

### What has prompted the formation of NJ Conservatory Youth Division Choruses?

Choral singing at an adult level has been on the rise for the last 20 years with the establishment of new choral organizations in the area including **NJ Conservatory Symphonic Chorus and Chamber Choir**. At the same time, funding for enriched choral and fine art programs in many schools has been decreased due to fiscal/budgetary restraints and painfully difficult administrative decisions. Fine Arts are essential to a well-rounded development of the individual not only academically, but also socially and culturally. NJ Conservatory Youth Choruses seek to **augment school programs** by providing opportunities to participate in musical activities in a capacity that is generally unavailable.

**What happens during the audition?** First, you will meet Conservatory President Judith Stuss. Next, you will audition with three other youths for about 15 minutes with Director Edwin Foster be asked to sing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat;" listen to and repeat some rhythms and short musical phrases. As you are auditioning, a staff member will meet with your parent/s to explain how the choruses operate and explain the Conservatory's goals and expectations for the choristers.

**Preparation?** No special preparation is necessary for the audition.

**How will I learn whether or not I was accepted?** You shall be notified the results immediately or by phone the following day.

**Where and when are rehearsals?** Rehearsals are on Thursday nights beginning October 2010. All rehearsals take place at:

Sparta United Methodist Church, 71 Sparta Avenue, Sparta, NJ  
(intersection of CR517 and 181)

**Primary Chorus 5:30 –6:15      Junior Chorus 6:30 –7:15**  
**Youth Chorus 7:30 – 8:30 PM**

**How do I arrange for an audition?** To arrange for your audition, please call 973-402-2004 and leave your name and telephone number. Your call shall be returned and an audition time will be scheduled for you.

Auditions will be held afternoons and evenings

**SEPTEMBER 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>** at the

Sparta United Methodist Church 71 Sparta Avenue, Sparta, NJ  
(intersection of CR517 and 181).

**Is there an audition fee?** The Chorus collects \$15.00 for each general audition to cover its costs.

**If I am accepted, what will my tuition be?** NJ Conservatory Youth Choruses Sparta Division annual tuition is \$330 PAYABLE IN INSTALLMENTS

## FINANCIAL AID

**NO CHILD WILL BE DENIED MEMBERSHIP BECAUSE OF AN INABILITY TO PAY FULL TUITION**

You may request a **Financial Aid Application** from the Conservatory Office at 973-402-2004.

## Artistic Leadership

**Edwin Foster**, Founder and Executive Director of NJ Conservatory since 1987, is a graduate of Westminster Choir College, Princeton. He has studied conducting under Joseph Flummerfelt, Robert Simpson, Robert Shaw, Wilhelm Ehmann; Group Vocal methods under Frauke Hausemann; Children's Choir methods under Helen Kemp; and Orff and Kodaly methods under Sue Ellen Page. His performance experiences include several tours with Festival dei Due Mondi, Spoleto, Italy; performances with the N.Y. Philharmonic under Leonard Bernstein, Pierre Boulez, and James Levine; Boston Symphony under Seiji Ozawa; Pittsburgh Symphony under William Steinberg; National Symphony under Antol Dorati; Atlanta Symphony under Robert Shaw; and Yale Symphony under Krzysztof Penderecki as well as several recordings for CBS Records with the N.Y. Philharmonic. In addition to his regular responsibilities for the preparation and performance of major works for chorus and orchestra as given by NJ Conservatory's Symphonic Chorus and Orchestra and the care and preparation of the Conservatory's Advanced Youth Chorus, he has conducted extensively throughout Europe including performances in France, Italy, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Czech Republic, England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. He has been an adjudicator for the North Jersey School Music Association, Region I of the New Jersey Music Educator's Association, a lecturer/panelist for the American Choral Director's Association, NJ Music Educator's Association and is regularly engaged as a lecturer on various musical topics. He is the recipient of the Arts Council of the Morris Area's "**Outstanding Educator in the Arts**" Award.

**Andrea Birch** is a native of Dutchess County, New York, graduated *summa cum laude* from the Hartt School of Music in West Hartford, Connecticut with a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Music Education. While at the Hartt School, Ms. Birch studied under Lucy Hayes-Davis and had the pleasure of appearing with the Hartt Choirs and Chorale, as well as the Connecticut Opera Chorus. Ms. Birch has been actively involved in the arts since high school. A graduate of Arlington High School, Ms. Birch was actively involved in drama, chorus, band and several orchestras, where she was featured as a clarinet soloist. Ms. Birch has appeared as a vocal and clarinet soloist as well as a cantor at The Church of the Holy Trinity in

Poughkeepsie, NY. She was also featured as a vocal soloist at the Hudson Valley Bach Fest in both 2004 and 2005. Ms. Birch currently teaches elementary vocal music and serves as the choir director at Helen Morgan and Alpine Schools in Sparta, NJ.

## Other programs for Adults and Youths

### PREPARATORY DIVISION

not for profit offers first-rate private instruction by certified experienced professionals in voice, piano/classical organ, winds, brass or strings beginner through advanced levels is available. Comprehensive curriculum is customized into an individualized learning plan for each student with regular administrative evaluations, progress monitoring and recital opportunities. Studios are located in Sparta and Rockaway. Call 973-402-2004 for information or to schedule an interview.

### SYMPHONIC CHORUS

is a 100-voice mixed chorus founded in 1987 as a forum for local singers to perform large-scale choral works with orchestra.

### SYMPHONY AND BAROQUE ORCHESTRAS

are the paid professional orchestras (with players coming from renowned orchestras such as the NJ Symphony and the NY Philharmonic) that perform with the Conservatory Choruses.

### CHAMBER CHOIR

formed in 1996, is a group of singers (selected by audition from the larger Symphonic Chorus) who perform works suited for a smaller choir providing greater challenges for experienced singers.

### INTERNATIONAL TOURING CHOIR

is a group of singers who biannually perform concerts in some of Europe's most prestigious venues. Past tours have been throughout most of Europe, including Germany, Austria, Italy, Czech Republic, Hungary, England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and France.

### ADULT SCHOOL DIVISION

offers continuing musical education for the adult. Classes are available in Theory, Sight-singing, and Ear-training

<p align="center"><b>Board of Directors</b></p> <p>Judith Stuss – President      Janet Ruzycski - Vice President  Barbara Neilson – Treasurer      Kathy Scehovic - Secretary  Edwin Foster – Executive Director  Mary Jane Hummers - Director of Public Relations  William LePore – Director of Fund Raising  Tracey Tillman – Director of Member Services</p>	<p align="center">An IRS 501(c)3  <u><b>NOT FOR PROFIT</b></u>  musical organization</p>	<p align="center"><b>"FAITH</b>  in the future of  <b>CLASSICAL MUSIC"</b>  Don Martone - <i>Classical New Jersey</i></p>
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# NJ Conservatory

## Youth Division Choruses

Invites you to participate

Please visit our website  
[www.njconservatory.com](http://www.njconservatory.com)  
(formerly Morris Conservatory)

### in the Sparta Youth Division Program 2010-2011 Season

Primary Chorus (gr. 1-2 no audition required), Junior Chorus (gr. 3-5), Youth Chorus (gr. 6-8)

**AUDITIONS DATES: THURSDAYS, SEPTEMBER 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**CALL 973-402-2004 TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TIME**

This program runs from October through May with Winter and Spring Performances.  
Rehearsals are on Thursdays at Sparta United Methodist Church, 71 Sparta Avenue, Sparta, NJ  
(intersection of CR517 and 181)

These satellite choruses are based upon the models already in place in Denville NJ which are the current **NJ Conservatory Youth Denville Division Choruses: Primary** gr.1-2, (no audition) **Junior** gr.3-4, **Intermediate** gr.5-8, and **Advanced** gr.7-11. The **Sparta Youth Division Choruses** includes Primary Chorus (gr. 1-2 no audition required), Junior Chorus (gr. 3-5), Youth Chorus (gr. 6-8). These are community choruses dedicated to fostering the art of choral singing with and for youth. The choruses sing classical and contemporary choral music and folk songs from around the world. In addition to singing, choristers are trained in the basics of musicianship: sight singing and music reading.

**What are the purposes and missions of the NJ Conservatory Youth Division Choruses?** They are:

- to provide its members with a highly enriched music/choral program that is generally unavailable elsewhere;
- to promote a highly-focused, peer-approved, pro-learning environment which challenges and expands intellectual capacity, teaches self-discipline, raises self-esteem, and enhances the child's ability to work for long term goals; (These aims and skills help prepare a child for successful achievement in life no matter what occupation he or she may choose.)
- to provide an opportunity for singers in Northwestern NJ to participate in a choral organization of the highest quality;

- to provide training for young singers regardless of financial resources, gender, race, or creed;
- to encourage a deeper appreciation of Choral Art and the shared experience of creating fine choral music;
- to develop a spirit and sense of cooperative effort/teamwork.

Choruses of this type have all of the dynamics of a team, except

- ❖ no one sits on the bench
- ❖ no one loses
- ❖ no aggressive behavior is taught
- ❖ no single "stars," only shining constellations
- ❖ the stronger singers help support the weaker singers
- ❖ cooperation is taught, emphasizing "we" instead of "me"
- ❖ it is oriented toward creativity and artistry

It also teaches:

- ❖ focus
- ❖ time management
- ❖ appreciation of others
- ❖ patience
- ❖ confidence
- ❖ the ability to work hard to reach a long term goal
- ❖ logical sequential thinking
- ❖ critical thinking.

## NJ Conservatory Preparatory Division

**ARE YOU SEEKING FIRST-RATE PRIVATE INSTRUCTION BY CERTIFIED PROFESSIONALS IN VOICE, PIANO/CLASSICAL ORGAN, WINDS, BRASS OR STRINGS?**

The "not for profit" Preparatory Division is interviewing students for the 2010-2011 academic year.

**Why should I send my child to the Conservatory for instruction?**

The Conservatory provides an overseeing structure that sets uniform standards for each level, develops specific curriculum and methods of approach to studio teaching, evaluates and tracks each student's progress on a regular basis by administrative faculty, and provides regular performance opportunities. From beginner to advanced - all levels are available

**For information. call 973-402-2004**

**Studios are located in Sparta and Rockaway**