

the cap+s newsletter for January 2010

# The Voice

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## A Bounce in Our Step.



by Chris Hanson

I always hate to put the Holiday decorations away, it always seems like it is more fun putting them up. As we struggled last week to wrap the last ornament securely away and drag the tree and Christmas greens to the curb, I finally had to confront the reality of January and the start of a new year. The house looked rather stark, hospital clean and orderly, with all the clutter and paraphernalia removed. As I walked from room to room, hoping to find something to cheer me up, I glanced out into the backyard to see two redbirds seemingly playing a game of tag among the low lying branches of the evergreens. Their bright revolutionary red coats stood clearly out in contrast to the whip cream like snow drifts that had recently been formed by a cold January wind. I watched more in-

tently as my two found friends danced cleverly about on their stage, making short work of several intricate aerial maneuvers. They are putting on a show for me, I thought! The performance soon ended but throughout the rest of the day, I swear, I had an extra bounce to my step.

In this our first issue of the new year, we have some exciting choir program news to tell you about that we are sure will help put an extra bounce in your step as well, this winter. The landscape outside may look rather stark and dreary but our news will surely cheer you up. So gather around, get out your day-planners, man your smartphones, pull up your calendars, and get ready to record some important dates and read about the great events our kids have planned for you.

### You don't want to miss a thing!

Many of you will want to immediately turn to our **Upcoming Events** section to make sure you have the ten events listed, secured on your calendar. I have had March 4-6 underlined on my calendar for several months now and I urge you to do the same.

**Chicagoland Showcase** is the largest fund-raising event of the year for the Choir Program and we have included a Chicagoland Showcase Facts Sheet in this issue that will bring you up to speed on everything you need to know about this great event. This is a great opportunity for parents to volunteer some much needed support and assistance for the Choir Program.

continued from page one

Check out our **Momma's Corner** section, where Joann Langley provides the inside scoop on Showcase. I know she will be thrilled if more parents take her up on her invitation to volunteer for a shift or two to make sure this event carries on its great success and tradition. **Note:** we have included a volunteer form for you to use in this issue of The Voice! Another great way to support the Choir Program is to buy a **Hersey Show-Choir Family t-shirt** and wear it proudly when you attend the upcoming Showchoir competitions!

**Billy Elliot, The Musical** is coming to the Ford Center/Oriental Theatre on Sunday April 18, and you can support the John Hersey High Fine Arts Scholarship Program by attending. We have included a flyer in this issue that includes a ticket order form. This is a great way to visit the city, treat your family to a memorable afternoon, and at the same time channel some important dollars to a worthy program.

Here are a few reminders that you can enter into your to-do-lists.

Manna Order Forms for gift cards and certificates are available [herseychoir.com](http://herseychoir.com). When you print the Manna

order form, it lists local businesses you can purchase items from. This is the important part, 70% of the profit from each sale goes directly into your student's account and CAPS receives the remaining 30%. Questions about Manna can be directed to Natalie Griffin at [griff1303@comcast.net](mailto:griff1303@comcast.net) or (847-818-9697).

**From our photo department** here comes this important tid-bit: Pictures from the Fashion Show, the Holiday Concert and future Choir Program events, can be ordered through Flickr, see [www.herseychoir.com](http://www.herseychoir.com) for details.

Last but not least, Sara Michael, in our **Director's Notes** section, provides some important insights into things to look for in upcoming events. Sara commented during the recently completed Sneak-a-Peek Preview for Ladies First and Onstage, that both groups were progressing nicely through the January practice schedule and were ahead of expectations. Word has it that Sara spotted two red-birds outside Hersey performing some fancy moves. When I saw Sara this week, I could swear she had an extra bounce in her step too!! **See you at the shows!**



## Question:

**“What if a cabana boy asks, what can I get you?”**

## Answer:

**“You can get me a lot of things!”**

Heard Backstage!

# Holiday Memories.



# Momma's Corner.

by Joann Langley

The beginning of second semester! It's hard to believe the year is half over. But there's still lots more excitement to come!

**Chicagoland Showcase** is quickly approaching and you'll want to be part of this amazing event. Enclosed in this newsletter you'll find a fact sheet giving you the background of the event. It's hard to capture the uniqueness of the competition in words.

**Unique, Inspiring and Enthusiastic, I wish I had their energy!** Picture a gym full of teenagers wildly cheering for their favorite show choirs. Well, you get the point, if you haven't been part of **Showcase**, now is the time to get involved and be a part of the magic.

It takes an enormous number of volunteers to make this event run smoothly so we're counting on you to help us

continue the Hersey Choir tradition of outstanding hospitality and efficiency in running this out-of-sight two days!

**What's in it for you and your son or daughter?** Whether or not you are in Showchoir, you will directly benefit from Showcase. It, together with the Fashion Show, funds the many activities that benefit our program. With your help, we can continue to educate, encourage and train our fine students by enhancing the curriculum with educational opportunities that would not be possible with our school budget.

Without **Showcase**, we would have to ask you to pay a much higher choir fee, you would pay for the college festivals we take the students to each year, when we have guest clinicians in for vocal workshops, you would have to underwrite the costs, etc., etc. Quite simply, what the program is able to offer your sons and daughters would not be the same.

I'm hoping you'll make a commitment to fill out the yellow volunteer sheet and spend a shift or two helping us to make this a successful day in every way. You will find a copy of the volunteer sheet in this edition of The Voice.

I volunteer my time to chair the event and I'm hoping you'll volunteer right along with me. Ms. Michael and I need your help to keep this program going full steam ahead!

Showchoir parents, come to the showchoir competitions, be the best cheering section ever, show your kids how proud you are of them and wear your Hersey Choir t-shirt (order form attached), Don't miss this fun and exciting opportunity!

Any questions? Email me at: [joann.langley@d214.org](mailto:joann.langley@d214.org).

See you at Showcase!



**“ See you at Showcase ”**

Joann Langley

## It's not too Late!

by Carolyn and Cameron Muir

We have a CAPS membership goal this year of over 85%, which was last year's level. In fact, our goal is 100%! So we need your help in urging families who haven't joined to consider coming on board with our winning team. Memberships support the overall work of CAPS and the programs and events of the Hersey choir department.

Thanks to all the families who have joined the CAPS membership this year. Our membership is currently at 69%, so we still have a ways to go. By becoming a member in CAPS,

you are helping provide many of our students experience a greater depth of musical opportunities such as college trips, clinician fees for workshops, accompanist fees, instrumentalists for the holiday concerts, and much more. With each of these memberships also come privileges!

Your membership includes complimentary tickets for each of the levels for all concerts except the holiday concert.

We have included in this issue of The Voice a membership form for new members to use. You can use this form to sign up. Please consider sending this form and your check to Joann Langley at Hersey, made

payable to CAPS. If you have any questions, please contact us at [cmuir@glenbrook.k12.il.us](mailto:cmuir@glenbrook.k12.il.us). Thanks for the support and we are looking forward to welcoming our new CAPS team members!

**The following are the amounts for the various levels of membership:**

**Individual**      \$25  
**Family**            \$50

*2 complimentary tickets for each remaining concert – That's a \$12 value!*

**Sponsor**         \$100

*3 complimentary tickets for each remaining concert – That's an \$18 value!*

**Platinum**        \$200

*4 complimentary tickets for each remaining concert – That's a \$24 value!*



## “ Showchoir is a good source of calcium ”

Heard Backstage!

## Manna!

by Natalie Griffin

MANNA gift cards are great gifts for teachers, babysitters, carpool friends, high school students and more. Purchase MANNA gift cards to give, while receiving money back into your student's individual choir account. This student account can be used to pay for voice lessons, costume fees, and while accumulating over time, can go toward next year's trip to Florida.

Some popular gift cards available for purchase are restaurants such as Chipotle, Buffalo Wild Wings, Chili's, Noodles, CPK; stores such as American Eagle, Best Buy, Dick's, Macy's, Carson's; also gas cards for Speedway, BP, or Shell. And for all the extra grocery shopping you do during the holidays, you can purchase gift cards

for Dominick's, Jewel, Caputo's and Garden Fresh. There's also movie tickets, hotels and Travelocity.

Simply print your own form at home from the Hersey choir website, then submit your MANNA form with a check to the choir office.

For more information contact:

**Natalie Griffin**

[griff1303@comcast.net](mailto:griff1303@comcast.net)

847-818-9697



# Directors Notes

by Sara Michael

Happy New Year! I hope for your family, 2010 has gotten off to the same great start as it has in the Hersey Choir Department. The groups are all hard at work preparing for another music filled time of year.

And, I hope you were able to join us for the Sneak-A-Peek. We are very excited about the upcoming competition season. We'd love to have you show your support at any one of our competitions. You may check the Hersey website for more details: [www.hersey-choir.com](http://www.hersey-choir.com)

The Classical Workshop is on February 17 & 18. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of our students to get some constructive criticism from vocal music professionals. This event is open to parents, so if you're in the mood to hear some beautiful classical music please stop by. The students will get schedules in the next week or so.

Women's Chorale and Chamber Singers are preparing for District 214 Honors Festival on Wednesday, March 3 at Forrest View Education Center. Treble Choir and Concert Choir are hard at work for the March Concert on March 9 & 10. This concert will also feature the showchoirs performing their competition shows.

It's Showcase time!!! Don't forget to lend your support for the program by volunteering to help with this fun filled event.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions. (847) 718-4942

**Sara Michael**  
Director  
847-718-4942  
[sara.michael@d214.org](mailto:sara.michael@d214.org)

# Keep on Keepin' On.

by Kim Lasare and Cody Stanaszek

With less than sixteen bars left to choreograph, OnStage is just about ready and that's good news because its crunch time. In my four years with OnStage, never before have we ever been as prepared as we are now, just three weeks before a competition. After such a great SneakPeek performance and great work with two clinitions that same night, OnStage is ready for the final push before we hit the road. And who would we rather have more prepared than us? None other than Ladies First. With all of their choreography complete, Ladies First is closer to performance readiness than ever before. On planet showchoir, morale is high.

In other news, Mr. Heck is back in action directing the 2010 District Festival this year. Many of us are already getting excited for this year's event. Members in the top choirs of all D214 schools will be participating.

This is the most complicated and busy part of each year especially with the musical (Chicago) rehearsals in full swing. You may start to feel out of breath and claustrophobic, but have no fear. This should be the best winter/spring season the Hersey Choir Program has ever had.

<b>Kim Lasare</b> president 312-607-5853	<b>Cody Stanaszek</b> president 847-636-6166 <a href="mailto:cstanaszek@gmail.com">cstanaszek@gmail.com</a>
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**“ Everyone smile and say  
A-N-G-E-L-A ”**  
Heard Backstage!



# Meet the Rents.

by Ted Stanaszek

The showchoir parents got together for a "Meet the Rents" party two weeks ago and it was a blast! It was a great way to kick-off the showchoir competition season. As all showchoir veterans know and all you rookie parents are about to find out, we spend a ton of time together in sweaty gyms eating walking tacos and drinking way too much coffee. I really enjoyed getting to know some of the new choir families but with more than 100 people in attendance it was hard to get to know everyone.

I am really looking forward to hanging out at El Paso, Fort Atkinson and Wheaton Warrenville as well as at Chicagoland Showcase. Chris Hanson and I have talked about "Tailgating" at Wheaton Warrenville if the weather cooperates. We will make plans in early March but get ready to BBQ in the Parking lot!

In this issue of the newsletter you'll find an order form for Parent t-shirts. Be sure to get your order form into Joann by February 5 so we can get them printed and delivered before we hit the road for the first competition. It's always cool when all of the Hersey Fans sit together in our travel uniforms cheering on the kids.

I also know that many of you, Bob Leff, are Broadway singers trapped in high school parents bodies. 214 Idol is your chance to strut your stuff and raise a little money for the Fine Arts Scholarship Fund. Joann and Kyle Marquette are working out the details but it is sure to be a ton of fun.

I know that it is only the end of January but it's time to start thinking about the cap+s board for the 2010-2011 school year. We will be looking to fill a few positions including a new president, so if you are interested in getting involved please let me know. We will be putting together a nominating committee in March and drafting volunteers soon after that.

Last but not least, Joann and I have been talking about putting together a committee similar to the one that runs Fashion Show for Chicagoland Showcase. We need two or three volunteers who are willing to Chair the event. If you are interested please let me know. I will be doing some recruiting over the next few weeks, so don't be surprised if I bend your ear a little while we are waiting for the kids to perform. Many hands make light work, so get involved, you won't be disappointed and it might just be the best decision you've ever made.



**Ted Stanaszek**  
cap+s president  
312-607-5853  
ted@sgdp.com

# Who's Who.

## Hersey Staff

**Sara Michael**  
Choral Director  
847-718-4942  
sara.michael@d214.org

**Joann Langley**  
Fine Arts Assistant  
847-718-4942  
joann.langley@d214.org

**Colleen Timler**  
Ladies First Director  
630-546-1879  
naima728@comcast.net

## Student Leaders

**Cody Stanaszek**  
President Choral Council

**Kim Lasare**  
President Choral Council

**Jack Matos**  
Vice President Choral Council

**Kristin Kuntz**  
Vice President Choral Council

**Laura Valenzano**  
President OnStage

**Anna Voinovich**  
President Ladies First

## CAP+S Executive Board

**Ted Stanaszek**  
President  
312-607-5853  
ted@sgdp.com

**Cameron Muir**  
Vice President, Membership  
847-528-1211  
cmuir@glenbrook.k12.il.us

**Carolyn Muir**  
Vice President, Membership  
847-818-9022  
muirca@newtrier.k12.il.us

**Jane Gawlik**  
Secretary  
847-253-4845  
jwgawlik@unionplus.net

**Kathy Kolba**  
Corresponding Secretary  
847-506-9338  
kkkolba@wowway.com

**Dale Kuntz**  
Co-Treasurer, Finances  
kuntz@555skokie.com

**Al Matos**  
Co-Treasurer, Student Accounts  
847-454-9482  
matosalbert@gmail.com

**Katie Leff**  
Volunteer Coordinator  
847-394-9115  
boka710@aol.com

**Chris Hanson**  
Newsletter Editor  
crhanson@crhanson.interaccess.com

**Wendy Dewar**  
OnStage Parent Liaison  
dewarfam1@aol.com

**Carolyn Muir**  
Ladies First Parent Liaison  
847-818-9022  
muirca@newtrier.k12.il.us

**Natalie Griffin**  
MANNA Program Chair  
847-818-9697  
griff1303@comcast.net

**Cheriann Hanson**  
Fashion Show Co-Chair  
847-255-2347  
cbhanson56@comcast.net

**Valerie Stanaszek**  
Fashion Show Co-Chair  
847-632-0870  
vstanzszek@mac.com

**Ann Walker**  
Fashion Show Co-Chair  
847-577-9481  
atwalker4@comcast.net

**Debra Wightman**  
Choir Liason  
DFWightman@xdusa.com

# Upcoming Events.

**February 13**  
**Show Choir Competition**  
Ft. Atkinson, WI

**February 20**  
**Show Choir Competition**  
El Paso, IL

**February 25, 26 and 27**  
**Orchesis Show**

**March 3**  
**Honors Music Festival**  
Forest View  
7:30 pm

**March 4**  
Set Up  
**Chicagoland Showcase**  
6:00 to 10:00 pm

**March 5**  
**Chicagoland Showcase**  
5:00 pm

**March 6**  
**Chicagoland Showcase**  
7:00 am to 11:00 pm

**March 9 and 10**  
**Winter Choir Concert**  
7:30 pm

**April 18**  
**Billy Elliot The Musical**  
Ford Oriental Theatre  
Proceeds from ticket sales support  
the John Hersey High Fine Arts  
Scholarship Program



# showcase 2010

Friday and Saturday, March 5 and 6, 2010

### What is Chicagoland Showcase?

Chicagoland Showcase is a nationally recognized showchoir competition and CAPS biggest fundraiser. This will be the 17th year that nineteen schools from throughout the country come to John Hersey High School for a day-long competition culminating in an evening finals presentation/competition (March 6). In previous years, we have had schools coming from Mississippi, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, California, Alabama and Minnesota as well as Illinois. In addition, for the seventh year, we will hold a middle school competition where eleven middle schools will compete on Friday, March 5. We take over the entire school building for this event. The gym is turned into a wonderful performance facility. A huge stage, backdrop, professional lighting and sound from Indianapolis make it a sight to behold! The competition is attended by not only the students participating but their parents as well as the general public. Attendance for the day is in excess of 3,000 people. **Showcase** is well publicized and has gained a reputation that brings people back year after year.

### The History of Chicagoland Showcase

Chicagoland Showcase was founded by Joann Langley and a group of choir booster parents at Rolling Meadows High School when our former director, Tim Heck, taught there. Joann was his Choral Booster president at that time and was looking for ways to raise funds for the program and what better way than a showchoir competition?! When sponsored by RMHS Boosters, the

event was held at FVEC. When Mr. Heck decided to transfer to Hersey in 1999-2000, the RMHS parents decided it was only fair to send the competition with Mr. Heck and Ms. Langley to Hersey since they had devised the entire concept of the event. The competition has grown to be among the most outstanding in the country, thanks to the efforts of the many parents who have continued working hard each year to keep our high standards.

### How much money can we raise for cap+s at Chicagoland Showcase?

Last year we raised \$25,000! This year, the sky is the limit!!

### Who benefits from the money we raise?

The entire choir benefits from all the moneys raised -- not just the members of the showchoirs. In the past, the money we raised has paid for concert costumes-dresses and tuxes-field trip buses, summer music scholarships, awards, and sound equipment, the grand piano.

### How do we make money at Chicagoland Showcase?

- Award sponsorship
- Donations - food items, etc.
- Corporate Sponsorship - underwrite costs of judges fees, sound & lighting
- Food sales-we serve breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as snacks throughout the day
- Ticket Sales
- Registration fees

### What can we do to help make Chicagoland Showcase a success?

- Save the dates - Friday, March 5 and Saturday, March 6, 2010. We will need **every** member of **every** choir family to work at least two or more 3-hour shifts - that means Dads and Moms, siblings, grandparents, aunts and uncles!
- Encourage your friends and neighbors to attend.....they don't have to watch Glee for one hour on their sofa...they can watch showchoir at it's finest in person all day and evening.

### Tickets are for sale at the door.

For more information:

Call Joann Lanfley (718-4942) or email her at [joann.langley@d214.org](mailto:joann.langley@d214.org)

Call Ted Stanaszek (312-607-5853) or email him at [t.stanaszek@yoursimpletruth.com](mailto:t.stanaszek@yoursimpletruth.com)

**Check our web page, [www.hersey-choir.com](http://www.hersey-choir.com)**

showcase  
2010

# Spirit Ads

Deadline is February 14 by 3 pm

Here is your chance to let your Choir Student know proud you of them with a Spirit Ad in the official 2010 Chicagoland Showcase Program. Each quarter page ad is 3”hx4.5”w and are only available in black and white. All you need to do is email a photo and ad copy to ted@sgdp.com by 3pm on February 14 and we will take it from there. There are only four ads per page and space is limited so reserve your space today. Please make checks payable to CAP+S and send them directly to Joann Langley in the Choir Office.

**Don't Miss Out!**  
Ads are Just  
**\$25** each

Deadline is February 14 by 3 pm



**If you can dream it,  
you can do it.**

Let me tell you what I'm about to do, know I act a fool but, I promise you I'm goin back to school, I appreciate what you allowed for me, I just want you to be proud of me.

**Congratulations Cody, We are so proud of you.  
Love, Mom, Dad, and Rachel**

**Example**

# Support Fine Arts Scholarship



Winner of 10 Tony Awards - Best Musical

**Sunday, April 18, 2010 - 2 PM**

Ford Center/Oriental Theatre

Return to:

Joann Langley - John Hersey High School

1900 East Thomas

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

847-718-4942

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## *Billy Elliott* Ticket Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Seat location: Loge \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$118 each = \_\_\_\_\_  
# of tickets

Please checks payable to John Hersey High School



# Hersey Showchoir family t-shirts order form

all proceeds benefit the cap+s scholarship fund!



BACK



FRONT

**Orders must be submitted by 3pm, Friday February 5!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ StateZip \_\_\_\_\_

Sizes	Quantity	
Small	_____ x \$20 each =	_____
Medium	_____ x \$20 each =	_____
Large	_____ x \$20 each =	_____
Extra Large	_____ x \$20 each =	_____
XXL	_____ x \$20 each =	_____
<b>Total</b>		_____

Please make checks payable to cap+s

**Send Payments to:**

John Hersey High School  
C/O Joan Langley  
1900 East Thomas Street  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004



January 28, 2010

## Attention Singers!

Tired of just singing in the shower? Do family and friends compliment you on your voice? Did you ever wonder if you have what it takes to compete on the big stage? Well, pull out the sheet music and start working on those high notes because John Hersey High School's Fine Arts Department is holding its first ever **D214 Almost Idol**. Whether you're young or old, in school or not, this is your opportunity to step into the spotlight and impress your family, neighbors, and all of District 214.

On the weekends of May 7th and 14th, 2010, John Hersey's Fine Arts Department will pull out the microphones and turn on the stage lights and let anyone in the District 214 attendance area compete for top prize in one of three categories: pre-high school, high school, and post high school. The first weekend will be preliminaries with a panel of judges to determine who moves on to the second weekend. On the weekend of the 14th the semi-final (depending on registration?) and final rounds will be turned over to fan voting to determine the **D214 Almost Idol** champions. The top three of each category will receive cash awards.

So, stop just sitting and watching others sing their way to fame and fortune and become the first **D214 Almost Idol** Champion.

Sincerely,

Kyle Marquette  
Fine & Performing Arts Coordinator  
P:847-718-4884  
F:847-718-5014

Since we are labeling this a 214 event, each 214 school will receive a percentage of the registration fee from its participating students.

