



Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation

Letter from the RCSF President, Jenny Wolahan '07

Dear alumnae and friends,

It is with wholehearted pleasure that I announce to you that the Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation has just been approved as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. This is momentous first in both Foundation and Friends history, and it will enable us to support the Radcliffe Choral Society and plan for the future to a greater extent than ever before.

In the short term, this means supporting the Choral Society's upcoming international tour to Turkey, Serbia, Croatia, and Bulgaria. I remember what a phenomenal experience international tour was for me: the chance to travel, sing in new places, form an even closer connection with my fellow singers, and see the expressions on the faces of audience members who had never heard music like ours before. It is so important to me personally to make that experience possible for all current singers, and that means supporting the tour financially so that all can participate regardless of means.

In the long term, our goal is to create an endowment outside of Harvard, held by the Foundation, to allow us to achieve the shared vision of RCS and the Foundation. That vision includes commissioning new music, expanding outreach programs, reducing tour contributions, holding frequent festivals of women's choruses, and creating studio recordings – these are the ways RCS can prove a leader in the choral field, and we want to provide support in every way possible. The Radcliffe Choral Society, as a top-tier women's chorus, is an all-too-rare institution, and its music and its example can have a profound effect on the world.

I hope you'll consider supporting us in these efforts. One hundred percent of our board members have already pledged – a testament to their commitment to this organization and their belief in the future of RCS. It has been inspiring to witness the generosity and enthusiasm of this multi-generational collective of talented alumnae. Donations can be made through our PayPal account at www.rcsfoundation.org or mailed to the Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation, Holden Chapel, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138. I welcome you to take part in this exciting new chapter of RCS history. Think of all we can accomplish in the next few years with your involvement and support!

Heartfelt thanks,
Jenny Wolahan '07
President, Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation



Left to Right: Lauren Roller '07, Emily Pierce '10, Michaela Tracy '13, Nicole Morreale '13, Kelly Holt '12, Ananda Martin-Caughey '13, Deepa Dhume '05/'11; Alexis Carere G1 (SPH), Marianne Cook '02, Michelle Chang '14, and Claire Fitzgerald '14

Youville Sing

On Sunday, October 2, the Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation hosted its third annual Youville Sing. About thirty singers – RCS alumnae and current members – gathered together at the Youville House assisted-living facility near Harvard Square to perform for the residents. Beth Willer, Assistant Conductor for RCS, led the proceedings. The concert included repertoire from a range of musical periods and featured a performance by the 'Cliffe Notes. As always, it concluded with a rousing rendition of the Radcliffe Fight Song! The Youville Sing has been an opportunity for RCS and RCSF to give back to the community, and also for alumnae and current members to get to know each other better. We look forward to holding this event again in the future.

RCSF Board Meeting and Retreat

On Saturday, October 22, the RCSF board gathered at the home of Margaret Loss '67 for a double feature: our fall board meeting followed by a retreat with over a dozen of RCS's student leaders. It was a wonderful opportunity for students and Foundation members to get to know each other and to learn more about each other's organizations. We ended the evening with a visioning activity that let us articulate our shared goals for the next few years. It was a productive and thoroughly enjoyable occasion for all involved, and we look forward to repeating it next year!



Left to Right: Elizabeth Horton '13, Kaat de Corte '14, and Joyce Curll '65

Board Membership List

Jenny Wolahan AB '07, President
Marianne Cook AB '02, VP of Alumnae Affairs
Antonia Fraker AB '09, VP of Student Affairs
Julie Yao Cooper AB '85, MBA '91, Treasurer
Lauren Roller AB '07, Secretary
Joyce Putnam Curll AB '65
Deepa Dhume AB '05, PhD '11
Cara Ferrentino AB '08
Stacey Hanson AB '10
Jenn Hoang AB '00
Cathy Boulton Hughes AB '66
Kavita Kannan AB '09
Jaime Leifer AB '01
Ann Marie Lindquist AB '84
Margaret R. Loss AB '67
Christine Park AB '10
Emily Pierce AB '10
Susan Erburu Reardon AB '77, JD '80
Michelle Schutz AB '01
Katie Woolf, Assistant Conductor Emerita
Kristina Yee AB '10

F. John Adams Memorial Celebration

The weekend of September 24-25, alumni gathered to celebrate the life and musical heritage of F. John Adams, conductor of the Holden Choruses 1970-1978 and founder of the Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum. F. John, who passed away in May of early-onset Alzheimer's disease, was a member of the Harvard Class of 1966. While in college, F. John served as the co-accompanist for HGC/RCS rehearsals, along with William Christie. Although both went on to distinguished musical careers, they are remembered fondly today by many from that era for their enthusiastic playing of the Harvard football songs at Holden gatherings.

A Saturday reception for graduates of all three Holden choruses was followed by an informal dinner at a local restaurant and an alumni "sing" on Sunday morning. The Sunday afternoon memorial service was enriched by offerings from each of the Holden Choruses as well as an Alumni Ensemble. The reception afterwards provided a time for sharing memories of the wonderful musical experiences alumni enjoyed with F. John in his musical career at Harvard.

North American 1964 Summer Tour Reunion

On Saturday, November 5, members of RCS who are actively involved in the planning for next summer's tour of Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia and Turkey joined with the alumnae of RCS who were attending a reunion of the North American Tour of 1964 to share their plans for the upcoming tour. This provided the opportunity to compare perspectives on the experience of the summer singing tour. One alumna had also participated in the 1967 Asian Tour, adding another dimension to the discussion. Both groups reported that they thoroughly enjoyed the discussion and the opportunity to share love of choral singing across the generations. A proverbial "good time was had by all."

That afternoon, the alumnae joined with the men from the NAT, singing parts of the 1964 repertoire with Director of Choral Activities Andy Clark and with Isaiah Jackson, a classmate and contemporary of the NAT tour members and a celebrated conductor in his own right. In the evening, the alumni attended a magnificent concert given by RCS and the Collegium Musicum, with the alumnae joining RCS for the Radcliffe songs.

A Letter from Andy Clark, Director of Choral Activities

Greetings, Alumnae and Well-Wishers of RCSF!

The 2011-2012 Radcliffe Choral Society has embarked on a very exciting year of projects, performances, tours, and inimitable camaraderie. A marvelous class of new singers arrived this fall, joining a very strong returning group of RCSers. Among the impressive accomplishments of our highly capable and dedicated student leadership is the nearly unprecedented retention of every new and returning singer throughout the fall semester. This speaks to the high morale of the group, our collective excitement for the upcoming summer tour, and the artistic caliber of this year's choir. I hope you have a chance to hear the Choral Society of '11-'12: they learn and progress at a remarkable speed, tackle challenges with enthusiasm and purpose, and sing compellingly and from the heart – I couldn't be more proud of these women and am ever privileged and blessed to serve as their conductor.

President Natalie Panno, Manager Amy Lifland, and the entire Executive Committee continue to organize and lead this group with acumen most professional non-profit organizations would envy. Not only do they effortlessly complete tasks and ensure that the trains continue to run on time, they cultivate a wonderful and infectious sense of pride, joy, and devotion for RCS that inspires their peers to feel the same. The essential mentoring, support, and guidance of our alumnae and newly-recognized 501(c)3 RCS Foundation provide an invaluable resource for all of us and I am personally grateful for your help during my first years here at Harvard.

We had not even rehearsed as an ensemble for two weeks before our first performance, joining a large gathering of Holden alumni for the F. John Adams Memorial Service at Memorial Church. Several weeks later, RCS joined the Collegium, Glee Club, and HRO for a special presentation in Tercentenary Theatre to celebrate the College's 375th anniversary. Both of these events afforded our students the opportunity to connect with our alumni, offer their musical gifts for important University ceremonies, and bond as a choral community very early in the year. This paid dividends as we performed our first Sanders Theatre concert on November 5 with the Collegium. I could not have been more pleased with the beautiful, poignant, and exciting music making of RCS that night. It was uniquely special to invite our alumnae on stage, including a large group from the 1964 North American Tour reunion, to sing some Radcliffe Songs. The marvelous look in the eyes of our new singers captured that incomparable moment when our students recognize the rich legacy they now inherit and work to sustain.

Our December concert featured the world premiere of composer Dan Locklair's *Winter* (from *The Forgotten*), a joint commission with the Harvard Glee Club, setting holiday-themed secular texts by lesser-known American poets with Harvard and New England connections. This four-movement cycle contains two combined sections for both choirs and one separate piece each for RCS and HGC alone. The performance was recorded for future broadcast on NPR – stay tuned for details!

In a year already distinguished by some remarkable highlights, the best is still yet to come this spring and summer! The Holden Choruses perform Professor Robert Levin's completion of the Mozart *Requiem* for Junior Parents Weekend, honoring Levin's retirement from Harvard. RCS will perform several concerts in New York and with HGC in Sanders in April, followed by a Pan-Holden Arts First concert with HRO: Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé*, Suites #1 and #2. The crescendo builds toward RCS's summer tour to Turkey, Bulgaria, Serbia, and Croatia – an experience all of us will no doubt remember for a lifetime.

All of these endeavors are made possible by your support, advocacy, and enthusiasm for this exceptional group of young artists. On behalf of the entire Choral Society, thank you for your generosity, and I hope we see you soon at a future concert!

Yours,



RCS Concert Season

Junior Parents Weekend: Mozart *Requiem*
Radcliffe Choral Society, Harvard Glee Club,
Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum
Andrew Clark, conductor
Friday, March 2, 8:00 PM

Tour to New York City
Andrew Clark, conductor
Friday, March 30 - Sunday, April 1

A Spring Concert
Radcliffe Choral Society & Harvard Glee Club
Andrew Clark and Kevin Leong, conductors
Friday, April 13, 8:00 PM

**ARTS FIRST: Ravel *Daphnis et Chloé Suite*
No. 1 & 2**
Radcliffe Choral Society, Harvard Glee Club,
Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum,
Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra
Federico Cortese, conductor
Saturday, April 28, 8:00 PM

Farewell-to-Cambridge
Radcliffe Choral Society
Andrew Clark, conductor
Sunday May 20, 3:00 PM

Tour to Turkey, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Croatia
Andrew Clark, conductor
Friday, May 25 - Saturday, June 16

Host RCS in New York!

RCS will be touring New York City Friday, March 30 to Sunday, April 1. If you are interested in hosting a few RCSers on Friday and Saturday nights, please contact Amy Lifland at manager@radcliffechoralso-ciety.org.

RCS will be performing at the Harvard Club of New York (27 W. 44th Street) on Friday at 7:30pm and at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church (302 W. 91st Street) on Saturday at 8:00pm. We hope to see you there!

Tour 2012

Summer Tour 2012 will bring the Radcliffe Choral Society to Turkey, Bulgaria, Serbia, and Croatia. Over three weeks, the women will perform in a variety of venues, from churches to festival halls, and will collaborate with university choirs in Istanbul and Belgrade. In Harmanli, Bulgaria, RCS will participate in the Harmonia Festival, and in Petrinja, Croatia, the women will compete in the "Sounds of June" choral competition hosted by Matica Hrvatska (Petrinja Branch) and the Croatian Choral Directors Association.

These exciting opportunities would not be possible without the generosity of our alumnae. RCSF and the current singers of RCS are very grateful to all who have made donations toward tour so far. Thank you for your continued support!

Songbook: Request for Repertoire!

Is there a piece that reminds you of your days in RCS? Are there works that you sang in RCS that have stayed with you throughout your life?

Please share them!

We are compiling a list of favorite RCS repertoire through the ages to combine into an RCS Songbook that we can use at future alumnae sings. If you have suggestions for some of your favorite pieces from RCS repertoire to include in the Songbook, please email them to Katie Woolf at kawoolf@gmail.com or call 617-755-7899.

Please limit submissions to women's repertoire only, although submissions from any and all time periods are encouraged. Please also include your class year in the message — we want to make sure as many generations are represented as possible!

RCS History Tea

Alumnae, mark your calendars for the afternoon of Saturday, February 11, 2012 and come join other RCS alumnae and students at this year's RCS History Tea. The RCS History Tea is a relatively new tradition instituted to help educate current students about RCS past while fostering closer relations between alumnae and student singers. Bring the stories and special songs from your era and come share them with today's students as you enjoy a pre-Valentine's Day chocolate tasting, combined with a really fun trip down memory lane! At last year's tea, we shared stories past and present, were entertained by an impromptu performance of "The Only Man" and other favorite songs from the past, and learned fascinating tidbits of RCS lore such as that the seemingly apocryphal story that a young man drove a car right up to the doors of Holden Chapel to collect his date for the evening is not an "urban legend" after all, but actually happened to an RCS alumna. So don't miss out on this year's Tea — save February 11th and be alert for future bulletins regarding time and place for the Tea!

Contact RCSF: Radcliffe Choral Society Foundation, Holden Chapel, Harvard University,
Cambridge, MA 02138, Email: info@rcsfoundation.org, Website: www.rcsfoundation.org