

CHORUSLINE

August 2023

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An "Epic" Season on the Way!

When Music Director Chris Hoskins and Assistant JJ Ward were discussing the upcoming holiday season, one word kept coming up – epic. Hoskins said, "The singers, the selections, the guest artists lined up – epic was the simplest way to put it!"

It all centers around the concert title *Gold* and *Green* which Hoskins says comes from a little-known Christmas album by Grammy Award-winning country duo Sugarland.

"The titular song of both this album and our concert, sings of warmth, ribbons, and ice-covered window panes," said Hoskins. "We hope this program full of classic holiday tunes, haunting art songs, and notable choral works, helps us share the warmth and strength that the Taunton Civic Chorus has brought to the area for over 60 years.

Some concert selections will include "Gold and Green", Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Pie Jesu", "O Holy Night", "Carol of the Bells", and TCC's signature piece "Silent Night".



Music Director Chris Hoskins

The concert will also feature the Southcoast Ringers, their second appearance with TCC.



In addition, Hoskins says the concert will feature Molly Torres of Dighton, a renowned local singer and graduate of Assumption College who has studied with Dr. Margaret Tartaglia.

Open rehearsals begin Thursday, August 24th and run through September 14th. Interested singers have the opportunity to stop by and meet the chorus and hear the music.

Rehearsals are held every Thursday from 7-9 p.m. up to the Christmas Concert at Berkley Congregational Church, 13 So. Main St., Berkley.

No auditions are required for participation in the chorus.

President Bids a Fond Farewell

Barbara Quill took over the presidency of the chorus 7 years ago at a time of transition. Just shy of TCC's 60th Birthday, she knew it was time to rally the members to keep the area's oldest running choral group a vital part of the community. "We'd been around since 1959," said Quill. "We had to reorganize and get ready to celebrate Number 60, an extraordinary feat!"

Quill's love of music goes back to childhood. It was everywhere in the

house. Everyone sang and played an instrument.

Quill played the guitar and loved performing in high school musicals, but in college, she knew Journalism would be her career.

Now, in TCC, she combines her love of music with writing.

Since taking over as President, Quill launched a campaign to provide better communication with chorus members and the community by resurrecting a newsletter called *Chorus Line*. She also designs TCC's posters and programs,



Outgoing President Barbara Quill

news releases and other promotional material.

With the hard work of the Board Of Directors, and propelled by the mission to enrich the community through choral performance, TCC has participated in more community events such as the Taunton River Festival, the Liberty and Union Festival, the Dighton Arts Festival, the Taunton Lights On, and Raynham Tree Lighting.

While Quill will be stepping down from the role as President, she will remain on the Board and continue to provide media assistance.

"This has been an extraordinary experience," said Quill. "Chorus leadership - it's something I never envisioned for myself, although my love for music is huge. I consider myself blessed to have had this 7-year opportunity."

Quill added, "I couldn't have done it were it not for the backing of a fabulous, hard-working Board and dedicated members. And to have shared leadership with such a talented Music Director was indeed the greatest gift."

Contact us:

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New Regime Continues the Mission



Debbie Garnett and Anne Alexander take over as Co-Presidents. Their story in the September Chorus Line.

Check Out Our Website!

tauntoncivicchorus.org

Save the Date



Sing with the Taunton Civic Chorus

Rehearsals begin for the Taunton Civic Chorus holiday season on Thursday, Aug. 24, at Berkley Congregational Church, 13 S. Main St., Berkley.

Rehearsals are held every Thursday, from 7 to 9 p.m., until the concert in early December.

No auditions are necessary and all voices are welcome.

The holiday program, entitled "Gold and Green," will feature familiar Christmas classics such as "Silent Night" and "Carol of the Bells," as well as the theme from the well-loved Christmas movie "Elf." The concert will also include Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Pie Jesu" from Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Requiem," which won the Grammy Award for Best Classical Contemporary composition in 1986.

The concert will also feature the South Coast Bell Ringers. This group of musicians was formed more than 15 years ago. Led by Diane Ennis of Berkley, the group performs concerts at senior centers, nursing homes and other community locations during the winter holidays and in the spring.

The chorus is led by Music Director Chris Hoskins and accompanied by Jameson Ward.

The Taunton Civic Chorus has been an important part of the cultural life of Taunton since 1959. In addition to presenting an annual spring and holiday concert, the TCC performs at local events such Raynham Tree Lighting, private functions, and local church services. Each year, TCC awards a scholarship to a young person entering college who has been involved in the performing arts in high school.

For more information, find them on Facebook, visit the TCC website at tauntoncivicchorus.org, or contact them via email at taunton.ma.civic.chorus@gmail.com.