

The Colorado Springs School
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NEWS

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THE COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL TO HOST BLACK FOREST LEAGUE VOCAL MUSIC FESTIVAL *Sharing Vocal Talents Amongst Area Students*

Colorado Springs, Colo. – The Colorado Springs School (CSS) will host 80 high school and 50 middle school students from Black Forest League schools for a day dedicated to student vocalists on **Monday, October 27, 2008**. Students from The Colorado Springs School will team up with students from Calhan Public Schools, Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind, Evangelical Christian Academy, Hilltop Baptist School, Kiowa Public Schools, Pikes Peak Christian School, Peyton Public Schools, Simla Public Schools and Vanguard Academy to participate in vocal music clinics all day long. Students will spend the day working toward a collaborative evening concert in the **Louisa Performing Arts Center at 7:00 p.m.** Parents and the public are encouraged to attend the concert.

Featured clinicians include Deborah Jenkins Teske and Kristi Thomason Gilbreth who will share their combined teaching experience with these middle school and high school choir students throughout the day.

“The Black Forest League Vocal Music Festival is a chance for students in the Black Forest League to work together toward a common goal --- a music performance,” said Kristin Warner, Director of Vocal Music at The Colorado Springs School. “It is a unique opportunity for students to work together, instead of competing against each other like they do in sports or academic teams.”

CSS will also host the Black Forest League for the annual Spring Band Day on Friday, April 17, 2009 under the coordination of Brent Moorhead, CSS Band Director.

About Deborah Jenkins Teske

Ms. Jenkins Teske is Director of Choirs at Colorado College, where she conducts the Colorado College Choir and Chamber Chorus and teaches conducting. She is founder and artistic director of the Colorado Vocal Arts Ensemble, a chamber choir of 24 auditioned voices with a national reputation for excellence in performance and educational outreach. Founded in 1992, the

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Ensemble has performed extensively throughout the state of Colorado and recently ventured into new territory with a seven-day tour of Southern California. As a featured performer at the 2002 Chorus America conference in Denver, CVAE was honored to represent Colorado Springs to the entire North American choral music community. Dedicated to educational outreach and sharing the choral art with young singers, CVAE's highly successful residency program, *Gateways*, mentors secondary choral programs throughout the area. In 2007, Ms. Teske served as guest conductor for the Colorado Springs District 11 High School Honor Choir. Her opera and musical theater credits include guest conductor with the Colorado Opera Festival for productions of Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, Britten's *The Turn of the Screw* and Handel's *Semele*. She currently serves regularly as Chorus Master for Opera Theater of the Rockies. Ms. Teske holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music from Pomona College and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She and her husband Todd live in Monument with their two children, Miranda and Adam.

About Kristi Thomason Gilbreth

Ms. Thomason Gilbreth is a graduate of Drake University in Des Moines, IA, with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. After college, Kristi traveled and sang all over the world with Up With People. She currently teaches Vocal Music at Holmes Middle School in Colorado Springs School District #11. She has also been the Vocal Music Director at Harrison and Cheyenne Mountain High School. Kristi is an active performer in the Colorado Springs area. She has appeared on the Pikes Peak Center, the Manitou Art Theater, and the Colorado Springs Fine Art Center stages, in numerous musical theater productions. She sings with the Accapella quartet, Broadmoor Harmony. They perform at The Broadmoor Hotel during the Holidays, dressed in Victorian era costumes, and at the Glen Eyrie Madrigal, as well as private parties all over town. Kristi also sings in the Chamber Choir, Abendmusik. She has 2 daughters and is married to Matt.

About the Colorado Springs School (CSS)

CSS offers an experiential educational curriculum for prekindergarten – 12th graders. Through superior academics and mentoring, The Colorado Springs School prepares students to think independently and to meet the needs of a dynamic world with leadership, ingenuity, problem-solving skills, and personal integrity.

For more information on the Colorado Springs School, please contact Jessica L. James, Director of Communications at (719)434-3506 or visit www.css.org.

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