



SUMMER/FALL 2011

Dear incoming Freshman,

On behalf of my colleagues, Professor Daniels, Chair of the Music Department, and the music faculty, I would like to welcome you to Eastern University for an exciting year of music as we celebrate another exciting year in our new Doudna Fine Arts Center:

<http://www.eiu.edu/doudna/>.

According to our records you expressed an interest in one of our choral ensembles and as the Director of Choral Activities at EIU I wanted to personally send you some information about the Choral Ensembles at EIU in case you were interested in participating. For more information regarding our choral ensembles you can check our website at:

http://www.eiu.edu/~music/ensembles_choral.php

CONCERTS: As the summer moves closer to the end and the beginning of the school is just around the corner I wanted to send you a letter about the upcoming concerts, events, and opportunities in store for the year. I have also attached the concert schedule to leave with your family so that they can plan to attend these concerts or you can refer to the website following this link or one of the links at the bottom of my signature.

Please stop by my office (Doudna Fine Arts Center #2425) to sign-up for a placement time.

UPON ARRIVAL AT EIU: The first week of school can be somewhat confusing, so I would like to provide the following instructions in order to help you through the week.

ALL SINGERS will meet on the first day of school, Monday, August 22, at noon together in the Doudna Fine Arts Center. This will also be an opportunity to answer any questions or concerns that you may have when everyone is together including what to expect during your vocal placement.

VOCAL PLACEMENT: During the first week of school Mrs. McCumber and Dr. Rossi will be listening to every student for vocal placement. *You should sign-up for a time-slot outside of their office doors as soon as possible upon arriving to campus.*

MUSIC MAJORS and ANYONE interested in auditioning for Concert Choir will be on Wedn. & Thurs. **ONLY** (Aug. 23 & 24) from 11–5PM at Dr. Rossi's office in the Doudna Fine Arts Center #2425. Those interested in Concert Choir (MUS 0230-001) and Camerata Singers (MUS 0233-001), select choral ensembles should sign-up for *two* 5 minute slots.

All NON-MAJORS interested in the University Mixed Chorus should sign up for (MUS 0231-001) and should register for a vocal placement outside Professor McCumber's office DFAC 2423. Times will begin as early as Monday and continue no later than Thursday at 5PM. Times posted at DFAC 2423.

No one should worry about the vocal placement. We will be checking for vocal range, timbre, sight-reading etc. We want to make sure you are placed in the section that is best for your vocal production. (***Voice Majors and Minors: are expected to have a prepared solo.*** Please bring an extra copy for the accompanist). All other students may bring a solo or may choose from the selections that will be posted outside my office door containing hymns, carols and familiar songs.

VOICE LESSONS: Those who are interested in voice lessons can audition the first week of school. You should prepare two contrasting pieces. For further information and to set up an audition time please contact Dr. Marilyn Coles at 217-581-2723 (mjcoles@eiu.edu).

PICNIC: We will be having a picnic on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2011 from 4–8PM at Morton Park Pavilion for all those involved in music department ensembles. It will be a time when we can get acquainted with one another and just relax and have fun! Details about the picnic will be announced during the first week of class.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: are available for those who are interested. We will have a strong Student Advisory Board made up of representatives from the Eastern Symphony Orchestra, University Mixed Chorus, and Concert Choir. We will be looking for officers to cover: treasurer, fund raising, costume/concert dress, travel, technical director, publicity, tickets, social, cassette/CD and historian. I will also be looking for Sectional leaders for weekly sectionals, roll takers and librarians who would be willing to help with organizing the choral music folders for the choirs. Details about the above will be announced in class also.....so stay tuned!

Again we would like to welcome you to Eastern Illinois University and we look forward to helping you in any way we can. See you soon. Until then, continue to have a great summer,

Dr. Richard R. Rossi

Director of Orchestral & Choral Activities: rrossi@eiu.edu

(217) 581-3111; http://www.eiu.edu/~music/people_faculty_rossi_richard.php

department of **music**
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

