



The Younger Generation Chorus of Plano preps for tour in NYC

By Kim Nguyen, Staff Writer

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Consider it a practice run. In June, the Younger Generation Chorus of Plano will be on a tour of New York City to perform at Carnegie Hall and Calvary Baptist Church, but not before they perform one of their last public concerts of the season.

On May 15 at the Reformed Church in Plano, YGC will perform the program they are planning to sing during their four-day stay in New York City.

The trip to attend the National Children's Festival Chorus at Carnegie Hall in New York City was announced in August.

"This is Younger Generation's 25th anniversary year," said Joanne Kozlowski, YG publicity chair. "What better way to celebrate a landmark anniversary than a trip to perform in New York City?"

Kozlowski said that 23 children of the 24-member chorus will be attending the chorus festival in June.

"It's the best turnout to a traveling event we've ever had," she said. "And on top of that we have 66 people, primarily family members of chorus members, also coming along to support the chorus."

The chorus members have been practicing and fundraising since the trip's announcement in August, and Kozlowski is looking forward to hearing the children's performance and how they rank among the other choruses attending the festival.

"The children are all so excited about this trip," Kozlowski said. "They will be doing one full day's worth of sightseeing and touring the city, attending a Broadway play and taking a midnight cruise around the island."

As a choral director and music educator who has trained youth and adult choirs, middle school, high school and college ensembles, Tenesa Rasmussen is in her seventh year as artistic director for the choir. Rasmussen has also worked as vocal coach for musical theater productions. She has performed with Mesquite Civic Chorus, The Classical Chorus of Abilene and Evening Song Choir. Currently a Vocal Tech instructor at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, Rasmussen coaches the Lab Singers vocal jazz and The Entertainers musical theater ensembles.

The Younger Generation Chorus of Plano will be performing at 7 p.m. May 15 at the Reformed Church in Plano, located at 5333 Independence Parkway in Plano. Admission is free; seating is limited.

The Younger Generation Chorus of Plano, a premier community children's choir for fourth- through eighth-grade students, was formed in 1983 by the Plano Civic Chorus. Since its inception, Younger Generation has achieved national recognition for excellence, and the choir's artistry and dedication have taken it from Plano to the White House.

Each year, Younger Generation Chorus reaches out to Plano and the surrounding communities through an ambitious performance schedule. The choir performs annual Spring and Winter concerts and at events such as: Plano Family of the Year ceremonies, Dickens Festival, the Plano Chamber of Commerce Christmas and 4th of July Parades, Very Special Arts Festival, and others. In addition to joint performances with Plano Civic Chorus, Younger Generation has performed with the Plano Symphony Orchestra, the Vocal Majority, the Sweet Adelines, and in a "Dare to Dream" special performance at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas.

The chorus is an audition-only chorus, with auditions taken in January, May and August of each year.

For information on membership, performances or appearances, visit www.youngergeneration.org

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