

GBN Choir and Theatre Parents Organization Meeting

March 3, 2015

The meeting was held in the Green and Gold Conference Room at Glenbrook North High School. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 P.M.

Present at the meeting:

Chad Davidson, Andy Wallace, Julie Ann Robinson, Maria Doughty, Patricia Dolins, Esther Kelly, Nashwa Mekky, Tracy Meyer, Mary Ernster Andrews, Jeannie Chang, Christine Hultman, Nancy Frese, Suzie Wilson, Alison Whitlock and Carol Currie

I. Welcome and Introductions

CTPO President, Maria Doughty welcomed everyone. At the end of the meeting, Suzie Wilson was introduced as a new member. Her son, a senior, is involved in crew.

II. February Meeting Minutes Approval

No corrections were offered for the February 2015 meeting minutes. Esther Kelly moved that the minutes be approved and Mary Ernster Andrews seconded the motion. We voted and the motion was unanimously approved.

III. GBN Faculty Reports

Chad Davidson reported that the Chorale and Cecilian choirs had sold singing valentines that were delivered to students on Valentine's Day at school. Chad estimates that they earned in the range of \$300 to \$400 dollars to go to their charity of choice, "Cancer Free Kids." Debby Dean will be able to give Chad the true total sold for the April meeting.

Musical auditions will be held this week for the Glenbrook Spring Musical, *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*. There was a clinic today (3/3/15) at GBS. Many in our meeting commented that they and their kids were not aware that a clinic had been held. Chad and Andy said that the clinic was announced with very short notice and they made every effort to notify the kids of the clinic. GBS students may have had even less notice than GBN students, Chad and Andy commented, as it was just posted on their bulletin boards. Auditions will be held on Wednesday, 3/4/15, at Glenbrook South and on Thursday, 3/5/15, at Glenbrook North. On both Wednesday and Thursday, Chad and Andy will be at the auditions. Call backs will be held at GBS on Friday (and Saturday if needed).

On Monday, 3/9/15, the six GBN singers who went to state for IMEA (Meg Ruocco, Christian Mergl, Keira McCarthy, Maddie Fournier, Elaine Currie, and Isabella Andrews) will be recognized at the School Board meeting. The meeting will be in the GBN Library at 7:00 P.M. and parents are welcome to attend.

Meg Ruocco has been selected to sing the National Anthem at the IHSA Girls' Basketball Championship in Bloomington, IL. This is a tremendous honor. Meg has to have ranked either first or second in her voice category at IMEA All State. Chad said that GBN has not had a student earn this honor that he can recall. Congratulations, Meg!

Christian Mergl has been selected to attend the A Capella Academy in California this summer. (<http://acappellacademy.org>) The camp is hosted by Ben Bram, Avi Kaplan, and Robert Dietz. This camp is in its second year. Only 13% of auditions are accepted. Congratulations, Christian!

Chad reported that registration for the 2015 - 2016 school year is underway but the schedule is not set and finalized yet. Students should let Chad and Andy know if they want to be in choir but have a conflict with their schedule. They are good about finding a way to make choir "fit."

The "Techny" rehearsals are coming up. Both the concert and the rehearsals will be held at GBS this year. The rehearsal schedule can be found under the forms tab on the choir website. (<http://gbnchoir.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/Performance-Contract-Techny-2015.pdf>) Chaperones are not needed for Saturday's practice. On Sunday, for the concert, Mr. Sirvatka agrees that we will only need two parent chaperones per choir. One will be from GBN and one will be from GBS. A total of four GBN parents will thus be needed to chaperone the four choirs. Two or three parents from North will be needed for ticket sales. Tri-M will provide ushers for the concert.

We discussed that the chaperones will sit with their group of students at the concert and that they will be given a free ticket to the concert. The two or three people who will be selling tickets will also get a free ticket and can save themselves a seat in the concert (it is not assigned seating) but they should not save seats for any family members. Seating should not be much of an issue at GBS, as it has sometimes been at Techny, because GBS is a larger venue and the seats all have a good view of the stage.

The concert will be held at GBS at 2:30 P.M. on Sunday, March 15, 2015. Chaperones and kids need to arrive at GBS by 1:00 P.M. on Sunday. There will be no bussing from GBN to GBS so kids must get themselves to GBS. No food or drinks will be provided so kids must bring their own if they need it. The concert will be no more than 90 minutes long.

Andy has put the order form to purchase tickets on the website:

<http://gbnchoir.com/2015/03/glenbrook-festival-of-music-ticket-order-forms/>

Chad said that he had received a letter from Secretary of State, Jesse White, requesting a completed form and \$10.00 filing fee for our Not for Profit status (Glenbrook North Choral Parents Organization). Carol Currie took the form to fill in and mail back to the secretary of state (this has been done).

Andy Wallace reported that he will be taking the A Capella choirs (Ow! and Fermata Nowhere) to the Sing Strong A Capella Festival (<http://chicago.singstrong.org/>) from April 10th through the 12th. The festival has high school and college level students, and they also bring in professionals. It will be held at Niles West High School in Skokie. Andy will tell his classes about this so that they can buy tickets to attend the festival if they are interested.

Andy departed the meeting at 6:25 P.M.

Julie Ann Robinson reported that G. I. is under way and they are working on cutting the piece down (it is long). She said that by 3/20 it will be perfect. On Friday, March 20, 2015, at 7:00 P.M. there will be a performance in the drama room. Tickets are not needed – just show up. Sectionals for G. I. will be at Fremd High School on 3/21 and the state competition, if they make it, will be from 3/26 – 3/28. Parents are welcome to go to Springfield for the state competition. Julie Ann is holding a reservation for the kids at the Hampton Inn.

One Acts were last weekend. There were six shows. Classes saw the One Acts and there were three evening shows and one matinee. Concessions were good. There were 45 GBN students in the One Acts. Well done!

The GBN Freshman / Sophomore play will be James and the Giant Peach. Auditions (freshmen and sophomores only) will be next week on Tuesday and Wednesday (3/10 and 3/11). Call backs will be on Thursday. There will be three student directors – Alison MacDonald, Alexis Walker, and Camilla Caplinov.

Julie Ann is organizing a group to go into the city to the Royal George Theatre to see the play she has been directing, *First Date*, (<http://www.chicago-theater.com/theaters/royal-george-theater/first-date.php?gclid=CNTsgsDSIMQCFZE0aQodfg8ANg>). The date will be 3/22/15. The show will start at 3:00 P.M. but the bus will leave GBN at 1:45 P.M. The cost is \$20.00 per ticket. The show is 94 minutes long and it has received lots of good reviews. Let Julie Ann know if you (the adult) want to go on the bus. Julie Ann has put a form on-line at the GBN Theatre website. The deadline to order a ticket is Friday, 3/13/15. (<http://gbntheatre.com/2015/02/see-first-date-at-the-royal-george-theatre-on-sunday-322/>)

TheatreFest payments for two kids will be sent to Patricia Dolins (from Julie Ann). That should wrap up the TheatreFest payment items.

Julie Ann departed around 6:35 P.M.

IV. Treasurer / Fundraising / EFA Reports

Sally Norlie (absent) reported the following account balances:

Choir	\$10,874.38
Theatre	\$12,899.33
Money Market	\$21,764.51

Patricia Dolins reported that there are still checkbooks available for sale. They are not being discounted yet. Please let her know if you want to purchase a book.

V. Refreshments Report

Cheri Kates said that approximately \$650.00 in concessions was sold during the Variety Show. Flowers that were not sold (about 20-30 roses) were donated to Covenant Village. They were very happy to receive them. Cheri said that last year's notes indicated that we had sold out of flowers so this year they had more available. She will make a note to go back to the smaller number of flowers. Cheri has the left over candy stored in her basement. Suggestions were made to use the candy at the choir and theatre banquets or for concessions at the freshman / sophomore play.

Tracy Meyer inserted that we forgot to tell Andy how great the V show was before he left the meeting. This was Mr. Wallace's first time directing the V show (although he has been VERY involved in prior years). So, let us just say for the record, we were all very impressed by the show and thought it was really an excellent production. Well done, Andy!

VI. Chaperone Report

Nashwa said that there will be a sign up for the Techny festival. The house will open at 2:00 P.M. for general seating. Chaperones should be at GBS at 1:00 P.M. on 3/15/15. Chaperones will be sitting with their assigned choir and are not to save seats for other family members. Ticket sellers are allowed to save one seat for themselves but should not save seats for family members. Andy will let GBS know what we have communicated about saving seats.

Traci Meyer suggested that at Techny 2016, which will be at the actual Techny venue, we should rope off a section of seating where the volunteers can sit together. Saving large blocks of seats has become an issue at Techny in the past.

VII. Newsletter / Communications Report

Nancy Frese let us know that the next newsletter will be after Spring Break and it will include information about summer program tuition assistance scholarships and college scholarships.

VIII. Publicity Report

No report.

IX. Banquet Report

No report.

X. Scholarship Report

Scholarships will be available to all who qualify based on the criteria on the application. Applications should be given to Chad, Andy, or Julie Ann with a copy to Pam Tokowitz and /or Patricia Dolins. Money will be sent straight to the camp or college. A suggestion was made to limit the number of words (I believe we decided on 500) for the short answer question on the summer program applications.

For college scholarships, we need to consider each year if there are any graduating seniors who have expressed that they are planning to major (or minor?) in choir or theatre. If not, we may need to adjust the criteria on the application.

When ready, we will send a blast with both applications out to parents.

BrightSpark funds the Judy Moe scholarship. Chad will check to make sure they are on board with a scholarship again this year. If not, we may want to reconsider our scholarships and if we will take over the funding for the Judy Moe scholarship.

XI. President's Report

Maria asked that each officer send her a description of their job before the April meeting. Also, people interested in an officer position for next year should let Maria know. All board positions have one year terms.

Glenbrook Foundation – Christine Schwandner was not at the meeting but Maria reminded us that we can purchase tickets for the Foundation Dinner and the Glenbrook Musical through <http://www.showtix4u.com/launch/index.php>. The cost is \$75.00 for the dinner and show on Saturday, May 2, 2015.

XI. Q and A Session

There were no questions but a comment was made to wish the students good luck with musical auditions and please encourage them to remain calm during the process which we know can be stressful and disappointing at times.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Currie
Secretary