



**SPRING CONCERTS**  
*Vivaldi, Hard Rock, Gospel & More!*

**In MEDIA**  
**Saturday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.**  
 Reformation Lutheran Church  
 102 W. Rose Tree Road

**In SWARTHMORE**  
**Friday, May 6, 8 p.m.**  
**Saturday, May 7, 8 p.m.**  
 Lang Concert Hall, Swarthmore College  
 Doors open at 7:30 and close when seats are full

**In MALVERN**  
**Sunday, May 15, 4 p.m.**  
 St. Peter's Church In the Great Valley  
 2475 St. Peter's Road

**Admission free**  
**Donations support CCC programs**



## Two Choristers Will Attend Top Prep Schools

CONGRATULATIONS to eighth-grade chorus members Kaya Banton (*below, left*) and Kenan Hilyard (*below, right*), who will begin high school next year as scholarship students at highly-selective independent schools. Kaya will attend The Episcopal Academy in Newtown Square, and Kenan will enter Archmere Academy in Claymont, Del. Kaya and Kenan attend Chester Community Charter School.



### LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

## CCC Children Sing, Share, and Celebrate

On Saturday, February 26, the Chester Children's Chorus Chamber Choir joined with five other choirs at The Church of the Holy Trinity in West Chester for an evening of song and readings to celebrate Black History Month.

*Our Chester children want to sing out more, to share, to show off, to have fun...*

I was deeply moved by the emotion of the evening, the beautiful singing of our 28 children and the other choirs, and most of all, by the attentiveness our children showed the other choirs. The CCC members were visibly touched when a small group of 6- and 7-year-olds sang the spiritual "My Lord, What A Morning," a tune we used to sing years ago. The other highlight for our singers was the classic arrangement of the spiritual "Soon I Will

Be Done," sung by the Holy Trinity choir. The children sitting near me were all drawn to the performance of one soprano, an older black woman who sang with extraordinary spirit. We all cheered wildly when they finished.

Near the end of the evening, the combined choirs—about 120 singers—sang a song I wrote, "Long Way To Go." Our singers were very proud to be leading the other choirs.

Christian, who is 16, remarked on the segregation of the choirs, with almost all the black singers in the CCC and the West Chester University Gospel Choir, and the other groups almost exclusively white. I explained that a lot

**Letter** *continued, over*

## Sing-to-Learn Class Entertains Seniors

Second-graders who participate in the chorus' Sing-to-Learn program at Chester's Stetser Elementary School entertained senior citizens at St. Daniel's United Methodist Church in February. CCC Assistant Music Director Daniel Beal, who teaches the Sing-to-Learn classes, led the performance. In Sing-to-Learn,

a partnership between the chorus and the Chester Upland School District, children learn songs with lyrics that reinforce science, math, and other academic work. This year, Sing-to-Learn classes include 310 kindergarten, first-grade, and second-grade students in three public schools.



### SIGN UP FOR E-MAIL UPDATES!

The next print newsletter will reach you in November. Want to know what's happening in the meantime? Send an e-mail to [ccc@swarthmore.edu](mailto:ccc@swarthmore.edu) and ask to receive our e-mail newsletters. We're gentle on your inbox; you'll get an e-mail just once every month or two.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to the Chester Children's Chorus, please detach this coupon, complete, and mail to:

Chester Children's Chorus, Swarthmore College, 500 College Avenue, Swarthmore PA 19081

Enclosed is a check in the amount of  \$35  \$75  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check should be payable to Swarthmore College with Chester Children's Chorus in memo field)

Please charge my gift to

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

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My gift will be matched by my employer. (Please enclose your signed matching gift form.)

Give online at [www.swarthmore.edu](http://www.swarthmore.edu). Choose "other fund," and specify "Chester Children's Chorus." For information on making a gift of securities, call Managing Director Andrea Knox at (610) 328-8180.

**THANK YOU!**

## What We're Up To



Ja'Quay Lundy is one of six teens who study harmony and composition with Director John Alston as members of the Saturday afternoon Composers Circle.



Chorus member William Taylor, 14, has become the CCC's regular drummer, joining professional piano and bass accompanists in the gospel sets.



On an overnight trip to Echo Hill Outdoor School in October, Festival Choir members including Demiah Jones, Jabrea Lockett, and Corey Wood got to paddle their own canoes as they explored the swamp. The trip was sponsored by former CCC board member Leslie Price and her husband, Andy.

### CCC Sings on TV!

The CCC Chamber Choir was featured on *The 10! Show* on NBC10 on January 25 singing "Long Way to Go," an original gospel number written by Director John Alston. Watch the performance at [www.chesterchildrenschorus.org](http://www.chesterchildrenschorus.org). The information on the screen, which says the song is "Joyful, Joyful," is in error.

the 10! show

## READ WITH A CHILD THIS SUMMER

Adult volunteers are the essential ingredient in the success of our summer reading program for the 8-year-olds in our Training Chorus. We need volunteers from 11 to noon, Mondays through Thursdays, from June 27 through July 28. For more information, go to [www.chesterchildrenschorus.org](http://www.chesterchildrenschorus.org) or call Managing Director Andrea Knox at (610) 328-8286. Last summer, volunteer Nancy Breitling read with chorus member Michanda Reed.



## Letter ... continued

of America is still this way and that while change continues slowly, it may not be fast enough.

Our Chester children want to sing out more, to share, to show off, to have fun, to celebrate their accomplishments and culture, and to be celebrated. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to do that. The children sound very good these days, and with your help, they can continue to show the world just how good they are.

—John Alston

## CCC Board Adds Two Members

Swarthmore residents Elizabeth Rubin and Frances Vilella-Velez joined the CCC board in November, bringing with them a wealth of experience in nonprofit management and educational policy. Elizabeth is board president of Suburban Music School in Media and vice president of the national board of Transplant Recipients International. Frances, an attorney and consultant, assists education and nonprofit ventures with the design, development, and evaluation of programs. Elizabeth, an amateur flutist, says she is drawn to the chorus because it does "such an amazing job of offering endless musical opportunity" to children in Chester.

After eight years of board service to the chorus, most of them as treasurer, Leslie Price left the board last summer. Scott Kessler now handles budget oversight with the new title of finance chair. Mary McTernan, who has been development chair, has taken on the additional role of secretary.



Elizabeth Rubin



Frances Vilella-Velez

## CHESTER CHILDREN'S CHORUS

John Alston, founder and director  
Andrea Knox '64, managing director  
Daniel Beal, assistant music director  
Elisa DeNofio, assistant

**Voice**  
The newsletter of the Chester Children's Chorus  
Andrea Knox, editor  
Karlyn Rosen Aires '87, designer  
Photos by Jonathan Hodgson, Andrea Knox, Jeffrey Lott, and Mindy Nguyen

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