

IN SPRING, A YOUNG MAN'S FANCY TURNS TO...

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Thoughts of love, so the saying goes. *Spring Fever!*, the theme of Harmonium Choral Society's seventh annual New Jersey high school student choral composition contest, has apparently inspired the young women too. All four of the prize winners in the contest are female. Grand Prize Winner Kyle Boatwright's piece *The Rain* and Second Prize Winner Christine Woodbury's *No Cinderella* will be premiered at Harmonium's *Spring Fever!* concerts on May 22nd and 23rd. Artistic Director Anne Matlack will lead the award-winning group in a program of choral love songs from many lands and all ages - France to Hawaii, sixteenth century to contemporary. The group will be premiering additional works by two of the composition contest judges: *Love Interests* by Morristown resident and Harmonium bass Ted Corson, and the first New Jersey performance of *Love Songs* by Matthew Harris. Manhattan-based Harris composed the wonderfully successful *A Child's Christmas in Wales* commissioned and performed by Harmonium in 2002. Complementing the contest, Harmonium invites a high school chorus to join the group for a few selected numbers. This year's Student Partnership Chorus is the Lenape Valley High School Madrigal Singers, under the direction of Harmonium soprano Alyssa Marie Saunders.

The concerts will be held at Grace Episcopal Church on Madison Avenue at Kings Road in Madison, New Jersey. General admission tickets will be available at the door for \$20 and \$15 for students and seniors. Discounts are available for those who purchase at least one week in advance: \$18 for regular tickets and \$13 for students or seniors. Tickets are also \$10 for groups of ten or more who reserve at least one week in advance. The church is wheelchair accessible; and large print and braille programs will be made available if requested ahead of time. Please call 9735386969, send email to sales@harmonium.org or access Harmonium's website at www.harmonium.org for more information or to purchase tickets.

Kyle Boatwright, Grand Prize Winner in the composition contest, is a junior at Princeton Day School. Accomplished in both singing and playing the piano, she is currently the student conductor and arranger for her school's *a cappella* group and a member of the school's Madrigal Singers. Second Prize Winner Christine Woodbury, a sophomore at Madison High School, is a cadet violin teacher. She also plays the viola, as well as having studied piano and French horn. Christine was the Fourth Prize Winner in Harmonium's composition contest last year. Two tied for third place this year: Nanette O'Brien, a senior at Princeton Day School, with *Lesson One*; and Dale Trumbore, a junior at Chatham High School, with *Into the Twilight*. Nanette's and Dale's winning compositions will be performed at Harmonium's annual Choral Musicianship Workshop on June 19th, also at Grace Episcopal Church.

Dr. Anne Matlack, Artistic Director of Harmonium Choral Society since 1987, was named the 2003 Outstanding Arts Professional by the Arts Council of the Morris Area. She is also choir director and organist at Grace Episcopal Church in Madison, where she directs a full program of children's and adult choirs, as well as the concert series, Grace Community Music.

Harmonium Choral Society was named Outstanding Arts Organization in 1998 by the Arts Council of the Morris Area. "In addition to being one of the best music ensembles of any kind, Harmonium has always been enjoyable to review and just experience because of the wealth of

new and varied activities. And above all that, it's the sense of sharing and enjoying and pleasure that most comes through." [Robert Butts, Conductor of the Baroque Orchestra of North Jersey and *Classical New Jersey* critic, July 2003] For further information, call 973/5386969 or visit the Harmonium website at www.harmonium.org.

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