

Family Network Newsletter

DECEMBER 2011

2012

Joyful Noise in Providence

Joyful Noise has been invited to sing in Providence, RI for the American Choral Directors Association's 2012 Eastern Division Conference! We will be the core choir, mentoring new singers within the "Building



Communities Festival Choir." Our role will be to support singers with disabilities who haven't yet had the fabulous experiences

we've had as a concert choir. In our rehearsals, we'll introduce our new friends to Alice Parker, Nick Page, and our own director, Allison Fromm, share some of our favorite songs, and join them in learning new songs written especially for the occasion. In our performance, we'll share our talents with students, conductors, and music therapists from the ACDA's Eastern Division. We'll leave Delaware and New Jersey in the wee hours of the morning on Friday, February 17th and return on Saturday evening the 18th.



Joyful Noise's singing helped raise \$340,000 for Bancroft at the Butterfly Ball in November!

Singers "shine with all their might" (a line from Nick Page's You Have a Heart) at their Sunday Songs and Sundaes concert in August (below)





Joyful Noise to Perform at Yale University

Joyful Noise has been recruited to perform at Yale University in June 2012 for the first Yale International Choral Festival! Choirs from four continents will be on campus for several days of master classes, lectures and concerts.

Choirs from four continents will be on campus for several days of master classes, lectures and concerts. We were invited to sing within the International Festival's two-day Symposium entitled, "Choirs Transforming Our World," We will be

featured as a choir that is "using choral music in creative ways to create

positive change – locally, nationally, or internationally." Our 60-minute, interactive presentation in

Yale School of Music's beautiful Sprague Hall will involve audience participation, both musically and artistically. Audience members will share in the creation of a mural or "Wall" conveying the impact of our singing. Check back with us for more information about our trip to New Haven in June.



Bancroft Day, October 2011, Victoria McGrath, guest conductor

Save the Dates

- Tuesday, December 13, 2011 @ 7 PM, New Jersey Holiday Concert, Voorhees Town Center, NJ
- Wednesday, December 14, 2011 Holiday Concerts, HollyDELL School & Twenty-One Plus, Hurfville, NJ
- Wednesday, December 21, 2011 @ 7 PM, Delaware
 Caroling, Ingleside Retirement Village, Wilmington, DE
- Friday, February 3, 2012 @ 6 PM, **BINGO Benefit**, Moose Lodge, Lindenwold, NJ
- Friday & Saturday, February 17-18, 2012, American Choral Directors Association's Building Communities Festival Choir with Alice Parker & Nick Page, *Providence, RI*
- Saturday, March 10, 2012 @ 2 PM, National Anthem, Harlem Globetrotters Game, Sun National Bank Center, Trenton, NJ
- June 21-22, 2012, Yale International Choral Festival, New Haven, CT

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Join Joyful Noise at the Harlem Globetrotters



Joyful Noise invites family and friends to come along with us to a Harlem Globetrotters game! On Saturday

www.harlemglobetrotters.com afternoon, March 10, Joyful Noise will sing the National Anthem and then settle into our seats to watch the fun. We have a block of preferred seats, and we'd love for our housemates, families, and friends to enjoy the excitement with us. The game starts at 2 PM at the Sun National Bank Center in Trenton, NJ. Our group tickets cost \$25 apiece and make terrific holiday gifts! We encourage everyone to purchase tickets ASAP, especially if you need a wheelchair space. For tickets and info, please contact Joanne Shea @ 856-904-5704 or jshea@bnh.org.



Delaware singers lead National Anthem & "Run for the Buds" in October



New Jersey singers lead National Anthem at Taliaferro Classic in June

Help Joyful Noise

To make a taxdeductible contribution that will help Joyful Noise travel to sing in Providence and at Yale, please visit our website or contact Cathy Sonnenberg:



(215) 771-1003 or cathy@joyfulnoisechorus.org. Contributions in any amount are gratefully received. Checks made out to "Joyful Noise" may be mailed to:

Joyful Noise • 17 Springbrook Road • Morristown, NJ 07960

Find Joyful Noise Online

www.joyfulnoisechorus.org www.facebook.com/joyfulnoisechorus https://picasaweb.google.com/102735690748944399513 http://vimeo.com/user8152813 http://www.choralnet.org/home/278929

Remembering George Lalka (1948-2011)

Many will remember George for his smile, his voice, and his presence. Born in Brooklyn, NY, he lived and loved Roy Rogers, Hopalong Cassidy, and the Dodgers at Ebbets Field. Every

Sunday he took walks over the Brooklyn Bridge with his family and flew kites in Prospect Park. As a young boy he was recognized for his vocal talents and performed with the city-wide Boys Choir and at the Academy of Music in New York City. At St. Joseph High School, he was editor of the school newspaper. He went on to earn degrees in Chemistry and Organic Chemistry from Seton Hall University and Yale University.



Photo by Nancy Longo

As a research chemist, George created a patent, *Red Sensitive Photopolymerizable Composites*.

George loved photography, horses, music of any nature. When hearing a tune, he enjoyed quizzing friends, "Who sings that?" After his brain injury, George experienced paralysis on his right side and verbal aphasia. George first saw Joyful Noise perform at Bancroft Day in 2001 and sang with the chorus from his audience seat. Once he joined Joyful Noise, George found his true love and his way to sing fluently and proudly. Because music and singing can help stimulate the rewiring of human brain, George began studying with Dr. Concetta Tomaino of the Institute for Music and Neurologic Function in New York in 2011. Through music therapy, George was regaining his ability to communicate his thoughts.

Within Joyful Noise, George was a leader, and much beloved by his fellow singers. "He was one of my best friends." (Richard) "He had a heart of gold!" (Todd) "I miss George. It's not the same without him." (Leslie) "George had a big heart and a wonderful sense of humor. A nice person." (Lisa) "We had fun teasing Joanne together." (Rachel) "He was a big Phillies fan." (Ellen) "He had such a sweet smile and disposition." (Alice Parker) "I felt he was a very friendly person. He was very kind to everybody. He will be missed, that's for sure! I enjoyed hearing him sing. He was a very good person to be around." (Elizabeth R)



Whenever friends or family visited George, whether at home, in rehab, or in the hospital, he frequently sang with them. George's favorites included "Take me out to the ballgame" and "All night, all day, angels watchin' over me." Now singers in Joyful Noise think of George as their "star in the sky" who is "watchin' over" them.

More remembrances of George in photos and videos can be found here: http://vimeo.com/32592973

To join Joyful Noise, or for more information, please contact Cathy Sonnenberg: 215-771-1003 or Cathy@JoyfulNoiseChorus.org or visit www.joyfulnoisechorus.org.