filling the main gym floor and parents packed onto the bleachers. Event coordinator, Lela Bartels was very appreciative and complimentary regarding the professionalism and performance level our student volunteers!

Looking Ahead:

Take a quick glance at the choir department calendar, and you'll notice that we've entered a very busy time of year. Concert Choir will be performing at the Salem-Keizer Middle School Large Group Choir Festival on Tuesday April 14, at the North High School Auditorium. The following information is from Marylou Boderman, Music and Arts District Coordinator:

The performance schedule is organized in two consecutive performance blocks with a 10 minute intermission between the two. Block one begins with the first group performing at 5:30 PM and will end at 7:10 PM. Block two begins at 7:20PM and ends at 9:00 PM. Straub Concert Choir is slated to perform in the second half. Call time is 7:00pm. All choirs are expected to attend the entire block of the festival in which they perform. Students will be dismissed to go home with their parents when finished with their respective performance block. Parents who wish to come early or stay late to watch the other performance block may do so. Students that are also planning to watch the entire festival must be seated with a parent or guardian during the festival block in which they do not perform.

Our annual **Straub All-School Talent Show** will be at 7:00pm on Tuesday May 19, in the Straub Commons. Live auditions will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, May 15-16, from 2:50-3:50pm. Anyone interested in performing needs to sign-up for auditions on the list posted outside the choir and orchestra rooms. The last day to sign up is Friday April 10.

Concert Choir Parents: please note the following **date change!**

The Straub/Walker after-school Choir Retreat , originally scheduled for Thursday April 23, 5:00-8:00pm, has been **moved to Wednesday April 22, 4:30-8:15pm** because of a **Thursday track meet**. Emanuel and Cynthia McGladrey will be our guest clinicians as we perform for one another and fine-tune our program for **Best in the Northwest** on Friday May 8,

at the University of Portland. We will also be rehearsing the *combined choirs song selection* for **Choirs of the West**, Wednesday April 29, 6:30-8:30 in the West High main gym.

Fermata Nowhere Parents: The **Pleasant Hill Jazz Festival** is on Saturday April 18 in Pleasant Hill, Oregon located just south of Eugene/Springfield. Our performance time is 10:05am. We are organizing our own transportation, same as last year, so if you are willing and able to join the caravan, please contact Mr. Amend. This is an all-day event, with many opportunities to listen to vocal and instrumental jazz groups from all over Oregon, and participate in various workshops and symposiums on improvisation, the music business and many other topics.

To All Choir Parents: The Spring Choir Concert is Wednesday May 27, from 7:00-8:15pm in the Straub Commons. DLC, Cambiare, Concert and Fermata Nowhere will all be performing. Don't miss it!

We LOVE our new choir folders! Many thanks to Straub Music Boosters for purchasing a permanent set of sturdy green choir folders for all choir students. No more flimsy cardboard folders or budget three-ring binders that only last for a year at the most. Our new folders are built to last!

As always, I am honored to be your Straub Choir Director. Thank you for the opportunity to inspire and be inspired on a daily basis by our talented student musicians.

Sincerely,

Ryan Amend
Straub Choirs