

>> Singers take a brief illicit nap during practice while another section rehearses their part. The Choir often could be heard from outside of Ewell Hall while they were rehearsing.

> Known for their strong social bonds, Choir members gather for dinner near the Sunken Gardens after a rehearsal. The Choir also participated in many Tribe Pride events together.



raise your voice

Choir faces added difficulties of guest director and tough schedule with grace

Many university choirs get to perform throughout the year and travel all over the country and sometimes the world to perform. In this instance, the William and Mary Choir, the largest mixed choral ensemble of about 65 students, was no different. After auditions were held in the early fall semester, the Choir immediately got to work in what would become a very memorable choral year.

Fresh from a overseas tour in Morocco, Spain and Portugal during the summer, many Choir members were ready to perform for their home audiences again. But a major change characterized the year: the absence of the two choral directors, Dr. James Armstrong and Dr. Jamie Bartlett. Both directors were on sabbatical for the year, so the Choir had the added difficulty of singing under a new conductor.

Mr. Brian Bailey was chosen as the guest conductor for the year, and he directed all three choirs of the College as Acting Director of Chorus. His training as a choral conductor included experience at Augustana College in Illinois, The Eastman School of Music, Indiana University, and the University of Iowa. However, as the director of all three choirs of the College he faced a new challenge to lead the talented choirs through a rigorous performing season.

It seems he rose to the occasion, though, as many Choir members enjoyed his directing specifically. With an opening Family Weekend Concert held in Kaplan Arena in early October and another popular Homecoming Concert held in the Catholic Campus Ministries Chapel a few weeks later, the year started off quickly for the Choir. With such pleasing pieces as "I am the Rose of Sharon,"

"There is a Balm in Gilead" featuring soloist senior Michael Blaakman, and "Ain-a That Good News," the Choir proved their versatility and skill despite added challenges.

The Choir also had the added pressure of performing at all the major traditional events of the College. As a part of over thirty performances, the Choir sang at Convocation, Homecoming, the Yule Log Ceremony, Charter Day, and Commencement. Added to the two major Holiday and Spring Concerts, the Choir also found the time to make their annual spring tour around the region in mid-March.

However, the most beloved of concerts for the majority of Choir members was the Holiday Concert. Performed with the William and Mary Women's Chorus and the Botetourt Chamber Singers, the well-attended concert held right before Fall exams incorporated classic songs and favorite holiday carols. Besides such impressive and appropriate pieces as "Yver, vous n'estes qu'un Villain" ("Winter, You're an Ugly Fellow"), and "Rejoice in the Lord Alway," the Choir also sang their favorite "Wassail Song," an excited song of the joys of wintertime. Finally, with Choir-led audience carols, the Holiday Concert ended with much pleasure.

A group of talented singers, devoted friends, and active individuals around campus, the William and Mary Choir proved itself to be much more than the usual university choir. Facing the difficulty of a guest director and a busy performance schedule, the William and Mary Choir rose to the occasion.

>Meredith Howard



> Smiling as they rehearse in the Wren Building, the Choir follows the direction of the guest conductor for the year, Mr. Brian Bailey. Bailey filled in for Drs. James Armstrong and Jamie Bartlett while they were on sabbatical.

choir

- Kate Aument, '09
- Katie Barry, '11
- Cecilia Hylton, '12
- Kristan Jackson, '10
- Lucy Mathias, '11
- Kelsey Rothera, '12
- Kelsey Shamburger, '12
- Carolyn Shinn, '11
- Leah Towarnicky, '12
- Sarah Aviles, '09
- Claire Delcourt, '12
- Melanie Haines, '11
- Monica Holt, '09
- Colleen Kennedy, '10
- Sarah Salino, '12
- Eleanor Sheridan, '12
- Maria Trogolo, '09
- Sarah Walinsky, '12
- Francesca Blom, '10
- Larisa Cicila, '09
- Jessica Dobis, '11
- Erin Morris, '12
- Jessica Rodgers, '11
- Katherine Rubida, '09
- Ariel Shaker-Brown, '11
- Natalie Stearman, '12
- Jessica Thurnes, '09
- Annabelle Dragas, '10
- Kristina Forero-Hordusky, '11
- Lindsey Hayes, '09
- Maia Landey, '11
- Rhode N'Komba, '12
- Meagan Nouhra, '11
- Kathryn Tidaback, '11
- Lauren Velasquez, '12
- Lauren Campbell, '12
- Aaron Gregory, '12
- Nathan Grega Larson, '10
- Myron Kimble, '10
- Rachel Simmons, '09
- Dylan Echter, '12
- Jason Goodwin, '09
- Tim Koch, '11
- Robert Lopez, '12
- Tim Warguleski, '12
- Michael Blaakman, '09
- Matthew Ishee, '12
- Chris Maggiolo, '10
- Thomas Seabrook, '12
- Dustin Smith, '09
- Dan Villareal, '10
- Barret Armbruster, '10
- Peter Carlson, '09
- Andrew Frantz, '12
- Barrett Mohrmann, '12
- Erek Nelson, '10
- Michael Riccard, '12
- Francis Van Wetering, '10