



# MCCS

## Concert Schedule 2018-2019

- September 27  
*That's Amore!* Dinner/Showtime
- November 27 Christmas on Main Street
- December 7  
*A Christmas Wish*  
Christmas Concert
- March 13  
GCAA Texas-Born Rising Stars and Legends
- April 5  
*Titanic the Musical in Concert*
- April 15  
MCCS Gala



## MCCS Board of Directors

Heather Orr, Artistic Director  
Craig Stephan, Asst. Artistic Director  
and Accompanist

Doris Hickman, President  
Deborah Baker, VP-Communications  
Tommi Hamilton, VP-Membership  
Debbie Templet, Treasurer  
Eva Rains, Secretary

Section Leaders:  
Gale Drummond, Alto  
Marlene Stubler, Soprano  
Cameron Carnley, Tenor/Bass

Marie Underdown, Auxiliary  
Donna Trice-Drummond, Librarian  
Ann Marie Ricci, Historian

Contact us:  
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www.mcchoral.org

April 2019

### *From Your President...*

I hope all of you enjoyed performing *Gospel Mass* as much as I did. I was just praying for a decent audience, and what a surprise to find First Baptist almost full. Everyone I see who attended tells me how much they enjoyed the evening. Hopefully it will be a little more organized next year and will be even bigger and better than this year. Thank you, Heather, for a wonderful choice of music.

And now, the season is fast drawing to an end with our performance of *Titanic, the Musical* coming up. We still have a lot of work to do, so I encourage each one of you to be at all our rehearsals until April 5. AND, be sure and take tickets (Brittany has them) to sell to your friends, family and neighbors. That's all it took for us to have the audience we had for Gospel Night. And send and share messages on Facebook.

And don't forget to buy your tickets to attend our first ever Gala event to be held Monday night, April 15 from 6:00-9:00 pm at Kitchen Tales restaurant on Hwy. 105. Get your income tax turned in and come celebrate with us. Tommi will have more information and tickets will be available soon.

— Doris

### *From Your Artistic Director...*

Greetings, musicians!

Gospel Night was so much fun! How exciting for us to be part of the inaugural event with the Rising Stars and Legends. It was thrilling to sing for such a healthy and receptive audience. The night was great, and Craig deserves a huge "thanks" for organizing the event! Plus..., thank you to an outstanding MCCS Board for being incredibly supportive!

According to Stevie Wonder, "Music, at its essence, is what gives us memories." Therefore, as we close out this 2018-2019 season, let us reflect on an incredible journey beginning with *That's Amore*, then *Vivaldi's Gloria* and the *Lessons and Carols*, and just recently, our *Gospel Mass*. There are so many special memories that we have shared together this season.

Now we are rounding out this season with a wonderful tribute to *Titanic, the Musical*. What a wonderful way to bring closure to our journey with powerful music, intriguing text and a heart-wrenching plot that is based on a true story. We will make this music come alive with your beautiful voices. I look forward to creating more memories with you as we take our voyage on the "ship of dreams."

— Heather

### *...Help Us Grow!*

It's that time of year when we are thinking about getting through that final concert and breaking for the summer. It's also the perfect time to invite any music loving friends to consider joining MCCS! We have membership cards to share as well as sharing through Facebook and our website. And though it may no longer be the preferred method of communication, you can always just talk to people. The point is ... **share!** Keep in mind that if you don't share, you will be depriving someone of the joy of singing with this merry band and you really don't want to live with that burden!

Last year, we almost doubled our number of singers; and this coming season, it would be awesome to repeat that feat. As soon as dates are set for fall registration, the information will be sent to current members and put on the website. Let's all work together to make the 48th season of MCCS the biggest and best ever!

# Section Leaders' Corner

You may have friends who ask you why you sing with the Montgomery County Choral Society, and your answers might vary. Here are some scientific benefits of choral singing that you may or may not have thought about.

1. It strengthens feelings of togetherness and being a part of a collective endeavor.
2. Heart rates are directly affected by the melody of the music, and sometimes heart rates beat in unison.
3. Stress rates and feelings of depression decrease.
4. Choral singing improves feelings of social well-being.
5. Choral singing increases life expectancy.
6. Deep breathing and extended use of the vocal chords can help persons with symptoms of Parkinson's and lung disease.

According to Daniel Pink, choral singing might just be the new exercise. So why do you sing in MCCS? You meet new friends; you exercise your heart, lungs and vocal chords; you sleep better; and you have a better chance at living a longer life because you SING!!

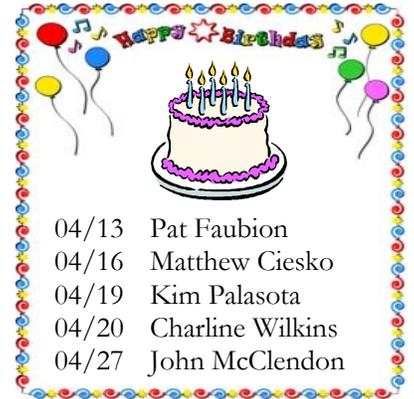
*—Gale Drummond, Alto Section Leader*

## Gotta LOVE Snack Time!!!...

One more Snack Time... one more chance to contribute to our space rental funds. If you have not fed the Kitty this year, now would be a great time to donate. Thanks to all who have helped out this season!



- April 1:** Jesse Villarreal  
 Doris & Wayne Hickman  
 Rhonda Williams  
 Carolyn Wohlt  
 Dale Woodruff  
 Jovanny Zuniga



- 04/13 Pat Faubion  
 04/16 Matthew Ciesko  
 04/19 Kim Palasota  
 04/20 Charline Wilkins  
 04/27 John McClendon

**...Contact us**

Email: [montgomerycountychoralsociety@gmail.com](mailto:montgomerycountychoralsociety@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.mcchoral.org](http://www.mcchoral.org)

Questions about Membership?  
[mccsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:mccsmembership@gmail.com)

Questions about the website, our FaceBook page, or Advertising?  
[dbaker.mccs.vpcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:dbaker.mccs.vpcommunications@gmail.com)

## ...Gospel Night

Thank you to all our wonderful singers who came down to First Baptist on March 13<sup>th</sup>, in the middle of Spring Break no less, to give a great performance! We had a fabulous audience – and thank you all for getting the word out. We have heard nothing but praise from everyone who attended. They LOVED it!

If you were there early, there was a little problem getting in and had to stand out in the rain while Craig rounded up someone to open the doors for us (the sound tech didn't know he was to let us in). We were a little late getting started, but Heather warmed us up perfectly, and we managed to peak at exactly the right moment!

Surely Gospel Night will become a yearly tradition for the Rising Stars and Legends festival. Hopefully, you were able to stay and hear the Cross Currents men's group, the First Methodist Church Choir and the Woodlands Show Chorus. Craig also offered his talents serving as moderator, leading the audience in an old gospel sing-a-long, as well as playing a surprise piano solo. Gospel Night may soon become as well-known as the Young Texas Artists competition! So keep up the good work everyone.





You and your "plus-one" are invited to celebrate another fabulous season of MCCS music memories!

Cover charge will be **\$20/person (sign up early!) or \$25 (at the door)**

which includes heavy hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic beverages. A cash bar will be available.

There will be some wonderful gift baskets up for raffle. Come prepared to buy your \$1.00 tickets for your chance(s) to win a basket. All proceeds go to cover miscellaneous expenses of the chorale.

And bring your nametags! You might have a chance to visit with someone you haven't met during the "busy-ness" of rehearsal nights.

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### *Supporting the Arts Community ...*

The Greater Conroe Arts Alliance is a collaborative nonprofit organization in our area that encourages the arts throughout the Greater Conroe Area. Below is a list of some of the opportunities to support the other arts organizations in our community.



- April 13: **Conroe Symphony Orchestra** presents "Farewell Concert... A Walk Down Memory Lane;" Honoring Dr. Don Hutson; Conroe High School, 3200 W.Davis Street in Conroe; 7:00pm
- April 12-28: **Stage Right** presents "The Diary of Anne Frank;" Crighton Theater; 234 N. Main in Conroe, 8:00pm (2:00p, Sundays).

*The Greater Conroe Arts Alliance includes the following member organizations: Christian Youth Theatre, Conroe Art League, Conroe Symphony Orchestra, Crighton Theatre Foundation, Friends of the Flag, Heritage Museum of Montgomery County, Jazz Connection, **Montgomery County Choral Society**, Montgomery County Historical Commission, Montgomery County Literary Arts Council, Montgomery County Performing Arts Society, The Players Theatre Company, Stage Right, and Young Texas Artists Competition.*

**Please check out their websites for additional events and information. Links to each of the member organizations can be found at: [artsinconroe.org](http://artsinconroe.org).**