



## Parent Newsletter – October 2018

### ♪♪ A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR ♪♪

Happy Autumn to our BCC family!

As I stepped outside into the cool air for the first time in forever, I was so grateful for the changes that we get to enjoy in our seasons. I love Summer with all of its activities, but the first cool front of Autumn has to be one of my favorite times of year. When you start singing Christmas Carols in August and spend the rest of your time doing marching band in the heat you REALLY appreciate that first chill in the air!

The BCC is doing a fabulous job this year! They are embracing a huge number of songs and retaining what they've learned very well. BRAVO! For our Christmas Around the World we've been singing in Japanese, Swahili, Czech and Spanish not to mention Latin and French! I'm so pleased and they seem to really be enjoying the music.

We've got our first big performance coming up on October 20 for the Texas Arts and Music Festival. ALL singers will be participating, however, I've allowed the first year members to choose to just sing at this event since they have had little time to perfect the choreography for a few of our standards and they seemed very apprehensive about it. Who knows? In the next few weeks they may change their minds, but we want them to be comfortable and happy when we perform. No stress needed! We still have a few weeks, so they do not have to make a decision right away.

I also want to stress how important it is to BRING YOUR MUSIC with you to rehearsal each week! We have a lot of rep and foreign words to learn before our own December concert. I will be sending reference CDs out very soon. If you prefer to receive a web link to access the recordings online, just let the office know and we'll get them to you that way. Regardless, practice at home is a must. Sing a little every day and it won't take long to learn each song.

Have a great week, everyone. Keep singing!

Jill Stewart  
Director, Brenham Children's Chorus

### Scarecrow Contest

For the second year, BCC has entered the downtown Scarecrow Extravaganza Contest (last year, we won first place!). Thanks to the creativity and commitment of some amazing BCC parents, our scarecrow has been constructed and resides in front of Smitty's on Main Street. Special thanks to Catherine Jenkins (Andrew's grandmother and quite an artist), Krista Beard, Charlene Rau and her husband (another set of artists!), and Mary Petersen for creating our scarecrow exhibit. Please support the Chorus by voting for our scarecrow "Joyful Noise" which depicts international children singing around the world. Voter forms are available at downtown businesses. Voting ends on October 21.

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## Texas Arts and Music Festival

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BCC has been invited to perform at the Texas Arts and Music Festival on Saturday, October 20 in downtown Brenham. Singers need to be downtown at the Heritage Museum by 1:00 pm and parents are welcome and encouraged to stay until after the performance. In addition, we will need several parents to help chaperone and walk with the kids over to the staging area. Singers should wear: Purple Chorus t-shirt, clean blue jeans (no rips or tears), and tennis shoes. Parents should be at the staging area no later than 2:20 pm to pick up their child. Please park and come to the event to see your child perform and pick them up promptly. Singers will be picked up at the staging area – not at the Heritage Museum. Please plan to support this event and our singers!

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## Roses Fundraisers

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Thanks to the generosity of board member Mike Shoup, Jr. (and owner of the Antique Rose Emporium), the Chorus was able to sell rose bushes last spring. It was a great success and everyone was so pleased with the plants. In fact, buyers are asking for more! Your singer will be bringing a packet of information home regarding the sale of these roses. We are asking each family to sell a minimum of 5 rose bushes – or – donate the sales profit to the Chorus. This is our major fundraiser for the fall and it is very important that each family participate in some way, including tour families. We sell the roses for \$18 each and the Chorus profit is \$13. This fundraiser is unique and the quality of the item is exceptional, so please support this project. The sale starts October 1 and roses will be delivered on Friday, October 26 from 4 – 6 pm at Community Ed. All orders and money is due in the Chorus office no later than Tuesday, October 23. Thank you.

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## Car Decals

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Please help us spread the word about our singers and the Chorus! If you have not purchased a Brenham Children's Chorus decal for your vehicle, please consider doing so. It's a great way to share the name of the Chorus in the community, The decals are \$3 each and available in the Chorus office. Thank you!

**NOTE: BRENHAM BROADWAY KIDS and BBK CHORUS WILL REHEARSE ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 9 EVEN THOUGH IT IS A SCHOOL HOLIDAY (COLUMBUS DAY).**

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## Chorus Committees

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Thank you to all our parents who have signed up to chair or serve on a Chorus committee. If you have not had the opportunity to sign up for a committee, please contact the Chorus office – we have plenty of opportunities for parents to help!

BCC Chaperone: Lynn Prinz

Singenspiel Chaperone: Jana Aguilar

Box Office: Krista Beard

Publicity: Julie Sigler, Cheryl Amelang

Wardrobe: Jennifer Davis, Karen Loza,

Concert Concession: Ester Chalmers

Meals, Refreshments: Jana Schroeder,

Lori Cales

If you were unable to attend the parent meeting on August 28 and did not sign up for helping on a committee for a specific event, please contact the Chorus office. The committee events include but are not limited to: selling weekly snacks, bringing snacks, Chaperoning the winter retreat, helping with uniforms, etc. For concerts, we use the on line Sign-up genius for chaperoning, box office, and concession so please watch for that at concert time. If every parent will sign up to help, the Chorus will run smoothly and no one will be overwhelmed. Our volunteer parents are priceless and help our young singers have a successful year. Thank you to all our committee chairmen and volunteers!

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## Chorus Board of Trustees

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The Children's Chorus family is grateful to those community members who serve on the Chorus Board of Trustees. These individuals donate their time and energy to promote and support the Children's Chorus. Thank you to these individuals who serve on the Chorus Board of Trustees. We appreciate you!

President: George Ann Harding  
Vice-President: Jeff Appel  
Gene Hammons

Mike Shoup, Jr.  
Tommy Upchurch

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## Amazon Smile

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Through purchases made at Amazon Smile, BCC will receive 5% of the purchase price. When you shop on Amazon Smile, please designate the Chorus as the charitable organization to receive the funds. Thank you!

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## Concert Program Ads

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If you own or work for a business that might be interested in placing an ad in our concert program, please send that contact information to the Chorus office. Ads can be purchased for all our concert programs at the following rates: ¼ page ad \$175, ½ page ad - \$300, whole page ad - \$500. The revenue from these ads help defray the cost of the concert performances. Thank you for spreading the word!

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## Thank You! Thank You!

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Thank you to the parents who helped make our opening music camp such a great success! Special thanks to Jana Schroeder for organizing and preparing the meals and snacks. Even though a lot of off site preparation and food transportation was done, all meals and snacks were delicious and thoroughly enjoyed by all the singers and staff. Thank you so much to all the parents who came and helped serve, clean up, and monitor singers during break times. Mark your calendars for the Winter Overnight Retreat at Cathedral Oaks in Weimar, Texas on January 18-20. All parents who volunteered to chaperone at the Parent Meeting are first in line to chaperone in January. Please let us know if you would like to chaperone. It will be a great weekend and a wonderful way to get to know parents and singers --- and the food is delicious! Contact the office if you are interested at 979-277-3897 – or contact Lynn Prinz, Chaperone chairman ([lprinz@brenhamk-12.net](mailto:lprinz@brenhamk-12.net)). We will need a minimum of 5 dads so please check your calendar and sign up!

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## Weekly Snacks

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On rehearsal days, snacks are available to the singers for purchase (\$.50 each). Parent volunteers sell snacks to the choristers. We are in need of additional parents to sign up to help. If you can volunteer to help sell snacks before rehearsal on any of these open dates listed on the calendar, please contact the Chorus office at 979-277-3897. Please consider helping us keep our singers fed and happy before choir rehearsal. It only takes 45 minutes of your time and it is fun to be with the kids. Snack parents should plan to arrive at Community Ed by 3:40 pm and stay until 4:15 pm. Snacks for purchase are provided by the Chorus. If you are unable to volunteer to help sell snacks before rehearsals on Mondays and Tuesday, please consider signing up to bring snacks for a rehearsal and contact the office if you can help. The suggested snacks are listed below. Thanks for your help!

### Suggested Snacks

Bottled Water

Large bag of individually packaged chips

Individually wrapped cookies

Fun Fruits

Peanut butter/cheese crackers

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## Rehearsals

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We are all parents and understand conflicts with rehearsals occasionally occur. Please make every effort to make sure your child attends full rehearsals and make appointments on non-rehearsal days. If your child is involved in a school activity that requires them to leave rehearsal early, please let us know in advance and come to the office and we will get your child out of rehearsal. We understand that this does happen occasionally, but want to keep it to a minimum. Please inform the coaches and leaders of other activities about BCC rehearsal days so we can all work together to make sure our singers have quality rehearsal time. Thank you so much!

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## Chorus Office Hours

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Mondays and Tuesdays: 8:30 am – 6 pm

Wednesdays and Thursdays: 8:30 am – 4 pm

The Chorus office is closed on Fridays.

P.O. Box 2274, Brenham, TX 77834

[brenhamchildrenschorus@gmail.com](mailto:brenhamchildrenschorus@gmail.com)

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*The Brenham Children's Chorus  
Board of Trustees*

Invites you to be a part of

*The Brenham Children's Chorus Society*

Society Membership provides  
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Brenham Broadway Kids Musical "Junie B. Jones"  
Spring Concert

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