



The Princeton Girlchoir  
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*Since 1989*

April 17, 2006

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Dear Princeton Girlchoir Families,

We write what we plan to be an annual letter to our families as we enter into the final weeks of our year. The exciting activity in each choir energizes all of us as we prepare for our May 21<sup>st</sup> Spring Concert, and auditions have already begun for new choir members.

Meanwhile, our Budget Committee has worked hard to create a balanced budget for next year that ensures the continuation of quality programming, and our Board of Directors, Artistic Director and Executive Director are in the midst of a strategic planning process to set our direction through 2010 as our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary approaches. We are also working furiously on a totally redesigned web site with greatly enhanced features, which we hope to launch in late spring.

How does all this happen? Through the talent and dedication of our artistic staff, through the boundless energy and organization of our administrative staff, through hard work on the part of our PGC Board members ... *and through your generous contributions of time and funds.* The Princeton Girlchoir could not do all we do without the extraordinary volunteer and fundraising support of our PGC families.

With tuition covering only 70% of our operating expenses, your contributions this past year have truly made the difference. This year's general fundraising projects – the Sally Foster Gift Wrap sale, Program Book advertisements, patron-level concert tickets, The Broadway Kids fundraiser, United Way designations, and Annual Fund contributions – are expected to generate over \$60,000 in essential programming support this year. We thank you for all your support on behalf of all our choristers.

As we turn our sights to 2006-2007, we are eager to build on this year's momentum. Each girl in the Grace Notes, Semi-Tones and Concert Choir recently received a vocal evaluation to help chart progress and provide positive feedback and suggestions. Grace Notes has demonstrated that girls of this age are up to the musical challenges and rewards that a longer 90 minute weekly rehearsal can provide. Semi-Tones plans to further utilize computer technology as a tool to help the girls learn their music. Concert Choir plans to engage a vocal coach monthly to help choristers with the technical aspects of singing. Concert Choir Ensemble is looking forward to more and more local "gigs." Alumnae Cantores hopes to expand their performance opportunities, and to provide a more diverse repertoire for varied performance venues.

In addition, we have two extraordinary opportunities to expand our musical and cultural horizons next year. First, we will be bringing in renowned British composer and choral conductor Bob Chilcott for an intensive day of singing and instruction for all of our choristers, to which we hope to invite a broad range of music educators from our surrounding areas as well. (We are in the early stages of planning and welcome volunteers to get involved.) Second, the Kinderchoir Singakademie Dresden, the choir that hosted our Concert Choir girls in Germany last year, will be visiting us in February 2007 and we are very much looking forward to the pleasures of providing homestays for their girls as they did for us.

As you can see, 2006-07 promises to be another exciting year and we are firmly committed to providing a high-quality choral experience for our girls. The PGC Budget Committee took great care this past winter to examine the direct costs associated with each choir (including artistic staff salaries, rehearsal space, sheet music, sing-ins and retreats, etc.) and to allocate the administrative costs per capita to better understand our expenses. As a result of that analysis, the 2006-2007 Tuition Schedule has been revised as follows to more accurately reflect the true costs associated with operating each choir.

• Grace Notes	\$ 615	
• Semi-Tones	\$ 645	
• Concert Choir	\$ 825	
• Concert Choir Ensemble	\$ 100	
• Alumnae Cantores	\$ 775	(Note: A.C. uniform costs are not included in tuition.)

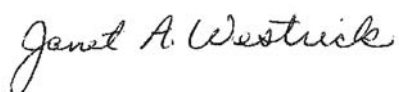
Of note, Grace Notes tuition has increased to reflect the significant increase in rehearsal time for that group since inception, Alumnae Cantores has been adjusted to reflect the smaller, more personalized instruction in that choir, and Concert Choir Ensemble members will be charged a small fee for the very first time to reflect costs associated with their programming. If you should have any questions about the tuition schedule or the budgeting process, please give us a call at the PGC office.

As an organization, we are strongly committed to offering financial assistance to all families with demonstrated need. We encourage you to speak in confidence with Janet Perkins, our Executive Director, to request an application and apply for aid by late summer. (Scholarship decisions are made by a non-parent committee prior to the first rehearsal.) We are also pleased to offer a payment plan option for your convenience.

Acceptance emails for the 2006-2007 choir year will go out some time in May. We appreciate your efforts to return your forms and tuition deposits by the deadline so that we may invite other applicants should you choose not to return. If you have any questions regarding individual choir auditions and placement, please do not hesitate to contact the PGC office.

Thank you for bringing us your daughter – or daughters – to make the beautiful music our choristers make together in our rehearsals and in our performances. We are just as proud of them as you are!

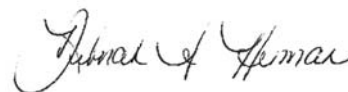
With best wishes for continued music enjoyment,



Janet A. Westrick  
Founder & Artistic Director



Janet H. Perkins  
Executive Director



Deborah A. Herman  
President, Board of Directors