



THE AMERICAN FEDERATION PUERI CANTORES

*Bringing together boys and girls throughout
the United States to sing the Peace of God*

September 26, 2014

Dear Superintendent:

With the adoption of NCEA's new STREAM educational initiative, I am writing to let you know of some dynamic new offerings in Pueri Cantores programs for Catholic students and teachers. Uniquely positioned to blend the Religion and Arts components now spotlighted by NCEA, combined with a focused emphasis on Catholic Identity and growth, Vatican based Pueri Cantores offers no/low cost historically balanced choral music Festivals and Masses for schools in your diocese. Your leadership and invitation to conductors in your schools is needed to reach the conductors and choirs. You are the key to initiating one of the most memorable and important Catholic experiences in your students' lives. Please read on.

What You Need to Know Now

*NCEA will offer Certificates of Attendance for all participating school conductors to be evaluated for professional development credits by Departments of Education. The Archdiocese of Chicago will offer CPDUs for your consideration for all Pueri Cantores (AFPC) events.

*This will be the inaugural year for the National Catholic High School Choral Festivals designed specifically for students in Catholic High Schools. These are organized as traditional choral music festivals, not involving a liturgy, with an emphasis on sacred music. Here you can observe and feel, in performance, rehearsal and conductor clinics, the students evangelize each other and build artistic skills at the same time.

*Students grades 4-8 sing historically balanced music in a large combined choir at traditional Festival Masses held in cathedrals and grand churches with pastors, bishops and cardinals presiding at the liturgies.

*Online and other seminars will be initiated this year to advance conductor education and provide more opportunities for professional growth.

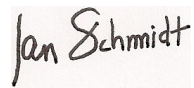
What Can You Do?

Festivals are costly, but not for Departments of Education. Costs are outlined in the accompanying brochures. A music fund is available for schools in need to purchase music for participation. Four hundred singers-a tiny percentage of your total enrollment-are needed to cover the costs of these events for your students and to assure their continuation in future years. AFPC does the organizing, print and email promotion, registration and oversight, but we cannot reach the students without YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND

DIRECT REQUESTS TO CONDUCTORS IN YOUR SCHOOLS TO PARTICIPATE. If this has been a high priority for you in the past, thank you! If not, or if you know you could do more to better prioritize these events, PLEASE LET THIS BE THE YEAR! Please assign a skilled promoter/s-administrator or teacher-to invite and work with conductors to give this experience and advanced training to their choirs.

Reach your singers in the best way possible. Put the R and the A in STREAM. Email your conductors now and ask them to put these Festivals on their schedules.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light pink rectangular background. The signature reads "Jan Schmidt" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

**Jan Schmidt, Executive Director
American Federation Pueri Cantores**



AMERICAN FEDERATION PUERI CANTORES

The Official Student Choral Organization of the Catholic Church

STREAMing the Faith

through Music:

Fostering the Faith of Young People in Parishes and Schools



Headquartered
in the Vatican

Regional Festivals
featuring
the Great Music
of the
Catholic Church

Participation by
Church Leaders



- Builds Catholic identity through musical leadership in worship at great cathedrals and churches locally and throughout the United States
- Welcomes singers from parish and school choirs to **Treble Festivals**, for singers in grades four through eight, **Mixed Voice Festivals**, for grades four through twelve, and announces inaugural **High School Festivals** hosted on Catholic college and university campuses throughout the United States.
- Promotes an accessible, historically balanced repertoire spanning 1500 years — from Gregorian chant to contemporary masterworks of the Twentieth Century.
- Provides advanced training by nationally recognized Catholic conductors
- Teaches a complete repertoire of music for one liturgy each year, which can be brought back for use at parish and school Masses
- Directly addresses the Religion and Arts components of the STREAM educational initiative endorsed by NCEA.
- NCEA Certificates of Attendance available to participating conductors.

PUERI CANTORES, approved by every pope since Pius XII, brings together youth choirs to raise the profile of choral music in church, school, community and artistic settings. PUERI CANTORES provides choristers with the rich experience of our Catholic tradition and a leadership role in the Church which they can carry throughout their lives.

A choir's membership in PUERI CANTORES creates optional opportunities to sing in local, national and international settings. In addition to a choir's own individual repertoire, singers learn an accessible shared repertoire of quality music which they are invited to sing in combined performance with other PUERI CANTORES member choirs at Festivals, Masses and community events.

For more details and a membership application

Visit the AFPC website at www.pcchoirs.org

E-mail: info@pcchoirs.org

1188 N. Tustin Street, Orange, CA 92867 Tel: 714.633.7554 • Fax: 714.516.1531



Announcing

2015 Pueri Cantores Festivals

Something for Everyone!

National Catholic High School Choral Festivals & Pueri Cantores Choral Festivals

TEXAS

Archdioceses of Galveston-Houston and San Antonio, and neighboring dioceses

High School

Friday, February 6; Chapel of St. Basil, University of St. Thomas, Houston

Guest Clinician, Paul French

Treble (grades 4-8)

Saturday, February 7; Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Houston

Conductor, Paul French

FLORIDA

Statewide

Mixed Voice (grades 4-12)

Saturday, February 21; Cathedral of St. James, Orlando

Conductor, John Robinson

CHICAGO

For Catholic choirs in the Archdioceses of Chicago and Dubuque and neighboring dioceses

High School

Friday, February 27; Madonna della Strada Chapel, Loyola University

Guest Clinician, Dr. Richard Robbins

Treble (grades 4-8)

Saturday, February 28; Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Conductor, Dr. Richard Robbins

ST. LOUIS

For Catholic choirs in the Archdiocese of St. Louis and neighboring dioceses

Mixed Voice (grades 4-12)

Thursday, March 5; St. Francis Xavier "College" Church, St. Louis University, St. Louis

Conductor, Lee Gwozdz

WISCONSIN

Statewide

High School

Friday, March 6; Church of the Gesu, Marquette University, Milwaukee

Guest Clinician, Paul French

Treble (grades 4-8)

Saturday, March 7; Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukee

Conductor, Paul French

NOTRE DAME (Registration Closed)

Mixed Voice (grades 4-12)

Thursday, March 12; Basilica of the Sacred Heart Notre Dame University, Notre Dame

Conductor, John Robinson

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Archdiocese of Los Angeles and neighboring dioceses

High School

Friday, March 13; Our Savior Church, University of Southern California, Los Angeles

Guest Clinician, Lee Gwozdz

Treble (grades 4-8)

Saturday, March 14; Saint Norbert Catholic Church, Orange

Conductor, Lee Gwozdz

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Archdiocese of San Francisco and neighboring dioceses

Mixed Voice (grades 4-12)

Saturday, March 14; Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, San Francisco

Conductor, Dr. Richard Robbins

MICHIGAN

Statewide

Treble (grades 4-8)

Thursday, March 19; Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Detroit

Conductor, Paul French

High School

Friday, March 20; St. Joseph Church, Detroit

Guest Clinician, Paul French

NEW YORK

Archdioceses of New York and Newark and neighboring dioceses

High School

Saturday, April 25; St. Malachy's – The Actors' Chapel, Times Square, New York City

Guest Clinician, Daniel Brondel

Treble (grades 4-8)

Saturday, April 25; St. Paul the Apostle, New York City

Conductor, Lee Gwozdz

Professional Development Credits
offered to participating school conductors

The William H. Hannon Scholarship Fund is available for choirs in need of financial assistance to purchase music for Festival participation.

Visit www.pcchoirs.org for repertoires and additional details.