

What's New? Announcements and Postings on InlandChorus.com

February 4, 2018: We are replacing the MP3 audio files on the [music page](#) with WAV files that produce a richer, often clearer sound. These files may require a few more seconds to download and begin. Try some favorite selections.

January 12, 2018: Listen to the recently improved audio of Victor Herbert's "[Toyland](#)" while following along with [the lyrics](#). Then read "[One Member's Reflections](#)" by John F. (Jock) Hussong who recalls feeling the song's "acute sense of loss" as he left the recording session.

December 20, 2017: The Chorus was the subject of a [history feature article](#) on the front page of the Life section of the December 14, 2017 edition of the *Dayton Daily News*. The story by Lisa Powell is based her online History Extra [photo feature](#) in April 2017.

December 1, 2017: Listen to a rare [audio of "Silent Night"](#) performed by the Chorus one year prior to the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. The narrator describes at 1min 15sec the "sorrow that engulfs" the rest of the world. Narration by WLW Cincinnati radio announcer Paul Allison.

November 3, 2017: See the [concert program](#) for the Mozart Boys' Choir of Vienna performance to which Chorus members were invited. Discover the remarkable story of the fate of this group during WWII (see last page of the PDF).

October 3, 2017: The [DPO concert program of 1945](#) includes two newspaper reviews (pages 6-7 of PDF) that cite [Charles F. Kettering](#) who declares the Chorus and Philharmonic institutions "as essential to a community as are factories, schools, stores, and churches."

August 25, 2017: Theater critic [A. S. Kany describes](#) the Chorus performance in the inaugural concert of a series sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce at The Dayton Art Institute. At the intermission, Broadway theatrical designer Raymond Sovey reflects on his "excitement" in working with the Chorus.

July 25, 2017: See the [Luncheon Video - 2017](#) with Toni Vanden Bos who describes the future home for Special Collections and Archives. Don't miss Toni's photos at 15:30 from the visit to Special Collections by actor Tom Hanks and historian David McCullough. Thanks to Pete Wine and [MediaMoments](#) for the best production yet of our event.

July 8, 2017: The [DPO concert program of December 1941](#) is available because of our partnership with Special Collections and Archives. *The Dayton Journal* review (page 8 of PDF) of the annual concert with the Philharmonic celebrates this tradition during the "whirlwind of world war."

June 10, 2017: The [DPO concert program of 1938](#) includes an A. S. Kany newspaper review (page 9 of PDF) with details about Wallace Whittaker who "conceived of the idea" of a Chorus that Kany describes as "a byproduct of industry... worth its weight in gold."

May 11, 2017: See the about us page for [Luncheon Photos - 2017](#) that include images of those who braved torrential rains to view the remarkable items on display. Next year's luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, April 21, 2018.

April 7, 2017: A feature article on the Inland Chorus is scheduled for Wednesday, April 19 in the *Dayton Daily News*. Lisa Powell, Staff Writer and Photographer for Cox Media, will include images from InlandChorus.com. Her "History Extra" preview includes photos to appear in the article. See www.daytondailynews.com/. Email only: not posted on website.

March 1, 2017: Don't miss the 2017 Annual Spring Luncheon and Exhibit on April 29 ~ [Link to Details](#). The exhibit will include new materials to be included in the Inland Children's Chorus Collection and comments by archivist Toni Vanden Bos, Wright State University Special Collections and Archives.

February 18, 2017: The *Dayton Sunday Journal-Herald* suggests that the seeds for a children's chorus were planted in the 1920s at Inland, well before the official founding in 1936. The article also reports that the Chorus will broadcast a performance nationally over more than 100 stations and locally on WHIO.

January 16, 2017: *The Inlander of May 1943* offers hope in the midst of World War II as it describes upcoming concerts in which the children will "raise their lovely voices to inspire... new hope and prophecy of happier days to come" in this "second Spring of America's fight for the freedom of men, women and children everywhere..

December 21, 2016: **Special What's New** on InlandChorus.com (email only: not posted on website). The Inland Children's Chorus and our website are featured on a blog (*Gal Gumshoe*) hosted by author M. Ruth Myers.

December 2, 2016: **The Christmas 1941 issue** of *The Inlander* features the annual party and employee concert on December 21, only two weeks after Pearl Harbor. The issue also announces the Christmas Eve national broadcast of a Chorus performance through the Columbia Broadcasting Company.

October 24, 2016: See the **Luncheon Video - 2016** with Wright State archivist Toni Vanden Bos and memories from former members. Thanks go to Pete Wine and **MediaMoments** for the outstanding production.

September 30, 2016: See a **clipping with photo** on the articles page from a Dayton Philharmonic Association publication announcing the first concert with the Orchestra on December 21, 1937.

September 1, 2016: A **Mementos section addition** shows a Chorus member "doing lines" for violating a conduct rule during rehearsals. The photo is from the Keen collection and the "lines" were donated by Norma Tunney Austin.

August 1, 2016: The **Mementos section** now includes the image of a 1952 girls' ID bracelet -- click top left thumbnail "Christmas Gifts" (see page 3). Thanks to Susan Murley for this donation and to Candice Davis for her restoration work (gemsandwhims.com).

July 1, 2016: The **Snapshot Album** now includes photos from the first summer picnic in 1937 at Dayton's Triangle Park. Among those shown are Chorus members Paul Durrum, Angela May Lehman, the Connair brothers, and Lucille Batter Neu who donated the photos.

May 31, 2016: See the **Luncheon Photos - 2016** that include images of the record display and the framed photo of the St. Nicolas ensemble that hung in the practice room at The Loretto.

April 30, 2016: See **photos from the delivery** of records (1940-1966) and the transferred audio files to Special Collections and Archives at Wright State University.

March 31, 2016: Annual Spring Luncheon on April 23 (**link to details**) will include a display of every record produced by the Inland Children's Chorus. Speaker: Toni Vanden Bos, Archivist, Wright State University, and curator of the Inland Children's Chorus Collection

March 4, 2016: Annual Spring Luncheon on April 23 (**link to details**): Exhibits will include records, photos, programs, and more. For now, celebrate spring with Irving Berlin's **Easter Parade** and the remarkable voice of Alfred Wimmers.

February 1, 2016: For Valentine's Day, try the improved digital transfer of **Deep in My Heart** from the 1924 Broadway operetta *The Student Prince* and from the 1954 MGM biographical musical film on the life of composer Sigmund Romberg. Thanks to Special Collections and Archives at Wright State University for preserving both the original records and digital files.

January 2, 2016: Listen to upgraded MP3 and WAV versions of the French round **Are You Sleeping, Brother John?** arranged by Donald Wright. Allow time for downloading audio WAV files to your system.

November 28, 2015: Listen to an improved version of **'Twas the Night Before Christmas** (Darby-Simeone) and follow the lyrics in the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra **program of December 18, 1956** (see PDF pages 4-5). Don't miss the solo at 4:52 by Al Wimmers.

October 31, 2015: Listen to a recently added and improved audio file of the classic **"Over the Rainbow"** with a remarkable solo at 3:00. The music page continues to improve thanks to the generous contribution of records and the restoration work of audio expert Bill Howe.

September 26, 2015: See the **snapshot album** (slideshow) on the photos page with recent donations of snapshots of chorus members and both directors from concerts, practices, and other occasions.

August 9, 2015: See the **programs page** (top row) showing a recently donated program for December 21, 1937 with reviews of that performance with the Dayton Philharmonic. Don't miss the back cover of the program with a youthful photo of the legendary Marian Anderson.

July 5, 2015: See the **about us page** for photos and video from the 2015 luncheon and exhibit. For more and high resolution copies, go to **MediaMoments** or send us an **email**.

June 11, 2015: See the **photos page** for an uncropped professional photo and a list of the 1965

graduates. Watch for this year's luncheon photos and video in July.

May 3, 2015: See an **article with photo** announcing the luncheon on April 25, 2015. This piece and earlier ones have resulted in many new attendees. Photos and a video from this luncheon and exhibit to be announced.

March 28, 2015: *Annual Spring Luncheon* on April 25 (**link to details**): Wright State archivist Toni Vanden Bos will again ask attendees to share their Chorus memories (watch the "Luncheon Video - 2014" on the **about us page**).

February 27, 2015: *Annual Spring Luncheon* on April 25 (**link to details**): Exhibits include Christmas party gifts and summer picnic mementos. For now, celebrate Saint Patrick's Day with a 1945 recording of "**Irish Lullaby**" (Shannon).

January 29, 2015: The **music page** now includes over 220 playable audio files. For Valentine's Day, try an enhanced version of "**Till There Was You**" (Willson) with an impressive solo.

January 3, 2015: See a **forum page comment** with a list of the names of some of the remarkable soloists who contributed live and studio performances from 1940 to 1966.

November 8, 2014: A recently posted **December 1965 article** describes two prime-time TV appearances and the musical training of James Will, the new accompanist for the Chorus.

October 5, 2014: The **music page** now includes selections in high-quality .wav files for playing or downloading. Try clicking the [WAV] links (allow time) for "O Divine Redeemer" (Gounod) and "Summertime" (Gershwin).

September 7, 2014: The **music page** now contains 165 playable files, including featured selections in **bold** for strong performances, outstanding solos, or historical interest. See a **full list of recordings** by year and album.

August 5, 2014: **May 1968 articles** eulogize long-time General Manager and civic leader J. D. O'Brien and announce the retirement of Marcella Sprauer who is shown with her extensive Chorus scrapbook.

July 12, 2014: View images and listen to a 1995 cassette tape developed by Matt Phelan, former Chorus member (1936-1943) and Atlanta graphic design executive. The tape, created from 1940 Chorus records and using the best technology available at the time, was distributed without charge. Click on the following link: **Matt Phelan Cassette Tape**.

June 14, 2014: See the new **Chorus Mementos** section on the photos page. Images include member gifts recently donated and a metal Inland employee badge (with photo) for "R. B. Westbrook."

May 12, 2014: Now available on the **about us page**: a slideshow and an excellent video of the Luncheon and Exhibit on April 26. The video includes observations by former members of their experiences in the Chorus and an brief overview of the Collection at Wright State University.

May 6, 2014: Thanks to former members and guests who attended the Annual Luncheon and Exhibit on April 26. Watch this space for the announcement of a slideshow -- and video -- of the event. Mark your calendar for next year: Noon on Saturday, April 25, 2015.

April 5, 2014: If you plan to attend the Annual Luncheon on April 26, please let us know ([link to details](#)). In the meantime, celebrate Easter and Passover with two inspiring performances: [Panis Angelicus](#) and [V'shom'ru](#).

March 1, 2014: Mark your calendar for the Annual Spring Luncheon on April 26 ([link to details](#)). The exhibits will include a display of the first and last concert programs. In the meantime, celebrate Saint Patrick's Day with [Danny Boy and good solo](#) at 1:25.

February 11, 2014: For Valentine's Day: Listen to an improved digital transfer of "[Song of Love](#)" by Sigmund Romberg from the Broadway operetta *Blossom Time* and sing along with the lyrics of Dorothy Donnelly ([link to sheet music](#)). The arrangement is excellent, as is a solo midway by a young man with a strong voice.

January 19, 2014: [High-quality photos](#) of The Dayton Art Institute and Memorial Hall added to the [photos page](#). Click on the thumbnails for historical details of these primary venues for Chorus performances and related photos of directors Richard Westbrook and Joseph Geiger.

December 13, 2013: Click on the [Christmas concert program for December 19, 1937](#), and scroll for newly posted reviews that report "off the record" comments of Inland founding general manager Wallace Whittaker. The reviews also reflect the style of coverage of the performing arts during the period.

November 16, 2013: An [article with photo](#) includes words of appreciation from Angela Mae Lehman, a founding Chorus member (1936-1944) who later performed on Broadway and on TV.

October 21, 2013: The [photos page](#) now includes unpublished images of the Chorus from the James Keen Photographic Collection. James N. Keen was a noted photographer for newspapers and such magazines as *Life* and *U.S. Camera Annual*. Keen photographed such prominent individuals as Orville Wright, Winston Churchill, and several U.S. presidents.

September 15, 2013: The [music page](#) now includes two previously unknown recordings by the Chorus on Audiodiscs: "The Ranger's Song" (Tierney) and "Summertime" (Gershwin). Thanks go to restoration expert [Bill Howe](#) for rescuing this music from mold and 65 years of corrosion.

August 21, 2013: Now on the [articles page](#): The Life & Arts section of the Sunday, August 11 edition of the Dayton Daily News includes a front-page article on the Chorus by staff writer Meredith Moss with photos by Peter Wine from the 2013 luncheon.

July 20, 2013: Added to the [photos page](#): Concert chorus photos for 1965 and 1966, a publicity photo of 1970 graduates, and a scrapbook image with girls hair bow matching the new teal-color gowns in 1968.

June 27, 2013: See a new slideshow "Luncheon Photos - 2013" on the [about us](#) page. More photos will be added to the slideshow from a planned *Dayton Daily News* feature article.

June 22, 2013: See a dozen newly added concert programs from the late 1960s and 1970, including the program for the [final concert on May 12, 1970](#). This program reflects not only the music of its era but also the range of music performed by the Chorus during its 34 years.

May 14, 2013: See a full list of records and songs recorded by the Inland Children's Chorus linked near the top of the [music page](#). Coming in June: a slideshow created from four sets of photos from this year's luncheon and an upcoming feature article on this event.

May 1, 2013: Thanks to former members and their guests who attended the Annual Luncheon on April 27, 2013. Watch this space for an announcement of a new slideshow created from four sets of photos and an upcoming feature article on this event. See also the [April 17, 2013 article](#) in the *Dayton Daily News*.

April 21, 2013: **Mark your calendar:** Join us for the [Annual Luncheon on April 27](#) and see displays of rare original materials before they are delivered to the Inland Children's Chorus Collection at WSU. See the [April 17, 2013 article](#) in the *Dayton Daily News*.

January 25, 2013: **Mark your calendar:** Join us for the [Annual Luncheon on April 27](#) and see displays of rare original materials before they are delivered to the Inland Children's Chorus Collection at WSU. See photos from previous luncheons on the "[about us](#)" page.

January 15, 2013: [February 1956 articles](#) describe upcoming performances at The Dayton Art Institute and include a photo of chorus members Nancy Donisi, Joe Sharp, and Frances Little – "Articles Page"

January 2, 2013: The [music page](#) now contains over 130 playable files, including many popular standards and classical pieces. Try the featured selections in **bold** for strong performances, outstanding solos, or historical interest.

December 3, 2012: The [music page](#) now contains 120 playable files, including many popular and classical holiday pieces. Try the featured selections in **bold** for strong performances, outstanding solos, or historical interest.

November 9, 2012: Two December 1947 articles describe an upcoming performance with the DPO and one features the graduation of Patty Weaver, the only chorus member to have sung each of ten years – "Articles Page"

October 27, 2012: The [articles page](#) includes a full-page newspaper ad showing the world-class performing artists scheduled for the upcoming season (1946-47) and features the Inland Children's Chorus (with photo).

September 30, 2012: The [articles page](#) includes a section from *The Greatest Gift*, a 2008 biography of former Chorus member Sister Dorothy Stang who worked on behalf of the on behalf of the poor and the environment to preserve a piece of jungle in the Amazon Basin of

Brazil.

September 12, 2012: The [music page](#) includes two newly posted, high-quality selections from film and Broadway: "Adoration of the Magi" from *Ben Hur* and "Till There Was You" from *The Music Man*.

August 25, 2012: A January 1967 feature article ("From Concert Stage to TV Screen") describes the annual Christmas concert and a Chorus TV appearance with entertainer Johnny Gilbert on Dayton's NBC affiliate – "Articles Page"

August 2, 2012: A spring 1966 article features quotes from graduating Chorus members that suggest the educational power of music and performance, including "self-discipline," "sacrificing my wishes to do the best for the Chorus," and "satisfaction out of working to entertain people" – "Articles Page"

July 24, 2012: Try the new Snapshot Album Slideshow at the bottom of the [photos page](#). This slideshow currently includes 20 member snapshots taken between 1944 to 1966 – more to come and more welcome!

July 18, 2012: A 1965 feature article in *Dayton USA* profiles the Chorus and details the educational value of performing and "of blending in as an individual with the performance of the whole." – "Articles Page"

July 12, 2012: Listen to a remarkably clear live-in-concert recording from the world premiere stage production of Benjamin Britten's *Saint Nicolas* with the Chorus, tenor David Lloyd, and the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of guest conductor Hugh Ross – "Music Page"

June 11, 2012: See and hear the special live-in-concert recording of the Inland Children's Chorus 25th anniversary concert on December 13, 1960. This recording includes a high-quality version of "Evening Prayer" with the subsequent real-time march off stage, which also appears in the alphabetical listing on the [music page](#).

May 21, 2012: The 30th Anniversary Concert program for December 14, 1965 and three other programs have been added to the [programs page](#).

May 10, 2012: See a slideshow of photos taken at the annual luncheon on April 28 and the delivery of archival items on May 2, 2012 to Special Collections and Archives, located in the Wright State University Libraries in Dayton, Ohio. Go to the [about us page](#) and click on "Luncheon and WSU Photos 2012."

May 4, 2012: See Special Collections "Out of the Box" blog for its April 26 posting about the Chorus and luncheon See current postings for "Out of the Box" ([link](#)). Notice that the top-of-page collage includes four Chorus programs (can you spot all four?).

February 27, 2012: A December 1945 newspaper article describes the contribution of Broadway theatrical designer Raymond Sovey for an upcoming concert and notes his work on the original

staging of the Chorus – "Articles Page"

February 9, 2012: A Christmas issue of *The Inlander* features a dramatic cover with illustration art by George Harr depicting a classic Santa overlooking the Chorus. This issue describes upcoming Chorus broadcasts on radio stations WHIO and WING on December 24, 1943 – "Articles Page"

January 8, 2012: **Annual Luncheon on Saturday, April 28**. View original rare photos, programs, records, articles, and more items before they are delivered to the Inland Children's Chorus Collection at Wright State. Download the announcement or write alred@inlandchorus.com for more details.

December 29, 2011: Recently posted concert chorus photos include the first such photo taken in December 1936. This photo shows the founding members of the chorus and Richard Westbrook (director) with accompanists Lucille Lienesch (piano) and Urban Deger (organ). Other notable additions are 1939, 1941, and 1965 -- "Photos Page"

December 15, 2011: The actual radio script for a 1940 Christmas Eve broadcast on WLW in Cincinnati of *The Story of Bethlehem* by the Inland Children's Chorus. Narrator and radio personality Paul Allison reflects on "this whole bleak, distracted world" as it becomes engulfed by World War II. Next to the script on the [music page](#) are recordings of this performance (Sides 1-6).

December 4, 2011: A record by the Linden Center Children's Chorus, which was at one time also sponsored by Inland, is shown on the [music page](#). Listen to restorations of these rare recordings of the Linden Chorus singing "Panis Angelicus" and "Were You There."

November 21, 2011: A dozen original news photos with detailed reporter notes offer a vivid portrait of the Chorus and life in the mid-1940s -- "Photos Page" -- See also the *Journal Herald* article in which the photos were published – "Articles Page"

November 14, 2011: An April 1968 article describes two generations of Chorus members: LaDonna (Beatty) White and her daughters Marilyn Jean and Gretchen. The cover page also includes articles on the Spring Festival concert and the 1968 Chorus graduates -- "Articles Page"

November 2, 2011: The February 1969 program states that this concert "marks the 25th Anniversary of performances given by the Inland Children's Chorus at The Dayton Art Institute." This program includes the lyrics for "Dayton, The City Beautiful" with music written by Joseph Geiger (Chorus director) and James Will (accompanist) -- "Programs Page"

October 30, 2011: Two articles describe an event in 1944 at which the Chorus gave a special performance for Milton Cross, who was known for 44 years as the "voice of the Metropolitan Opera" -- "Articles Page"

October 14, 2011: Special 1944 gift record album with an embedded color photo in exceptional condition and signatures of the concert Chorus members on inside flap -- "Music Page"

October 9, 2011: Recently donated, high-quality photos have been added to the "member submitted" area, including a 1940 portrait of Richard Westbrook and a 1960 publicity photo of Chorus members with Santa – "Photos Page"

October 4, 2011: New concert chorus photos have been added, including the original publicity photo taken for the "first public appearance" on June 4, 1937 – "Photos Page"

September 2, 2011: See the Westbrook collection of publicity photos 1936-1949 and a new member snapshot album on the [photos page](#).

July 31, 2011: See rare photos from the Westbrook collection of Milton Cross ("voice of the Metropolitan Opera") and of tenor David Lloyd singing during the *Saint Nicolas* concert – "Photos Page"

July 24, 2011: Try the Google custom search page to find the names of people, events, and archival material on this website. The link to this search page also appears on the [forum page](#).

July 18, 2011: Two 1937 newspaper articles describe Christmas traditions and the Chorus in an age of "realism and sophistication" as well as impact of the staging of Broadway theatrical designer Raymond Sovey – "Articles Page"

July 10, 2011: A July 1957 feature article includes photos from the Chorus picnic at LeSourdsville Lake amusement park -- "Articles Page"

June 18, 2011: The *Dayton Daily News* includes a feature on the costumes for the world premier stage production of Benjamin Britten's *Saint Nicolas* -- "Articles Page"

June 11, 2011: A January 1968 feature article describes a performance by former Chorus member Joy Clements (née Joyce Marie Albrecht) at the White House -- "Articles Page"

June 8, 2011: See a newspaper article with photo of Joseph Geiger coaching the tenor and bass sections prior to a 1956 concert with the Dayton Philharmonic -- "Articles Page"

May 14, 2011: See photos on the [about us page](#) of the Chorus Luncheon 2011 in Kettering, Ohio. Items displayed at this gathering were delivered to Wright State University on May 4. Plans are underway to hold another luncheon and display of new items on April 28, 2012.

May 6, 2011: Over 45 former Chorus members and their guests met in Dayton on Saturday, April 30, 2011. The archival items displayed at the lunch were delivered to Wright State University on May 4. Photos from the lunch will appear soon on the [about us page](#).

March 2011: Attend a lunch for former Chorus members and their guests in Dayton on Saturday, April 30, 2011. Meet old friends and view original photos, programs, records, articles, and more before they are donated to Wright State University.

February 19, 2011: Four concert programs have been added to the [programs page](#), which now contains 64 programs from 1937 to 1965.

February 9, 2011: The [music page](#) has been updated to highlight selections that are strong musically or technically, include outstanding solos, or offer special historical interest. These featured selections appear in **bold**.

February 2, 2011: Four concert programs added, including a December 1944 program with an autograph of Raymond Sovey, two-time Tony Award nominee and Broadway theatrical designer who staged the Chorus -- "Programs Page"

January 27, 2011: Thanks to the work of restoration expert Bill Howe of Grafton, WI, music files for many early records are being upgraded and new ones can now be added to the [music page](#). Bill is generously donating his time and expertise "to the cause." His restored files appear with an [H].

January 9, 2011: A newspaper article reports on a pair of concerts with the Dayton Philharmonic and features a publicity photo with Chorus members Linda Crumb and James Lehman -- "Articles Page"

December 30, 2010: Image of charm bracelet given as a memento for participation in the Chorus and to be donated to the Wright State collection -- "Photos Page"

December 26, 2010: Two newspapers mark the beginning of the 1949 Christmas season: "Sure, Christmas Near: Inland Chorus Singing" -- "Articles Page"

December 22, 2010: Link to Miriam Rosenthal biography and invitation to a reception she hosted for Hugh Ross and Richard Westbrook -- "Articles Page"

December 9, 2010: Newspaper report (January 1952) of a TV appearance on Steve Allen's "Stars for Polio" with autographs -- "Articles Page"

December 7, 2010: Spring 1945 article describing a series of upcoming concerts and states that the Chorus is "the first of its type to be established by an industrial concern." -- "Articles Page"

November 10, 2010: Dayton Art Institute program in bright red: February 14, 1960 -- "Program Page"