



Milwaukee Children's Choir

Building Noteworthy Character

Sept. 9, 2011
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Prelude News

Dear Prelude Families,

My name is Annemarie Travia and I am the Prelude Coordinator for MCC, which means that I write the lessons for all three Prelude sites and I will be giving you weekly updates and information on the Prelude Choir through this newsletter. We have three sites where our Prelude singers meet and I'd like to introduce you to those directors. Prelude North works with Kristin Dillahunt on Thursdays. Prelude West sings with Emily Fazio on Wednesdays and I teach the Prelude East site on Tuesdays. Mrs. Dillahunt, Mrs. Fazio, and I are thrilled to begin the season with such an energetic group of young singers! We each also have fantastic rehearsal assistants at each site. Definitely get to know your rehearsal assistant as they will be handling all paperwork and attendance matters for the choir.

Please familiarize yourself with the MCC handbook (which you will receive information about at the Back-to-Choir Parent Meeting on Sat., Sept. 17) as it gives excellent information on our curriculum and goals. You also want to check out the Prelude Choir's calendar so you can mark your calendars now with our performances this season, as well as our combined rehearsals when the entire Prelude Choir will meet together. The first combined rehearsal is on Saturday, September 17th at MYAC. Now, I'd like to point out a few helpful hints that will ensure your child has success in the Prelude Choir this year.

1. Attendance at rehearsals is essential to great singing in MCC. Plan to make all rehearsals. Please remember that if you are busy on the night your child has choir, you are welcome to take them to another Prelude choir site on a different night. We all teach the same music.
2. Being on-time is just as important as being there. Some of our most important learning activities take place early in our rehearsals during our warm-ups. Please plan ahead so your child is checked-in with the Rehearsal Assistant before the rehearsal begins.
3. Our young singers should take care of bathroom visits prior to rehearsal starting. Singers may bring water bottles with them to rehearsal but only water. No gum or candy because these cause a choking hazard.
4. Please plan to spend a little time outside of rehearsal working with your singer on our music. This week your child will leave rehearsal with a CD containing recordings of some of the songs we'll be working on this semester. Your child will also get a copy of the lyrics for these songs. Please sit with your singer and help them follow the words to reinforce what we've learned that week. A lot of families find our rehearsal CDs to be especially helpful to listen to in the car on the way to rehearsal.

***A note just for Prelude East singers: MYAC requires that all MCC families have their red security badges with them when they enter the building (then you won't need to sign in as you walk your child to our rehearsal room). We also require that parents come in to pick up their children since the building is so busy. Lastly, you may have noticed that the East site has a very "healthy" number of singers in it. Currently the North and West sites are not as full. If you feel that your schedule and home location allow for you to attend a different site, you are welcome to make that change. If East is the best place for you, don't worry. The kids are going to get a great experience singing in a large group this year!

So, here we go for another great season with MCC. Please never hesitate to contact your child's director with any concerns or questions. It's going to be a great year!

Annemarie Travia
Prelude Coordinator

Mandatory Parent Meeting: Next Saturday, September 17, 11:00-12:00 at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center.

Prelude Rehearsal Sites

Prelude East - Tuesdays	6:00-7:00 PM	MYAC
Prelude West - Wednesdays	4:45-5:45 PM	Mt. Carmel Lutheran (Tosa)
Prelude North -Thursdays	5:15-6:15 PM	Mequon United Methodist

Upcoming Rehearsal Schedule:

September

Week of 5 th -	Regular Rehearsals / Bring a Friend / Open Rehearsal (Prelude East on Tuesdays, Prelude West on Wednesdays, Prelude North on Thursdays)
Week of 12 th - Sept. 17 th -	Regular Rehearsals / Bring a Friend / Open Rehearsal (Saturday) Prelude Preview for New Families - 9:30-10:00 Parent Meeting for All Prelude Families, 11:00-12:00, MYAC Prelude Mini Retreat from 10:30-12:00, MYAC
Week of 19 th -	Regular Rehearsals
Week of 26 th -	Regular Rehearsals

Office News

MCC Website & Email: Please note that the MCC website is scheduled to go down Friday afternoon, Sept. 9 for maintenance. It could be back up within two hours...or it could take two days! Please be patient with us as we make some necessary upgrades. In the meantime, if you have questions, please call the office at 414-221-7040 or Mr. Clark.

Open Enrollment: MCC has one more week of open enrollment. If you have a friend at school, church, or in the neighborhood that loves to sing, please have them contact MCC for membership at 414-221-7040 or membership@milwaukeechildrenschoir.org. Or better yet, bring them to next week's rehearsal!

Choir Handbook: Our choir handbook will come to you via email within the next week. It will also be posted on our website.