

OTTUMWA AREA COMMUNITY CHORUS PERFORMANCES-2016 to 2023

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2016

JUNE 2016-Performed as the chorus and townsfolk for American Gothic Performing Arts Festival's (AGPAF) production of the concert version of Meredith Wilson's "*The Music Man*".

JULY 2016-Performed in a patriotic concert with the **Ottumwa Municipal Band**.

NOVEMBER 2016-Presented our fall concert called "**AN EVENING OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER**"; this concert **included a newly created OACC children's chorus as well**. (OACC had been an adult chorus only prior to this point in time).

DECEMBER 2016-Adult chorus performed with other Southeast Iowa choruses **and SEISO (Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra) in their "Holly Daze" concert**.

DECEMBER 2016- Adult and children choruses completed a two-hour caroling tour at four local medical/rehabilitation facilities.

2017

FEBRUARY 2017-Performed three concerts in three cities with other Southeast Iowa choruses in a SEISO winter concert, featuring Puccini's "*Gloria*" and Mendelssohn's "*Verleih uns Frieden*".

JUNE 2017-Performed as the chorus and "townsfolk" for AGPAF's production of the concert version of "*Carousel*".

JULY 2017-Performed in a patriotic concert with the Ottumwa Municipal Band.

SEPTEMBER 2017-Adult chorus performed with other Southeast Iowa choruses in a **SEISO POPS concert**, featuring multiple pieces by *John Williams and his famous movie scores*.

NOVEMBER 2017-Presented our fall concert called "**A DISNEY EXTRAVAGANZA**"; which included the OACC children's chorus as well (created by Dr. Bergan in the fall of 2016, continued again this year).

DECEMBER 2017-Adult chorus performed with other Southeast Iowa choirs as part of the **SEISO Chorus in their "Holly Daze" concert**.

DECEMBER 2017-Adult and children choruses completed a two-hour caroling tour at four local medical/rehabilitation facilities.

2018

MARCH 2018-Adult chorus performed three concerts in three cities with other Southeast Iowa choruses in a SEISO winter concert, featuring the *Saint Saëns "Requiem"* and *Ravel's "Daphnes et Chloe"*. Dr. Christine Bergan, director of OACC, was the featured soprano soloist for these performances.

JUNE 2018-Adult chorus performed as the towns' people/immigrants in the **AGPAF summer production** of the musical "*Ragtime*".

JULY 2018-Performed in a patriotic concert with the Ottumwa Municipal Band.

NOVEMBER 2018-Presented our **fall concert** called "**A MILLION DREAMS**": featuring African American spirituals, songs from South Africa, and three songs from the movie "The Greatest Showman". Concert included a total of 62 singers, 32 adults and 30 children. Two of the children's songs included native/original choreography and singing in the original African language or dialect.

DECEMBER 2018-Adults and children performed with other Southeast Iowa choirs **and SEISO in their "Holly Daze" concert**.

DECEMBER 2018-Adult chorus performed in a Community Christmas concert at First Presbyterian Church in Ottumwa.

DECEMBER 2018-Adults and children completed a two-hour caroling tour at four local medical/rehabilitation facilities.

2019

MARCH 2019-Performed three concerts in three cities **with other Southeast Iowa choruses and SEISO** in a large production of "*Te Deum*" by Dvorak.

APRIL 2019-Performed with other choirs in Southeast Iowa to help Iowa Wesleyan University celebrate the 100-year Centennial Celebration of the founding of their music program/department.

JUNE 2019-Performed in a patriotic July 4th concert in collaboration with the Ottumwa Municipal Band.

SEPTEMBER 2019-Performed at the "**INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL**" sponsored by LULAC, the Legacy Foundation, and JBS.

NOVEMBER 2019-Presented our fall concert called "**I GOT RHYTHM**", which featured the music of George Gershwin. Had a total of 70 singers from age 6 through 85, between the two choruses.

DECEMBER 2019-OACC Adults and children singers performed with other SE Iowa singers as part of the SEISO Chorus in the **SEISO "Holly Daze" concert**. **This was the first time ever that a children's chorus was included/invited to perform with SEISO!**

DECEMBER 2019-Adults and children performed in a community Christmas concert at First Presbyterian Church in Ottumwa.

DECEMBER 2019-Adults and children completed a two-hour caroling tour at four local medical/rehabilitation facilities.

2020

Many performances were cancelled due to COVID-19; however, we were able to create and record a "**VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**" in December 2020. No audience was invited to this service due to the associated health risks. Performance of this was done with all singers wearing masks the entire time, and with singers placed at least 8 feet apart and in every other pew (skipped a pew in between) in a church sanctuary. It was video-recorded and then made available online on our OACC Facebook page. DVDs were made from this recording, which were then hand-delivered to the local area medical/rehab facilities (since we were unable to go and sing for them in person, as usual, due to COVID).

2021

DECEMBER 2021-Dr. Bergan developed, recruited, and directed a first ever **OACC Sponsored "MESSIAH SING ALONG"**, in which OACC singers and singers from six other choruses from all over southeast Iowa performed. The performance included six of the Messiah choruses and five of the Messiah solos, and it was accompanied by a full pipe organ. This performance was exceptionally well-received and appreciated by both the singers and the audience attendees.

2022

APRIL 2022: Several members of the OACC participated in a collaborative "**Masterworks Series**" concert with other SE Iowa choruses and with the **Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra** in the performance of the **Brahms "Schicksalslied"** and the Vandervelde "**Polyhymnia**". Of note, the **OHS Meistersingers** also participated in this collaborative mass choral performance and were the invited guests of both OACC and SEISO. They performed during the intermission and then received financial support through the "Ruth P. Seim Memorial Concert for a Cause".

JUNE 2022: OACC was invited to perform in a city-wide "Juneteenth" celebration, held in Central Park in downtown Ottumwa. Both adults and children participated in this performance, and selected music focused on African American Spirituals and freedom from slavery.

JUNE 2022: OACC performed with the Ottumwa Municipal Band in Central Park in downtown Ottumwa. Selections included patriotic themed songs, as the concert took place only a few days before July 4.

SEPTEMBER 2022: OACC was invited once again to come and perform at the "**Viva Ottumwa International Festival**".

NOVEMBER 2022: OACC performed a full-length fall concert called "**ANYTHING GOES**"; which featured favorite songs from the past 5 years of performing for this community. Selections will include songs by Disney, Andrew Lloyd Webber, African American Spirituals/Songs from South Africa, music of George Gershwin, and much more!

DECEMBER 2022: The **OACC Children's Chorus** was invited to perform with a professional touring company in a show called "**Abba-Solutional Christmas Show**", on December 8, 2022, at the Bridge View Center. It was an amazing and fun experience for them, and they got to experience what might be like to perform in a traveling professional show.

DECEMBER 2022: OACC received an exciting and special invitation to have BOTH our children's chorus AND our adult chorus perform with the **Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra (SEISO)** in their annual **Hollydaze concert!** What a powerful and unforgettable experience for these children (and adults) to be able to sing with a full professional symphony orchestra! This performance took place in the beautiful chapel of the IWU campus, in Mt. Pleasant, IA, on December 10, 2022.

2023

JANUARY 2023: OACC was selected and invited to be one of only three choral groups to perform in a **Martin Luther King, Jr. City Wide Celebration Event**. We performed one song on our own and collaborated on two other songs with the IHCC Chorus and the Choir from the Second Baptist Church.

MARCH 2023-The OACC Adult Chorus once again joined other singers from all over SE Iowa to become a "**SEISO Chorus**" and collaboratively performed three major choral-symphonic works. Works to be performed in this concert include Richard Wagner's - **Lohengrin Prelude to Act III and Bridal Chorus** (w/SEISO Chorus); Ralph Vaughan Williams' - **Five Mystical Songs** (Soloist-Blair Buffington; w/SEISO Chorus); and Williametta Spencer's-**At the Round Earth's Imagined Corners**- (SEISO Chorus; an a cappella piece)

APRIL 2023-Each year, the Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra (SEISO) invites a school-based or community performance group to become the recipient of recognition and financial support through an event known as the "Ruth P. Seim Memorial Concert for a Cause".

This year, SEISO invited OACC to perform on April 23, 2023.

JUNE 2023-OACC once again participated and performed in the **2023 Juneteenth Celebration** in Central Park in Ottumwa.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES (not all inclusive, just a "sampling"!)

SEPTEMBER 2023-OACC will perform as part of the "**Viva Ottumwa International Festival**". This will be OACC's third invitation to perform in this event.

NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER 2023: OACC will be hosting an exciting "**SECOND BIENNIAL MESSIAH SING ALONG**", after our "**First OACC Sponsored Messiah Sing Along**" in December of 2021 was so well-received and appreciated by both performers and attendees alike.

DECEMBER 2023-OACC adults and children will be singing in the Southeast Iowa Symphony's annual "HollyDaze" concert. This concert will include what will be a brand-new Southeast Iowa Symphony Children's Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Christine Bergan.