

Overview Letter

April 2015

Festival Schedule and Facilities

The Festival Campuses

Monday, July 13	Scottish Rite Center 1547 Lakeside Drive Oakland, CA 94612	Youth choirs and Children's choirs will rehearse at Scottish Rite Center. <i>Opening Ceremonies at 7pm</i>
Tuesday, July 14	First Congregational Church 2345 Channing Way Berkeley, CA 94704	Youth choirs will rehearse across the street at First Presbyterian Church and Children's choirs will rehearse at First Congregational Church
Wednesday, July 15	First Congregational Church 2345 Channing Way Berkeley, CA 94704	Youth choirs will rehearse across the street at First Presbyterian Church and Children's choirs will rehearse at First Congregational Church
Thursday, July 16	Scottish Rite Center 1547 Lakeside Drive Oakland, CA 94612	Youth choirs and Children's choirs will rehearse at Scottish Rite Center
Friday, July 17	First Congregational Church 2345 Channing Way Berkeley, CA 94704	Youth choirs will rehearse across the street at First Presbyterian Church and Children's choirs will rehearse at First Congregational Church
Saturday, July 18	Scottish Rite Center 1547 Lakeside Drive Oakland, CA 94612	Closing Ceremony combined rehearsal <i>Closing Ceremony at 7pm</i>

Chaperones are expected to be with their choirs at all times. During the morning meetings choirs should send 1-2 representatives to hear the crucial information for the day and then pass it on to all adults in their choir.

All participants are expected to follow the dress and behavior guidelines included in this packet.

Please note that no food or drink – except bottled water – is allowed in any of the performance venues.

Festival Competitions

Copies of ALL competition music (including the Vocal Solo competitions) must be sent to the Festival office by **June 10, 2015**.

- Hard copies may be mailed to:
Lisa D'Annunzio
3629 Grand Avenue
Oakland, CA 94610
USA
- OR, you may e-mail PDFs of the music to: ldannunzio@piedmontchoirs.org

Morning Rehearsals and Meetings

All choirs will rehearse together each morning (July 13-18) under the direction of Festival Chorus Directors. Youth choirs and Children's choirs will sometimes rehearse separately, and sometimes together. Choirs may use their music for rehearsal, but they will be expected to perform the combined music memorized for the Closing Ceremony.

Your singers should be prepared to sing all combined repertoire:

- Children's Choirs
 - *Heliseb Våljadel*
 - *Sambalelé*
 - *Journey of Song*
 - *Sing All Ye Joyful*
- Youth Choirs
 - *Helin*
 - *Três Cantos Nativos*
 - *Journey of Song*
 - *Sing All Ye Joyful*

Each morning there will be a daily meeting led by Lisa D'Annunzio, Festival Manager, which will cover important Festival information for the day and remainder of the week. All adult Festival chaperones that are not attending the rehearsals with their choirs should be present and should convey the information to those who are not able to be present. Conductors are encouraged to attend the morning meetings if they choose not to attend the Combined Festival Choirs rehearsals. The morning meeting will take place in the Festival Hospitality Room.

Festival Check-In

Festival check-in will take place at the Opening Reception on Sunday, July 12, 2015.

Concerts

The ***Opening Ceremonies*** on Monday, July 13 will begin at 7:00pm at the Scottish Rite Center in Oakland. All choirs must arrive at Scottish Rite Center by 6:00pm, dressed in their concert uniform. Choirs will be allotted a 15-minute sound check between 12:15pm and

5:00pm to prepare for the concert. During the concert, each choir will be introduced and then perform one piece. Choirs will then be seated in the audience to enjoy the rest of the program.

Competition Concerts. Competition concerts take place on July 14, 15, and 17. Date assignments can be found in your individual schedules. Please note that any sound check assignments and specific concert order will not be ready until June.

Spotlight Concerts. On Tuesday and Wednesday nights at 7:00pm, choirs will share an additional, non-adjudicated *Spotlight Concert* with 2-3 other choirs. Each choir will sing a 25-minute set of music. An acoustic baby grand piano will be available. **Singers arrive to these venues dressed in their concert uniforms or costumes.** Spotlight Concert assignments were sent on April 8, but they are also included in each choir's individual schedule.

The **Closing Ceremony** is on Saturday, July 18, at 7:00pm at the Scottish Rite Center in Oakland. All singers will perform the combined repertoire. Competition winners will be asked to perform 1 or 2 pieces.

Social Events

Opening Reception – All paid adult participants are invited to meet each other and Festival staff at the home of Andrea and Paul Swenson, Festival sponsors, on Sunday, July 12, from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. Please see included document for more information.

Welcome Picnic – The Welcome Picnic will take place on Monday, July 13, from 12:15pm-4:00pm at the Lake Merritt Amphitheater. Please see included document for more information.

Bay Cruise – Thursday, July 16, 2:00pm – 5:00pm. Participants will travel via Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) from the Scottish Rite Center to San Francisco after a shortened morning rehearsal. Choirs will be escorted by Festival volunteers and will be provided with BART tickets.

Conductors' Banquet – Friday, July 17, 6:00pm-9:00pm. Each choir's conductor and a guest are invited to attend the conductors' banquet. If you are traveling with two choirs (Cantabella, Young People's, and Kinder-&-Jugendsingakademie), you will receive 2 tickets per choir, so 4 tickets total. If you do NOT need all 4 tickets, please let us know. If you would like to bring additional guests, a per-person fee of \$85 is required. Space is limited and additional tickets will be purchased on first-come, first-serve basis. Please contact Lisa ldannunzio@piedmontchoirs.org if you would like to purchase additional tickets.

Closing Dance – All Festival participants and their visiting guests are invited to the Closing Dance following the Closing Ceremony. The dance will be held in the Ballroom of the Scottish Rite Center and will end at 11:30pm. The dance is a free event, but non-participants who would like to attend should contact Lisa: ldannunzio@piedmontchoirs.org.