

February 2009

VOICES

A newsletter from DGS Choral Boosters



A Note from the President

We have already had an exciting first half of the school year and hold on tight because there is so much yet to come. The year started out with our first ever "Meet the Choirs" night which gave parents a chance to get an in depth look at the DGS Choir program. It was very well received and we had over 100 attendees for this first time event. We have also had an opportunity to hear the students perform in the Homecoming Show, the Fall and Holiday concerts. As well, many of the ensemble groups survived a hectic Holiday season by going out into the community and performing in many places including the local Middle Schools, the Rotary Club and at the Chicago Symphony Hall to name just a few. The students have also been involved in fundraisers that help support the choir program like the gift wrap sale and others like the cheesecake and poinsettia sales that will help build their student accounts to pay for private lessons or perhaps a portion of their trip to New York next year. Most of all, how can we forget hosting IMEA Districts. What an amazing job everyone associated with DGS Music did in making this an outstanding event. I have been told by many of the faculty that the compliments keep coming in.

So you might be asking yourself what's next and how do I get involved?

Every great Choir Program begins with talented, dedicated directors and enthusiastic students and anyone who has been around the music rooms or has seen one of the choirs perform know that we are solid there. In addition you look at the direction and support provided by the Department Chairperson, Glenn Williams and you can see that our students are positioned to succeed. The final element is the parental support. This is where Choral Boosters comes in. The Choral Boosters are there to make a difference in the quality of the experience for both the students and the directors. The value of parental support by way of fundraising and

active participation in the programs and activities as defined by the Choir Department cannot be underestimated. They tell us what they need, and we provide it to the best of our ability.

I cannot say thank you enough to all those parents that have already become involved in Choral Boosters this year. You have donated your time to baking and serving refreshments, ushered or helped serve lunch to hungry IMEA participants, participated at the Middle School Choir Festival, or taken on a role as committee chairperson or choir representative. Your efforts have been invaluable to the choirs this year. I want to take this opportunity to invite you all to attend Choral Booster meetings held the second Monday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Ensemble Room. Choral Booster meetings are fun and informative and we try to be brief. They are the best way for you to be "in the know" about DGS Choir. Even if you cannot attend a meeting we encourage you to volunteer when called upon. Over the next few months you will have plenty of opportunities to participate as we support upcoming events such as the Vocal Fest, the Winter Concert, the musical "Anything Goes" and this year's International Choir Show just to mention a few.

Our kids have an incredible opportunity within the choral program at DGS. They are not only learning to sing, they are gaining self confidence, dedication, leadership and learning to work within a group. These are life skills that will serve them well beyond their years at DGS. Come join us in helping to make this happen by being an active part of the DGS Choral Boosters.

Margaret Buhtanic

President, DGS Choral Booster

♪ Important Dates ♪

February 9	Booster Meeting	May 11	Booster Meeting
Ensemble Room	May 13	Concert for Sender Schools
February 19	Vocal Fest	May 14 & 15	Choir Show
March 5	Winter Concert	May 17	Banquet
March 9	Booster Meeting	May 21	Spring Ensemble Concert
March 10	District 99 Honors Recital	May 27	Madrigal Concert
April 13	Booster Meeting	May 29	Graduation
April 16-19	Musical – <i>Anything Goes</i>	May 31	Select Ensembles Concert



This is the Inaugural Year for DGS Choral Boosters and so far we are off to a great start with so many parents/sponsors stepping up and volunteering. If you would like to join in on the fun and become involved, please contact Sue Utesch - chilipeppermom@gmail.com Future help is needed with:

March 5	Winter Concert
April 16-19	" <i>Anything Goes</i> " Musical
May 14-15	Choir Show
May 21	Spring Ensemble Concert
May 28	Madrigal Concert
May 31	Select Ensemble Concert

♪ Choir Show ♪

The DGS Choral Department is making plans for the annual Choir Show on May 14-15. This year's theme is World Music and Cultures. We will be studying music from all over the world and would like your involvement if you have expertise in any of these areas: fluency in a foreign language and willing to help with pronunciation; knowledge of folk dance with a particular culture; knowledge of who to contact to serve as a clinician to teach ethnic dance, cultural traditions, photos, and costumes from a particular culture are welcome. We would like to include the ethnicity of the choir students in the concert and look forward to learning many new things, together.

Please contact Laura Coster at lcoster@csd99.org or call Ms Coster at 630-795-8691 if you have interest and expertise in any of these areas

🎵 Choirs at a Glance 🎵

	Class Credit	Director 08-09	Gender	Grades	Simultaneous	Auditions	Level	School Day	Performances	Prerequisites	Time Required	Concert attire
Freshmen Boys Choir	Y	TK	♂	9			1	Y	4	N		\$
Freshmen Girls Choir	Y	LC	♀	9			1	Y	4	N		\$
Freshmen Girls Select	N	TK	♀	9	FG	◆	1	N	5	N	⊕	\$
Chamber Singers	N	LC	♂♀	9,10	CC,FB	◆	2	L	4+	Y	⊕⊕	\$\$
Concert Choir	Y	TK/JB	♂♀	10,11,12			2	Y	4	Y		\$
Treble Choir	Y	LC/JB	♂	10,11,12		◆	3	Y	4	Y		\$
Singers Lab	Y	JB	♂♀	10,11,12			1	Y	3	N		\$
Star Spangled Banner §	N	JB	♂♀	10,11,12		◆	3,4	N	4+	N	⊕	N/A
Theory of Music & Harmony ^	Y	LC	♂♀	10,11,12			3,4	N	0	N	⊕	N/A
A Cappella Choir	Y	JB/LC	♂♀	11, 12		◆	4	Y	10+	Y	⊕⊕⊕	\$
Madrigal Singers	N	JB	♂♀	11, 12	TC,AC	◆	4	L	10+	N	⊕⊕⊕	\$\$\$
Treble Ensemble	N	BH	♂	11, 12	TC, AC	◆	3	L	4+	N	⊕	\$\$
Overtones	N	TK	♂	All	Any		2	N	3	N	⊕	\$\$

§ Star Spangled Banner performers are selected by audition in the fall and are scheduled to sing at various school events.

^ Theory of Music & Harmony is not a performance group but is listed here for informational purposes

Directors: JB - Joy Belt-Roselieb, LC - Laura Coster, TK - Tod Kowalis, BH - Belford Hernandez

Simultaneous: FG-Freshmen Girls, CC-Concert Choir, FB-Freshmen Boys, TC- Treble Choir, AC-A Cappella Choir

Level: 1-Little to No experience, 2-Some experience 3-Intermediate experience,4-Advanced performers/knowledge

School Day: Y - Class, N - Before/After School, L - Opposite a lunch period

Concert attire: \$ - 0-\$30, \$\$ - \$30-\$90, \$\$\$ - \$90-\$200

🎵 DGS Choral Boosters Board 🎵

President – Margaret Buhtanic

Secretary – Jane Zielinski

Treasurer – Liz O’Toole

VP Fundraising – Debbie Stelling

Membership/Volunteer

Coordinator – Sue Utesch

VP Hospitality – Nancy Janis & Kathy Schreck

VP Communications – Lori Oestermeyer

VP Committee Liaison – Bob Schreck



♪ DGS Parent Choir Reps ♪

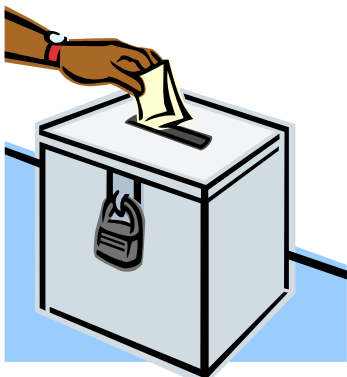
You may have been contacted by your local Choir Representative. Parent volunteers received class rosters and contact information to help keep each choir well informed. We thank these great volunteers for their assistance and ask your cooperation when they call or provide information. You may have heard from them to provide you email address, notify you of a rehearsal schedule or to ask for :

Parent Choir Reps – Tere Cervantes & Kayme Bauske – Freshman Girls; John Kohls – Freshman Boys; Carol Fendrick & Beth Wiese – Treble Choir; Anita Martin & Connie Phillips – Concert Choir; Maureen Albright & Nancy Carroll – A Cappella Choir; Dardrae Breig & Marilyn Bottorff – Overtones; Julianne Walsh – Freshman Select; Jan Junk & Debbie Drews – Chambers; Carol Fendrick & Linda Mikyska – Treble Ensemble; Sue Utesch & Jane Zielinski – Madrigals



♪ Executive Board Elections ♪

The Downers Grove South High School Choral Boosters are accepting nominations for officers to serve on the Executive Board for the 2009-2010 school year.



The officer positions are President, Vice President of Fundraising, Vice President of Membership/Volunteer Coordinator, Vice President of Hospitality, Vice President of Communications, Vice President-Committee Liaison, Treasurer and Secretary.

If you are interested in serving, please contact Bob Schreck by phone at 312-984-7582 or 630-963-3073 or by e-mail at rschreck@mwe.com. Nominations may also be made at the next regular meeting of the Executive Board, which will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2009. Election of Officers will take place at the meeting on Monday, March 9, 2009. Those elected will shadow the current officer through June.

The following is a brief description of the duties of each officer. Please feel free to contact any member of the Nominating Committee (Debbie Drews, Bob Schreck, Tod Kowalis, Jane Zielinski) for

a more detailed explanation.

President - The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the Choral Boosters and responsible for the overall management of the Organization. The President presides at all meetings of the members and of the Executive Board, and represents the Choral Boosters at various Choir Program events and functions.

Vice President of Fundraising - This officer coordinates and manages all fundraisers and other efforts to raise money for the Organization.

Vice President of Membership/Volunteer Coordinator - This officer maintains records of the members of the Organization and is responsible for obtaining volunteers for social activities, competitions and Choir Program events.

Vice President of Hospitality - This officer coordinates staffing, food and supplies for social activities, competitions and other Choir Program events.

Vice President of Communications - This officer disseminates information on the Choir Program through its website, newsletter or otherwise.

Vice President-Committee Liaison - This officer performs the duties of the President in the President's absence and serves as a liaison between the various committees and the Executive Board.

Treasurer - The Treasurer is responsible for the Organization's funds and maintains records of receipts and disbursements. Treasurer also maintains accounts for students in the Choir Program.

Secretary - The Secretary takes minutes at meetings of the Executive Board and assists the President in conducting meetings.

Please give Bob a call to find out more about the positions available or to submit a nomination.



What is IMEA

The mission of the Illinois Music Educators Association is to promote lifelong music learning and to provide leadership for music education.

- The IMEA sponsors and organizes performance festival opportunities for the student musicians of Illinois.
- The IMEA provides professional growth opportunities for the music educators of Illinois.
- The IMEA remains current regarding emerging issues in the music profession and disseminates that information to the music education community.
- The IMEA promotes and supports music as a vital component in the complete education of every child.

With more than 5,000 members, IMEA is one of the largest of the 52 affiliates of MENC: The National Association for Music Education, over 100,000 members strong. IMEA is, by far, the largest Fine Arts education organization in Illinois and among the largest in the Nation.

IMEA Auditions

On Tuesday, October 14, 2008, 112 student musicians from Downers Grove South High School auditioned at Carl Sandberg High School to participate in the 2008 Illinois Music Educators' Association District Festivals. The music faculty, private teachers and sender school music teachers associated with Downers Grove South High School are proud to congratulate the 23 choir students who have been selected through highly competitive audition to participate in the 2008 IMEA District Festivals.

IMEA District - DGS Choir Members

Ryan Breig – Tenor II
Michael Buhtanic – Bass I
Claire Drews – Soprano II
Jennifer Dust – Alto I
Sarah Feste – Alto I
Hank Gordon – Tenor II
Leslie Hiquiana – Alto II
Blair Janis – Alto I

Cailee Madden – Soprano II
Jennifer McCarthy – Soprano II
Liam Merrick – Tenor I
Jeff Novak – Tenor I
Tom Reusz – Bass II
Meredith Richard – Soprano I
Lauren Santee – Soprano II
Kaitlyn Schreck – Soprano II

Lily Space – Alto I
Amanda Strolia - Alto
Benita Thorat – Soprano II
Minh Tran – Alto II
Cory Wilson – Bass II
Kyle Wulf – Bass II
Natalie Zielinski – Alto II

District 1 Music Festival

In order to facilitate musical excellence for student musicians and to showcase some of the finest high school performers in Illinois each year the IMEA holds auditions culminating in the selection of students from each of the 9 Illinois districts to the District Band, Choir and Orchestra. Each of the 9 districts then hold individual district festivals where students are selected to the All-State Band, Choir and Orchestra.

- On Saturday, November 22, 2008 Community High School District 99 at Downers Grove South High School hosted the IMEA District 1 High School Music Festival. More than 600 student musicians from more than 100 area high schools rehearsed for 5 hours and presented a culminating concert. Led by nationally renowned guest conductors, the four performance ensembles (9-10 Choir, Honors Choir, Honors Band and Honors Orchestra) produced some of the finest high school performances in the state of Illinois.

- “We are pleased and honored to host this event” said Fine Arts Department Chair Glenn Williams. “District 99 and DGS student musicians have had a long history of success with the IMEA, and we are excited to carry that tradition strongly into the future.”

IMEA All-State Choir

Three student musicians from Downers Grove South High School were selected, by competitive audition, to participate in the 2009 Illinois Music Educators Association All-State Choir. These selections were made from the extremely competitive performance auditions held in October at Carl Sandburg High School.

- “This is a tremendous honor for these students,” said Glenn Williams, Fine Arts Department Chairperson at South High. “All-State selection represents the pinnacle of musical achievement for a high school student musician. We are very proud of our students, and look forward to hearing their performances in January.”

- After a series of rehearsals in Peoria, IL, on January 28-31, 2009 the All-State Choir performed at the Peoria Civic Center on the evening of January 31, 2009.



IMEA All-State - DGS Choir Members

Benita Thorat – Jr - Soprano II Jeff Novak – Jr - Tenor I

Tom Reusz – Jr - Bass II

♪ Save the Date ♪

Mark your calendars for the afternoon of Sunday, May 17th. This year the Choir Department and the Choral Boosters will be working together to hold our first ever Choir Banquet. We hope to make this an annual event where we can celebrate together the successes of our students in the area of music. Details are still in the works so keep an eye on your inbox for further information.



♪ Student T-shirts ♪



Congratulations to Aleshia Bozek on winning the 2008-2009 Choir T-Shirt Contest! Her design features lower case letters “dgs” with a combination of music and Downers Grove South emblems printed within them. The logo appears in white on black apparel. Payment payable to DGS Choral Boosters is due at time of order. Place payment an order from in the Choir Room mailbox by February 13th. For questions, contact Debbie Stelling at (630) 852-8461 or debbiestelling@comcast.net

DGS Choirs Spirit Wear Order Form

Garment/Style	Color	Size (Circle One)	Qty	Unit Price	Total
Ultra Cotton Short Sleeve T-shirt with 1 color front silkscreened logo.	Black	Adult Sizing S M L XL XXL		\$10.00	\$
Ultra Cotton Long Sleeve T-shirt with 1 color front silkscreened logo.	Black	Adult Sizing S M L XL XXL XXXL		\$15.00	\$
Hooded Sweatshirt with 1 color front silkscreened logo.	Black	Adult Sizing S M L XL XXL		\$18.00	\$
				Total	\$

Name _____ Choir _____ Phone _____

♪ Anything Goes ♪

April 14-16 The Downers Grove South Music Department is pleased to present the Musical “Anything Goes”. With music and lyrics by Cole Porter and set in the 1930’s, the story concerns madcap antics aboard an ocean liner bound from New York to London. “Anything Goes”, “You’re the Top”, and “I Get a Kick out of You” are some of the delightful songs included in the Show. So mark your calendar and come and watch. Better yet, become involved and help join in!! There’s lots of opportunity to help with costumes, sets, publicity, ticket sales, ushers and more!

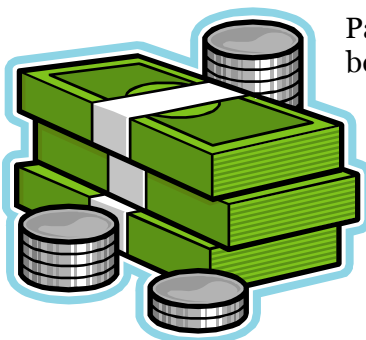


♪ Program Ads ♪

Musical & Choir Show

This year you will have an opportunity to show your support for your student by placing a special ad of congratulations in the Musical or Choir Show program. In addition, if you have a business or are a member of an organization who would like to show support for the Arts at Downers Grove South we also have space reserved for you. Look for your student to bring home information on this soon.

♪ Student Accounts ♪



Parents don't forget your students can request money from their student account to be used for any approved choir related fees (private lessons, required ensemble apparel, camp, trips, etc.). All they need to do is to check their balance on the Student Account list posted in the Choir Room and complete a Student Account Refund Request Form. This form should be completed and deposited in the choir mailbox in the Choir Room. Requests approved by the appropriate Choir Director will be reviewed at the monthly Choral Boosters board meeting. Upon approval, a reimbursement shall be made and that amount shall be deducted from the Student Account balance.

If you are a senior or a student who will not be returning to the choir program the following year, you must make your final requests for reimbursement by May 15th.

♪ Upcoming Shop & Share ♪

Do your grocery shopping for Choir Boosters at Jewel. Present this voucher at Jewel with your grocery purchase on March 9, 10 or 11 and Choir Boosters receives a portion of the total purchase. Make extra copies for family and friends! Any Jewel store you want! What simpler way to make a contribution!



SHOP & SHARE IDENTIFICATION SLIP

AMOUNT OF PURCHASE

01209942

GROUP NUMBER

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STORE NUMBER

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DOLLARS

CENTS

GROUP: **Downers Grove South Choir Boosters**

YOUR SHOP & SHARE DAYS: **3/9/2009, 3/10/2009, 3/11/2009**

SIGNATURE _____

PLEASE SIGN THIS SLIP AND TURN IT IN TO YOUR CHECKER WHEN YOU SHOP.

PARTICIPANTS CAN MAKE PURCHASES AT ANY JEWEL-OSCO ON THE DATE ABOVE.

IDENTIFICATION SLIPS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN FRONT OF ANY JEWEL-OSCO.

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