

BOSTON CITY SINGERS

Inspiring Young Voices

— providing comprehensive music training and youth development to young people aged 4 — 18 drawn from Boston's neighborhoods...
Over 350 members in 9 choruses...
Renowned for their diverse repertoire including classical, medieval, folk, jazz, Broadway, international and multi-cultural works.

SOUTH AFRICA GOODWILL TOUR



We're going to Cape Town! As part of its Global Voices Initiative, Boston City Singers will take 38 singers, age 11 - 18 to South Africa for 3 weeks in July and August. Concert members will stay with South Africans in their homes, sing in concerts and churches with an orchestra and other choirs, see local sights like Robben Island where President Nelson Mandela was imprisoned, Table Mountain by cable car, get up close and personal with whales and penguins, visit a game park and farms, markets, and hot springs, and immerse ourselves in wonderful South African singing! This trip is supported by the Cape Town Anglican Diocese, University of Cape Town, Cape Town Youth Symphony Orchestra, Early Years Services, and Father Noble Scheepers, South Africa Tour Coordinator. The singers will be musical ambassadors of the United States, sharing their music and learning about South Africa's rich traditions.

CONCERTS

Saturday, April 2

Be Inspired!

Boston Sangerfest Men's Chorus and Boston City Singers Concert
7:00 – 8:00 pm

First Parish Church of Westwood
340 Clapboardtree Street

Ticket Price: \$20

Benefiting the Boston City Singers South Africa Goodwill Tour

Tuesday, April 12

Be Inspired!

Boston City Singers Concert
BIG SING

6:30 – 8:00 pm

A non-competitive

Youth and Children's Choir Festival
In association with the New England Conservatory, Kodaly Music Institute and the Massachusetts ACDA

St. Cecelia Parish

16 Belvidere St. (near Berklee)

Ticket Price: \$1.00

EVENINGS

Be inspired!

Behind The Music Community Events

Come learn about what makes us a jewel in the community
Questions? Call 617-265-6700



Tuesday, April 5 - Dorchester

7:00-8:00 pm

All Saints Ashmont Episcopal Church
209 Ashmont Street

Ticket Price: Free of Charge

Saturday, April 9 - Jamaica Plain

Boston City Singers
Come learn about us!

9:00-10:00 am

First Church/Unitarian Universalist
6 Eliot Street, Jamaica Plain

Ticket Price: Free of Charge

ALUMNI CONTINUE TO GIVE

Amelia Burke, a six-year member of Boston City Singers from Roslindale, is taking a gap year before college. She spent Christmas in Bethlehem, where she volunteered for three months. Amelia has attempted to learn Arabic with the invaluable help of her Palestinian roommate (and sometimes mother) Majada. She was amazed by the beauty and generosity of Palestinian culture. She spent two months working as an English writer for the *Palestine News Network*, a news agency based in Bethlehem. For the second month, she wrote a paper on



continued on page 2

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STAFF NEWS

On February 1, Melissa J. Graham joined Boston City Singers as its Managing Director where she will focus on fundraising, financial and staff management, marketing and public relations. Ms. Graham, a Dorchester transplant of 15 years, comes to Boston City Singers after serving as a Founding Director of The Boston Guys, a Boston-based event planning, fundraising and marketing collaborative that served political, not-for-profit, educational and business clients domestically and abroad.

"I am so pleased to have Melissa Graham join the Boston City Singers 'family'. I know that we will greatly benefit from her terrific administrative and fundraising experience as our music programs for Boston youth continue to grow," stated Boston City Singers Founder and Artistic Director Jane Money.

Melissa can be reached via e-mail melissagraham@bostoncitysingers.org or by telephone at 617-265-6700.

A MESSAGE FROM Katherine Athanasiou Director, Jamaica Plain Division

I am so proud to be directing the wonderful Boston City Singers program in Jamaica Plain. I spent eight years developing and teaching the daily music program at the Conservatory Lab Charter School in Brighton, MA and a year doing the same at Fletcher-Maynard Academy in Cambridge, MA. I took a year off when my daughter was born and joined Boston City Singers last September. I quickly realized that the JP community created by the children, parents and staff is incredibly supportive and enthusiastic. I am lucky to be part of it.

We have three amazing groups in JP. The Kodály singing group, ages 4-6, has been learning how to keep steady beat and rhythm, sing echo songs, repeat rhythmic and melodic phrases accurately, sing multi-verse songs and relate to music kinesthetically through singing games and movement. And they have fun! The Intermediate and Advanced Choirs have been working hard to technically and musically perfect a wide range of 2 and 3-part repertoire. Look for all three groups to perform an outstanding, multi-cultural piece together at our May 14th concert.



Chorus Members Olivia and Caroline under the supervision of parent Lilly Siu on Kitchen Duty on Saturday, February 12.



Boston City Singers Chorus members, parents and volunteers made and sold cookies to help meet tuition and South African Goodwill Tour expenses.

AMELIA BURKE

continued from page 1

social media's impact on the Palestinian nonviolence movement as she traveled around the West Bank with friends. Amelia misses Boston City Singers more than is probably healthy but enjoyed the unfamiliar chords and fantastical whirls of Palestinian music. And of course she cooked, learning to barter in the souq (marketplace) for ingredients, and to adapt Palestinian dishes for vegetarian. She found that many people are vegetarians since meat is quite expensive).

"I keep pretty active here in a few different organizations and have met some extraordinary people from all over the world. Some work, some volunteer, and some are travelers - many 3-monthers like me. (You can have a tourist visa for three months, but if you want to stay longer you have to leave the country and come back or have a reason for staying that Israel accepts - not an easy thing if you're living in the West Bank.)"

Amelia left Bethlehem in mid-January, and is working until the end of April on family organic farms in Italy, while polishing her Italian language skills. In many ways, she attributes her fascination with different cultures and travel, as well as the frugality that has enabled her to travel for seven months entirely with earnings from babysitting during high school, to her participation in Boston City Singers.

*Boston City Singers is a tuition-based musical training program. We unite children and families from all neighborhoods, ethnic, and socio-economic groups through the power of music. **No child is turned away for lack of funds.** Please help us keep it that way.*

Your donations are greatly appreciated. bostoncitysingers.org/donate