PA$$ION Preview

Clams, the green stuff, dough, coin, bucks, or cheddar; whatever you prefer to call it, we all have a relationship with it, and we certainly want more of it. It’s simultaneously the bane of our existence and the bearer of satisfaction. If you’re a college student, then you get it. As college loans pile up, we’re all looking for that high-paying, post-grad job that will ensure a secure life. We’ve all been told to “do what you love,” but what if Egyptology and puppetry don’t make the big bucks? What if our passions don’t align with society’s (and our parents’) expectation for “success”?

On October 23 at St. Joseph’s Chapel, the College Choirs will seek to explore humanity’s weird and twisted relationship with (you guessed it) money. Many composers throughout history have wrestled with the power and the idea of capital; the College Choir and Chamber Singers will attempt to unravel money’s complicated legacy. From modern mashups to classical compositions, PA$$ION will help answer that big question: Why does “money make the world go ‘round”?

Adam Ouellet, ‘16

Calendar of Events

October 23, 8 PM – PA$$ION
College Choir and Chamber Singers
St. Joseph Memorial Chapel

November 20, 8 PM – Love and the Fyer
Chamber Singers
Brooks Concert Hall

December 10, 8 PM – Lessons and Carols
College Choir and Chamber Singers
St. Joseph Memorial Chapel

CHU CHU RA RA!

Homecoming is always filled with friends, family, tailgating, and of course, football. It’s a great chance for recent and not so recent graduates to come back to campus to reconnect and reminisce. As part of the many traditions of Holy Cross, the College Choir invites all Choir alums to join us in the pre-game ceremony before the start of the football game. This year was no exception, for we had HC choir members from many generations. Prior to the day’s events, we had a morning rehearsal for everyone to meet and refamiliarize ourselves with the Songs of the Holy Cross. It was a very successful morning singing with alumni and the Holy Cross Good Time Marching Band!

Carley Buckley, ‘18
Practice, Practice, Practice

From pipe cleaners to vocology, College Choir has seen it all. These first few weeks of rehearsal have been jam-packed with solfège, vuvuzelas, puzzles, and above all, an overwhelming sense of community. It’s rare to sing with a new assortment of students for a meager four weeks and truly feel like a group, but this year has accomplished just that. Based on the sheer number of newcomers gracing the College Choir, it should have taken several months to reach the level of singing we have been able to produce consistently. Under David and Laurel’s tutelage, we’re mastering neutral vowels, honing our sight reading, and learning how to get our minds out of the way of our bodies. It’s amazing to look back at how much we’ve improved just over these past four weeks, because if you asked any choir member what the past month of rehearsal has been like, their answer is more likely than not to simply be “It’s been fun!” Even during sectionals, which can quickly become extremely tedious, smiles and laughs have been sprinkled throughout the intense work and dedicated focus. If we can accomplish this much in the first month of classes, I can’t wait to see what we’re able to do with the rest of the year.

Hannah Gabriel, ‘17

“New Beginnings” Released!

We’ve released our first album, a compilation of studio and live tracks from the past two years, and it’s pretty hot. You can buy your copy through the Holy Cross Bookstore or at one of our concerts.

David Harris, Director
Second Annual Choir Week Recap

The Chamber Singers kicked off the 2015-2016 school year with our second annual Choir Week. All of the Singers arrived on campus a week before classes began to start learning the repertoire for this semester. Of course, we also made time to learn some vocology and apply it to our singing, and we had the opportunity to get to know each other as singers and as friends.

This year’s Choir Week had three unique factors, the first being our character studies for our November concert, “Love and the Fyer”. Each member created an individual character for the concert with the help of some acting exercises and questionnaires. The second point of distinction was studying The Inner Game of Tennis by Timothy Gallwey. Our lack of tennis experience aside, Gallwey’s methods of concentration and non-judgemental evaluation have universal applications, including choral singing. The last factor was a one-day “section leader boot camp” that prepared the nine section leaders to be proactive and supportive within their voice part.

Choir Week, much like the ensemble itself, is always evolving and improving. I look forward to subsequent Choir Weeks, and to seeing the progress that Chamber Singers will continue to make!

Phil Losquadro, ‘18

Southern Tour

After a stunning success in Argentina, the choir will continue its new annual touring initiative in the southeastern U.S over Spring Break. In addition to singing a concert in the University of Alabama’s Moody Music Hall with director David Harris’s brother’s choir and members of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, we will immerse ourselves in southern culture from steel, to southern cooking, to singing spirituals and visiting the world class Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.
Meet the Staff!

Editor: Emma Garaban, ‘17

Writers:
Carley Buckley, ‘18
Hannah Gabriel, ‘17
Phil Losquadro, ‘18
Adam Ouellet, ‘16

Readers:
David Harris, Director
Adam Ouellet, ‘16

Introducing College Choir 2015-2016!

Some of the greatest love song of all time, Brahms’ “Liebeslieder Waltzes” trickle through the party as flirtations rise, odes are sing to wine and fleeting time, and Carmen meets Nemorino in a star-crossed love story. The Chamber Singers’ “Love and the Fyer” concert is a staged expose of choral and operatic favorites where madrigals finally meet their meaning the Figaro sextet arrives just in time for entertainment.

Attention Alumni!
Please join us on October 23rd for Songs of Holy Cross and on December 10th for O Come Emmanuel, Once in Royal David’s City, and Adam Lay Y’Bounden