# July 2014

Dear Arioso Singers and Parents,

The summer days are quickly passing and while you are still enjoying the last days of summer, we are busy getting ready for the start of the Girl Choir season.  We’ll begin the year with a half-day retreat and hope you can attend.

The retreat is scheduled for **Sunday, September 7th at First English Lutheran Church, in the choir room from 2:00-4:00 p.m.**  First English Lutheran Church is situated at 326 E North Street, Appleton. Please park in the lot to the side of the church and enter through the glass entrance doors in front of you.  Look for the signs that say GIRL CHOIR RETREAT.

At the retreat you will meet your conductor, Ms. Amber Evey, receive your music, do some singing, be fitted for your uniform, meet everyone in the choir, and get ready for the start of a new and exciting year.

We strongly encourage you to attend the retreat but understand that you may not be able to due to prior commitments.   If you are unable to attend please call Anne Powling, the Youth Ensembles Coordinator, at 832-7038 or e-mail at anne.e.powling@lawrence.edu to arrange for a time to be fitted for your uniform.  Please do not stop by the Academy without calling ahead.  **Please note: I will be on family vacation from August 1-10th and will not be answering calls or e-mails. However, I will be immediately available on my return on the 11th.**

## Things to bring to the retreat:

## Water Bottle

## Sharpened Pencil

* Sweatshirt (sometimes the rooms are chilly)
* 1/2 inch three ring binder to store music and notes. Your daughter will not be issued with music if she does not have a binder.

**Uniform**

At the retreat you will be fitted for your concert uniform. The Arioso uniform is a red blouse, provided by the Academy, and a **floor length black concert skirt provided by the parents**. Parents are asked not to alter the blouse without permission from the Youth Ensembles Coordinator and are politely requested to wash or dry clean the uniform between concerts and at the end of the year.

**Uniform Sales**

I will be fitting all girls for their blouse and skirt during the retreat and will order new skirts for Arioso families from our concert supplier.  We are inviting parents who had girls in Cantabile and Arioso last year to sell their “gently used” black skirts and these will be available for sale as I fit uniform. If your daughter wishes to try these on, she can do so during the retreat, these can be reserved, and I will contact you with payment details.

**Girl Choir Website**

If you misplace information sent to you from Girl Choir, you can always visit our website for the latest handout and additional information.

Our website is: go.lawrence.edu/academy

Alternatively, log on to the Lawrence University homepage [www.lawrence.edu](http://www.lawrence.edu) and navigate to the Academy of Music where you will find a list of all of our programs.

We look forward to seeing you at the retreat and to an exciting year of singing.

Kind regards,

Anne Powling

Youth Ensembles Coordinator

Lawrence Academy of Music

920.832.7038.