

MILWAUKEE CHILDREN'S CHOIR 2008-2009 SEASON

PRODUCED BY MILWAUKEE CHILDREN'S CHOIR:

WINTER WONDERS

The season came alive with the sound of singing as the Milwaukee Children's Choir explored the shimmering, glittering, shining and silvery wonders of winter.

MILWAUKEE CHILDREN'S CHOIR SING-A-THON

It was "out of the Hall and into the Mall" as the Milwaukee Children's Choir took its show on the road to the community! All five choirs and selected upper choir soloists, duets and small ensembles presented an all-day selection of favorite songs in the friendly come-and-go atmosphere of the Bayshore Town Center to benefit the educational programs of MCC.

WORKSHOP

Milwaukee Youth Chorale participated in a choral workshop led by Ella Washington, Dr. Wallace Cheatham and Raymond Roberts, at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center, developing techniques and performance practice for spirituals, gospel music and other styles related to the African American music experience.

MILWAUKEE YOUTH MUSIC CELEBRATION

MCC's Youth Chorale and the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra celebrated some of the world's greatest classical music at this favorite annual celebration. The concert featured John Rutter's *Gloria*. Joining MCC and MYSO were: Brookfield East High School Chamber Choir, New Berlin Eisenhower High School A Cappella Choir, and the West Allis Central High School Concert Choir.

RIVER CHILD

Roots & Wings Festival 2009

Keep the river flowin' and together we'll keep growin'. MCC's young Prelude and Concert Choir singers and invited grade school choirs went on an exciting exploration of the great rivers of the world—the Nile, the Mississippi, the Amazon, the Rhine and the Yangtze—when they performed *River Child* by Chicago composer Rollo Dilworth.

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING -- A 15th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

The Milwaukee Children's Choir celebrated 15 years of music, memories, friendship and growth. At this final concert featuring Emily Holt Crocker as MCC's Artistic Director, all five choir levels were featured along with a special retrospective of choral favorites, including John Rutter's choral classics "What Sweeter Music" and "For the Beauty of the Earth." Also featured was Ms. Crocker's arrangement of "How Can I Keep From Singing!"

AS GUEST ARTISTS:

THE SKYLIGHT -- LA BOHEME

Before the movie "Moonstruck" and before the musical "Rent" -- there was Puccini's greatest love story, LA BOHEME. The Skylight's 2008-2009 season began on a glorious note with this classic masterpiece, with selected MCC members performing as Boheme's children's choir.

CHILDREN'S HOPE NETWORK -- "SINGING FOR HOPE!"

MCC members were featured guests as the Children's Hope Network presented a benefit concert to support World Association for Children and Parents (WACAP) and the Luoyang Children's Welfare Institute in China. Donations were used to create a vocational "living farm" that provides agricultural training for at-risk orphans with learning limitations.

AMERICAN BOYCHOIR

MCC joined the famed American Boychoir in a concert at St. John's Cathedral. Celebrating its seventieth anniversary season, The American Boychoir is regarded as the United States' premier concert boys' choir and one of the finest boychoirs in the world.

JITRO CZECHOSLOVAKIAN GIRLS CHOIR

"Jitro", meaning "Daybreak" in Czech, is a premiere young people's choir from Hradec Kralove in the Czech Republic. For 35 years they have been admired all over the world for their tonal brilliance, superb intonation, distinctive rich blend of sound and energetic vitality. MCC was pleased to join them on stage as part of UW-Parkside's "Arts Alive" programming.

HOLIDAY ARTS FESTIVAL

A crew of carolers from all MCC choir levels joined in a family holiday festival at the lovely Sharon Lynn Wilson Center.

PRESENT MUSIC -- THANKSGIVING CONCERT

Thanksgiving is all about bringing people together, and for this concert Present Music was joined by Milwaukee Children's Choir, Milwaukee Choral Artists, MYSO Flute Chorale, UWM Flutes, the Bucks Native American Singing and Drumming Group, organist Karen Beaumont and renowned baritone Kurt Ollmann. The concert was ranked one of the top ten classical music events of 2008 in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

FESTIVAL CITY SYMPHONY

PAJAMA JAMBOREE

An evening sing-along of holiday tunes with Festival City Symphony. Musical selections by the orchestra included Waldteufel's *Skater's Waltz*, Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Greensleeves*, Chase's *Around the World at Christmas*, and Nelson's *Frosty the Snowman*.

**MIDWEST VOCAL EXPRESS
HOLIDAY CONCERTS**

MCC choirs joined the award-winning Midwest Vocal Express at their holiday show.

**THE MILWAUKEE BALLET
THE NUTCRACKER**

The magic of the season returned with a favorite holiday tradition, Michael Pink's *The Nutcracker*. Tchaikovsky's familiar, captivating score played by the Milwaukee Ballet Orchestra transported audiences to Clara's dream world filled with marching soldiers, flying angels, dancing dolls and pirouetting snow fairies. The Milwaukee Children's Choir and Milwaukee Ballet School dancers added to the charm of this production.

**MILWAUKEE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
CARMINA BURANA**

MSO Maestro Andreas Delfs led the MSO, its chorus and MCC's Cantorei in *Carmina Burana*, Orff's vocal masterwork. This rousing tribute to love and the rites of spring is one of the favorite orchestral works of all time.

PLATTEVILLE CHILDREN'S CHOIR VISIT

MCC's Cantorei welcomed special guests, Cantabile from the Platteville Children's Choir, at a free community concert.

**MILWAUKEE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
MAHLER SYMPHONY #8- SYMPHONY OF A THOUSAND**

The MSO's season ended, and Andreas Delfs led his last concert as Music Director, with an epic symphony for chorus, children's choir, and a herculean orchestra.

MUSICAL MONDAYS

The Cantorei were featured artists at Musical Mondays in Lake Park.