

RAINIER YOUTH CHOIRS' STAFF

Leora Schwitters, Founder, Rainier Youth Choirs Artistic Director and Conductor, Colla Voce and Consonare, retired after 25 years of teaching K-12 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 in South Dakota and a Master of Arts for Teachers in Music Education from the University of Washington. She is Vice President and Treasurer of the Washington American Choral Director's Association (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) and has presided over the Green River Music Region organization.

Sue Lundy Green, Conductor, Bella Voce and Rainier Kids, has been a K-12 vocal music specialist for over 20 years. She is now the choral director at Kent School District's Meeker Middle School. Sue previously directed secondary choirs for the Scappoose School District in Oregon, headed the music program at Portland Public Schools' performing arts high school magnet program, and directed choirs in Banks and Roseburg, Oregon. She has a Masters of Music from the University of Arizona and a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Willamette University. Sue is currently the Western Liaison for Washington ACDA, and was the Membership Chair for Oregon ACDA before moving to the Puget Sound area. She is married to Jonathan and is the stepmother to two boys, Matthew & Joshua.

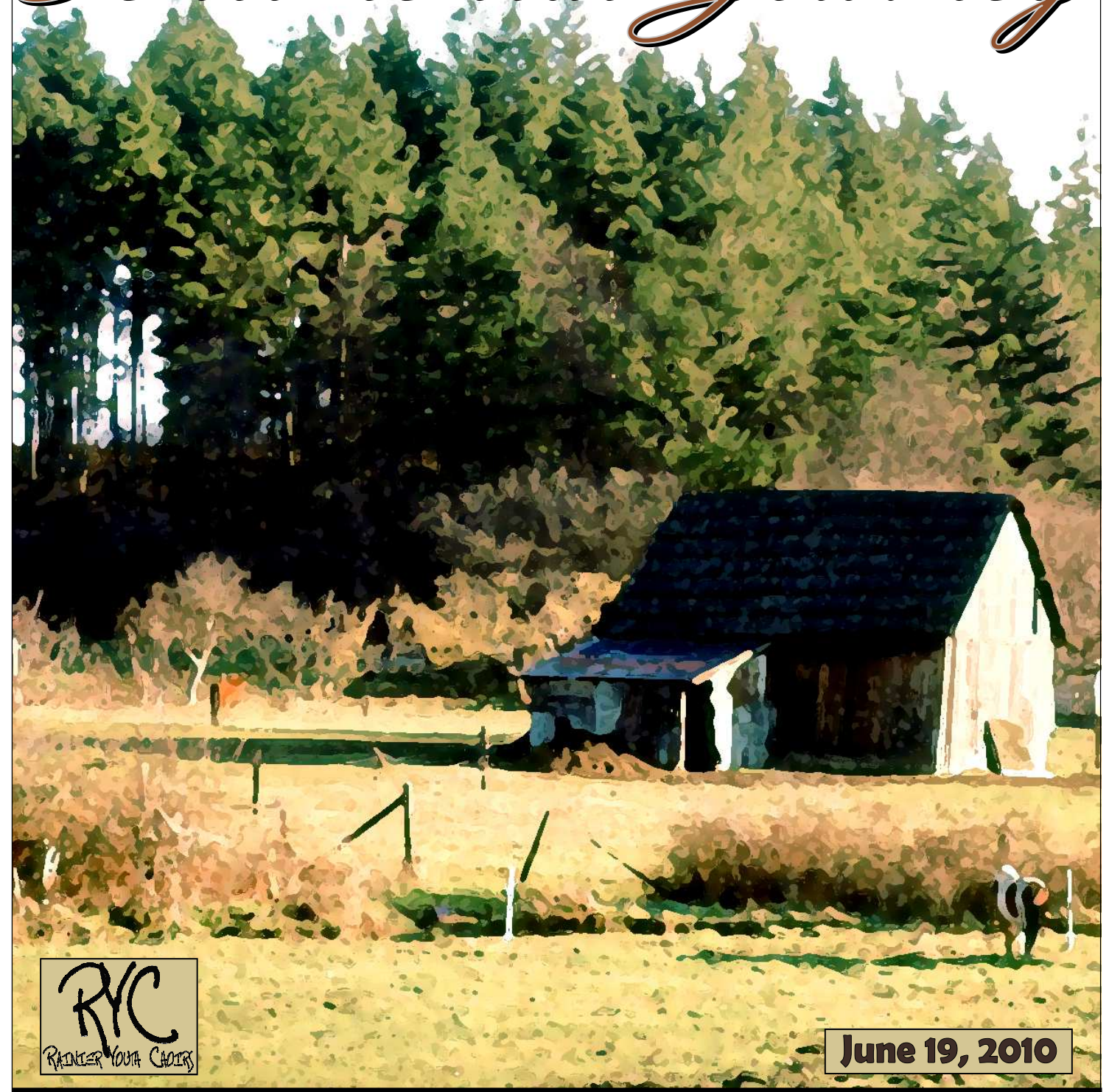
Penny Cramer, Accompanist, Bella Voce, has taught music at all levels, K-12 and is the choir and orchestra director at Olympic Middle School in Auburn. She holds a degree in vocal education from the University of Idaho and is a member of The Esoterics, an a cappella choir based in Seattle. Penny has accompanied school choirs as well as college and community choirs in Idaho and Florida. She is currently the accompanist for the choir at Messiah Lutheran Church in Auburn and works with band, choir and orchestra students in solo and ensemble festivals at the local and state levels. She and her husband, Tom, are the proud new parents of Kasey Ann, born in August.

Lori McEwen, accompanist for Colla Voce and Consonare, studied piano and voice at Central Washington University and currently accompanies several 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 25 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.



Rainier Youth Choirs Presents

Sentimental Journey



June 19, 2010

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

Ryan Callahan, Kentwood High School, joined as a new baritone in 8th grade, and now sings Tenor I. He will attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, AZ, majoring in Aerospace Engineering. Ryan has earned two scholarships: Embry-Riddle Academic Achievement, \$20,000 and the Museum of Flight Future Pathfinders, \$20,000

“I have valued my participation in RYC because it has been a musically-evolving experience. I started RYC in 8th grade in Vocal Ensemble and I was intimidated by how well the older kids could sing and sight-read music. I worked really hard to keep up with the group and improve my skills, but I enjoyed the experience, too. I made many friends along the way, sang in numerous concerts and travelled to fun places. Since starting RYC, I have grown as a musician and have gained confidence in myself as a singer and as a person. Mrs. Schwitters has been an inspiration and a teacher in every respect of the word in all things regarding music. I cherish the time that I have spent under her direction.”

Makena Cayce, Kentlake High School, has been singing with the organization for six years as an Alto.

Cameron Ellis, Kentlake High School, has been singing with the organization for six years as Soprano 2, Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 2, and now Baritone. He will attend Seattle University studying Mechanical Engineering, and earned a \$12,000 academic scholarship to the school.

“I have valued my time in both CCI and RYC because of the group of people and the great learning experience. Every week I can look forward to seeing a group of people that can make me smile no matter what. I will miss seeing their faces and being able to sing some amazing songs in unbelievable locations.”

Janelle Heuslein, Kentwood High School, has been a part of Consonare for two years as Soprano 1 and 2, and will attend Green River Community College. Janelle received the President’s Award for Academic Achievement.

“RYC has brought me so much joy and many great memories. It helped me discover my love and passion for singing! Thanks to Mrs. Schwitters for being a fabulous, patient director and thanks to all the parents and friends for their support. I love RYC! It will be missed!”

Bailey Kieffer-Peterson, Kentwood High School, a member of RYC for three years, she has sung Alto 1 and Soprano 2 and will attend the University of Washington. Bailey was awarded the KWHS Band Boosters Scholarship for \$250.

“Music has been an important part of my life for a long time, and I can’t imagine being without it. So I won’t.”

Ian Lobdell, Kentlake High School, has been singing with the organization for six years, first as an Alto, now as a Bass. Ian was awarded KLHS’s Art Student of the Year award.

Christina Mahaney, Green River Community College, AA, has sung for five years with this group as a Soprano 1, 2 and Alto 1. She will attend Pacific Lutheran University, majoring in French and plans to do some study abroad. She earned the Dean’s Academic Scholarship of \$16,000, renewable each year.

“I have absolutely treasured my participation in CCI/RYC over the past five years. I have been very privileged and blessed to be able to sing and perform with some of the most amazing friends and directors that I could ever ask for. They have taught me so much about music and helped me to further figure out who I really am. I would not nearly be the person that I am today without them having highly influenced my life. So, I really ‘do believe I have been changed for the better’.”

Daniel McCafferty, Auburn Mountainview High School/Green River Community College, A.A. Daniel has been singing in this group since the beginning—seven years! He has sung Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Baritone and Bass over the years. He will likely attend Central Washington University for a Music Education degree in Choral Music, and hopes to also get a Master’s degree in Music Ed and perhaps in Jazz Studies. Daniel received the Rainier Chorale Scholarship for \$1,000 and an academic scholarship for \$3,000.

“Mrs. Schwitters’ choir was the first choir I was ever involved in (outside of church), and she was also my first choir director. It was through RYC (and its predecessor, CCI) that I first had vocal training. And thanks to the experience.....I am now pursuing a career as a music teacher. Thank you RYC and Mrs. Schwitters!”

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

RYC EXECUTIVE BOARD 2009-2010

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KUMC Liaison..... Brian Bygland	Risers.....Dave Davis
Mark Eaton..... Slide Show	Uniforms..... Debbie Meyers

RAINIER YOUTH CHOIRS’ SINGERS

HONOR CHOIR:

Sophia Heinz, Shadow Lake Elementary, Teacher: Laurel Toliver;
 Libby Kim, Soos Creek Elementary, Teacher: Traci Wilson;
 Cyan Smith, Daniel Elementary School, Teacher: Michael Kerstetter
 Amy Wall, Northwood Middle School, Teacher: Susan Jones;
 Morgan Ziesing, Sawyer Woods Elementary, Teacher: Emily Moore

BELLA VOCE: Duane Davis, Tessa Carroll, Katelyn Dunham, Jacob Henderson, Russell Johnson, Ryan Migliore, Trevor Migliore, Lindsey Pavletich, Lynda Pham, Peyton Sakamoto

COLLA VOCE: Nick Anderson, Lily Jo Ayres, Haylee Ball, Victoria Cameron, Elana Cueto, Shelbi Eller, Cassie Fokkema, Hannah Freitag, Janée Green, Emily Halversen, Cassidy Newell, Maddy Payment, Danny Pham, Tyson Powell, Amara Reitz, Cian Schlichte, Nabiila Soehedi, Benjamin Songras-Rosales, Megan Stein, Makoto Také, Julia Wenndt

COLLA VOCE PRIMA: Lily Jo Ayres, Hannah Freitag, Janée Green, Cassidy Newell, Amara Reitz, Makoto Také, Julia Wenndt

OPUS I: Dana Bygland, Trevor Bygland, Ryan Callahan, Makena Cayce, Matt Eaton, Cameron Ellis, Janelle Huslein, Ian Lobdell, Christina Mahaney, Sarah Martin, Zach Martin, Daniel McCafferty, Heather Messer, Kristin Roelofs, Jeremy Sigrist, Katie Wenndt, Devon Wilson

CONSONARE: includes all of Opus I plus Stephanie Boutros, Miranda Eller, Luke Jacobsen, Bailey Kieffer-Peterson, K.J. Knies, Emily Pierre, Gordon Starr, and Courtnee Williams.

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RYC NEWS



Consonare and Colla Voce have been hired to entertain as the headline guest for the International Conference of Delta Kappa Gamma in Spokane this summer. They will perform in the INB Performing Arts Center on **Tuesday, July 20**, about 9:00 PM. Singers will depart Monday, July 19 and return Wednesday, July 21.



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Funding

Rainier Youth Choirs is part of a non profit, 501(c)3, corporation. We rely upon tuition, fund raising projects, ticket sales, grants and contributions from the general public for our funding. Your generous support is vital to our program and to our success. Your gift will help Rainier Youth Choirs establish a tradition of providing quality instruction for students and quality performances for our audiences.

We invite you to make a tax deductible donation at our information table in the lobby, or by visiting our website, rainieryouthchoirs.org, and clicking on 'Support Us'. Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

Kristin Roelofs, Homeschool, has sung with RYC for 3 years as Soprano 1, 2 and Alto 1. She will be attending Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, majoring in either criminal justice or biological research, and will also look at pre-law. She plans to minor in music. Scholarships earned include the Heart and Mind Scholarship, for showing God through my life, and the Kuiper Scholarship, for academic excellence.

"Being in RYC has helped teach me several things. The most basic is that I have learned to sing better, and also learning how to blend well with others. Other parts of singing, such as neck position and singing with a high soft palette have been reinforced. Another reason I have valued RYC is because of the people in it. They are outgoing, sometimes silly singers who are fun to be around. They have shown me that being silly and outgoing is more fun than being quiet, which has in turn helped me become a more outgoing person."

Carissa Schaff, Kentlake High School, has sung with this group for six years, singing Soprano or Alto as needed throughout the years. Carissa will be attending Western Washington University with an intended double major in Music Education and Broadcast Communications. She hopes to either teach choir or become a radio DJ.

"With being a part of RYC, I have gained valuable knowledge in music theory, I have become a more skilled vocalist and musician, and I have created relationships that will more than likely last me a lifetime. The skills I have gained from this program are invaluable to me and I am sure that I will use them in my future. The memories I have gained will always be a happy reminder of how blessed I am to have a gift such as this and that I was able to share my gift not only with my fellow choir members but with the audiences that we touched with our music over the years. This choir has meant more to me over the years than anyone can imagine and will always be one of my fondest memories of my high school career."

Katie Wenndt, Kentridge High School, has been singing with the group for six years as a Soprano I the entire time. She will attend Pacific Lutheran University as a nursing major and hopes to minor in music. She plans to work as an obstetric nurse. Katie earned the Provost's Scholarship of \$12,000, renewable, the Clifford & Ella Olson Music Scholarship of \$3,800, renewable, and a Music Scholarship from PLU of \$1,200, renewable.

"I have valued my participation in RYC because I have been able to be part of a choir made up of singers who really want to be there. Everyone comes and does their best because they all love to sing, unlike in most school choirs. I have also greatly appreciated the fact that I can sing louder in this choir (with about 30 people) than I can in my school choir (with about 60 people)! I also loved the opportunities to travel that I would not have had otherwise. The New York trip that Ensemble went on last summer included workshops that I would never have been able to experience if not for this choir. This choir also has the best director I've ever sung with! Mrs. Schwitters is amazing! Finally, I have loved the fact that everyone in this choir gets along with each other. No one tries to be better than everyone else; we all encourage each other and support each other."

Courtnee Williams, Auburn Riverside High School, has participated for six years as a Soprano 2. Courtnee will attend Seattle Pacific University as an Elementary Education major with an emphasis on Math and a minor in Computer Science.

"RYC has provided me with a chance to be part of an exceptional group of musicians and under the incredible director, Leora Schwitters. My music talent has been challenged and provided with the ability to grow."

Devon Wilson, Kentwood High School, has sung with us for six years as an Alto, and will be attending Western Washington University studying Creative Writing. She also hopes to participate in one of the select auditioned choirs and travel with the Study Abroad program.

"For the past 6 years RYC has been my extended family. There was a time when I was so terrified of singing solos that I would literally tremble in fear. Through the years I continued to gain confidence in performing as my peers and I shared our love for singing in a safe and positive environment. While never seeking the spotlight, I am now eager to sing any part that is needed. Leaving behind close friends, as well as our dedicated director will be difficult. However, I am certain that RYC will continue to attract and shape the lives of countless musicians. This experience has strongly influenced who I am today and where I see myself in the future, and I will forever be grateful for this opportunity."

