

## Back, Bigger Than Ever!

Hello once again to all of our proud alumni, family and friends. As always, we're very excited to get underway this year and things are looking great. Our numbers have swelled yet again, this year to include more than eighty members!

In this newsletter you'll find everything you need to know about the upcoming year... Concert dates, the Alumni Banquet, the annual letter from DC and much more. If you have any questions, you'll also find contact information on the last page of this newsletter.

Thank you all for your continued interest and support!

-Joshua Nelson, Webmaster/Alumni Coordinator

## Who's Who?

Craig Deforest – President

Justin Zang – Vice President (Tour Coordinator)

Jeff Fairfield – Secretary

Ashley Smith – Treasurer

Jonathan Cellis – Stage Manager

Corey Osborne – Wardrobe Manager / Librarian

Lisa Roth – Publicity

Joshua Nelson – Alumni Coordinator / Webmaster

### Assistant Conductors

Nathan Richards, Maria Talbot

### Points of Interest:

- **Alumni Banquet**  
*Info on back page*
- **Tour 2009**  
*Singers go to Montreal! Info on page 3*
- **Upcoming Fundraisers**  
*Check the executive notes for details on upcoming events!*

### Individual Highlights:

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## *Conductor's Corner*

Dear University of Maine Singers Past and Present,

The University Singers is already in rehearsal and making great music again! We have over 80 singers in the ensemble, and the talent is remarkable. The first-year class at UM is the largest on record, and, as a result, all choral ensembles (Athena Consort, Black Bear Men's Chorus, Collegiate Chorale, and Oratorio Society) are flourishing. I have already begun working toward the tour which this year will take us to Montreal, Quebec. Please check our web site in the near future for details regarding the spring tour itinerary.

Our repertoire this year includes Vaughan Williams' "Toward the Unknown Region," Schumann's "Ziegeunerleben," a "Gloria" by Randol Bass, as well as many other beautiful pieces. I continue to enjoy the opportunity to work with so many talented young singers!

This past May, the University Singers embarked on a two-week European tour of southern Italy and Sicily. We sang in wonderful cathedrals in Palermo, Naples, Rome, and in lovely small towns dotting the Sicilian coast. It was one of the most rewarding tours abroad we have yet taken.

We plan to perform again in Carnegie Hall in May of 2010. We will be joining choirs from coast to coast and perform significant choral music accompanied by a professional orchestra and soloists. We will keep you posted about this in the future so that you might be able to sing with us for this grand event in a world class venue!

As I have indicated before, the success of the University of Maine Singers would not be possible without the continuous and generous support of Singers alumni and friends. Thank you again for all that you do for the ensemble to help make it such a special experience.

We hope to see many of you during Tour 2009 as we head toward Montreal.

Once a University Singer, always a University Singer!

Very sincerely,

**DC**

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*"The success of the  
University Singers would  
not be possible without the  
continuous support of  
alumni and friends"*

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## *Northeastern Tour 2009*

Hello Alumni!

We're looking forward to a great tour this season! This spring, on our annual Singers Tour, we will be moving through southern Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and finally Quebec, Canada. None of these stops are completely set in stone though, so if anyone is interested in having us stop by to perform, please just contact me! The year is underway, and so is our planning! We hope to hear from some of you very soon!

**-Justin Zang, Vice President** (*Contact info available on UMSingers.com*)

### *Tentative Itinerary*

Lee, ME

Wiscasset, ME

Noble, ME

York, ME

Tilton, NH

Burlington, VT

Vergennes, VT

Montreal, QB Canada



## **University Singers**

5788 University of Maine  
Class of 1944 Hall  
Orono, ME 04469

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*"If anyone is interested in  
having us stop by to  
perform, please just  
contact me!"*

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*This year's final destination  
will be Montreal in the  
Canadian province of  
Quebec!*

## *Executive Notes*

Hello Alumni!

This year has already proven itself unbelievable. Before the academic year even began, Singers joined together in holding a car wash on Main St. in Orono. In four hours, we were able to raise \$350! The enthusiasm demonstrated by everyone certainly foreshadowed the tone for this fall semester. The sunny spirit of the group brought many to auditions. Especially helpful are the advertising triumphs of Lisa Roth, our Public Relations Chair, as well as the dedication of members and officers in representing the group at summer orientations.

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*"The sunny spirit of the group brought many to auditions"*

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The annual Wakeup Breakfast was held in the newly renovated Wells Commons where we were able to welcome the newest members of the group and gather together to celebrate the coming year. The remarkable strength of this season's talent was immediately realized with DC's announcement that Singers had grown to an ensemble of 87 members. The skill of this choir is beautifully illustrated everyday in rehearsal. I hope you will keep yourself informed of our upcoming concerts and invite your family, friends, and neighbors to experience a performance.

The officer's board is more ambitious than ever, with plans for a fall welcome dance, a silent auction, and perhaps the return of a former event - The Carol-A-Thon. The closeknit bond between Singers is already taking shape. And, with Blitzkrieg just around the corner, I am convinced all will return with unmatched cohesiveness.

Finally, how lucky we are to be led by such a dynamic conductor - full of wisdom, candid advice, and innate kindness. The intense bonds I speak of would not exist without DC's guidance, encouragement, and his emphasis on tradition. The concert repertoire for this year is so rich, expressive, and poignant. And the new singers have brought along with them a vigorous energy.

I have the pleasure everyday of experiencing what you all have to look forward to. Some advice: prepare to "take a bath in the sound" of University Singers.

Thank you for your continued generous support of a group you know so well.

Sincerely,  
**Craig DeForest, President**

*Singers raising money at the first fundraiser: a car wash!*

It is such a privilege to see such an amazing turnout for University Singers auditions this year. 85 people is the largest starting number that this group has ever had, and I am absolutely thrilled about the music we're going to sing, and the annual Spring Northeast tour that will take us to Montreal. I am incredibly honored to be a part of this.

**-Jeff Fairfield, Secretary**

Hello all! My name is Ashley Smith and I am excited for the upcoming year as the Treasurer of University Singers! With 87 members in the group this year, I will be diligently be working with the officers to raise as much money as possible to ensure us a great tour in the spring!!

With such an incline in group size, we may even be looking at the prospect of a second bus for tour...yikes!! Luckily, with such strength in numbers comes strength in fundraising. We are already hard at work, starting off the year with a car wash, dance, and silent auction... and there is plenty more where that came from!! Be sure to keep an eye out for Singer's sponsored events in the greater Orono community!!

We thank you for your continued support and we hope to see you all this year!! Remember...Once a Singer, Always a Singer!!!

**-Ashley Smith, Treasurer**

## *Executive Notes, Cont.*

Hello everyone!

My name is Lisa Roth, and I'm in charge of Publicity and Sales for the group this year. Singers has been such a wonderful experience for me; I've met some of my best friends in this group, and I've made wonderful memories with everyone.

As the Publicity chair, I'm hoping that I'll be able to share my memories with people interested in the group to spread interest about University Singers. I'm also planning on putting together a publicity team for the year. With more people involved, especially come our tour time in the spring, I'm hoping that more and more people will become interested in the group. It's going to be a great year, and I look forward to seeing what it brings!

**-Lisa Roth, Publicity**

Hello Singers Alumni!

I am Jon Chellis, and I am the Stage Manager this year for Singers. I'm a Music Education major and hope to become either a high school music teacher or a composer once I'm through with college.

This is going to be a great year. I'm getting a stage crew together to help out with our concerts. I'm particularly looking forward to tour. We're going to Montreal, and I've never been out of the country before. It's sure to be an exciting time!

Hope to see you all at the Alumni Banquet!

**Jon Chellis, Stage Manager**

Hey folks!

My name is Cory Osborne and I am a 2nd year Vocal Music performance major. I will be serving as the wardrobe coordinator as well as the librarian for the year. I have picked out a company to order our dresses from, instead of having them made by one single person. It is cheaper for the females and they better quality, as well as looking better than the past few years have looked. The men will be wearing tuxedo's just because that's what they wear. It should be a great year! That's all from the wardrobe department!

**-Corey Osborne, Wardrobe/Librarian**

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***We're on the Web!***

[www.UMSingers.com](http://www.UMSingers.com)

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*"I've met some of my best friends in this group, and I've made wonderful memories with everyone"*

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## *Roll Call*

### **Soprano I**

Jennifer Beasley  
Jennifer Chaloult  
Jaymie Coulston  
Lisa Desrochers  
Tess Lelair  
Kirsten Johansen  
Erika Meiler  
Caitlin Rider  
Lisa Roth  
Maria Talbot  
Olivia Teer  
Sarah Thurston

### **Alto I**

Emma Atherton  
Ashley Brewer  
Mary-Anne Chesley  
Kaitlin David  
Jocelyn Emery  
Hannah Kramer  
Kristen Kuhns  
Alyssa Manzi  
Rebecca Martel  
Casie Poplaski  
Any Rose  
Mesa Schubeck  
Amanda Turcotte

### **Tenor I**

Josh Belka  
James Dealamon  
Nate Hillman  
Andrew Hirst  
Christopher  
Keene  
Matthew Kapise  
Josh King  
Peter Merbach  
Alan Sevigny

### **Bass I**

Matt Boisvert  
Matthew Edwards  
Cory Osborne  
Nathan Richard  
Tom Sagona  
Patrick Sylvia  
Joshua Trembley  
Justin Zang

### **Soprano II**

Morgan Brockington  
Sara Charette  
Kate Comaskey  
Chandra Cooper  
Elizabeth  
Giacomantonio  
Megan Leahy  
Kristen Meadows  
Angela Lemus-Orellana  
Adrian St. Pierre  
Chelsea Suranie  
Kerianne Tripp  
Kendra West  
Eileen York

### **Alto II**

Cassie Alley  
Jeni Boyd  
Megan Brown  
Amerlia Butman  
April Cummings  
Megan Emery  
Morgan Graham  
Katherine Lauze  
Brinee Martin  
Lindsey Miller  
Angie Richards  
Ashley Smith

### **Tenor II**

Drew Albert  
Craig DeForest  
Jeffrey Fairfield  
Stephen Hilton  
John Hollander  
Colin Kilmar  
Lee Rand  
Colin Vail  
Jake Young

### **Bass II**

Grant Batchelder  
Matthew Bessette  
Eric Carlsen  
Jonathan Chellis  
Eric Collins  
Benjamin Mason  
Ryan Pottle  
Nick Pratt  
Nathaniel Severy

### **Save the Dates!**

Alumni Banquet – Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> @ 3PM in the Singers room  
Fall Shows – Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM and Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> @ 2PM  
Silent Auction – Sunday November 14<sup>th</sup>, 9AM – 5PM (FUNDRAISER!)  
Yultide Concert – Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup>, Time TBA  
Northeastern Tour – March 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> 2009, *See (UMSingers.com for contact info)*  
Spring Shows – Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM and Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 2PM