

Rochester Area School District & Beaver Valley Choral Society

Summer Choral & Instrumental Academy

June 14 – 23, 2017

Rochester Area High School

540 Reno Street – Rochester, PA 15074

The Summer Choral & Instrumental Academy is Designed for Students who are entering grade 9 through recent high school graduates; who may want to pursue a career in music; who want to sing or play beyond high school and through life; who are passionate about choral or instrumental music.

The Summer Choral & Instrumental Academy will help students gain an appreciation of the rehearsal process, learn how to sight-sing with confidence and work directly with the area's leading choral and instrumental educators.

Chorus Directed by: Craig G. Cannon

Craig G. Cannon is the former Director of Choral Organizations at the Mary Pappert School of Music of Duquesne University, where he served from 2013-2015. While at Duquesne, Mr. Cannon directed the Voices of Spirit and the Pappert Women's Chorale. He also taught classes in Conducting and Advanced Choral Methods. Mr. Cannon continues to serve on Duquesne's adjunct faculty in the Music Education Department. Craig is also the Musical Director and founder of Belle Voci, an intergenerational, community-based choral ensemble for women.



Craig Cannon retired from a 38-year-long career as a public school teacher. For the last thirty-four years he worked as the Director of Choral Activities at Fox Chapel Area High School.

Stage Jazz Band Directed by: Bruce Lauffer

With almost thirty years of experience in both university settings and public schools, Mr. Lauffer has taught on the faculties at Indiana State University (Associate Director of Bands/Director of Marching Band) and at Washington and Jefferson College, and online at Argosy University. Mr.



Lauffer served as Chairman of the Music Department and Director of Bands for East Allegheny School District. Mr. Lauffer has also taught on the faculty at Jeannette School District. Maestro Lauffer has conducted the Latshaw Pops Orchestra, for the past twelve years.

Since 2009, Maestro Lauffer has served as frequent guest conductor of the world renowned River City Brass Band. In 2002, Maestro Lauffer was appointed General Director and Conductor of the Royal Sylvan Philharmonic. Maestro Lauffer was the music Director and Conductor of the Beaver Valley Philharmonic from 2006 – 2009.

Academy Accompanists

Maestro Extraordinaire!... Gabriel D'Abruzzo touches the ivory keys with amazing sensitivity and finesse. His journey with the piano began at age 6 and he has progressed to become one of the Pittsburgh area's leading pianists. He has been the winner in numerous local piano auditions and competitions including the *Duquesne Young Artist's Competition*, the *Musician's Club of Pittsburgh Competition*, the *Tuesday Musical Club Audition*, and the *Duquesne Women's Advisory Board Scholarship Competition for Duquesne University*



Seniors. Mr. D'Abruzzo's education includes a Bachelor of Music degree from Duquesne University and a Master of Arts degree from SUNY, the State University of New York, where he studied with world renowned pianist, *Vladimir Feltsman*.



Tami, Louise, Kathy & Mairi

Established in 1998, the Giambelli String Quartet is known for its vast and diverse repertoire. The quartet, named after a famous NYC Italian restaurant, is comfortable performing everything from classical favorites and popular music. The GSQ performs together on an average of 40 times a year.



In addition, as musicians outside of the quartet, members play with the Pittsburgh Opera Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Ballet Orchestra, the Civic Light Opera Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. All four performers are active music educators in the Pittsburgh community.