

Rogue Valley Chorale

2011 - 2012 SEASON

Christmas With the Chorale

Saturday, Dec. 10, 7:30 PM &
Sunday, Dec. 11, 3:00 PM, 2011

How Lovely is thy Dwelling Place

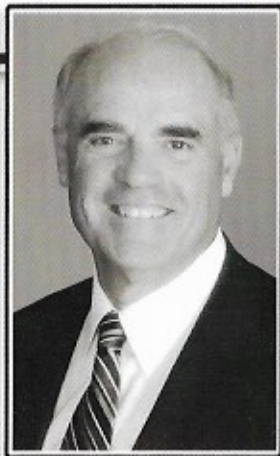
Saturday, Feb. 25, 7:30 PM &
Sunday, Feb. 26, 3:00 PM, 2012

Can't Help Singing

Saturday, April 14, 7:30 PM &
Sunday, April 15, 3:00 PM, 2012



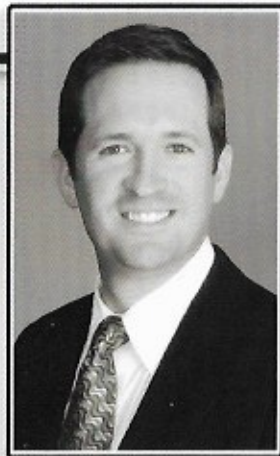
Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater • Medford
Lynn Sjolund, Artistic Director/Conductor



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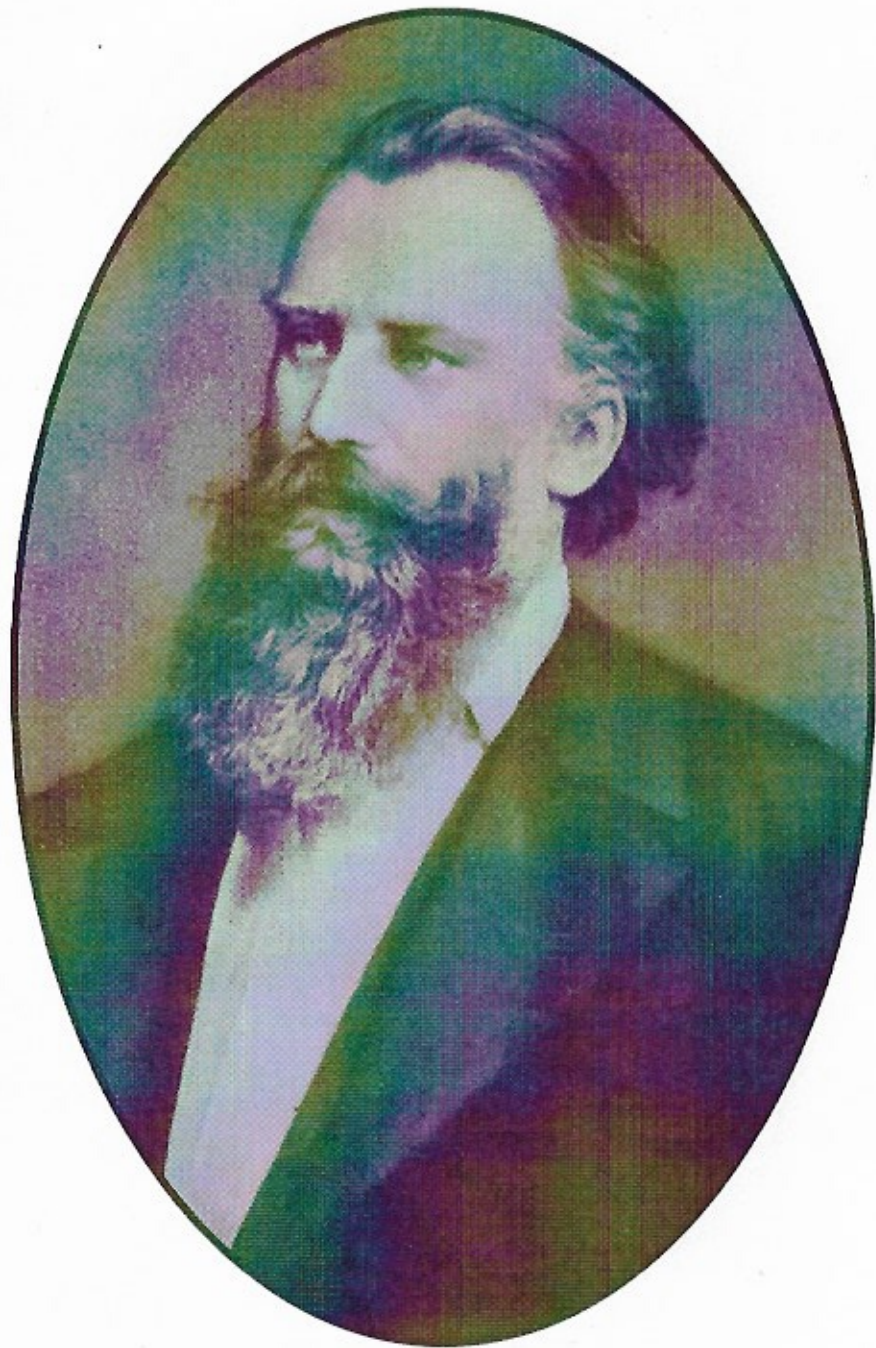
Rogue Valley Chorale
Presents

**A WEEKEND
WITH BRAHMS**

Saturday, Feb. 25, 7:30 PM &
Sunday, Feb. 26, 3:00 PM, 2012

Lynn Sjolund, Conductor

Guest Artists:
Martin Majkut, piano
Kimberly Fitch, viola



Johannes Brahms
1833 – 1897



A WEEKEND WITH BRAHMS

PROGRAM

Capriccio in B minor, op 76, #2

Martin Majkut, pianist

Sonata in D minor (Scherzo) op. posthumous

Kimberly Fitch, viola; Martin Majkut, pianist

Rhapsody in G minor, op.79, #2

Martin Majkut, pianist

INTERMISSION

Requiem

Op. 46

(Complete texts on page 4)

1.

Blessed are they that mourn

2.

Behold, all flesh is as the grass

3.

Lord, make me to know the measure of my days

4.

How lovely is Thy dwelling place

5.

Ye now are sorrowful

6.

Here on earth have we no continuing place

7.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord

The Rogue Valley Chorale and Chamber Orchestra

Michael Wing, baritone; Susan White, soprano
Lynn Sjolund, conductor



A German Requiem *continued*

Yea, I will comfort you,
as one whom his own mother comforteth.
Look upon me;
ye know that for a little time labor
and sorrow were mine,
but at the last I have found comfort. Ecclesiasticus 51:27

VI. Here on earth have we no continuing place

Here on earth have we no continuing place,
although, we seek one to come. Hebrews 13:14

Lo I unfold unto you a mystery.
We shall not all sleep when He cometh
but we shall all be changed in a moment,
in a twinkling of an eye,
at the sound of the trumpet.
For the trumpet shall sound,
and the dead shall be raised
incorruptible,
and all we shall be changed.
Then, what of old was written,
the same shall be brought to pass.
For death shall be swallowed in victory!
Death, O where is thy sting?
Grave, where is thy triumph? 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, 54-55

Worthy art Thou to be praised,
Lord of honor and might,
for thou hast earth and heaven created,
and for Thy good pleasure all things have their being,
and were created. Revelations 4:11

VII. Blessed are the dead

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth.
Sayeth the spirit, that they rest from their labors,
and that their works follow after them. Revelations 14:13



Lynn Sjolund – From the Conductor:

About the Music



Brahms has always been one of my very favorite composers. From his folk songs to his major works I have admired the humanity he strives to achieve in each one. It is particularly appropriate that he felt the Requiem, which was called the German Requiem, could, and should be done in the language of the listener. He preferred to call it the Human Requiem, and it speaks to all of us in a very warm, direct way.

Brahms compiled his own libretto for the Requiem taking verses from both the Old and New testaments of the Bible. Often it is done in a way that it flows easily from one part to another. Though Brahms did not espouse any particular denomination, it is said he owned an early Lutheran Bible as well as others. He read the Bible regularly and knew it well. In his motets he used texts from the Bible.

On Good Friday in 1868 Brahms conducted six of the present sections of the Requiem in Bremen, Germany. He had a chorus of 200 and a full orchestra. It was a huge success and was significant in establishing him as an acknowledged master. In May of that year he added the fifth section, "Ye now are sorrowful, although ye shall again behold me" for soprano soloists, and chorus.

Two events that affected Brahms very much were the untimely death of Robert Schumann after his mental collapse in 1856, and the death of his mother in 1865. After Schumann's death Brahms had moved to Düsseldorf to help Clara Schumann and her seven children. His mother's death was the immediate impulse for his beginning the Requiem. In just two months he had finished the first, second and fourth movements. A heavy concertizing schedule forced him to slow his compositional work, yet Brahms was only thirty-five when he completed the Requiem.



**Lynn Sjolund –
From the Conductor:
*continued***

The Requiem, like major works of all great composers, uses repeated musical motives to express similar ideas. The three note motive of F A and B flat is used many times starting with the very beginning cello and viola solos in the orchestra and in the chorus as it sings "blessed are they". Used in many keys and often turned upside down (inverted) it is just one motive. Other motives such as augmented fourths or sevenths show mystery or joy.

The orchestration we are using was arranged for chamber orchestra by Joachim Linckelmann. It was published in Germany in 2010 and we received it by special order from the publishers in Stuttgart. The opportunity to use a talented group of players in a smaller orchestra setting makes it much more feasible for us to have an orchestral accompaniment. The orchestra is very important because the quality of the instruments adds greatly to the richness of the total piece. We thank those who made special gifts to make this possible.

About our guest soloists: Dr. Majkut is a wonderful man and musician whose love of music is about as wide as one could hope for. He has directed choruses, orchestras, ensembles and participated in all types of music as a player/singer. We are pleased that he has taken the time to perform for us.

It is also special that Kimberly Fitch is playing the Scherzo from Brahms Sonatentanz. Written originally for violin, it is sometimes played by excellent violists. Brahms seemed to have an affinity for the viola sound with its depth and richness. Often you will hear how he gives the violas beautiful parts in the Requiem, too.



**A WEEKEND
WITH BRAHMS
Biographies**

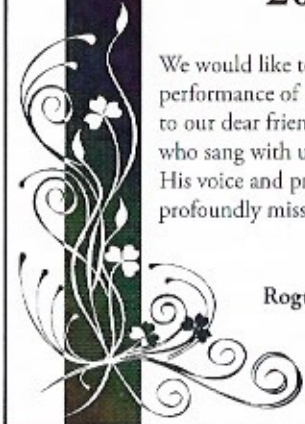


**Lynn Sjolund,
Artistic Director/Conductor**

Lynn is well-known as a choral clinician. His tenure has been continuous since the Chorale's founding in 1973, with the exception of three years when he served as Choral Studies Director at Loyola University. Mr. Sjolund's credits include The American Choral Directors Association Board of Directors; Instructor at Lewis and Clark College, University of Oregon, and Southern Oregon University; Artistic Director and Conductor for Rogue Opera; and Past President of the Board of Directors of the Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater located in Medford, Oregon.

Mr. Sjolund has conducted the Britt Festival Orchestra and the Rogue Valley Symphony in collaborative concerts with the Rogue Valley Chorale. His academic degrees are from the University of Oregon with advanced study at the International Program for Music Education in Ludwigsburg, Germany.

Mr. Sjolund has been the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Oregon School of Music; Outstanding Music Teacher by the National Federation Interscholastic Music Association; the Northwestern Division of the American Choral Directors Association Award of Merit; and the Distinguished Service to Music Education Award from the Northwest Music Educators. The Arts Council of Southern Oregon honored Mr. Sjolund on October 4, 2002, by granting him the Lifetime Achievement Award.



In Memory of
Brian Nelson,
2012

We would like to dedicate our performance of Brahms Requiem to our dear friend Brian Nelson who sang with us for 20 years. His voice and presence will be profoundly missed.

Members of the
Rogue Valley Chorale



**Martin Majkut,
Conductor of the Rogue Valley Symphony**

Martin Majkut is becoming well-known to Medford music lovers as the conductor of the Rogue Valley Symphony. In that role he has done outstanding work in bringing new works to the valley and giving vital performances of classics. However, Dr. Majkut is also an accomplished pianist and keyboard artist.

Before coming to the United States to complete a second doctorate at the University of Arizona, Dr. Majkut served both as a conductor and pianist. Dr. Majkut studied with Gianluigi Gelmetti at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena, Italy and Salvador

Mas Conde at the Wiener Meisterkurse in Vienna, Austria. He performed multiple solo recitals in Slovakia and Czech Republic. He also soloed while studying in Arizona. Though he enjoys solo work, he is especially fond of accompanying and served as rehearsal pianist for the Arizona Opera in Phoenix and Tucson, and as music director and accompanist for Arizona Opera Educational Tour. Passionate about music education Majkut presently teaches at the Southern Oregon University in Ashland. For a more complete biography of this talented musician, go to the Rogue Valley Symphony website www.rvsymphony.org and find Martin's biography.

**Kimberly Fitch,
Violist**

Kimberly Fitch holds a Bachelor of Music from the Eastman School of Music, and Master of Music in Viola Performance from UC Santa Barbara. Fitch's primary teachers have included world-renowned soloist Helen Callus and Phillip Ying, violist of the Ying Quartet. As a scholarship recipient, Fitch attended the Aspen Music Festival, Fontainebleau Schools in France, The Britt Institute with the Cavani and Pacifica Quartets, Soundfest Quartet Institute with the Colorado Quartet, and the Port Townsend Chamber Music Festival with the Tokyo Quartet. Fitch recently performed the Carl Stamitz Concerto with the Rogue Valley Symphony, the Bartok *Viola Concerto* with the University Symphony Orchestra in Santa Barbara as a first place winner of the Concerto Soloists Competition. Fitch was a semifinalist at the 2005 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, winner of the 2002 Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon Concerto Competition, and recipient of the John Celentano Award for Excellence in Chamber Music at the Eastman School. Fitch is a founding member of the East-West Virtuosi, a group of outstanding chamber musicians from around the world and Rogue Valley presenting concerts on the West Coast. Currently, Fitch resides in Ashland where she performs with orchestras throughout the state, teaches viola at Southern Oregon University, and runs a private studio of young violinists and violists.



**Susan Olsen White
Soloist**

Susan Olsen White is well known to Rogue Valley audiences, where she has been a regular soloist for Rogue Opera, Rogue Valley Symphony, Rogue Valley Chorale, and Southern Oregon Repertory Singers. A native of Utah, she resides in Ashland and serves as soloist for the Christian Science Church of Medford. Her work for Rogue Opera includes the roles of Adina in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Micaela in *Carmen*, and Gilda in *Rigoletto*. She has also sung many roles for the Programs for Youth, including

Cinderella in *La Cenerentola*, the Witch in *Hansel and Gretel*, Rosina in *The Barber of Seville* and Mimi in *La Boheme*. As a soloist with the Rogue Valley Symphony, Ms. White was featured in Haydn's *The Creation* and Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*. She has been a soloist for several years for the annual presentation of Handel's *The Messiah* and has done recital work for Friends of Music on the Oregon Coast September Music and Western Oregon University. As soloist with the Rogue Valley Chorale, Ms. White performed in Bach's *St. John Passion* for the opening of the Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater and in Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*.




**Michael Wing
Soloist**

Michael Wing directs choral music at St. Mary's School and Westminster Presbyterian Church. He is frequently a featured soloist with the Chorale and with the Southern Oregon Repertory Singers, and has appeared on stage with Rogue Opera and Camelot Theatre. Michael has been musical director for shows at St. Mary's, Camelot, Teen Musical Theater of Oregon, and Centerstage. Brahms' *German Requiem* has been one of Michael's favorites since he played it with the Rogue Valley Symphony in

1972 at the opening concert in SOU's Recital Hall. He dedicates this performance to the memory of his father-in-law, Gene Hansen, a lover of classical music who passed away in January.





Members of the Rogue Valley Chorale performing in this concert

SOPRANO

Shirley Blanchard	Merry Harris	Jacque Schmidt
Dee-Marie Broyles	Jennifer Jacobs	Phyllis Skinner
Diane Combs	Julia Lester	Deanna St. Martin
Janet Dolan	Gina McDonald	Julie Vistaunet
Ruth Engle	Renee Moran	Rebecca Webber
Connie Fisher-Crooks	Alice Nykreim	Susan White
Beth Gibson	Tina Pedersen	jean j Zwang
Kathy Gordon	Gay Pollard	
Leslie Hall	Laura Rich	

ALTO

Susan Ball	Barbara Dellenback	Mary Lynn Lucas
Donna Barrett	Carol Doty	Nancy Mason
Mary Jo Bergstrom	Charleen Fike	Bonnie Miller
Bev Bowman-Gergen	Pat Franks	Cathy Morrison
Joani Bristol	Susan Franks	Diane Newland
Andrea Brock	Laurie Henning	Marjorie Overland
Anita Caster	Barbara Hewitt	Nancy Purdy
Sharon Dady	Jana Hogan	Doris Sjolund
Donna Daniels	Lin Holland	Jeanie St. Germain
Joan Davidson	Carol Jacobs	Nancy Anne Yie
Kathleen Davis	Barbara Johnson	

TENOR

Don Bolles	Gregg Howe	Mark Pedersen
Phillip Booth	Phil Koenig	Michael Quirk
Ralph Dady	Bill Matthews	David Works
Terry Faulkner	Gary Miller	Joey Wynes
Peter Funch	Tim Moran	
Ed Houck	Eric Overland	

BARITONE/BASS

Rod Alfsen	Carroll Graber	Eric Smith
Brent Barr	John Hall	Howard Wagner
Robert Begg	Steve Haskell	Chuck Watson
Bud Bergstrom	Kenne Horton	Spence Webber
Adam Callaway	Brian Hubbard	Blake Weller
Chris Cauble	Bob Larson	Michael Wing
Don Dolan	John Leavens	Peter E. Yeager
Louis Franks	Jim Post	



Orchestra Members

VIOLIN - I

Scott Cole,
Concertmaster
Arlene Tayloe
Melissa Orr
Cynthia Cournoyer

VIOLIN - II

Sara Wilbur, principal
Ken Kigel
Aaron Moffatt
Juliet Long

VIOLA

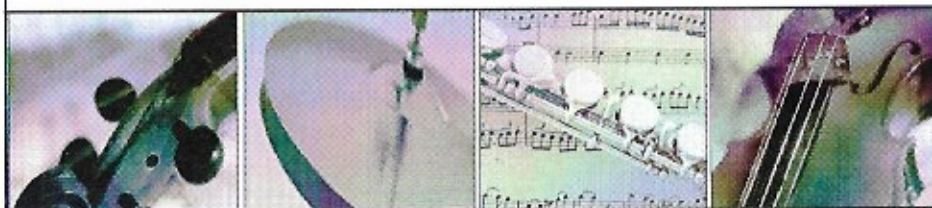
Kimberly Fitch, principal
Pat Berlet
Morgan O'Shaughnessey

CELLO

Michal Palzewicz, principal
Lisa Truelove

BASS

Drew Giambrone
Katheryn McElrath, **flute**
Irene Fitch, **oboe**
Lori Calhoun, **clarinet**
Kathy Staller, **bassoon**
Jenifer Carstensen, **horn**
Theresa McCoy, **timpani**



Andrea Brock, Chorale pianist, has worked with the group thirteen years. Ms. Brock is director of choral activities at South Medford High School and has developed a tradition of fine performing groups that have consistently been contestants in the Oregon State Choral Contest. She has also directed the music for musicals at South High and accompanied many of her students in district and state competitions. She is currently the Teacher On Assignment for the arts department at South, and the president of

Southern Oregon Music Educators Association, District 8. Mr. Sjolund often says Andrea is the best accompanist/pianist he has ever worked with, and her innate musicianship and fine technical proficiency make her indispensable to the Chorale.

Rehearsal Assistants:

Donna Barrett
Phillip Booth
Laurie Hunter
Phillip Koenig
Julia Lester
Diane Newland
Doris Sjolund

Contributors

SPECIAL GRANTS

Funding for the Executive Director position has been made possible by a grant from the Miller Foundation.

ANNUAL FUND

Ticket sales cover less than 50% of our expenses. Your generous gifts ensure the voices of the Chorale will continue to bring the joy of fine choral music to this valley for all to enjoy.

ANNUAL OPERATING CONTRIBUTIONS

Gifts received during the twelve month period ending February 9, 2012

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Contributors Brahms Requiem

BRAHMS REQUIEM GIFTS

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Peter & Julia Lester
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Mary Lynn Lucas
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George McWhinery & Mary Magill
Harold Welch & Bonnie Miller
in memory of Marjorie Welch
Alice Nykreim
in memory of Brian Nelson
Gay Pollard
in memory of Jim Cawthorne and Ed Pollard
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Phyllis Skinner
J.Q. and J.M. Stewart
Tom & Ursula Tangeman
Spence & Rebecca Weber

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Barbara Dellenback, *in memory of Brian Nelson*
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Brian & Jeannie Saint Germain
in memory of David Schultz & Brian Nelson
Deanna St. Martin

Contributors Mozart Requiem

MOZART'S REQUIEM GIFTS

The Rogue Valley Chorale performed Mozart's Requiem as part of a world wide remembrance of the 10th anniversary of September 11, 2001. In commemoration of that day, a free concert was presented to the community of Southern Oregon, and paid for by the generous gifts of our donors and Rogue Valley Chorale members.

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*(in honor of Mark D. Putnam, Battalion
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Marj Swanson
Steve and Charlotte Wisely
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Anonymous

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Medford Christian Science Church
Jefferson Public Radio
Medford Mail Tribune
Ashland Daily Tidings
Rogue River Press
Grants Pass Daily Courier



About the Chorale...



In 1973, a group of 38 singers joined together to form the Rogue Valley Chorale. Now with a roster of more than 100 and an active choir of over 90, the group has continued to grow musically as well as numerically. Many of the world's great masterpieces have been sung for Southern Oregon audiences, including all of Bach's large

works, and the *Requiem*s of Verdi, Brahms, Mozart, Faure, and Durufle. In addition, it has performed Handel's *The Messiah* several times and also his outstanding *Judas Maccabeus* and *Israel In Egypt*. The Chorale has traveled to Europe on six concert tours, most recently to England and Wales in the summer of 2011 where this picture of Lynn Sjolund and Eric Overland in Canterbury Cathedral was taken.

Looking Ahead...

Broadway!
CAN'T HELP SINGING



April 14 and 15, 2012

Broadway comes alive on the Craterian Ginger Rogers stage with the Chorale's program of music from shows like *Les Miserables*, *Wicked*, *A Little Night Music*, *Avenue Q*, *Spamalot*, and others.

A combo of instrumentalists will be available to accompany the many soloists and ensembles that will make up the program. Special show-stoppers for men's chorus and women's chorus will make this a program to remember. You'll go out singing for sure!

May 19, 2012 Rogue Valley Youth Choruses

If you have never heard the Rogue Valley Youth Choruses you will be impressed with their excellence. Nothing quite inspires us and gives us faith in the future more than hearing beautiful singing by beautiful children. This is a 7:00 p.m. concert being performed at the Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater.

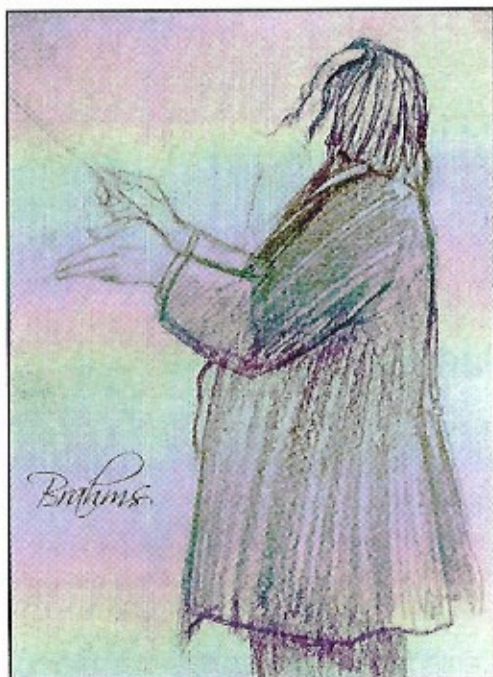
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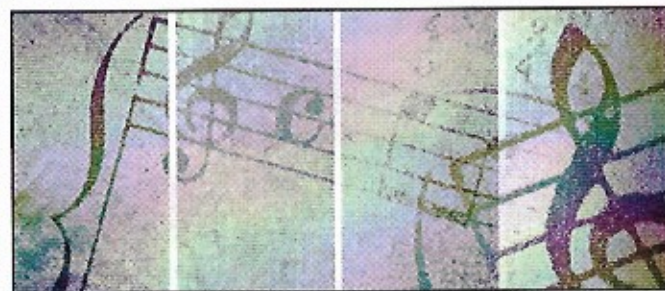
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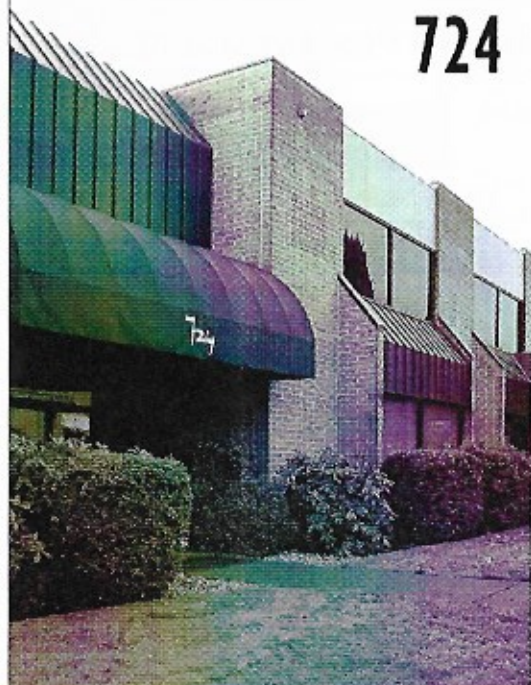
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Space in 724 S. Central has been donated to house the Chorale Music Library.

The Rogue Valley Chorale Association is deeply indebted to Jeannie Saint Germain, who has graciously donated the use of office space to house the music library.



Reasons to Join a Chorus

Do you know children who are not singing? Do you have children, grandchildren or young acquaintances who are not involved in a chorus or singing group? The Rogue Valley Chorale strongly supports singing in our community because of the many positive values that come from participation. Here is a list of ten reasons you can use to convince your young friends to join up! There's a place waiting in one of the Rogue Valley Youth Chorus!

Top 10 Reasons to Join a Chorus

- You get to be loud. Always feel like you're being shushed by teachers and adults? In a choir, you're actually encouraged to make noise.
- Friendship. More than 42 million Americans sing in choruses, so you're sure to make some new buddies.
- See the world! Many choirs go on tours to exciting and faraway places.
- Begin the path to stardom. Mega-celebs Beyonce and Justin Timberlake started their careers singing in school and church choirs. Even President Obama was once a choral singer.
- Bring home A's. Research shows that students who sing in choruses get better grades than students who don't.
- Make your college application shine. Admission folks will love to see that you're involved in extracurricular activities—especially an activity like choir, which develops teamwork skills and self discipline.
- L'amour. Lots of singers date people they meet in choir, because music is the food of love, after all.
- Back rubs. Yeah, that's right: back rubs. Many choruses do them as part of their rehearsal warm-ups.
- No schlepping. Singing does not require carrying around heavy instruments or gym bags. All you need is your fab voice.
- Bragging rights. Not everyone can say they've been in the spotlight, but you'll be able to because singing in a chorus gives you the opportunity to be front and center, baby!





\$700,000



\$70,000

Find more value. Owning an exotic car that goes zero to sixty in a heartbeat would no doubt be exhilarating. For that same feeling on a grander level, you could use a fraction of those dollars to give hundreds of kids the educational support they need to really accelerate. The Oregon Community Foundation can help you create a charitable fund for the causes you care most about. Learn more at 541.431.7099 or visit us at www.oregoncf.org.



Here for Oregon. Here for Good.

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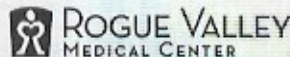
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