

HIGHLIGHTING: ALL CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY CHORALE | HEART & SOUL | PURDUE BELLS | PURDUE VARSITY GLEE CLUB | PURDUETTES | UNIVERSITY CHOIR

Yours in Song

A publication
from Purdue
Musical
Organizations

FALL 2017



**TICKETS FOR
THE 84TH ANNUAL
PURDUE CHRISTMAS SHOW
ON SALE
NOW!**

Purdue Varsity Glee Club performed in and toured Poland and the Baltic states. Pictures inside!

A Semester Review, Looking Forward

by William Griffel

We have had an historic year here at PMO. Last year, our 258 students performed 118 concerts in 27 cities, seven states and five countries.

Thanks to the generosity of our PMO supporters, we were able to provide more than \$330,000 in scholarships, each ranging from \$400 to \$12,000, to more than 140 students.

In April, we kicked off the fourth annual Purdue Day of Giving, which was a huge success. We had a record-breaking 81 first-time donors and raised \$95,687.

The spring semester was filled with unforgettable performances and traveling for our students. In March, more than 180 alumni and over 500 guests returned to celebrate the Purduette 75th Anniversary.

We finished the year with outstanding end-of-the-year concerts featuring all ensembles, including the annual "Spring Show" and Purduette "Spring Spectacular" in April, followed by the Glee Club "End of Season" concert in May. The Glee Club extended its season with a once-in-a-lifetime, two-week performance tour in Poland and the Baltic states, singing in

brehtaking venues, learning about the culture in four different countries, and acting as world-class ambassadors for PMO and Purdue.

Our fall semester is shaping up to be busy as ever!

In August, the Glee Club will kick off our performance season with its annual "First Nighter" concert at Elliott Hall of Music. In September, we are excited to welcome PMO alumni for Homecoming Weekend and the annual "Picnic with the Purduettes" performance on Slayter Hill. Then in November, the free "Fall Show" will feature All Campus and Community Chorale, Heart & Soul, Purdue Bells and University Choir. Be sure to attend the 84th annual Purdue Christmas Show the first weekend in December. Tickets are already on sale at purdue.edu/pmo.

A lot is happening here at PMO, and we encourage you to stay connected and visit us any time you are on campus. Our doors are always open for you to sit in on rehearsals or drop in for a visit. We hope we will see you here at Bailey Hall or somewhere in-between.

Read on for articles about these events and more.



Purduettes Celebrate 75th Anniversary

Purduettes from every decade since its founding gathered to celebrate the choral ensemble's 75th anniversary this March. The historic weekend brought 180 Purduette alumni and more than 500 PMO supporters and friends together to remember the past, honor the present and forge a path for the future of the Purduettes.

Special guests included three former Purduette directors: Jae Israel-Kellogg, Jon Ranard and Julie Ricciardi, each conducting or accompanying the alumni in song.

For many alumni, the visit to campus marked their first tour of our new home in Ralph and Bettye Bailey Hall, dedicated in 2014.

Among the attendees were Miriam Epple-Heath and Muriel Curran, two of the 13 original Purduettes, who shared stories from the group's early days and memories of PMO founder Albert P. Stewart.



Ralph Bailey

In Memorium

A lifelong supporter of PMO and Purdue, Ralph Bailey, 92, passed away on February 1, 2017, in Greenwich, Conn. Our new home in Bailey Hall was made possible because of the generosity of Ralph and his wife, Bettye. We are forever grateful for the love and friendship that Ralph gave to all of us in PMO, and for making our dream home a reality.

Ralph and Bettye Bailey



“I didn’t appreciate it when I was a student, but now I feel connected to a sisterhood that’s 75 years strong,” says 1965 Purduette alumna Joyce (Beery) Miles, who served on the event planning committee. “Fifty years later, they are doing fantastic things that we never thought of—a lot more traveling, a lot more leadership opportunities, mentors for the young women—I am just so proud to be a part of this group.”

Traditional Purduette songs were part of the celebration. Some favorites among them: “I Believe in Love,” “Songbird,” “Loving You” and “Women of Song.”

During a gala celebration dinner capping off the reunion weekend, PMO announced \$128,682 was raised for the Purduette 75th Anniversary Legacy Fund, established in honor of Israel-Kellogg. A fundamental leader in developing the Purduettes into the premier vocal ensemble it is today, Israel-Kellogg served from 1983 to 2008. She believes it is important to “give back so that the new generation of students continue to have the same or better opportunities that you had.” Donations and pledges given to this fund will be utilized to support travel for the Purduettes.



The Purduette 75th Anniversary Legacy Fund raised \$128,682 toward international travel.



Angela’s Impact

1989 Purduette alumna Angela Costley Harris is among those who donated to the Legacy Fund. PMO appreciates her loyal support, ensuring that future Purduettes can enjoy once-in-a-lifetime travel opportunities.

“I support the Purduette 75th Anniversary Legacy Fund to pay it forward—for the next generation of Purduettes to be able to have the life-changing experience I did,” she says. “I believe so profoundly that some of the best learning in college comes from outside the classroom, and PMO was a transformative part of my college experience.

“Honoring Jae Kellogg, the accompanist during my time in the Purduettes, was an added bonus,” Harris says. “Her endless enthusiasm and support of us as individuals and as a group has been an inspiration to me as a woman leader. She demonstrated the PMO mantra, ‘No fun without music, no music without fun,’ in everything she did.”

PMO invites you to join Harris and our many donors in supporting the Purduette 75th Anniversary Legacy Fund to ensure another 75 years of excellence in music. Visit giving.purdue.edu/Purduettes to be a part of the legacy today.



Angela Costley Harris

Glee Club Performs in Poland, Baltic States



“I experienced something incredibly unique; I saw first-hand the special connection that only music can make between people of different cultures and backgrounds.”

Sam Simpson



For first-year student Sam Simpson, traveling with the Glee Club on its recent tour to Poland and the Baltic states was his first time outside the United States, and he was not alone. Of the 62 members in the all-male vocal ensemble, 19 students were on their first trip outside the country.

"I experienced something incredibly unique; I saw first-hand the special connection that only music can make between people of different cultures and backgrounds," says Simpson, an education student from Fort Wayne, Ind. "I am so grateful to have had this opportunity with my brothers in song."

While abroad, students in the Glee Club performed in a variety of venues, including Karol Szymanowski Philharmonic in Krakow; University of Latvia's Great Hall in Riga; and Estonia Kontserdisaal in Tallinn. Impromptu performances also occurred at Poland's Cathedral Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Sandomierz, built in the 14th century, and the underground Wieliczka Salt Mine Cathedral in Krakow.

Visits to cultural and historical landmarks, such as the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and museum in Krakow, Poland, and Trakai History Museum and Island Castle in Vilnius, Lithuania, topped the list of students' favorite activities.

Along with learning new languages and immersing themselves in local cultures, Glee Club students earned study-abroad credits for their travels to Poland, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. Having the chance to sing with local choirs in their native languages was a highlight of the trip for many.

"Thanks to our generous supporters, I was able to travel outside the U.S. for the first time, and it changed my life," says first-year engineering student Dante Bruno. An Elmwood Park, Ill. native, Bruno says, "I loved connecting with people around the world through our shared passion of music. This trip made me hunger to see and learn more about the world."

Roesel Celebrates Birthday Abroad

First-year student Michael Roesel celebrated his 19th birthday while abroad with the Glee Club.

A business management student from Lafayette, Ind., Roesel says, "After our concert in Vilnius, we had a welcome reception with the local Lithuanian Bel Canto choir. When midnight came around and it was officially my birthday, our host choir started singing a traditional Lithuanian birthday song.

"Even though I was thousands of miles away from my family, I felt at home with the people I was with, including 60 of my best friends and 'brothers in song,'" he says.

"I cannot thank our PMO supporters enough for granting me the opportunity to experience music and culture in a way I will never forget."



Michael Roesel, Bill and Stephanie Griffel

FALL 2018

Glee Club to Celebrate 125th Anniversary



Founded in 1893, the Purdue Varsity Glee Club consisted of just 11 men under the direction of organist Cyrus Dadswell. Since then, the Glee Club has grown to 73 current members and continues to serve as ambassadors of song for audiences around the world.

The Glee Club 125th anniversary is quickly approaching next fall. Save the date for our celebration weekend: October 19-20, 2018.

Stay tuned for more information to follow later this fall regarding this historic milestone.

If you are a Glee Club alum and would like to update your contact information, please contact PMO at (765) 494-3941 or kjwebste@purdue.edu.

We hope you will join us to celebrate this momentous occasion in PMO history.



Purdue Bells Collaborate with Agape Ringers

This April, students in Purdue Bells participated in a day-long clinic at West Lafayette's First United Methodist Church with two other handbell choirs—including Chicago's premier Agape Ringers, an auditioned group founded in 1992 by director David Weck.

During the clinic, Bells students learned different techniques from the professional musicians. Sessions focusing on showmanship and stage presence were among the students' favorite activities of the day.

Each group performed individually and also collaboratively, with PMO students and ringers playing together, "Glorious Celebration" by Cynthia Dobrinski.

"My favorite part of the experience was interacting with a professional handbell choir of Agape's caliber," says Purdue Bells manager Jacob Werst, a senior biology student from Berne, Ind. "It was especially fun when, after watching us perform our

set, the Agape Ringers asked if any of us were planning on moving to Chicago after graduation and encouraged us to audition for the group."

For Bells director Rhonda Blacklock, a highlight of the day was "knowing there were Purdue Bells alums ringing in the Agape Ringers. It was fun to watch them interact with our ringers, and for our students to see they can continue ringing once they graduate."



Chicago's premiere handbell choir, the Agape Ringers



Purdue Bells students perform during the collaboration concert.



Fourth Annual Purdue Day of Giving Breaks Records

In a 24-hour period on April 26, PMO supporters helped make history in the most successful Purdue Day of Giving since the first in 2014.

Thanks to your generosity, PMO raised \$95,687, with a record-breaking 81 first-time donors this year. Based on participation alone, PMO received \$10,000 in bonus money and came in third overall for total number of donations for all Purdue participants, with 1,186 gifts.

All together, Purdue University raised \$28.2 million this year to enhance student experiences.

PMO thanks all our supporters for your amazing support and for making Purdue Day of Giving 2017 a huge success. Stay tuned for stories on how your generosity positively impacts our students this school year.



PURDUE CHRISTMAS SHOW

84TH ANNUAL
DECEMBER
2+3
ELLIOTT HALL OF MUSIC



Mark Your Calendars

All PMO performances and details are listed at www.purdue.edu/pmo, and we invite students, their families, donors, alumni and friends to be among our fans in attendance.

To pique your interest, a few upcoming dates on our 2017/2018 calendar:

AUGUST 25 • 7:30 P.M.

Purdue Varsity Glee Club First Nighter

Elliott Hall of Music | Purdue University
No tickets needed

SEPTEMBER 10 • 6 P.M.

Picnic with the Purduettes

Slayter Center of Performing Arts | Slayter Hill
No tickets needed; bring a picnic to enjoy during the concert

SEPTEMBER 22

PMO Alumni Day

Ralph and Bettye Bailey Hall
PMO rehearsals throughout the day; times to be announced

SEPTEMBER 23

Homecoming Tailgate

Ross Ade Stadium | R Lot; look for the lime green PMO flag

NOVEMBER 5 • 2 P.M.

Fall Show

All Campus and Community Chorale, Heart & Soul, Purdue Bells and University Choir
Long Center for the Performing Arts
111 N. Sixth St. | Lafayette, Ind.
No tickets needed

DECEMBER 2 • NOON, 4 & 8 P.M.

DECEMBER 3 • 2 P.M.

Purdue Christmas Show

Elliott Hall of Music
Tickets on sale at purdue.edu/pmo



BUY NOW AT PURDUE.EDU/PMO

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Calling PMO Alumni Home

PMO is thrilled to invite our alumni to events throughout the year. We hope that you save the dates and join us for these special reunions.

SEPTEMBER 22-23, 2017 PMO Alumni Day & Homecoming Weekend

DECEMBER 2, 2017 Making Spirits Bright Alumni Holiday Party

OCTOBER 20, 2018 Glee Club 125th Anniversary Celebration (more information to follow this fall)



All PMO alumni are invited to attend reunion events throughout the year.



Purdue Musical Organizations

