

SIA Leadership Team Meeting
Friday, February 12, 2010
MISCO / 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

In Attendance: Dan Digre, Ken Williams, Penny Meier, Mike Borg, Linda Burk, Dana Skoglund

Report 1 TWISS CONCERT REVIEW - ALL TEAMS

- Review "Nick Page Week Schedule"
 - Discussed logistics of getting Nick to/from the schools and where he goes in between rehearsals, etc.
 - Linda will put together schedule for Dress Rehearsal on Tues
 - Paul Skavnak is driving Nick around for the week
 - Dan will ask Nick if he has dietary requirements (so Mike can have groceries available)
 - Nick's dinner - 8 people signed up (one non-choir member) request for dinner entree's has gone out
 - discussion on whether or not to ask rehearsalists to participate (Dana has offered to cover the cost) -Mike will make the offer to themVideo tape concert?
- Cable Channel 12 is taping the concert - Linda will also ask Lori for video and audio recording of the concert /
- Lori can have kids stuff donation envelopes / Dan ask Brandy if she can have kids available Friday
- Also need a table near an outlet for our CC machine and selling Nick's CD's and books
- Group Photo - Mike will bring his camera equipment
- Who to make donation pitch during concert - someone other than Dan? Dana will do this in the comfort section of the concert
- Any verbal remarks during concert about program - by Nick?
- Request to directors to have some student ushers
- Concert dress reminder on Tuesday
- Discussion on what to compensate (if anything) accompanist and clarinetist

Report 2 - Artistic Team (Linda)

- Progress on MYS concert
 - Terry is our rehearsalist
 - We are singing Mahler with Symphony and 1812 with Rep / we will tell the choir at the reprieve
 - A list of rehearsals for this concert cycle will be handed out at the reprieve
 - both rehearsals will be with MN Chorale at Hennepin United Methodist Church in Mpls - 7:00-9:45 pm (one with Kathy Romey, one with Manny)
 - Dress rehearsal is Sat. 1-3 at Orchestra Hall / There will be one additional dress rehearsal time for the 1812
 - Rehearsal list is on the website. Ken will print this and bring copies for everyone at the reprieve
 - Linda has the scores to the Mahler, Tad has the scores to 1812. Linda will request that Tad distribute both scores at our RePrev rehearsal.
 - We will have 7 rehearsals to prepare for it and get our German diction down pat!

Requested action: concert dress update - Tuxes...we will need to address this at the reprieve (finding tuxes for men that don't have them)

- May Concert:
 - Artistic team is meeting to develop our program for this concert. Program theme is TWISS with different literature.
 - Linda is in contact with Dave Eliason -- thanks so much to Schele for doing the leg work on this one.
 - Program consideration of doing 3 choral pieces then X # of pieces by bluegrass band, 3 more choral pieces and a collaborative piece at the end
 - The suggestion was made that possibly an octet would go to Wilmar ahead of time to sing at the AM service at GL Bible Camp Chapel to promote the afternoon concert
 - Dana will make a general announcement that we're looking for singers to do this and see who volunteers. Ultimate decisions will be made in the interest of balance
 - We will have our program picked by our RePrev rehearsal performance conductors will be "in-house" conductors:)
 - Let's consider the expectation that the entire program is performed from memory????
- Next Season
 - Artistic team is meeting to plan next season. More info coming as it takes shape.
 - Linda will bring a coffee can to rehearsal on Tuesday to get collaborator/ concert theme ideas from the chorale

Report 3 - Administrative (Dan)

- Follow-up from last meeting:
 - Singers in Accord Trade Mark. All publicity, documents, website information should now have the superscript following the name as Singers in Accord™.
 - *Requested Action: Review marketing materials & website to be sure we are meeting this requirement. We need to submit samples of our literature to the Trademark Office to show them we are engaged in interstate commerce. Dan will do this*
- Organizational policies that apply to the Board of Directors of SIA -
 - *Status: Mark Countryman is retyping into Word document.*
- Think about Rehearsal Venue for next year: Mayflower is affordable and is wonderfully supportive of us BUT, the location is not as centrally located as we need it for those from the north and our room is small to promote movement, and lighting is not good. Is there an affordable and better option?
 - Dana will ask for volunteers for a task force to investigate options.
 - Goals would be to improve location (downtown), larger space with an affordable cost
- Rehearsal Protocol regarding etiquette toward rehearsalist / guest conductor.
 - Rehearsal system seems to be working well at this point in the season-no we need to write a singer expectations sheet to guide the group going forward.
 - *Requested Action: Process Team (Dana) create a singer expectations page that can be added to the website*
 - Dana suggested that we do this as a "group" at the reprieve - Dana will create a list of what we are doing "now" and ask for input from entire group for modifications
 - *ACDA Community Choir Session on March 4th @ 1:30 PM Salon E at Hilton.*

- *Requested Action: Is someone able to attend - requires registration for the entire symposium.*
- *Dan will contact Patti or Noreen to see if they are attending*

Report 4 - Process (Dana)

- RePrev Plans - gather 6:00-6:45 / 7:00-7:15 start the program
 - Potluck - Dana will have sign ups next Tuesday
 - We will sing through the Mahler and the 1812 Overture to give everyone a taste
 - Org feedback: singer expectation discussion / financial recap (Mike) / overview of rest of year (Dan/Linda) & concert program / reaffirm concert dress / Willmar small group / task force for new rehearsal venue / suggestion box for singers to put actual scores of pieces they would like to do (copies are fine) / reflection of volunteerism...is everyone contributing? Critique ourselves vs. what the leadership group has set up...everyone needs to be invested. Dana will ask Schele if she would be willing to deliver this message to the group./ Nick Page feedback

Report 5 - Financial (Mike)

- Recap of current budget -- looks like we will end the year about even which is great, but it also means we start next season at \$0. May need to revisit our "free-will" concerts.
- Margot Willett said she would be happy to look over grants & also assist with our articles of incorporation - she is currently recovering from back surgery.

Report 6 - Marketing (Penny)

- Update on TWISS marketing efforts:
 - Brandy & Lori are taking care of local publicity within the school & district websites
 - Press release sent to all local print media
 - Penny contacted Star Tribune and MPR directly
 - Steve Staruch (MPR) returned call, but said they were heading into fund drive week, so they could not do an interview with Nick. He asked me to keep him updated on future SIA concerts/ collaborations.
 - No return call from STRIB
 - Brandy has contacted the local Rockford paper
 - Penny contacted the community paper for Maple Grove/Osseo - twice...no return call
- Update on concert program - few items left to include - Penny will finish both programs and give to Dan to relay to Nick for approval -- programs need to be to Lori and Brandy by Tuesday for printing.
- Leadership discussion on how best to address volunteer involvement/follow through with all teams.
 - Leadership decided that near the end of the season each team should meet with their team members to discuss what worked/what didn't and areas that need more help/commitment from team members.
 - The need for ALL singers to find a niche for volunteering within the group will also be reiterated at the reprieve.

Report 7 - Technology (Ken)

- Update on the cell phone call list - how many people have given you the information, etc.
 - those singer that don't give a number for a text message, will be responsible for checking their email or the website for cancellation of rehearsals
- Support / assistance needed to maintain posting the rehearsal recordings - are they being used etc?
 - They are being used - the CD's that Tad made are great
- Support / assistance needed to keep content on website current especially promoting the group's activities, etc.
- Would we want to post videos from rehearsals occasionally for rehearsalists and singers to watch and learn? I need help uploading video from Tuesday's rehearsal to You Tube for Nick to see.
- These are a few things that come to mind, but I think the focus of tonight is making sure we are set for next week, for the RePrev, and going forward.

Meeting assessment

9:00 MEETING ADJOURNED