



St Paul's Choir School

MAKING MUSIC • BUILDING COMMUNITY • CHANGING LIVES
113 Engle Street, Englewood, NJ 07631 • 201.568.3276 • stpauls-choirschool.org

SPRING - SUMMER 2018 • NEWSLETTER



Choristers at St Luke's, Darien CT singing for the parish's Martin Luther King Jr observance

Six Years and Going Strong!

The St Paul's Choir School has just completed its sixth year! The choristers have had an amazing year singing services and concerts throughout the tri-state area. Take a moment to read the pages of this newsletter and check out what we have been working on and what we are looking forward to! With your generous support and encouragement we continue to sing, grow, and learn as we serve the greater Englewood community and beyond. Check out our website, stpauls-choirschool.org, to find out more about what we do, to see and hear us, and to find out what you can do to help us continue our success in mentoring and encouraging our young singers.

About the St Paul's Choir School

The St Paul's Choir School program is based on the idea that all children are able to sing, given encouragement and instruction. We offer tuition-free music education and performance opportunities for girls and boys, ages five through high school. We are a unique after-school program that offers professional choral training, voice and piano lessons, music theory, leadership development, and mentoring to children and teenagers. Each chorister receives individualized attention in a dynamic, creative, structured, and hands-on setting from caring teachers who are accomplished professionals in their areas of instruction.

Our choristers come from Englewood and surrounding towns, representing a wide range of cultural communities, and from all faith traditions. *Everyone is welcome!*



Fellowship hour after singing for the morning service, Metropolitan AME Zion, Ridgewood



THE MISSION OF THE ST PAUL'S CHOIR SCHOOL:

Making Music, Building Community, Changing Lives

The St Paul's Choir School is a Musical and Educational Outreach of St Paul's Episcopal Church in Englewood, New Jersey. We seek to—

- ✓ Provide solid musical instruction in a friendly and fun environment of mutual respect and achievement;
- ✓ Create opportunities for children to grow in musical and spiritual strengths that nurture their growth;
- ✓ Provide children of diverse abilities and backgrounds with a program of music appreciation and choral performance that seeks to fulfill each child's musical potential.



*Treble Festival Choristers,
Ms Giulia and Mr Trautman*

Choir School in the Greater Community—Spring 2018

We sang for 40 services and concerts throughout the tri-state area during the 2017-2018 School Year. The Choir School typically sings for the 10:30 service at St Paul's every second Sunday of the month. Travel this spring included singing at the Treble Festival at the Cathedral of St John the Divine, joining with choristers from Grace Church in Newark in January. We sang under the direction of Bryan Zaros, Youth Choir Director at the Cathedral, and Amaranta Viera, Voice Instructor at the Washington Heights Choir School. In February, we were joined by the Academies at Englewood/Dwight Morrow High School Jazz Band for a concert honoring Black History

Month. In March, we joined with the St Paul's Choir and the First Presbyterian Church of Englewood's Chancel Choir in a service of Lenten Vespers—it was a joy to welcome the First Presbyterian Choir and their director, Dr David Macfarlane. We also traveled to Christ Church in Short Hills to sing Evensong—we are grateful for their Outreach Committee's continued support of our program.

We sang Tenebrae on Wednesday of Holy Week, and for Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter. It was also a pleasure to sing for all three Confirmation Services held at St Paul's this spring. We traveled to Trinity Cathedral in Trenton to sing for the Annual Diocesan Choir Camp Evensong under the direction of Canon Deborah Ford, and it was a joy to be welcomed by Bishop Chip Stokes. We also sang for the first-ever St Paul's Choir Festival in May—more than sixty singers from four states joined us, all under the direction of our friend Loraine Enlow.

We traveled to sing at the RSCM Festival at Trinity and St Philip's Cathedral in Newark in June. It was a joy to sing with director Dr Malcolm Merriweather and more than 30 singers from around the state; and we sang Evensong led by our own Bishop Mark Beckwith. We joined our adult choir to present Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* and works by Ernest Bloch and Kurt Weill for St Paul's Eighth Annual Spring Concert in May.

We were delighted to travel to the Metropolitan AME Zion Church in Ridgewood to sing for Pastor Mack Brandon and his congregation on Trinity Sunday. Pastor Brandon talked to the choristers about his work with the legendary Ben E. King, among many other things, and our own Father Bill Allport preached at the service! The Choir School year ended Monday, June 11, with a piano and voice recital given by our choristers.



*Choir Camp Reunion Evensong at
Trinity Cathedral in Trenton*



Confirmation Choir, Spring 2018



Backstage with Kristin Chenoweth, bergenPAC

Concerts at bergenPAC

We were honored to sing for three concerts at the Bergen Performing Arts Center during this academic year. In December we joined the bergenPAC Choir in a performance with Kristin Chenoweth and had the opportunity to work with her amazing music director, Mary-Mitchell Campbell, and again in June for a showcase concert. The choristers appeared on stage with the Chieftains in March. We look forward to more collaborations with bergenPAC in the future.

Summer Choir Camps

We will once again send choristers to the Diocese of New Jersey Choir Camp, July 15-19. At least six of our choristers will attend the Royal School of Church Music Summer Course at Newport, RI, July 30-August 5. Choir camps and other summer courses give our choristers the opportunity to join with voices from diverse programs. This intense period of growth—socially, musically, and spiritually—provides experiences that last a lifetime. *Thank you to every supporter who has given generously to this important ministry for the choristers!*

Having Fun!

Choir is about making music—building community—and changing lives; we sing together, we eat together (lots and lots of pizza!) and we play and celebrate together. Thanks to a generous supporter, we were able to see the movie *Black Panther* this spring—in 3D! The treble girls were able to receive new sports backpacks through the generosity of Jayne Lewis and her beautiful shop, Tapestry of Englewood.



At 'Black Panther'



Grateful to Staff and Volunteers!

Leslie Frost is finishing her last year as our piano instructor, and will be moving on to a new opportunity in Queens, New York City. Giulia Utz continues as our voice instructor, and is also present with us when we sing Sunday mornings at St Paul's. Carolina Restrepo joined us this spring to help with activities, handbells, and Voice for

Life. Ravon Middlebrooks has also come to work with the boys and singing, as well as music theory. Jessica Jackson continues as a mentor to the choristers, engaging them in activities such as cooking. Kai Alston and Coralius Noble prepare breakfast for the choristers on the Sundays when they sing at St Paul's. Our Sunday Sextons, Gary Mason and George Gill, assist us in numerous ways from driving the church van to pick up choristers on Sundays, to mentoring. *We are grateful for you all—thank you!*



Fifth Annual RSCM Festival, Newark

Building Our Future

Since our first day, St Paul's Choir School has worked wonders with a small budget and minimal resources. We have managed to change lives and accomplish great things. Thanks to our supporters and benefactors to date, we have been able to build a sustainable and increasingly healthy program. In the year ahead, we have several challenges for funding and expanding our programs, and we can't do it without your help. Will you consider contributing to our

future? Checks in any amount are always welcome, and all gifts are tax-deductible. [You can send your gift to St Paul's Church, 113 Engle Street, Englewood, NJ 07631; earmark your check to 'St Paul's Choir School.'](#)

How can you help?

[Sponsor one chorister for one year](#), \$1,000; [Piano lessons for choristers](#), \$140 per month; [Cape May Choir Camp Scholarships](#), \$450 each; [RSCM Choir Scholarships](#) at \$625 each.

Thanks to our Supporters!

A complete list of donors may be found at www.stpauls-choirschool.org/list-of-donors.html

Thank You!

Thank you for your support of the St Paul's Choir School. Your gifts and extraordinary support continue to make a difference in the lives of our children and our community, and we are grateful indeed. Feel free to contact me at any time to find out more about how you can be a part of this important outreach.

—Mark A. Trautman, Director of Music

Our Sixth Year: 2017-2018



Trebles sing Vaughan Williams' 'Song of the Tree of Life' at All Souls Evensong



In the lobby of bergenPAC after singing for The Chieftains



Singing at Metropolitan AME Zion Church in Ridgewood



In concert at the Englewood Public Library



After Confirmation—on the way for pizza!



Our Annual Epiphany Evensong with Grace Church in Newark, Choir School of Asbury Park, and St Paul's Choir School.



New backpacks from Tapestry!

After Confirmation—on the way for pizza!