



PO BOX 512
WESTMINSTER MD 21158-0512

July 1, 2018

Hello Singers!

We hope you're enjoying the summer, and look forward to seeing you again this Fall as we recognize a dramatic moment in history. **Our concert, Sunday, November 18, 2018, at 3 pm in (Big) Baker Memorial Chapel, McDaniel College**, commemorates the armistice that ended the First World War. We'll feature the world premiere of Justine Koontz's *Te Deum*. Many of you may remember Justine from the years she sang with Masterworks, served on our board, and from our premiere performances of her previous compositions.

The *Te Deum* text has been used throughout history to express thanks at the ends of conflicts. Recognizing that historical significance we will also feature choruses from both the *Utrecht Te Deum*, and the *Dettingen Te Deum* by Handel, as well as the *Festival Te Deum* by Britten.

We start rehearsals for the concert on Tuesday evening, August 28, 2018, 7 – 9:30 pm at the Westminster Church of the Brethren on the corner of Chase and Bond streets. We will then rehearse at that time every Tuesday through the week of the concert, with one more in Big Baker on Saturday, November 17 from 1:30 – 4:30 pm.

The Fall registration form is enclosed with this letter, and I urge you to register and pay your dues as soon as possible. Early registration helps us plan so that we have enough scores for everyone at the first rehearsal. In addition, we can accommodate a finite number of singers based on our performance and rehearsal venues, and we strive to maintain a balance among the voice parts. Singers will be accepted as they register and should be prepared to attend the first rehearsal. Should any section become oversubscribed and upset that balance, we may place late registrants to that section on a waiting list. If that situation arises, we will notify wait-listed singers by letter or email as soon as possible after we receive their registration.

We will kick off the season on August 25, 2018, from 10 am – 1 pm with our annual summer choral workshop in Room 100 of the Levine Music Building at McDaniel College. I'll work on vocal techniques while covering historical and stylistic highlights of our repertoire. Please indicate on the registration form whether you will be attending the workshop so we know what materials to bring.

In addition to our November 18 concert, we will, together with the McDaniel College Choirs, co-host *The Thirteen*, for a masterclass and concert on Thursday, October 18. A highly acclaimed Washington D.C. ensemble, their works will feature pieces inspired by the wars of the last century, including Poulenc's *Figures Humaine*. The Masterclass, for which we will be joined by the McDaniel College Choir, should be quite inspiring.

I'm so looking forward to seeing – and hearing you all again!!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.