

Arts and Entertainment

Festival of Lights set for Dec. 1-3

By Lindsey Oswalt
Copy Editor

As the Christmas season approaches once again, the Mississippi College campus is setting into motion a number of annual traditions specific to the holiday season. Among the most popular of these traditions is the MC Singers' Festival of Lights. Each year since 1985, the choir performs a variety of a cappella and accompanied music, most of which is rooted in the Christmas season.

Although the repertoire varies from year to year, two pieces are performed consistently each Christmas. Long-time supporters of the Festival can rest assured that the performances will open, as always, with an a cappella presentation of "Of the Father's Love Begotten," and close with crowd favorite, "Still, Still, Still."

This year's festival is also slated to include several unique foreign language pieces, showcasing the choir's hard-earned "mastery" of Creole French, Latin and Swahili, and includes a Russian piece that has quickly become a favorite among choir members.

The service is also characterized by Biblical passages, which are read by MC faculty and staff each night.

Susanna Hancock, co-president of this year's choir, points out that the Festival of Lights is more than just a choir concert. Hancock said, "The Festival of Lights is a meaningful tradition in the music department and in the community at large. The service allows all present to experience Christmas



Photo courtesy of Daniel Gooch

Keeping with tradition, MC Singers will perform their popular "Festival of Lights," Dec. 1-3.

in its most honest form."

Chris Adams, who also serves as co-president, points out that this year's Festival is particularly meaningful. "This year is the twentieth anniversary of Festival of Lights and alumni of the choir will be invited to join each night in singing 'Of the Father's Love Begotten,'" Adams said. "The distinguishing characteristic of an ensemble like Singers, who perform a yearly event like Festival, is that the reason people keep coming back is because they

remember the groups that preceded us. To some extent, we reap the benefits of their work before we ever take the stage," Adams adds.

The opportunity to see the MC Singers perform on campus is a privilege indeed for students and the community alike. Last year, the Singers were invited to perform at the ACDA National Convention in Los Angeles, solidifying their position as one of the top twenty college choirs nationally. This year, Singers' conductor Jamie Meaders has been invited to conduct at Carnegie Hall in New York, and has chosen to bring his choir along for the trip. The group will be traveling to New York at the end of March, where they will perform John Rutter's "Requiem." While plans

for the next several years are still tentative, the Singers will more than likely be again taking their music abroad, sharing their tradition on a worldwide stage.

For those wishing to experience the Festival of Lights, the MC Singers extend an invitation to attend one of their performances on December 1, 2, and 3 in Provine Chapel at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. Anyone desiring ticket information may call 601.925.3440.

Thanksgiving means travel for many students

By Heidi Hart
Arts and Entertainment Editor

The Thanksgiving Holidays are just around the corner, and for some Mississippi College students, that means going home and spending time with family. For others, it means traveling.

I went on a mission to find out exactly what students were doing and found some rather unique answers. Jordan Kemp said he "was going to the Egg Bowl to watch Mississippi State."

Some students are traveling long distances for Thanksgiving,

including, J.D. Curry, who said he is headed to Ohio with his girlfriend to visit with her family, and Pam Whitaker stated that she would be traveling to Illinois this Thanksgiving.

Megan Mitchell will be going to Nashville with her college group from home.

Many are looking forward to time at home with family. Reece Myers said he would "probably eat" during his Thanksgiving break.

Michael Bates said he was "going back to Georgia" and Penny Van Buren said she was

going to visit her mother. Likewise, Joseph Charlton said he wanted to see his family.

Even though Thanksgiving is a break from the normal routine, a number of students will begin preparing for their final exams and "doing homework" as Jessica Niemeyer said.

This is the time for family and friends to get together, eat, and possibly watch football on TV.

However, whatever you do and wherever you go for Thanksgiving, don't forget to give thanks to God for all that He has done for you this year.

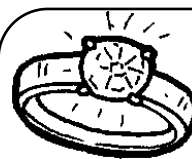


Capital City Culture



The Mississippi Symphony Orchestra will open its 2005-2006 Intimate Classics Chamber Series on Friday, Nov. 18 with "An Evening with Ludwig," beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church. Tickets for "An Evening with Ludwig" are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors 65 and older, and \$5 for students 18 and under. College students are also eligible for the \$5 rate upon presentation of a valid student I.D. For more information, visit www.msorchestra.com.

Vicksburg Theatre Guild presents "Steel Magnolias" on Nov. 18-20 at Parkside Playhouse. Friday and Saturday curtain at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday curtain at 2 p.m. Visit the Vicksburg Theatre Guild website at www.e-vtg.com for more information.



Engagement Announcement

Jake Bell and Penny Haddox are engaged and will be married on the 23 of Dec. 2006.

Getting Married?

Let us print your engagement announcement.

Send to Collegian@mc.edu