Department of Music presents annual autumn choral concert

October 29, 2012

The Department of Music at Georgia Southern University’s Sing at Southern program presents its Fall Choral Concert on Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the Carol A. Carter Recital Hall on campus. The annual autumn celebration will feature the Southern Chorale, the 80-voice University Singers and the recently formed Fermata the Blue vocal jazz ensemble, each conducted by Dr. Shannon Jeffreys, director of choral activities at Georgia Southern.

“The audience should expect to travel through various sounds of choral music, ranging from the straight tones and dissonant harmonies of contemporary literature to the full operatic sounds of Mozart,” Jeffreys said. “I like for my choirs to have the versatility and flexibility to master all choral sounds and repertoire.”

During the concert the Southern Chorale will perform three of its competition pieces and selections from the program, featuring 20th Century compositions by Latvian and Finnish composers, which it will present at the Georgia Music Educator’s Conference in January.

The Chorale, Georgia Southern’s premier vocal ensemble, is using every concert this and next semester to prepare for its participation in the 2013 Linz Anton Bruckner International Choral Competition and Festival in Austria in May. Southern Chorale is the first university choir from Georgia to participate in the Interkultur competition series. After the competition, the Chorale will continue on a tour of Italy that will include performances at the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi and its second performance in-service at the Vatican.

The University Singers will present varied selections from Mozart’s “Requiem” to Eric Whitacre’s “Seal Lullaby” to Alice Parker and Robert Shaw’s “Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal.” Fermata in Blue, which will be accompanying Southern Chorale to Europe in May to compete in the Small Ensembles category at the Bruckner Competition, will cover Maroon 5’s “She Will be Loved,” a Welsh folk song arrangement and the classic tune “I’ll Be Seeing You.”

“We have enjoyed rehearsing the music and are looking forward to sharing some of the competition pieces for our upcoming tour in Austria and Italy,” said Alyssa Noel, senior music major and member of the Chorale. “We are excited for the community to see a little bit of what we have been working on in Chorale, as well as our new vocal jazz ensemble, Fermata the Blue.”

The Fall Choral Concert is free to attend, though donations to support the Southern Chorale and Fermata in Blue’s upcoming trip to Europe will be accepted, and golf cart transportation is available from the Fielding S. Russell Union parking lot. For more information about choral events, contact Jeffreys at csjeffreys@georgiasouthern.edu.

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