

**The Colorado Springs School**  
21 Broadmoor Avenue  
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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 150 students from Black Forest League schools for a day dedicated to student vocalists on Monday, October 29, 2007. Students from Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind, Evangelical Christian Academy, Kiowa Public Schools, Pikes Peak Christian School, and Simla Public Schools and The Colorado Springs Schools will engage in vocal music clinics and collaborate that evening for a concert in the Louisa Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. Parents and the public are encouraged to attend the concert.

Featured clinicians include Richard Nutting and Carolyn Skloven-Gill who will share their combined teaching experience of more than 55 years 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.”

Kathy Groat, a senior at The Colorado Springs School, has participated in the Black Forest League Music Festival for three years. Groat has been active in the CSS Vocal Music Department and has showcased her talents in CSS musicals including “*School House Rock Live*” and “*Arcadia*.” As a member of the Colorado Springs Children’s Chorale, Kathy embarked on a memorable two-week vocal tour to Japan last summer. Recently, she has been nominated to the Chorale Singer Council, a leadership role which will position her to mentor younger vocalists.

When asked why she is passionate about music? Groat responded, “Music is a powerful expression, it has given me a sense of self.” She continued, “Music has such a huge impact in our

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society and for me it is a way to connect and reach people --- music is my inspiration and motivation to reach out to others.”

While, Kathy is still considering her collegiate path, which may include music and expresses an interest in one day becoming a music teacher she is certain of one thing --- she will always perform in a choir.

CSS will also host the Black Forest League for the annual Spring Band Day on Friday, April 18, 2008 under the coordination of Brent Moorehead, CSS Band Director.

### **About Richard Nutting**

Mr. Nutting was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay area, completed an undergraduate degree in vocal performance from San Francisco State University, and began teaching vocal music at Russell Junior High School in Colorado Springs in the fall of 1971. He completed a graduate degree in Education from the University of Colorado in 1979, and did post-graduate work in guidance and counseling. In 1990 he chose to pursue his second love of history, and began teaching Social Studies at Russell. During his tenure as music teacher at Russell, he helped to organize the Junior High Honor Choir for School District #11. He also published a general music curriculum, introduced the guitar program in District #11, and began the first Junior High Jazz/Show Choir in Colorado Springs, Antares, which is still a part of the music program at Russell Middle School. His choirs performed throughout the state of Colorado, at the C.M.E.A. convention, and Antares performed at the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville, TN. In May of 2003, after 32 years of teaching, Mr. Nutting retired. Mr. Nutting continues to be a judge at the Pikes Peak Solo-Ensemble Festival each year, and has served as a guest clinician in Pueblo, Rocky Ford, Farmington, NM, Colorado Springs, and Holyoke. Mr. Nutting enjoys working with young singers, doing solo work in the Colorado Springs area.

### **About Carolyn Skloven-Gill**

Ms. Skloven-Gill is an instructor at the Colorado Springs Conservatory and has been teaching voice for twenty years, and choir, drama and musical theatre at the middle school level for ten years. A vocal/music education student at Pittsburgh's Carnegie Mellon University's Fine Arts School, Carolyn holds a BFA in music and an M.S. in Speech and Language. Carolyn has performed with musical theatre troupes in Albuquerque and Pittsburgh and as soprano soloist with several civic choruses. Locally, Carolyn has served as cantorial soloist for Temple Shalom and the Air Force Academy's Cadet Chapel.

### **About the Colorado Springs School (CSS)**

CSS offers an experiential educational curriculum for preschool – 12<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.css.org).

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