

GAUDEAMUS
LET US REJOICE

November 2019

Dear Friend of Gaudeamus,

Thanks to you and our many past and present dedicated musicians, volunteers and Board of Directors, Gaudeamus is pleased to continue its 28th year of ministry. As we approach the Christmas season, we wish to update you on our fundraising efforts and contributions to support those in need.

Thanks to your generosity and donations at our Christmas concert in 2018, we were honored to support A Baby's Breath, an organization whose primary mission is to 'help a mother to see her child take his/her first breath.' During our fiscal year, Gaudeamus also was pleased to support Holy Rosary School and several education funds for children needing financial support. While supporting the educational needs of students is our paramount mission, Gaudeamus continues to provide assistance to children with medical needs and was able to help a local family with financial burdens due to their child's illness. In addition, Gaudeamus partnered with Angel Flight East ("AFE") for a joint-fund raising venture in October of 2018. AFE is a local non-profit organization that provides free air transportation to critically ill patients. This joint fund-raising venture raised over \$22,000, which Gaudeamus shared with AFE. All told, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, Gaudeamus donated over \$30,000.

To end the calendar year of 'giving' with triumphant trumpets, Gaudeamus will perform its 28th Annual Christmas Concert at Epiphany of Our Lord Church on Sunday, December 15th at 7:30PM. This annual tradition has grown in notoriety and attendance over the years and is the highlight of our concert season. The beneficiary of this year's event is once again A Baby's Breath. Founded 19 years ago, A Baby's Breath has grown to five Crisis Centers in the suburban Philadelphia area providing counseling, guidance and support to women and families faced with crisis pregnancies. Over the years, A Baby's Breath has worked with more than 4,000 mothers, fathers and children to chart a course of independence and most especially has provided a safe environment in which life is held sacred.

This year's concert will feature traditional, sacred and classical music of the season performed by crowd favorite vocalists, Sarah Agnew and Kelly Jones as well as our renowned String Quartet, trumpeter, Thomas Rudolph, and classical guitarist, Michael Simmons. We are thrilled to welcome ***The Bel Canto Lyric Opera Company*** and the ***Valley Forge Chorale*** to sing with us and we are confident that this year's program will be a memorable event.

Please mark your calendars now. I sincerely hope that you will join us for a joyful concert which celebrates the true meaning of the season. If you are unable to attend, but would like make a donation to our ministry, you can visit our web-site@www.letusrejoice.org and click the donation link or send a donation to the address below.

Sincerely,

Connie Steuer

Executive and Musical Director, Gaudeamus Music Ministry, Inc.

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