

Arioso

University of Michigan
Women's Glee Club
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University of Michigan Women's Glee Club

SPRING 2009



Glee Girls At Retreat. Feb, 2009

Join us for our spring concert in Hill Auditorium on April 18th, 2009, at 4:00 pm. Joining us will be our special guests, the Lenawee Community Chorus and the Adrian College Choir. We have had a busy semester of performances, and we are excited for the culmination of all we've been working on. Tickets are only $5 for students and $15 for all others, and can be purchased in advance from any member of Women's Glee Club or at the door. We would love to see you there!

-Heather Jones
Pre-Med Sophomore

Women's Vocal Arts Day

On January 10th of this year, the Glee Club was excited to have high school girls from across the state join us for our annual Women's Vocal Arts Day, also known as WoVAD, held in Rackham Auditorium. Despite long drives made treacherous by an early January snow storm, students made trips—several hours on a bus for many—to join us for a day of learning and rehearsing pieces including O Music, by David Brunner, and The Poet Sings, by Z. Randall Stroope. The day ended with a chance to showcase our day's work in a joint concert with the University of Michigan Men's Glee Club and the group of young men joining them for their version of Vocal Arts Day: MVAD. The concert was held in Hill Auditorium, and even included a unique opportunity for the Women's Glee Club to join with the Men's Glee Club in a performance of two beloved University spirit songs, arranged for mixed voices by the conductor of the Men's Glee Club, Paul Rardin. More important than any rehearsals or performances that day, however, was the chance for us as members of the Glee Club to meet and interact with so many great girls, even play some games, and hopefully get them excited about singing after high school. Music has such a powerful way of bringing people together, and we really enjoyed the time we had to hang out with and perform with all the girls who came. And we hope they enjoyed it, too.

-Heather Jones
Pre-Med Sophomore

Speical Glee Contributors

The Women's Glee Club would not be the amazing choir that it is without the help of its wonderful assistant director Jason and piano accompanist Samantha. Director Dr. Skadsem really has her hands full managing such a large group of girls and putting together an enjoyable arrangement of music for each concert, and these two people certainly help make her life that much easier.

Samantha, a student at the music school, comes to every practice to help us rehearse. Whether it is playing complicated accompanying parts, or plucking notes out on the piano for a cappella pieces, she is always prepared and attentive.

The assistant director, Jason, is also another wonderful asset to the Women's Glee Club. He is always available to start rehearsal, help us warm up our voices, or lead a sectional for a particular voice part. This semester Jason is also conducting his own piece that he selected. Glee Club member Yeha Youm stated, "We really love working with Jason because he is upbeat and fun. He always has a new idea for us to try, and he adds excitement to our rehearsals!"

The Women's Glee Club is a successful group of singers not only because it has an enthusiastic director and lots of dedicated singers, but also because it is lucky enough to have a committed assistant director and a devoted pianist to accompany the group!

- Amanda Koons
Freshman



Glee Girls Singing for Salvation Army





Bonding Before Our 2008 Winter Concert





Glee Girls at Social Dinner

"In early February, we piled into each others cars and headed to the nearby town of Chelsea for our first overnight retreat in 2 years. Roommates were kept secret until we arrived, which allowed us to get to know 3 other glee girls a lot better. We tried to match baby pictures to glee clubbers over a fabulous dinner. Some of the pictures were immediately obvious, but others kept us guessing. After our first rehearsal on Friday night, our sections faced off to come up with the best section cheer/song. It was hard to choose which section's was the best, but section pride clearly came through in all of them. After working hard on our music and our cheers, we made sure to see just how many girls we could squeeze into the hotel's hot tub. In the morning, we enjoyed the breakfast offerings and settled in to brush up on our Michigan songs. Go Blue! Before too long, though, it was time to head back to Ann Arbor. Retreat is always a good time to get to know each other and get a good start on our literature, and this year was no exception."

-Kristin Lewis
Physics, Graduate Student

WE ARE GOING TO AUSTRIA!!

Throughout the semester, the Women's Glee Club has been preparing for the experience of a lifetime – a week in Vienna, Austria! As the cultural hub of Austria, Vienna is known as a city of beautiful cathedrals, historic museums, and famous concert halls-- all alongside the flowing Danube River. In early July, it is our privilege to travel there and participate in the International Haydn Festival, celebrating the international language of music. In the festival, we will perform Mozart's Requiem with the other global participants. The highlight however, comes with the Glee Club's solo performance, as a featured musical ensemble! We will perform songs from our concert repertoire, including a movement entirely in German. This is our chance to globalize not only the University of Michigan, but also to let the name of the Women's Glee Club be known. However, this awarding and eye-opening experience cannot be realized without sufficient funds. Please help us to reach our goal, and make the trip to Austria! With your help and support, the Glee Club will have an unforgettable experience of cultural immersion and friendship.

-Caitlin Huston
English, Freshman



UM WGC Singing for Salvation Army

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Alumnae and Friends!

We hope you enjoy this latest edition of the Arioso. The Women's Glee Club has been very busy this year, and we'd like to update you on all of our latest news. This past December we gave two concerts, one in Detroit, Michigan with the men's group Measure for Measure, and one in the beautiful Hill Auditorium with a very talented group, the Saline Fiddlers. In January, the Women's Glee Club hosted another successful Women in Vocal Arts Day, despite a large amount of snowfall that kept many of the high school attendees at home. Throughout the spring semester, we have been busy preparing for and performing in a mid-semester concert with the touring Cornell Women's Chorus, a performance in the Grand Reopening of the University of Michigan Museum of Art, and our spring concert in Hill Auditorium with the Lenawee Community Chorus and the Adrian College Choir. We are also looking forward to a mini-tour to Traverse City during the second weekend of May, and our long-awaited summer tour in Vienna, Austria for the International Haydn Festival!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support of our many Women's Glee Club endeavors this year. Without your generous donations and encouragement, we would not be able to participate in numerous concerts, tours, and events. As a graduating senior, I have seen the WGC grow so much during my four years in the group, and I know that this is in large part due to our loyal alumnae and friends. Thank you so much for all you do for us.

I will miss being in the Women's Glee Club very much, but I plan to keep in contact with the group after I graduate. We hope that you will share your contact information with the WGC, too! Please go to our website, http://www.umich.edu/~wgc and look on our "Alumnae" page for a form to fill out with your information. If you ever have any questions, concerns, or comments, please contact our executive board at umwgc-exec@umich.edu.

Glee love and Go Blue!

Deirdre Sprague-Rice
President, U of M Women's Glee Club



WGC First Tailgaiting and Blues of the Season

FALL PERFORMANCES

In November and December of 2008, the WGC ladies were honored to share the stage with two illustrious ensembles - the Saline Fiddlers in November at Hill Auditorium and men's chorus Measure for Measure in December at St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church in Detroit. Sharing our love of music with both groups was thrilling and a ton of fun!

The young people making up the Saline Fiddlers brought a wonderful energy to the stage with their spirited rendition of "Big Brown Trout", with the WGC lending their voices to the piece. With the distinguished gentlemen of Measure for Measure, the WGC performed Franz Biebl's "Ave Maria" and Aaron Copland's "The Promise of Living" for a warm and responsive audience. The Women's Glee Club hopes to be able to continue this tradition of musical collaboration in the future.

-Kirsten Mortensen, Vice President
Linguistics & Spanish, Senior

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Concert With Cornell Women's Choir

"It was really great to have the opportunity to host the Cornell Women's Choir here on our own campus. We had dinner with them and were able to communicate with them, which I think made them feel more welcomed. The concert was so awesome! I was glad to have the chance to perform, but it was nice that when we were done; we were able to sit back and relax while enjoying the Cornell women's performance. Overall, it was a fun day and a great bonding experience!"

-Jenny Wood
Nursing, Sophomore

A Fresh Start for a Freshman

This being my first semester in Women's Glee Club, I can accurately say I am proud to be a member of such a wonderful choir. After singing all through high school, I came to college looking for a choir to join that would challenge me along with providing me with the opportunity to make life-long friendships, and that is exactly what I found. I had truly felt the pride of being a Michigan wolverine until our first concert. This semester we had the wonderful opportunity of being included on the Cornell Women's Choir regional tour. At the end of our set of songs, we sang the "The Yellow and Blue" and every Michigan alumni stood up in the audience. I felt so honored to be a part of such a wonderful school, that I found I had tears welling up in my eyes. That joy was continued as everyone in the crowd joined us in singing our final number "The Victors."

I know I couldn't have picked a better choir to join here at school. The best piece of advice anyone could have given me upon coming to school is to get involved in a group on campus, to "do what you love!" It wouldn't have mattered what club I joined because the Michigan pride and tradition is strong no matter what. But I am glad I joined the Women's Glee Club. Already I have made friends that I know will be with me throughout the rest of my college years, and I know the memories we make will certainly last forever!

-Amanda Koons
Freshman



Glee Girls at Formal 2009