

Dear Singers-

I hope that this message finds you enjoying a great summer.

As you may know, members of our chorus leave for Germany this Saturday, where we will sing at the Leipzig International Choral Festival. There are 24 excellent singers plus eight non-singing travelers. I know they will represent the NOVA Community Chorus very well.

Follow this link to see all the participating choirs:

<http://www.leipzigchoralfestival.com/TICKETS/artists.htm>

I am very excited about our upcoming season. We will be performing Mendelssohn's *Song of Praise* with the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic in October; then Daniel Pinkham's *Christmas Cantata* for brass and organ as well as five carols at the Holiday Concert in December. In the Spring we will present Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem*, one of the most transcendent pieces in the choral repertoire. If you know good singers who would like to sing these masterworks with full orchestra in a great concert hall, please encourage them to join us.

Music for Fall should be in the bookstore by the beginning of August. I will make the rehearsal CDs available 2 weeks prior to our first rehearsal so that you can be ready.

As we have discussed, we now have to pay full price to perform in the Schlesinger Center. The rental comes to nearly \$5000 per concert. In addition, we spend \$1000.00 per concert for honoraria for faculty soloists and \$600.00 to have the risers moved to Church of the Epiphany. So our expenses are almost \$7000.00 per concert.

In order to meet these expenses I propose the following:

- Every singer sell *at least 5* tickets to each concert (\$15 each). You did a great job selling tickets to *A Sea Symphony*. We must keep it up. I will have the tickets early in September.
- Seniors *who can afford it* donate \$90 to the NVCC Music Club. This is the amount that other singers will have paid to register. Many seniors do this already, and it really helps.
- Everyone keep the chorus in mind as you plan you tax-deductible giving to non-profits. We have had three or four generous gifts each year, and could not have done without them.

Like you, I would rather not have to worry with money. But the good news is: we have a great orchestra and a great concert hall and great music to perform. I also have a great group of singers who can help meet these goals.

Again, enjoy the summer. I look forward to seeing you at our first rehearsal on August 26.

Peace-DrW