Chapel Choir Visits San Antonio, Texas

On the last weekend of October, the Chapel Choir travelled to San Antonio, Texas, to honor veterans. The Chapel Choir visited the Air Force Village, a retirement community and medical facility for those who have served in the Air Force, and for their spouses and widows.

The choir performed a program for the Air Force Village residents, which was the primary purpose of the trip. The program consisted of worship and patriotic music, honoring the Lord, our nation, and veterans. The program went extremely well and was received with enthusiasm and gratitude. Not only were the residents moved by the performance, but the students were moved by how they touched the lives of the audience members.

Students participated in service projects where they sang and mingled with the residents. Students split into three groups, each one visiting a different residence in the Air Force Village. One of the groups went to the Freedom House, a care facility for veterans with dementia and Alzheimer’s. Choir Director Mr. Gregg Busch said patients at the Freedom House who hadn’t talked in months were laughing and talking with students.

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On Sunday the First Baptist Church of San Antonio invited the Chapel Choir to lead worship for the 9:30 service and to sing the call to worship for the 11 o’clock service, which was televised.

“Everyone was completely overwhelmed by the trip,” Mr. Busch said. “It was something that really touched everyone’s life.”

Col. Larry Runge, Chair of the Outreach Committee at the Air Force Village II Protestant Church, received a note from one of the residents: “They completely amazed us all. Not only with their splendid music, but also with their personalities. Everyone has given them extremely high marks, and I know many join me in wishing for them to come back ‘soon’ and ‘often.’ They were marvelous.”

Student Shelby Butterworth said the best part about the trip was the opportunity to talk with the veterans, and to listen to their stories.

Kaleb Gray said his favorite part of the trip was the service project at the Air Force Village. “It was uplifting to see smiles on the faces of those who have seen so much and have done so many things, but still have joy in the littlest of things.” Many other students agreed that visiting with the veterans was the most rewarding part of the trip.

Students were also grateful for the hard work put into the trip by the workers from the Music Department, James Zeller and Hannah Mahan. “Without them, we would not have done so great,” student Samuel Hendricks said.

The Chapel Choir will perform the Veterans Program on Sunday, November 10, at 2:00 pm in Williams Memorial Chapel.
College of the Ozarks welcomed Mr. Bill O’Reilly on October 10th, 2013. He addressed a few of the issues our country is facing currently and stated that, “Leadership is what is lacking in our country today . . . Real leadership is not just getting up in the morning and giving orders, that’s not what it’s about. It’s about thought about other people.”

Chapel choir member James Zeller said, “It was a very enjoyable evening. Bill O’Reilly gave an inspiring speech on leadership and I was delighted to be a part of it!”

Mr. O’Reilly also assisted C of O President Davis in awarding our special recognition military veterans Robert Sarver (U.S. Army, leader of the local chapter 913), Col. Donald Ballard (U.S. Navy), and Sgt. Daniel Barnes (U.S. Army).

The School of the Ozarks high school provided a much needed track chair to Sgt. Barnes through their “Pitch in for Patriots” club. Following the presentation of the colors by the Bobcat Company ROTC, Dr. Bruce Gerlach led the audience in the singing of the National Anthem. During the program the Chapel Choir, Chorale, and Concert Band performed “The Mansions of the Lord” with a trumpet solo by Sgm. Bob Smith-er. The Concert Band also played many patriotic medleys highlighting our military branches and other popular marches.
Where are they now?
College of the Ozarks Music Alumni

Joel Miller

Major at C of O: Music (General Emphasis)

Current Location: Los Angeles with wife Lena

Musical Pursuits: “Right now I am a full-time student at University of Southern California. I'm getting my graduate certificate in "Scoring for Motion Pictures and Television". I participate in scoring sessions once a week on average, where professional Hollywood players perform our music cue assignments. I'm also getting the chance to meet working industry professionals, from composers to editors to musician contractors.”

The influence of C of O: “C of O has played a big role in molding my talents. Dr. Gerlach had good, critical feedback for me as a composer, Dr. Huff helped me become more musical at the piano, and Mr. Busch even helped me get in touch with my voice as a music tool (even if only for communicating an idea). Being a percussionist in the concert band showed me what it was like to be part of an ensemble and how to read a part (I now have to write parts). Finally, C of O helped me to learn how to push myself to make better music.”

Advice for undergraduate musicians: “If you're wanting to go into the music industry, the biggest piece of advice I have is to learn the tools that are being used! …Actually being able to write and play music is only a fraction of what you need to know. I didn't want to hear this, but it's reality. You can watch tutorials on Lynda.com and the like. Also, don't dismiss anything that they've taught you. You never know when it will come in handy. I took a conducting class at C of O thinking "surely I'll never be conducting", when in fact, this year I'll be conducting a full orchestra of L.A. musicians. I also thought serialism and atonal music was just plain weird and that I'd never write it, but it turns out in film music it is a very important device. So take heed of every discipline that is being instilled in you.
Grant Allen

Major at C of O: Music Ministry and Spanish

Current Location: DeMotte, IN with wife Lora and one-year-old daughter Jean Grey

Musical Pursuits: “I am the director of worship and music at the First Reformed Church of DeMotte. It is amazing, I am responsible for designing, planning, and creating everything that goes on during Sunday morning worship except for the sermon topic. …I am also in charge of major outreach events, the largest of which we just finished. We had over 3,000 people attend our trunk or treat event on Halloween where people came to a fun safe place to get candy and to hear a Christian concert with Building 429, Hawk Nelson, The Afters, and Finding Favour. …Every week It is my job to be in worship and help others to do the same. It is my dream job, it is my calling.”

The Influence of C of O: ”My time at C of O helped me learn to work with all kinds of different people, even those that you might not agree with. There's always more than one way to get a job done, but it's best if you have people working together. It taught me that if somebody is gifted in a certain area, you should let them do that. …Musically, C of O helped me most in the jazz combo. My understanding of theory and harmony blossomed in the piano and jazz programs at C of O led by Dr. Huff and Dr. Al Lohman respectively. Working with only 5 or 6 musicians is what I have every week, and I am always prepared to lead a group like that because of my experience with jazz piano.”

Advice for undergraduate musicians: “Any music major at C of O should surrender their talents to the Lord. Forget about yourself and be willing to go anywhere he sends you. I know you love your family and friends, but until you surrender to him and are willing to do his work anywhere, whether near or far, you might just find yourself stuck doing less than you were meant to do.”
On October 7 and 8, voice students from the studios of Dr. Lana Ness and Mrs. Kristen Cartwright performed in the NATS regional competition. The Evangel Music Department in Springfield hosted the competition, and students and staff from the College of the Ozarks Music Department accompanied the vocalists.

Caleb Vester, Kourtney Pyle, Noah Fry, Ryan Moore, and Mrs. Marilyn Dunn accompanied the singers on piano.

The NATS competition is held biannually, and gives students of all levels the opportunity to compete. “It motivates them to excellence and gives them a goal,” Dr. Lana Ness said. In preparation each student must follow strict repertoire requirements, and have the original copy of music for the performance.

Voice teachers from colleges in the Ozarks NATS division act as judges for the competition. The judges give the singers ratings and comments after each performance. Out of the group of competitors, one is chosen from each division as the most outstanding. Each division averages around eight competitors.

Madeline Clem placed first out of the sixteen competitors in her division. She performed *The Little Horses*, by Aaron Copland. Kourtney Pyle achieved the highest score in her division for her performance of *Willow Song* by Thomas Moore.
## Upcoming Events

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<td>Dec. 6</td>
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“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4:10

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