

## Felice Navidad!



WISHING OUR CHORISTERS, FAMILY, FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS A HAPPY CHRISTMAS & A SAFE HOLIDAY

A huge congratulations to all SCC members for a highly successful festive choral season. The performances at the recent Voices of Angels were quite outstanding. The voices resounded so magnificently in the first half and how refreshing it was to be able to experience traditional Christmas music from another culture. It was certainly wonderful to have Tigrumuna on board for our journey through Latin America. Many Spanish speakers in the audience were most impressed by the singing of our choristers and mentioned that in many cases it was difficult to tell that the SCC members were not native Spanish speakers so well done all.

Excerpts from the performance will be broadcast on ABC Classic FM at 1.00 PM on Christmas Day.

Whilst all the choirs were putting considerable effort into preparing for Voices of Angels, the Senior choir has been particularly busy over the past few weeks with the opening of the Harry Potter exhibition at the Power House Museum and the recording and performance of the Sydney New Year's Eve [www.sydneynewyearseve.com/anthem](http://www.sydneynewyearseve.com/anthem) The year was topped off with a brief appearance at Carols in the Domain <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fvHaRkFVQs> Their determination, joy and professionalism over this time has been outstanding.

### Get ready for 2012!

2012 promises to be a richly fulfilling choral year for us. A significant highlight will be the re-staging of *Heritage in Song*. First mounted in 2007, *Heritage in Song* was reputed to be one of the most moving and successful performances in the history of SCC. The concert explores stories of Australia told through song and spectacular visual elements. *Resonance*, the Senior choir component will highlight moments in the lives of senior choristers, their parents and

forebears. World renowned composer Stephen Leek will work with choristers to bring these stories to life. All Senior choristers for 2012 should take some time to delve into their lives and family histories over the holidays to unearth fascinating tales and characters. As part of *Heritage in Song*, the Leek and Kats-Chernin choirs will be performing a new work based on Jeannie Baker's book *Mirror*. This project will also involve some collaborative work with schools in the Auburn area. Atherton and Stanhope choirs will also have an exciting part to play in recreating another Jeannie Baker book *Belonging*.

Next year will also see the Senior choir involved in two major productions with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

Our major collaboration for 2012 will be with the Powerhouse Museum. Composer in residence, Luke Byrne is extremely excited about this collaboration and has already spent many hours exploring the fascinating collection. It is hoped that some of our performances will become part of the exhibits of the Museum.

After a wonderful year of singing, I hope everyone has a safe and peaceful holiday. For those of you crazy enough to want to sing all year, see you at National Choral School. Otherwise I look forward to hearing the magnificent sound of SCC in February 2012.

Lyn Williams OAM, Artistic Director & Founder

**PLEASE help us make the SCC experience available to as many children as possible by considering a year-end gift to the SCC Bursary Program.**

**Click on the link shown here.**



## We hate to see the boys go so we are creating a new choir in 2012

The end of each year sees the departure of many of our longstanding choristers. Many have reached their final years of high school yet many of our boys need to leave because their voices have changed so they are no longer suitable for the SCC. We hate to see them go so we are creating a new choir for them in 2012.

Rehearsals will be held at the same time as Senior choir so that the boys need not say goodbye to their friends. This choir will be for chorally experienced young men with changing and changed voices. It will be a TTBB (tenor 1, tenor 2, bass 1, bass 2) ensemble conducted by renowned choral veteran Stephen Leek. It is no exaggeration to say that Stephen Leek is one of the world's mostly highly respected choral composers and conductors.

The choir needs a fabulous name so that will be one of the tasks at the camp they will share with Senior choir February 10 - 12.

### Who can join?

You are invited to join this ensemble if you are a current or past Sydney Children's Choir Senior choir member or Gondwana Voices chorister between the ages of 11 and 17. You are invited to audition for this ensemble if you have suitable choral experience beyond these ensembles.

Please pass on this information to other individuals who may be interested in auditioning as of course this ensemble is only viable if enough young men register their interest.

**Where:** Accessible Arts Space Pier 4 Hickson Rd Millers Point  
**When:** Thursdays 4.30 – 6.45pm  
**First rehearsal:** Thursday February 9 2012  
**Contact:** SCC Manager Jocelyn O'Brien on [Jocelyn@gondwanachoirs.com.au](mailto:Jocelyn@gondwanachoirs.com.au) or 82747001 to register your interest

**THANKS to all our volunteers, supervisors and billet families. We couldn't do it without you!**

**We bid a fond farewell to Jess Chambers, and thank her for her wonderful work. GOOD LUCK JESS!**

Jocelyn O'Brien has now been appointed as full-time SCC Manager, and we'll be looking for additional help for Saturday School and other SCC activities. More details about this soon.

Jocelyn can be reached on: **8274 7001** or at [Jocelyn@gondwanachoirs.com.au](mailto:Jocelyn@gondwanachoirs.com.au)

## CONTACT US

Gondwana Choirs  
 Pier 4 Hickson Road  
 Millers Point NSW 2000  
 T: 8274 7000 F: 9252 2801  
 M: 0429 990 122 (Rehearsals & Performances only)  
[www.gondwanachoirs.com.au](http://www.gondwanachoirs.com.au)



## KEY DATES 2012

	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
February 2012				1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29			

- 6 • 1st week of term for all choristers
- 11 • First Music Craft, Music Theory, Sight Singing and SLEEK for Term 1
- 10 - 12 • Senior choir Camp *Namaroo*
- 19 • Mini Up 10am - 1pm *The Wharf*
- 19 • Kats-Chernin and Leek rehearsal time TBC *The Wharf*
- 21 • Supervisor Training Session 5.30 - 6.30pm *The Wharf*
- 23 • Supervisor Training Session 5.30 - 6.30pm *The Wharf*
- 26 • Mini Up 10am - 1pm *The Wharf*

	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
March 2012					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 24 • Mirror Workshop Harmony Day time and location TBC
- 31 • Saturday School Open Rehearsal *The Wharf*

	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
April 2012	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

- 2 • North Shore Twist & Aqua Open Rehearsals for families *Pymble*
- 3 • Kats-Chernin Open Rehearsal for families 4.30 - 6.30pm *The Con*
- 4 • Leek Open Rehearsal for families 4.30 - 6.30pm *The Wharf*
- 4 • North Shore Walker & Navy Open Rehearsals for families *Pymble*
- 5 • Final Senior choir rehearsal for Term 1 4.30 - 6.30pm *The Wharf*
- 30 • First week of Term 2 for all Choristers

## LINKS



## CHORISTER ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following choristers for their achievements:

- Michael Donohue (Atherton) - AMEB Grade 2 Violin - A
- Stephanie Macindoe (Leek) - AMEB Grade 2 Musicianship - 93%
- Carla Woodhouse (Kats) - Grade 3 Flute - A
- Mali Sanders (Twist) - AMEB Singing - A
- Georgia Feltham (Twist) - AMEB Preliminary Piano - A
- Anna Douglas (Leek) - Grade 2 Musicianship - 88%
- Aedan Macnamara (North Shore) - Grade 1 Musicianship - Honours
- Maeve Kelaher (Kats) - AMEB Grade 1 Music Craft - 87% Honours
- Charlie Venables-Sriber (Leek) - AMEB Grade 2 Violin - A+ - AMEB Grade 1 Music Craft - A
- Imogen Williams (Kats) - AMEB Grade 1 Piano - A
- Shane Ting (North Shore Twist) - AMEB Piano - A+
- Oliver Golding (Kats) - AMEB Grade 3 Piano - A+