



The

Runner



California State University Bakersfield

Since 1975

Volume 30, Issue 27

www.CSUB.edu/RUNNER

Wednesday, June 1, 2005

Three CSUB choirs get ready for debut at Carnegie Hall

By Mary Ann Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Fine tune those voices and get ready to hear those beautiful melodies.

In 1988, CSUB began its first choir. Now in 2005, it has five outstanding choirs. They consist of the Men's and Women's Choir, CSUB University Singers, CSUB Opera Singers, CSUB Jazz Singers and CSUB Chamber Singers.

On Sunday June 26, the CSUB Singers will strut their stuff on the main stage at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

This is their first time appearing as a solo group.

Three of the five choirs will be attending this honorary moment at Carnegie Hall: CSUB Women's and Men's Choir, CSUB University Singers and CSUB Chamber Singers.

In the past, the CSUB Singers have given "Festival Performances" at Carnegie Hall. This performance consists of 240 singers from around the country singing together.

They have also performed in San Francisco and at the prestigious Sydney Opera House in Australia.

The women's choir will be performing two pieces of music. "Dancing Song," a Hungarian piece by Zoltan Kodaly translated to English, will be performed.

"Ah! Sic Mon Moine Voulait Danser," a Canadian French piece by Donald Patriquin which will be sung in French," Rene Ferrell, director of the CSUB Women's Choir, said.

The rest of the singers will perform a wide range of musical pieces.

"We are exploring a diverse repertoire I describe as sacred and profane or old and new. It is a pairing of small-scale choral works from the last five centuries from various Western cultures," Robert Provencio, professor of Music and director of Choral/Vocal Studies, said.

These pieces will be from the Romantic, Contemporary, Renaissance and Baroque Periods.



Photo by Jason Friedly

The CSUB singers show off their talent during their performance at the Founder's Luncheon on Friday, May 20.

They will be sung in English, Latin, Spanish, French and German.

Not just anyone perform at Carnegie Hall. There are very major steps to get there. A group has to be nominated by one or several major music productions.

"The CSUB Singers have appeared by invitation at prestigious professional meetings of the American Choral Directors Association and the California Music Educators Association. Also, Keynote Arts Associates, Mid-American Productions, Kingsway Tours, and now Manhattan Concert Productions. Manhattan Concert Productions, one of the country's best respected producers of educational concert tours, made the invitation," Provencio said.

The New Carnegie Hall Foundation has made it possible for selected student groups to take the stage for the last 10 years in the shadows of great musicians.

They are Toscanini, Stravinsky, Bernstein, Heifitz, Horowitz, Pearlman, Sills, Norman, Domingo and Pavarotti. Where these legends have been, soon the CSUB Singers will be experiencing that honorary moment too.

The CSUB Singers will be leaving Wednesday, June 22, and returning Monday, June 27.

Each singer's family and friends are encouraged

to join the tour as well as members of the community.

"Fundraising for this tour has been provided by sponsorships in the business community, golf tournament, the university and the CSUB Singers," Ferrell, said.

The total cost per individual was \$1,200, which does not include personal expenses.

On Sunday, June 5, at the First Presbyterian Church, located downtown at the corner of Truxtun Avenue and H Street, the community and CSUB will have the opportunity to see the preview of the Carnegie Hall performance.

The performance will be at 4 p.m. and tickets will be available at the door. Students are \$5 and the General Public \$10.

Be there early since there are only 500 seats available.

*For more information,
contact Provencio at
664-3073 or
rprovencio@csub.edu
or contact Ferrell at 664-2279*