



Oregon Adventist
MEN'S CHORUS

5575 Fruitland Road Northeast
Salem, Oregon 97301

Fact Sheet

For information about OAMC: www.oamc.org

June 8, 2010

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Music samples here: <http://www.gleaneronline.org/audio/OAMC/>

Video from Romania at: <http://www.oamc.org/romania.asp>

- The Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus (OAMC) is a group of Christian men who join in worship, praise, and public sharing of their faith through music.
- The group presents sacred music concerts that include music of the masters, hymns, gospel and spirituals.
- This year is the group's 17th year of ministry.
- This year's concerts will be held on **Sunday, June 20, 2010, at 3 and 7 p.m.**, at the Skyview Concert Hall, 1300 NE 139th Ave., **Vancouver**, Wash.
- Another NW Oregon concert on Wednesday, June 16, at 7:30 p.m. in the 450-seat Hudson Hall on the campus of Willamette University, 900 State St., Salem, has sold out.
- This year's concerts will be a joint project with the Adventist Men's Chorus of Romania and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.
- Tickets available at all TicketsWest Outlets, by phone at 1-800-992-8499, or online at www.ticketwest.com. Tickets are \$15 each. Group discounts of \$8.75 each for 25 or more of purchases by June 10. Ticket service and order charges may apply.
- Ticket information can be found by visiting the OAMC web site at www.oamc.org and clicking on Concerts or by calling (503) 789-0306. Tickets must be purchased or reserved in advance.
- **This year's concerts mark a reunion of the Americans and Romanians.** In April 2009 some 100 singers went to Romania for two weeks where the combined chorus performed in some of Romania's most esteemed performance halls and cathedrals.
- 60 Romanians singers, family members and supporting members will arrive in Portland on Sunday and Monday, June 13 and 14.
- Some 150 men are expected to sing in this year's event, including the Romanians. American members come from more than 80 churches, mainly in Oregon and Washington.
- The Adventist Men's Chorus of Romania was started in 2007 by a former member of the Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus, Alin Apostol. He sang with OAMC while he was studying music and theology at Walla Walla University in eastern Washington, and secretly nurtured a dream for such a chorus in Romania.
- In 2006, world-renowned choral conductor Dr. Anton Armstrong, of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., guest conducted the concerts. Known for his work with youth and children's choruses, he conducts the Oregon Bach Festival's Stangeland Family Youth Choral Academy for high school singers.

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- During the 2000 International Choral Festival in Gladstone, Ore., OAMC performed with the 150-year-old Vienna Male Chorus Society, for whom Schubert, Strauss, Brahms, and Bruckner composed.
- The chorus has performed in Oregon and Washington, and other parts of the world.
- In 2001, 37 chorus members and seven instrumentalists traveled to East Africa to sing for evangelistic meetings in Mwanza, Tanzania, which were broadcast on worldwide television.
- In 2001, 75 singers and nine instrumentalists performed for the Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) National Convention in Sacramento, Calif., which was broadcast on worldwide television.
- In 2000, nearly 100 members sang in Toronto's SkyDome for more than 50,000 people from around the world who were attending the Quinquennial Session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.
- Two to five ensembles ranging from eight to about 20 men join the festival chorus each year; the concert includes performances by the ensembles.
- The men rehearse for about two-and-a-half months prior to the festivals in small groups and on their own, frequently with recorded rehearsal tracks on CD.
- The complete group does not assemble until the final rehearsal before a concert.
- Singers are truck drivers, physicians, contractors, teachers, pastors, students, auto mechanics, computer engineers, photographers, among many other professions.
- Expenses are met entirely from charitable contributions and sales of recordings. A widening group of supporters donates much time and energy to the organizational aspects.
- The chorus was first formed with about 20 men in 1994 to perform for Easter worship services at East Salem Seventh-day Adventist Church. It was to be a one-time event.
- Lou Wildman, a retired physician and former high school and church choir director, was asked to direct the first group, and continues to this day.
- That first Easter season was followed by a request to provide the finale for the summer camp meeting of the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Feeling that their voices would be lost in the campground's huge tent, they sent out a word of invitation for other men to join them in rehearsal — and were immensely surprised when 112 responded. It was to be a one-time event. The chorus has returned every year since.
- Inspiration led to a festival concert the following spring, anticipated to be a one-time event.
- Lou Wildman of Salem is the musical conductor; David Schmidt of Oregon City is the president. The administrative team is headed by Giselle Hepker, Executive Director, of Walla Walla, Wash.

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