Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees

June 2, 2013, Sunday, 3pm
**Bee! I’m Expecting You!** (1865) is from a set of three poems of Emily Dickinson composed by Emma Lou Diemer. The children have discovered that it is a telegram:

Bee! I’m expecting you!
Was saying Yesterday
To Somebody you know
That you were due –

The Frogs got Home last Week –
Are settled, and at work –
Birds, mostly back –
The Clover warm and thick –

You’ll get my Letter by
The seventeenth; Reply
Or better, be with me –
Yours, Fly.

**The Sally Gardens**

Benjamin Britten would have celebrated his 100th birthday this year (d. 1976). This English composer, conductor, and pianist was a central figure of 20th-century British classical music and wrote music in many genres, from film scores to opera. William Butler Yeats (1865-1939) was an Irish poet and one of the foremost figures of 20th century literature.

**We Can Plant a Forest**

“Trees, like children, are the future of our planet. Both need to be nourished in a healthy, supportive environment. When we began to write this song, our aspiration was to help make a difference to the vast need across the globe to continually plant new trees for our future. Increasingly, we have come to appreciate the parallel between a healthy forest and a healthy society. A young, growing tree is an apt metaphor for a young, growing child. ... (This song) reminds us of the vital need to encourage, support, and nourish these essential seeds of our future.”

**In Flanders Fields**

This war poem was written during the First World War by Canadian physician/Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae. He was inspired to write it on May 3, 1015, after presiding over the funeral of a friend who died in the Second Battle of Ypres.
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[Image: Piano]
CONCERT PROGRAM

Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees

Sunday, June 2, 3pm
Kent United Methodist Church

*please see program notes on page 2*

Prelude

Fond Recollections .......................................................... David Popper

* Cello: Janice Halstead, Piano: Janice Moen

Bella Voce

What is Pink? ................................................................. Janet Gardner

Text by Christina Rossetti, 1862

The Ash Grove ............................................................... arr. Linda Spevacek

* Solos: Emilia Heinz and Sam Garcia, Flute: Sarah Harkness

Bee, I’m Expecting You .................................................. Emma Lou Diemer

Blue Skies ........................................................................ Irving Berlin, arr. Emerson

* Soli: Elissa Jacobsen, Lizzie Fischer, Ella Johnson,

Colla Voce

The Sally Gardens.......................................................... Benjamin Britten

Irish tune, text by W.B. Yeats

We Can Plant a Forest ..................................................... Jim Papoulis & Mike Greenly

Percussion: RubyJoy Pikes and Amanda Ross

In Flanders Fields.......................................................... Alexander Tilley

Text by John McCrae, 1915

Pretty Saro ........................................................................ arr. N. B. Allsbrook & G. Goodin

Traditional Appalachian Folksong

* Solos: Brenna Nieva, Camryn Rhodaback, Audrey Riley, RubyJoy Pikes,

Stand Together .................................................................. Jim Papoulis

Bodhran Drum: Fiona Higgins

Consonare

Oh My Luve’s Like a Red, Red Rose .................................. René Clausen

Scots text by Robert Burns, 1794

* Violin: MacKenzie Visser, Cello: Janice Halstead

Cindy ................................................................................. arr. Carol Barnett

Traditional American Folksong

The Oak and the Ash........................................................ arr. Philip Lawson

Traditional English

Yellow Bird ........................................................................ Norman Luboff, arr. Dan Davidson

Percussion: Shelbi Eller, Elizabeth Eaton, Sarah Martin, Flute: Sarah Harkness, Bass: Sam Kehoe

What a Wonderful World.................................................. Weiss & Thiele, arr. Mark Hayes

Featuring our graduates

Combined Groups

Tuimbe .............................................................................. David Waggoner

Let us sing, let us dance all together.

*Bella Voce and Colla Voce parents: Please remember to sign your singer out at the conclusion of the concert.*

On behalf of the Kent Food Bank, we would like to thank all of our patrons for their generous donations today.

Please join us for a cookie mingle after the concert.
Trevor Bygland (KMHS 2009) is transferring from Green River Community College to South Seattle Community College. He has been singing under the direction of Mrs. Schwitters for 9.5 years. He has sung alto, tenor and bass over the years and enjoyed tours with Mrs. Schwitters to Italy (2007), New York City (2009), Spokane (2011) and PICCFEST in Oregon (2012). He is pursuing a career in landscaping and horticulture and plans to open his own business. “If you do your best and practice there’s no limit to what you can achieve.”

Ben Dunham (Highline Community College, Running Start) has been singing in RYC for 3 years, first as an alto in Collo Voce, then tenor in Consonare, and now baritone. Performing on the Argosy Christmas Ship each year was a favorite activity. He plans to work a year before going to school to pursue a career in Culinary Arts. “Singing with RYC has been a fun experience for me to be able to sing with so many other talented young musicians.”

Elizabeth Eaton (Kentlake HS) joined RYC last year, singing Alto 2 and now Soprano 1. Her favorite RYC memories are singing with Barry Manilow and singing a whole Mass in Latin for her first ever choir concert. She was accepted into the University of Arizona’s Honor College and plans to major in journalism or psychology. Her dream job would be writing for National Geographic! She received a $15,000 Excellence Award and an iPad from UA. “For a long time, I believed that I couldn’t sing. I loved music, but was too embarrassed to even try to sing along in public. Mrs. Schwitters was the first person to ever believe in me, that I could sing...and all the other kids were full of encouragement and support, and I can’t believe how much I’ve grown. Singing has become such a wonderful, enjoyable part of my life, all thanks to RYC.”

Shelbi Eller (Auburn Riverside HS) has been singing under the direction of Mrs. Schwitters for 8 years as Soprano 2 and Alto. She most enjoyed the Spokane trip and participating in the Spokane Area Children’s Chorus’s Festival at Gonzaga University. She will attend Gonzaga University in the pre-law program and plans to attend law school there after obtaining her BA. She earned 2 academic scholarships equaling $17,000 a year for 4 years. “Being a part of RYC has been an amazing experience. I have learned so much over the past 8 years with Mrs. Schwitters. Being part of this choir has helped me grow the confidence in myself that I have today. Mrs. Schwitters is so inspirational and motivating...The amazing people in choir have grown into really close friends I hope to have for years to come.”

Hannah Freitag (Kentridge HS) began singing with RYC in the fall of 2007, preferring to sing alto most of those years. She participated in almost every RYC travel opportunity, with the Pacific Rim Children’s Choral Festival in Hawaii in 2009 as the first and most memorable. She will attend Chapman University’s Dodge College of Film and Media Arts in California, majoring in Digital Arts with an emphasis in Art Direction. She received Chapman’s Chancellor Scholarship for $20,000 a year for academic merit. “If you love to sing, you’ll love being in RYC. I have grown musically so much and I have become a better singer and grown in my love for the intricacies and variety of music. I’ve also made some fantastic friends and have had the opportunity to go to many places and work with amazing musicians from all over the world. I grew up with RYC, and it has helped shape me into the person I am today.”

Payton Lewis (Kentridge HS) began singing with RYC in the fall of 2010, preferring to sing alto most of those years. She has sung Soprano 1 & 2. Her favorite RYC memory is from the Hawaii trip — making Mrs. Schwitters go on stage to attempt hula dancing. After graduation from GRCC, she will transfer to another college to pursue a Masters degree in meteorology. “When you join RYC, you gain not only life-long friends, but a second family, a home away from home. When I joined, I gained more confidence. This choir lets you see how talented your child is, and they will bloom in this loving environment.”

Sarah Martin (Thomas Jefferson HS) began singing with Mrs. Schwitters as a second grader, singing soprano or alto as needed. Her favorite RYC memory is the Hawaii festival in 2009. She will attend Pacific Lutheran University as a music education major, winning the President’s Scholarship ($21,000 for 4 years), and Music Scholarship ($1,000 for 4 years) and the Federal Way Chorale Scholarship of $2,000. “Mrs. Schwitters has shaped me into the musician I am today. She taught me professionalism and pride in my art. Being in the choir for so long has raised me as an artist who is confident and loves what I do.” All are invited to Sarah’s Senior Recital on French Horn and voice, Thursday, June 13, 7PM at TJHS in Federal Way.

Cassidy Newell (KLHS 2012) graduates from Green River Community College this year. She joined RYC in January 2008 and has sung Soprano 1 & 2. Her favorite RYC memory is from the Hawaiian trip — making Mrs. Schwitters go on stage to attempt hula dancing. After graduation from GRCC, she will transfer to another college to pursue a Masters degree in meteorology. “When you join RYC, you gain not only life-long friends, but a second family, a home away from home. When I joined, I gained more confidence. This choir lets you see how talented your child is, and they will bloom in this loving environment.”

Amara Reitz (Lindbergh HS) sings Soprano 1, 2 or Alto as needed. Her favorite RYC memory was the closing ceremony at the Hawaii Festival. For the rest of the trip she was either on crutches or in a wheelchair after bruising a bone in her foot, but watching the sun set on the ocean while singing the farewell song in Hawaiian with old and new friends was “truly memorable.” She will attend WSU and double major in Elementary Education and Music (Vocal Jazz emphasis). She hopes to become a Kindergarten teacher or a famous jazz singer, “whichever comes first.” “In the last 6 years with RYC, I have not only been able to travel around the Pacific Northwest and work with many famous and talented directors, but I have met people who have become some of the most important people in my life. If you are on the fence about RYC, just do it. Do it for the experiences, for the traveling, but most importantly, for the love of making music with the most talented and wonderful people you will ever meet.”

Jonathan Sigrist (Green River Community College, Homeschool) has been in RYC for 3 years as a tenor. His favorite RYC memories revolve around the amazing people he had the joy to spend time with. He will attend Seattle Pacific University to double-major in English and Psychology and will pursue a career in teaching. He was awarded SPU’s Academic Scholarship ($14,000 annually) and a Vocal Scholarship ($1,000 annually). “It’s [RYC’s] a place where singing is not just beautiful, it’s fun. The singers are as friendly and delightful a group as you can hope to encounter, and the instruction is open, engaging, and all-around exceptional.”
Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting RYC and volunteering throughout the season.

We couldn’t do it without you!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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RAINIER YOUTH CHOIRS • STAFF
LEORA SCHWITTERS, Founder, Rainier Youth Choirs Artistic Director and Conductor, Colla Voce and Consonare, retired after 25 years of teaching K12 choral, instrumental, and general music in the public schools. Most of her choral experience occurred at Cedar Heights Junior High in Kent, WA. She holds a Bachelor’s of Music, Summa Cum Laude, from Yankton College Conservatory of Music, South Dakota, a Master of Arts for Teachers in Music Education from the University of Washington. She is past-President and Treasurer of the Washington State American Choral Director’s Association (WA-ACDA). Her choirs have performed in state and regional conferences for the Washington Music Educators Association (WMEA) and ACDA. Active as a clinician and adjudicator, Leora has also served on the board of the Tahoma Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), has presided over the Green River Music Educators Association, and is a member of the National Association for Music Education, WMEA and Chorus America. Leora has been selected to conduct Washington State’s Junior All-State Choir in 2014. She and her husband Larry enjoy trail running and are avid birders.

LORI McEWEN, Accompanist (all groups), studied piano and voice at Central Washington University and currently accompanies many local school choirs and their students for large group and solo/ensemble contests and for NATS competitions each year. She and her husband Bill have led music at the contemporary worship service and have sung in the chancel choir at Fairwood Community United Methodist Church in Renton for over 30 years. Lori accompanies both children and youth choirs directed by her husband at the church. Together they provide music for weddings and other special events.

BRAD WILLS, Conductor, Bella Voce, teaches general music and choir at Fairwood Elementary School, Renton. Mr. Wills studied music at Wheaton College’s conservatory and frequently accompanies Kent students and choirs at solo/ensemble festivals. Prior to teaching music, Mr. Wills taught special education for 15 years. In 2002, he was selected as the Kent School District’s Teacher of the Year. He serves as Western Liaison for the Washington American Choral Directors Association.

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Celeste Frugé-Brown
Sam Garcia
Emi Heinz
Elisa Jacobsen
Eila Johnson
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Anna McLaughlin
Emily McLaughlin
Nicole Reber
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Sophia Heinz
Fiona Higgins
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Brenna Nieva
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Lindsey Pavletich
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Ariel Gire
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