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Cappella Cantorum Presents Holiday Concert in Deep River, Dec. 4

November 26, 2022 by Admin – Leave a Comment



This drawing by Madeline Favre of Deep River of Cappella Cantorum was inspired by a performance in St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Old Saybrook.

DEEP RIVER, CT. — Cappella Cantorum will return to John Winthrop Middle School (JWMS, Deep River, CT) for the 2022-2023 season after a two-year absence. Rehearsals are in full swing for the upcoming winter concert, Vivaldi's Gloria and Other Holiday Favorites, to be performed Sunday, Dec 4, at 3 p.m. at JWMS. Mark your calendar to join this wonderful musical celebration of the holidays.

Music Director Simon Holt will conduct, and the featured soloists are mezzo-soprano Rachel Abrams and bass-baritone Christopher Grundy. The chorus will be accompanied by pianist Patrice Newman and the Cappella Cantorum Orchestra.

Ticket prices are \$15 for students, \$30 for adults and \$35 at the door. Tickets may be purchased in advance through any chorus member, on the **Cappella Cantorum website** through the link below, or by calling 860-532-0454.

This year marks the 53rd season of Cappella Cantorum, which was founded in Jan. 1970. The group has built a close partnership with the Region 4 School District for more than 30 years where Cappella can be found rehearsing at JWMS on Monday evenings and performing in the school district's auditoria. Cappella has also donated acoustic sound shells to enhance the JWMS auditorium stage.

When COVID hit Connecticut in early 2020, Cappella Cantorum halted rehearsals that were already underway at JWMS and canceled its May concert. From Sept. 2020 to April 2021, the group hosted a popular Zoom series to help singers stayed connected and continue learning about music-related topics.

With the availability of COVID vaccines and improved treatments, the group began to plan its return to inperson singing for Fall 2021. However, changing state COVID guidelines made it difficult for Region 4 to allow community groups in school facilities, so Cappella rehearsals were moved to Trinity Lutheran Church in Centerbrook for the 2021-2022 season.

"We were so pleased to be coming back to JWMS for our rehearsals," said Carol Cherry, President of Cappella Cantorum." Returning to John Winthrop is one step closer to normal for all of us."

Cappella Cantorum is the premiere, non-auditioned, community choral group of the Connecticut Shoreline and Lower Connecticut River Valley. Its primary purpose is to give singers of all ages the opportunity to learn, perform, share, and enjoy great choral music. In addition to twice yearly concerts, the group promotes music education and appreciation through summer singing programs, vocal training workshops, Messiah Sing & Listen events, and other events open to the public.

Cappella Cantorum has no audition requirement and welcomes people of all ages who like to sing and want to expand their music knowledge and skills. This opportunity renews again on Monday, Jan 9, 2023, when you can register and join Cappella for their first rehearsal as the singers and administration prepare for their spring concert scheduled for Sunday, April 4, 2023, 3pm, at JWMS. Rehearsals are generally held at 7 p.m.

on Monday nights in JWMS.

For more information, visit cappellacantorum.org or call 860-532-0454.