



Milwaukee
Children's Choir
Building Noteworthy Character

Date: December 6, 2008

To: Milwaukee Children's Choir Members and their Families

From: Paula Bell, General Manager, Milwaukee Children's Choir

Re: New Security Measures at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center (MYAC)

The Youth Arts Center Board of Directors has recently decided to take a proactive stance on security in the facility. The Board strives to make the Youth Arts Center the warmest and safest place possible, so we can meet and study our art. MYAC and its program partners have not had any security problems and do not foresee any, but they want to take the steps necessary to ward off any problems. The new security initiative includes a system that will allow all individuals entering the facility to be clearly recognized. The system is being implemented in phases. All staff working in the facility now wear an ID badge at all times. In addition, there is a sign in and badge system for guests during the business day.

Phase 2 of this endeavor will begin December 10th. This phase requires all participants and parents to wear a program badge that will need to be clearly visible when entering the facility. All parent and staff badges will need to be worn at all times when in the facility, so facility and program staff can assess whether there are any individuals who should not be in the building. Everyone entering the facility will be asked to show badges. If you do not have a badge, you will need to identify yourself to the front desk staff who will confirm your reason for being in the facility and then give you a temporary visitor badge. This visitor badge will need to be returned to the front desk at the end of your rehearsal.

Beginning in the New Year, MCC and all other groups using the Youth Arts Center will take attendance at the front of the building rather than in the programming spaces. As of that date, you should check in with your Rehearsal Assistant, who will be taking choir attendance to the left of the MYAC reception desk. Since our rehearsal assistants need to get back to the rehearsal hall prior to the beginning of rehearsals, beginning January 1, we ask that all singers arrive for their MYAC rehearsals between 10 and 20 minutes prior to the beginning of rehearsal. At 10 minutes to rehearsal time, rehearsal assistants will return to the programming space to assist choir directors.

In accordance with Milwaukee Youth Arts Center new security policies, any minors at the Center who are not registered as participants in a program are not permitted in the building unless they are accompanied by an adult.

Parents and other adult guests, along with children under their supervision, are always welcome to observe MCC's open rehearsals and/or wait in the commons area during MCC activities, but they will be required to obtain a visitor badge at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center front desk. Singers' siblings, relatives and friends under the age of 18 who are not registered as program participants at the Center are not permitted in the building without a parent or guardian with them AT ALL TIMES. Please communicate this important information to any adult relatives or friends that may drop off or pick up your MCC member on any given evening.

We are committed to maintaining a fun and secure environment for our children when they visit the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center for MCC activities. Thank you for your cooperation as we proactively implement new security policies to ensure that the safe and positive atmosphere at the Center remains that way! If you have any questions, please contact Paula Bell, MCC's General Manager, at 414-221-7040 or mcc@milwaukeechildrenschoir.org. Thank you!