

Oregon Children's Choir Young Men's Ensemble (YME)

About the Conductor

David Fitch has taught music for 20 years, the last 12 years as the director of choral music at Shasta Middle School. This will be his third year as director of the YME. David has a Master's degree in Music Ed and Choral Conducting from the University of Oregon. He is in demand in the Northwest as a clinician and adjudicator and has directed numerous high school and middle school honor choirs and choral festivals. He also has an acclaimed private voice and piano studio. David loves to be with his family, anything to do with Duck sports, has been known to play a round or two of golf, and has a passion for all style of music.

About the Young Men's Ensemble

The Young Men's Ensemble is for High School aged young men. They sing a variety of music, from spirituals, to songs in foreign languages, to doo-wop songs. They rehearse every Tuesday evening and one Saturday a month. Each year, YME tours for several days within the United States or abroad. In March 2009, YME had the privilege of traveling to Beijing, China to share their music. In the past they have traveled to Minnesota to participate in the *AmericaFest International Choir Festival*, and to Czechoslovakia and Austria. Members of this choir are regularly accepted into the Oregon Bach Festival Youth Choral Academy. The ensemble group, **The Classics**, is comprised of select YME members.

Time Commitment and Attendance

Parents of YME choristers must attend a mandatory parent meeting to be held the first evening of rehearsal.

**Parent Orientation Meeting
Tuesday, September 15, 2009 from 6:30-7:00 pm
First United Methodist Church
1376 Olive, Eugene, Or 97401**

Rehearsals for the 2009-2010 Season begin September 15, 2009.

Choristers must attend all major choir events:

- All rehearsals (no more than 2 absences per term are allowed)
 - Rehearsals for the YME are Tuesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 pm and the second Saturday of every month.
 - Rehearsals for *The Classics* are Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00 pm
- All Day Fall Retreat with Performance – October 10, 2009
- Holiday Concert – December 12, 2009
- Spring Event – March 6, 2010
- Finale Concert – May 8, 2010
- Performance Tour – TBA, 2010

Financial Commitment

The Oregon Children's Choir is a non-profit organization. Its operating expenses, which include music, conductor's salaries, and rehearsal space, are funded by chorister tuition.

- Tuition for the upcoming season, September through June - \$400
- Choral Uniforms – approximately \$100
- Oregon Young Men's Ensemble polo shirt - \$15
- Performance Tour – TBA 2010

The approximate cost for the trip is \$500 to \$700. Some fundraising opportunities will be made available to choristers.