

North Georgia Homeschool Band and Choir

NGHBC Fall 2016

Dr. Tom Helps NGHBC Celebrate the Beginning of a Great Season

Issue #5

In August, families and faculty of NGHBC gathered to welcome the beginning of a wonderful new musical season. Tom Pierce, a performing professional of over 25 years, shared his expertise in mime, acting, and children's theater. The silent stories shared brought thought and laughter to audience members, and several students were happy to join him on stage to assist throughout the performance. Tom considers his work to be a calling, and he is committed to sharing the story of God's grace and salvation through a unique blend of mime, clowning, stand-up comedy, and theatre. His goal is to be a part of reclaiming the arts for Christ and wants to use laughter as a ministry to bring healing. Thanks to Dr. Tom for sharing his message and gifts. To learn more about his work please visit his website at www.drtomisi.com.



"...but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back."



Students Reflect on the Georgia Choral Festival at Shorter



Approximately eleven NGHBC representatives attended the 21st Annual Northwest Georgia Choral Festival at Shorter University. The daylong festival began at 8am and continued until 8pm; however, for NGHBC students, the day began a bit earlier by meeting at Target at 6am for carpooling. High school choirs who registered for the event prepared ahead of time by memorizing the music and lyrics of the songs they would perform the night of the concert. Every year Shorter University invites high school students to join the Shorter Choir's for a collective concert as the Northwest Georgia Festival Choir. During the day of the festival, we experienced rehearsals with festival clinicians, lunch, more rehearsals, and concluding with the festival concert.

Excitement grew in the vehicles as the NGHBC students drew closer and closer to Shorter University. The moment we arrived at Shorter we were greeted by extremely friendly and energetic college students who readily directed us to the rehearsal room. We spent most of the day rehearsing with the super energetic and insightful Dr. Aaron Rice, the Assistant Professor of Music, Director of Choral Activities in the Edith Lester Harbin Department of Music at Shorter University. He was accompanied by a live pianist who worked side by side with Dr. Rice in creating a seamless concert. We rehearsed three pieces with Dr. Rice throughout the day including: the strong and powerful "The Last Words of David" by Thompson, the fluent and fresh "Now Touch the Air Softly" by LaBarr, and the lively and soulful "Let Everything that Has Breath" by Ames.

The daylong rehearsals were broken up by small snack/water breaks, a mid-day lunch break, and a dinner break. We were definitely well fed and hydrated! After the dinner break, the individual choirs broke up to change into their concert attire and quickly returned to the Winthrop-King Centre for a vocal warm up. The Winthrop-King Centre, Shorter's gym (basketball court), was the host for the hundreds of children, teens, adults, parents, and instructors who attended and performed in the concert. At 6:00 pm the Northwest Georgia Festival Choir took their places in the Winthrop-King Centre's bleachers in order of voice parts. Next, at 6:30 pm, the Treble Choir (Elementary and Middle School Students) opened our concert with three pieces. This was followed by different Shorter Choirs performing their own repertoires. The Northwest Georgia Festival Choir performed next with the Shorter Choirs taking the stage once again by closing the concert.

Written by Monika Eisenheim

Reflections on the Georgia Choral Festival Continued...

I attended the Northwest Georgia Choral Festival held at Shorter University in Rome, Georgia, on October 17, 2016. The group from North Georgia Homeschool Band and Choir (NGHBC) left at 6:30 a.m. for the hour-long drive to Shorter. We arrived early, so I met the group leaders, who were Shorter University students, and took my place in the Treble Choir. During the morning rehearsal, we practiced three choral pieces—"Winter's Coming Soon," "Where Go the Boats?" and "Jazz Cantate"—in the Winthrop-King Center. For lunch, I had Papa John's cheese pizza and chatted on the bleachers with Chandler Dedman, a long-time friend from my church who attends Shorter.

After lunch we had a break and played games such as Ultimate Simon Says, Four Square, Bowling, and Bean Bag Toss. Following the games, we resumed our rehearsal. Before our dinner break, "Somethin' Else," a men's acapella group, performed for us. My mom, who is a Shorter graduate, told me that Cliff Duren founded the group in the late 90's. That's quite a history! I met with the other students from NGHBC during our Chick-fil-A dinner.

The concert arrived much sooner than we expected. We all took our places and got ready to sing. The program started with the Shorter Chorale, then my group the Treble Choir, followed by the Concert Choir, and then the Chorale closed out the evening. My Dad was able to attend the concert, so after checking out with Mrs. Fenn, I climbed into the car and rode home with him. I was exhausted but thrilled after an exciting day of music!

Written by Clark Hayes

Alumni Spotlight— Catching up with Jordan Gray

What are you doing now?

I am running track at Kennesaw State University.

How did homeschooling prepare you for college?

It helped prepare me for college in many ways, but I think the biggest pro was that I already had a good sense of time management.

Do you have any advice to share with NGHBC students?

Practice makes PERMANENT, not PERFECT! Practice a lot, but practice correctly.

Final Thoughts:

Motivation gets you there; dedication keeps you there. Be dedicated to whatever you venture after, do it to the Glory of God, and be the best that you can be.



North Georgia Homeschool Band and Choir Celebrates 10th Year

North Georgia Homeschool Band and Choir began 10 years ago under the direction of Nadine Harrison with the encouragement and assistance of Joyful Noise Homeschool Band in Marietta. We started with a handful of beginner band students and six recorder students. We now offer 8 classes for ages 3-18 and have 83 students in our program. We are grateful to our teachers throughout the years: Chris Walston, Deborah Scrazzo, Jackie Gray, Carol See, Anna Regan, Jamie Dodd, Elizabeth Parrin, Charity Neese, Jennifer Lamineck, McKenzi Fenn, and Lisa Reams. We are also grateful to our parents and donors who have made this program possible by their tremendous support.



**Picture Challenge: Can you guess who the young musician is in the picture to the right? Hint: This photo was taken 10 years ago....and this young lady is still playing with NGHBC today!*

“Friends of NGHBC” Campaign in Full Swing

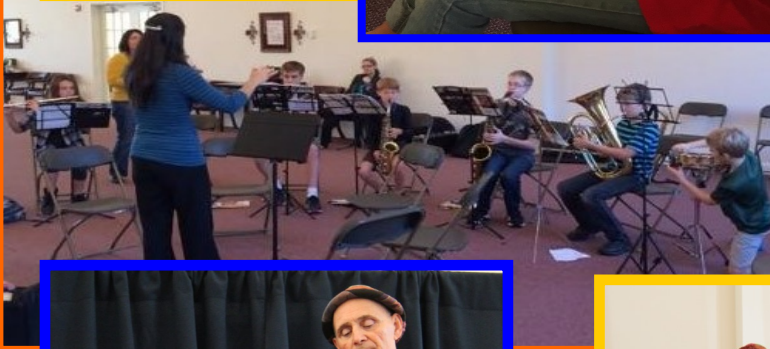
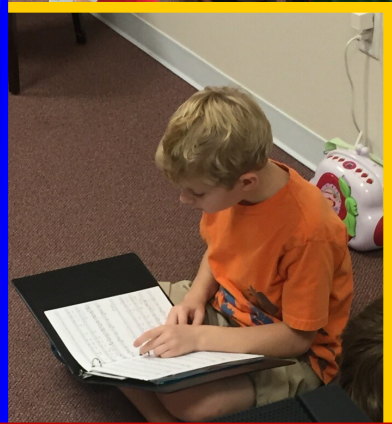
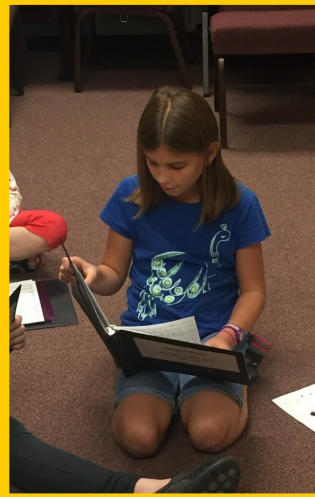
Every year, NGHBC asks our students to personally invite their family and friends to learn about our program and partner with us. This involvement is vital to our program at many different levels - we need our friends and families to ask about our classes, to share their own musical talents and experiences, to come see us perform, to support us through donations, to be enthusiastic, and to encourage our efforts.... when this happens our young musicians thrive! In addition, contributions from our supporters enable us to keep our class costs affordable and to provide musical opportunities above and beyond what we could ever do on our own. Past Friends of NGHBC contributions have allowed us to purchase a tuba, uniforms, a keyboard, and music, among other things.

This year our biggest need is a used 6x12 trailer to use as a storage unit. Every week, our teachers load their cars full of instruments, music, etc. to bring to their classrooms, but there is a limit to what they can haul and store. Once we have a trailer, just imagine... it could hold marching equipment for our annual march in the annual Ball Ground Christmas Parade, a xylophone and a metallophone for our 23 Prep Program students to use to accompany themselves on their recorders, Orff instruments and a bass drum!

So, if you would like to partner with us this year, we invite you to become a FRIEND of NGHBC. Just visit our website at <http://www.nghbc.org>. or send correspondence to PO Box 1441 Jasper, Georgia 30143. Thank you for caring about NGHBC's musicians. Your support, both personal and financial, greatly benefits our program.

We are a 501(C)3 organization, accepting tax deductible donations. For more information, email treasurer@nghbc.org.

A Day in the Life....So Much to Learn and Do...



NGHBC
PO Box 1441
Jasper, GA 30143
info@nghbc.org

**Visit us on
the web at
NGHBC.org.**

Our Mission:

Working together to provide a quality, well-rounded music education for homeschooled students and their families in our community.

Our Vision:

Creating a community of musicians that spans generations.

A Look at Our Fall/Winter Activities...

- November 5th - Shorter Band Day
- November 11th - Fall Concert
- November 14th - Toys for Tots Kick-Off @ the State Capital
- December 2nd - Ball Ground Parade
- December 14th - Field Trip to Fox Theater - *The Nutcracker*

*****Save the Date: May 6th - Spring Concert***