



SPRING 2016

# In - CHOIR - Er

Publication of the  
Greek Orthodox Metropolis  
of San Francisco  
Church Music Federation  
sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org



May 26, 2016

✠Carpos and Alphaeus, Apostles of the 70

Beloved Church Musicians,



**Χριστός Ανέστη!**  
**Christ is Risen!**

We have just passed the mid-point in our journey to Pentecost and I pray that this Paschal season has been one of spiritual joy and fulfillment for each of you!

I know that the fellowship you enjoy

as church musicians will be further expanded at this summer's Federation Conference, being most graciously hosted by the Resurrection Greek Orthodox Church in Castro Valley, California. I encourage you to attend this gathering where you will have the opportunity to learn new music by honoring the legacy of Presvytera Anna Gallos, while further cultivating friendships with other church musicians from throughout the Metropolis.

I am grateful for your ongoing commitment to our music ministry and I pray that the Lord will always grant you strength of voice and heart to give praise to His All Holy Name!

With Love in Our Risen Lord,

*Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco*

✠Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

## CONFERENCE THIS YEAR IN CASTRO VALLEY

### **Registration Deadline Approaching Rapidly**

The parish and choir from Resurrection Church in Castro Valley have been preparing for a weekend full of inspiration, song, friendship and fun. Since the material went out a bit late, it is time now to make your plans, book your hotel and register. In this issue you will find a registration form, award nomination information, conference schedule, and hotel information. For the full packet, more information, and nomination forms, consult the Federation website [sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org](http://sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org).

Plan on coming to the 2016 choir conference from June 23rd-June 26th. Castro Valley is in the larger San Francisco Bay Area. The hotel, the Marriott Residence Inn in Pleasanton, is ten minutes from the church and near a Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station which can bring you to San Francisco, should you wish to visit.

Besides singing at Liturgy, and singing all weekend, you will have a chance to try Bocce Ball and dinner at Campo di Bocce.

### **FOR THE YOUTH**

Besides singing with other youth and the adult choir on Sunday, you will be singing all weekend, playing pee wee golf, eating pizza, playing arcade games and playing bocce ball. What a fun filled weekend! Don't wait, register now.

## BECOME FAMILIAR WITH CONFERENCE MUSIC

In order to have a head start on learning the music of Anna Gallos, some regional rehearsals have been planned. If there are any in your area, plan to take advantage of them to learn or refresh yourself on the music. Some already planned are:

Oakland at Ascension on Saturday, June 4, from 9:00-12:00.

San Francisco at Holy Trinity on Saturday, June 11, from 9:00-12:00.

San Diego at St. Spyridon Church on Thursday, June 2, from 7:00-9:00pm and also Saturday, June 4, from 10:00am-12:00pm. (Same place.)

Watch for announcements of any additional rehearsals.

## **The In-Choir-Er**

A publication of the  
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of  
San Francisco  
Church Music Federation  
sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org

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## **BOOK YOUR HOTEL ROOM NOW**

The 2016 Summer Conference Hotel is Marriott's Residence Inn located in beautiful and historic Pleasanton, California.

Shuttle will be provided to transport to church and back.

Reservation includes a daily hot breakfast buffet and complimentary on-site parking.

For reservations call 1 925 227 0500

Group code name is SFCMF Conference

Studio Suite at \$139 per night, use code SFCS

One bedroom Suite at \$149 per night, use code SFCO

Check website for more information. [sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org](http://sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org)

**The deadline has been extended to Friday, June 10th.**

## **HAVING DIFFICULTY COMING UP WITH REGISTRATION FEE?**

The Federation sponsors a scholarship intended to assist you to attend the conference. Since the mission of our Federation is to harmoniously support parishes in our Metropolis with their church music needs and perpetuate the rich musical tradition of our church, scholarships are now available to help defray the cost of conference registration. Awarded scholarships will be paid directly to the host parish conference committee.

Youth and adult choir singers and youth and adult chanters are welcome to apply.

The deadline has been extended to June 6th, 2016. Notice of award will be sent no later than June 12, 2016. Applications are available on the website

## **MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN REPORT**

Dues and Stewardship 2015-16

As of May 4, 2016 the Federation has received parish dues from 19 parishes for adult music programs and 4 parishes for youth music programs totaling \$1565. Stewardship has been received from or on behalf of 170 individuals totaling \$4785, averaging \$28.15 each.

Listserv and Website

All information available at this time for the 2016 Summer Conference has been posted on the web site.

If you have a change in your parish priests, choir director, choir members, chanters, Sunday school director or other individual who is either a church musician or who interacts with the church music program, please send their contact information to Mario DiGiovanni at [mnkdigi@comcast.net](mailto:mnkdigi@comcast.net). Our communication effort is both push and pull. While you can pull information from the federation web site on your own we can't push information out to you via e-mail or US mail unless we know who you are.

## **DOES THIS NEWSLETTER SEEM SMALLER THAN USUAL?**

You are absolutely correct in noticing that this newsletter seems smaller. It was decided by the executive board to use this issue to reinforce the information that has been sent out electronically.

After the conference, watch for a big, fat, colorful newsletter complete with photos of the conference.

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## **GEORGE GEORGE AWARD**

Primary Intent: To reward the many deserving church musicians within the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Church Music Federation for their past and present dedication and support.

Selection: Nominees can be selected by each parish in consultation with the choir/parish music director, choir members, priest and other appropriate individuals. Each parish may submit no more than three nominees for this award. The award will be given at the Summer Conference.

Deadline: Submissions must be RECEIVED by Saturday, June 6, 2016 and must be sent to: Dr. Chris Vitakes, 1353 C Street, Hayward, CA 94541, email at: cmvitakes@sbcglobal.net or FAX by the deadline to 707-745-1995.

ALL NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE SIGNED BY THE PRIEST. Any forms received after the deadline, not properly signed, or including more than three nominees will not be considered. If necessary, additional paper(s) can be used to provide information on your nominees; however, this form, properly signed, must accompany any additional materials submitted.

Note: If you have previously submitted a name that has not been selected, you can resubmit the nominee. However, you must provide complete information each year.

Applications are on the website [sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org](http://sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org)

## **KATHERINE TRAPP YOUTH MUSICIAN AWARD**

Primary Intent: Katherine “Kathy” Trapp enthusiastically and lovingly served as our Federation’s first Youth Music Specialist. She not only taught how young people learn to sing our beautiful tradition, she taught youth to love it! Her legacy lives on today through the youth musicians and youth music educators she so fervently guided.

You are encouraged to nominate a youth musician from your parish to receive the Katherine Trapp Youth Musician Award. This person will demonstrate a deep love for the music of the Orthodox Tradition through participation musically in the services (playing organ, chanting, singing in choir, or enthusiastically learning the music of the services while attending them).

Selection Criteria: Age 8-18; Nominated by Parish Priest and one of the following: Choir Director, Youth Choir Director, Organist, Sunday School Teacher or Protopsaltai.

Forms available on website. See previous article for deadline, where to send and requirements on form.

## **XENIA ANTON DESBY MEMORIAL ORGAN SCHOLARSHIPS**

Statement of Purpose:

The Xenia Anton Desby Memorial Organ Scholarships were established to assist and encourage the musical development and training of Greek Orthodox Church organists.

Two awards in the amount of \$500 are available. One award is for applicants who have not received any formal organ instruction, and the second award is for applicants who have previously studied organ.

It is the hope and expectation that the recipients of the Xenia Anton Desby Memorial Organ Scholarships will serve, or continue to serve, the music ministry of the Greek Orthodox Church.

All interested persons within the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco are encouraged to apply. Immediate past recipients must wait one year to reapply upon utilization of their first award. This year’s recipients must use their grant by September 1, 2017.

Directions: Deadline: Application must be postmarked on or before June 6, 2016.

A letter of recommendation from your parish priest must be sent directly to the Xenia Anton Desby Memorial Organ Scholarships Committee Chair at the address listed below.

Mail the completed application form to:

Christopher Yokas, Chair-Xenia Anton Desby Memorial Organ Scholarships  
1324 South Normandie Avenue-Los Angeles, CA 90006

For further information, please contact Christopher Yokas at 818-846-2710.

For applications, check the website [sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org](http://sanfran.churchmusic.goarch.org)

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## Adult Choir/Chant Conference Schedule *Subject to Change*

### Thursday

2:00-7:00 pm Conference Registration at Residence Inn  
7:00-9:00 pm Business Meeting at Residence Inn

### Friday

7:00 - 9:00 am Breakfast at Residence Inn  
9:15 am Buses leave for Resurrection Church  
Registration at Resurrection Church  
9:45 - 12:00 pm Welcome and Rehearsals  
Conducted by Paul Mavromihalis  
9:45 - 12:00 pm Chant Rehearsal  
Conducted by Michael Kontaxis  
12:00 - 1:15 pm Lunch  
1:30 - 4:30 pm Adult Rehearsal / Sectionals  
4:30 - 5:30 pm Transportation to **Campo di Bocce**  
5:30 - 8:30 pm **Dinner and Bocce Ball**  
8:30 pm Transportation to Hotel

### Saturday

7:00 - 9:00 am Breakfast at Residence Inn  
9:15 am Buses leave for Resurrection Church  
Registration at Resurrection Church  
9:45 - 11:30 am Adult Rehearsal  
9:45 - 11:30 am Chant Rehearsal  
11:45 - 1:00 pm Lunch  
1:00 - 3:30 pm Liturgy run-through in Large Hall/  
Church  
3:30 pm Transportation to Hotel  
5:30 pm Buses leave for Resurrection  
**6:00 - 6:45 pm Vespers?**  
7:00 - 11:00 pm Awards Banquet  
9:45 pm Transportation to Hotel

### Sunday

7:30 am Transportation to Resurrection Church \*\*  
8:15 am Orthros  
9:30 - 11:00 am Divine Liturgy  
Group Photo following Liturgy  
11:30 - 1:15 pm Farewell Luncheon

\*\*You must check-out of the hotel before coming to church.  
Luggage will be stored in a locked room.  
The buses will not be returning to Residence Inn.

## Youth Conference Schedule *Subject to change*

### Thursday

2:00 - 7:00 pm Conference Registration at Residence Inn

### Friday

7:00 - 9:00 am Breakfast at Residence Inn  
9:15 am Buses leave for Resurrection Church  
Registration at Resurrection Church  
9:45 - 11:45 am Welcome and Rehearsal  
Conducted by Amanda Fields  
12:00 - 4:00 pm **Golden Tee Golf and Outing**  
including lunch  
4:30 - 5:30 pm Transportation to **Campo di Bocce**  
5:30 - 8:30 pm **Dinner and Bocce Ball**  
8:30 pm Transportation to Hotel

### Saturday

7:00 - 9:00 am Breakfast at Residence Inn  
9:15 am Buses leave for Resurrection Church  
Registration at Resurrection Church  
9:45 - 11:30 am Youth Choir Rehearsal  
11:45 - 1:00 pm Lunch  
1:00 - 3:30 pm Liturgy run-through in Large Hall/  
Church  
3:30 pm Transportation to Hotel  
5:30 pm Buses leave for Resurrection  
**6:00 - 6:45 pm Vespers?**  
7:00 - 11:00 pm Awards Banquet  
9:45 pm Transportation to hotel

### Sunday

7:30 am Transportation to Resurrection Church  
8:15 am Orthros  
9:30 - 11:00 am Divine Liturgy  
Group Photo following Liturgy  
11:30 - 1:15 pm Farewell Luncheon

### **Campo di Bocce & Golf and Information**

Information on Campo di Bocce & Golf and on website.