



The Radcliffe Choral Society

WINTER 2010 NEWSLETTER

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A Letter from the President of the Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation, Jenny Wolahan

Dear Alumnae,

I'm very happy to be writing to you as the president of the Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation! As many of you will have heard, the Friends underwent many changes in the past year, including a name change and an overhaul of our bylaws. The Foundation now has a board made up of twenty women who span many eras of RCS's history. In addition, we recently incorporated with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a nonprofit and became a Shared Interest Group of the Harvard Alumni Association. The next step, currently underway, is our application to the federal government for 501(c)(3) status. I look forward to keeping you updated. *(Continued on page 2)*

CHRISTMAS ON THE COMMON CONCERT

With the winter holidays just around the corner, the beloved Holden holiday concert is fast approaching. Christmas on the Common, the Harvard Glee Club and Radcliffe Choral Society's annual joint holiday concert, will take place on December 10 at First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, conducted by Director of Choral Activities Andy Clark, and Associate Conductor of the Harvard-Radcliffe Choruses Kevin Leong.

RCS alumnae are invited to sit together at this year's concert in a special reserved section. Those available to join fellow alumnae for dinner (self-pay) before the concert are also invited for an early meal at Russell House

Tavern in Harvard Square. For more details regarding the alumnae dinner and concert seating, and to RSVP for one or both of these events, please contact Marianne Cook, Vice President of Alumnae Affairs, at cookmarianne@gmail.com or 508-333-8986.

CONCERT DETAILS:

RADCLIFFE CHORAL SOCIETY & HARVARD GLEE CLUB

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE,
CONGREGATIONAL (11 GARDEN STREET)
ANDREW CLARK & KEVIN LEONG, CONDUCTORS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 8:00 PM | TICKETS: \$20

This concert is extremely popular, and we recommend that alumnae reserve their tickets in advance to be guaranteed a seat. Please contact the Harvard Box Office at 617-496-2222 for ticket reservations.



RCS Board Retreat, October 30, 2010

RCSF President's Letter, Cont.

The new, expanded board of the Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation met on Saturday, October 30 for its first retreat, which gave rise to many inspiring ideas for what we might accomplish as a foundation. We were privileged to hear the new Director of Choral Activities, Andy Clark, propound a far-reaching and exciting vision for how the Holden Choruses in

general, and RCS in particular, can reach beyond Harvard's walls and affect the world with their music. After the meeting, the board moved to Sanders to hear RCS and HRCM sing a truly spectacular fall concert—in which we were lucky enough to be invited onstage to sing R-A-D with the choir at the end of its set. We ended a very full and enjoyable day with a reception in Holden Chapel organized by Emily Pierce '10 and Bernadette Buchanan '10, where we were able to meet and talk with many of the current singers and other alumnae who attended the concert.

All in all, this is a time of great positive change for the Foundation. I'm thrilled and honored to have the opportunity to serve as president of RCSF in this time of new growth and development. As always, please feel free to get in touch if you are interested in becoming involved in any way. I hope to have the chance to meet and to work with many of you in the coming months!

All the best,

Jenny Wolahan '07
President, Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation



Jenny Wolahan, '07

**A Letter from the Director of Choral Activities,
Andrew Clark**



Greetings from Paine Hall!

It has been an exciting and productive fall semester for the Radcliffe Choral Society. We welcomed a dynamic and talented group of new members to complement our strong returning singers. In September, the Choral Society traveled to Hingham, Massachusetts for our annual fall retreat with the Glee Club, culminating once again in performances at two church services. In October, RCS joined the Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum in a Sanders Theatre performance featuring classics from Tudor

Letter from DCA Andy Clark, Cont.

England and contemporary American music. Currently, under the leadership of Associate Conductor Kevin Leong, the choir is preparing for our annual holiday concert with HGC on December 10th at First Church, Cambridge. On top of this flurry of activity, the women of the Radcliffe Choral Society have warmly and graciously welcomed this new and somewhat daunted conductor. I am thrilled to begin this journey, excited to explore the vast and rich repertoire for women's chorus, and profoundly grateful for the enthusiasm and tremendous support of our students and alumni who generously share their experiences, insight, and most importantly, their "RCS love."

The collective will to facilitate a smooth and productive transition reflects not only the focus and care of our students and staff, but also the remarkable leadership of my predecessor. For thirty-two years, Dr. Jameson Marvin nurtured and broadened this exceptional culture of artistic excellence and community spirit. During these months of transition, his generosity of time, wisdom, and encouragement has helped tremendously. We inherit a program prepared to sustain its quality and poised to blaze new trails. Let me share with you my hopes and vision for our choral program.

We will strive to advance the rich tradition of choral music and performance excellence at Harvard. Our students must continue to experience the joy of shared discovery and the deep exploration into the great works of our art. For our singers, each endeavor is new and I savor the opportunity to introduce works like Beethoven's monumental Ninth Symphony or John Adams' confrontational and Pulitzer Prize winning work, *On the Transmigration of Souls*, to be performed on April 29 & 30 in Sanders Theatre with the combined Holden Choruses and the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra.



With the help our alumni, we can build upon our successful community engagement programs, sharing our music, passion, and resources to impact our local and global choral communities. In harmony with our full annual concert and touring schedule, we will galvanize our students' creativity and boundless energy to provide artistic leadership through engaging performances, tours, collaborations, and outreach programs.

We will continue our tradition of commissioning and championing new repertoire for women's chorus. We participate in the leading avocational art form in the United States; over 30 million people sing in roughly 250,000 choruses across the country. The Radcliffe Choral Society stands as one of the flagship women's choral ensembles in the United States; we owe it to our students, to our artistic legacy, and to the choral community, to document and disseminate our work through studio recordings, broadcasting, and other digital media.

Most of all, I am deeply committed to providing the best possible shared artistic experience for our students and will work passionately to cultivate and care for this dedicated, radiant community of kindred spirits.

I look forward to our adventure together.

RCS DOMESTIC SPRING TOUR 2011

This March, RCS will embark on our spring tour to Southern California! We are visiting San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Los Angeles and have five exciting concerts lined up. We are also in the midst of planning fun activities in each of these cities—certain to include a beach day to take advantage of the beautiful weather. We are looking forward to sharing our music with Southern California at large, and any alumnae who will be in the area in particular, so please mark your calendars! Our itinerary is as follows:

SAN DIEGO

SATURDAY 3/12: EVENING CONCERT
SUNDAY 3/13: MORNING CHURCH SERVICE

SANTA BARBARA

TUESDAY 3/15: EVENING CONCERT

LOS ANGELES

THURSDAY 3/17: EVENING CONCERT
FRIDAY 3/18: EVENING CONCERT



As always, one of the most exciting things about tour is reconnecting with our alumnae. We would love to see as many of you as possible at our concerts, and we are currently planning an alumnae reception to take place in Los Angeles. Please let us know if you would like to help with this event and watch for more details to come.

In order to make this exciting tour a reality, we rely on the generosity of our alumnae. We are in need of housing in all three cities, and would additionally welcome any advice alumnae may have about traveling in Southern California. Hosting RCSers on their tour is a fabulous way for alumnae to spend quality time with RCS while making an invaluable contribution to the organization. If you would like any more information about tour, or if you are able to provide advice or housing, please contact our tour manager, Marlee Morris: tour2011@radcliffechoralsociety.org.

RCS INTERNATIONAL TOUR 2012

Hi alums! Planning for the summer 2012 international tour to Greece, Turkey, and Bulgaria is well under way, and at this stage, we are actively looking for concert venues and musical collaborators. If you have suggestions or contacts for our visits to Greece (Athens and Thessaloniki), Bulgaria (Sofia and Plovdiv), or Turkey (Istanbul, Safranbolu, and Amasra), please get in touch – we look forward to hearing from you.

Olivia Pei ('12, opei@fas.harvard.edu) and Katherine Reifler ('13, kreifler@college.harvard.edu), Tour Managers.

DON'T MISS THE NEXT RCS CONCERT! STAY UP-TO-DATE ON THE RCS CONCERT SCHEDULE BY JOINING OUR CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENT EMAIL DISTRIBUTION. TO JOIN, PLEASE CONTACT STACEY HANSON AT SRHANSON@POST.HARVARD.EDU.

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE MEMORIES OF SINGING WITH RCS? HOW HAS YOUR COLLEGE SINGING EXPERIENCE INFLUENCED YOUR LIFE SINCE? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS, STORIES, AND PHOTOS, AND YOUR MEMORIES MAY BE FEATURED IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER! PLEASE EMAIL ALL MATERIAL TO JULIA KINGSDALE AT JULIA_KINGSDALE@POST.HARVARD.EDU, OR MAIL TO RADCLIFFE CHORAL SOCIETY, HOLDEN CHAPEL, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138.