

# MINI ACOUSTE



# KEY

Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

Official Communication

[www.boston.churchmusic.goarch.org](http://www.boston.churchmusic.goarch.org)

## CHRISTOS ANESTI! - ALITHOS ANESTI! CHRIST IS RISEN! - TRULY HE IS RISEN!

The Executive Board of the Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (MBFGOCM) hopes that you had an uplifting Lenten season, Holy Week and Anastasi and proclaims aloud «Χριστός Ανέστη» "Christ Is Risen!" The contributions of each and every one of us, as we sing the uplifting and meaningful hymns and responses of our ancient Orthodox Liturgies and Services during this holiest of seasons, is truly an inspiration to all. We wish many blessed years to all. Χρόνια πολλά και ευλογημένα.

**METROPOLIS YOUTH CHOIR - UPDATE** - On April 12, His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios hosted a meeting on youth music in our churches, which was very productive and well attended with representation from parishes throughout the Metropolis including Rhode Island and New Hampshire. Highlights of the meeting include the following:

His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios reaffirmed his desire of establishing a youth choir comprised of members from all the regions in the Metropolis. Cooperation from parish organizations, such as the Sunday School and Greek School, is important since we are all striving towards the same goal - the enrichment of our youth in the Greek Orthodox religion and culture. Sunday Schools must include the teaching of our hymns in their curriculum. The formation of regional choirs will ensure that every church in our Metropolis will have a chance to participate close to home. This will also make certain that children in parishes which do not have a youth choir will have the opportunity to sing with other youth in their area. A common music book, which will include liturgical music and traditional Greek and American songs, will be compiled. Antonios Vatousios, Metropolis of Boston Youth Choir Coordinator, will attend each session of the Metropolis Summer Camp to sing with the campers; there will also be a music retreat in August to enable the youth to prepare singing for the liturgy of the Elevation of the Holy Cross to be held at the St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center in Contoocook, NH in September.

## 2008 CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTE (CMI) ANNOUNCED

- The Executive Board of the Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians is pleased to announce the topic for this year's CMI, "Effectively Conducting the Greek Orthodox Church Choir," and our guest clinician, the renowned choral conductor, Rodney Eichenberger. Mr. Eichenberger is an experienced leader of many choral conducting workshops in the US and internationally and has produced well-known instructional videos. He has also served as a guest lecturer and guest conductor of multiple choirs all over the world. This is a unique opportunity to work with such a gifted and inspiring church musician!

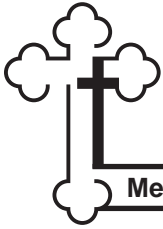
The CMI will be of interest to choir directors, choir members, organists, youth choir directors and other church musicians and we recommend all church musicians from the Metropolis of Boston Federation and beyond to attend.

The CMI will feature topics such as: Ways to improve conducting techniques; Enhancing the choir's tone; Attracting new members and retaining old ones; Understanding the liturgy and the demands of a hierarchical liturgy; Working with youth and much more. Please also note that the date for the CMI has changed and will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2008 at the Archbishop Iakovos Library and Research Center at Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, MA. Look for more information in upcoming newsletters. We look forward to seeing you all there!



Lowell, MA - Holy Friday Youth Retreat

**LOWELL** - A youth retreat was held at the Transfiguration Church on Great and Holy Friday. After a discussion about the solemnity of the 3:00 p.m. un-nailing of Jesus from the Cross, Choir Director Toula Sparages taught the younger children several songs, including "Jesus Loves the Little Children," "The Christian Alphabet Song," a variation of "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush" in which the words were changed to fit children going to church, lighting a candle, doing their cross, kissing the icon, etc., and "Christos Anesti" sung softly in English. At a later session, the older youth learned the two special hymns that are sung on Holy Saturday morning: "Arise, O Lord" (Anasta O Theos) and "Praise the Lord" (Ton Kyriou Imneite). They sang "Christos Anesti" in soft voices and then "Agiou O Theos" in the 6th tone as a review for Friday evening's procession. The older youth also went on a very moving and spiritual Crucifixion Walk before the girls participated in the 3:00 p.m. Apokathilosis Service as "myrrh-bearing women."



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**CONFERENCE MUSIC** - The music for this year's Conference is available for purchase directly from the composer, Dr. Tikey Zes. The Zes Choral Setting is \$22 plus \$9 shipping and handling for single copies; \$19.80 ea. plus \$13 S&H for 2 to 10 copies; \$18.40 ea. plus \$19 S&H for 11 to 20 copies and \$17.25 ea. plus \$29 S&H for 21 to 30 copies. Please contact Dr. Zes directly to order your music:

Dr. Tikey A. Zes  
2503 Booksin Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95125  
Telephone: 408-723-0640  
Email: tzes@sbcglobal.net

Please note that no one will be allowed to sing at the Conference unless he/she has an original hymnal. Because of copyright rules, no photocopies will be permitted.

## METROPOLIS OF BOSTON CALENDAR

Please send us your dates to add to the Calendar.

### 2008

- May 10 Area Conference Music Rehearsal  
Annunciation Church  
457 Oak Street, Brockton, MA - 9:30 a.m.  
*Coffee and light refreshments will be served.*
- Jul. 13-17 39th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress  
and National Forum Annual Meeting  
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, DC
- Sep. 27 Annual Church Music Institute  
for all Choir Members  
*"Effectively Conducting the Greek Orthodox  
Church Choir"*  
with guest clinician, Rodney Eichenberger.  
Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology  
50 Goddard Avenue, Brookline, MA  
*Please note change of date.*
- Oct. 5 National Church Music Sunday
- Nov. 7-9 2008 MBFGOCM Conference  
Holy Apostles/SS. Peter & Paul Church  
154 Winter Street, Haverhill, MA
- Dec. 14 MBFGOCM Christmas Concert  
Annunciation Cathedral of New England  
Parker & Ruggles Streets, Boston, MA

### 2009

- Nov. 6-8 2009 MBFGOCM Conference  
*Submit your bids*

## AREA CONFERENCE MUSIC REHEARSAL AT ANNUNCIATION CHURCH, BROCKTON, MA

This year's first Area Conference Music Rehearsal will be hosted by the Annunciation Choir of Brockton, MA at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 10th. The Liturgical Setting by Tikey Zes, the music selected for this year's conference, to be held at the Holy Apostles Church in Haverhill, MA in early November, will be rehearsed. Copies of the hymnal will be available for anyone who has not yet ordered or received the music. The music copies will be collected following the rehearsal. The Annunciation Choir will serve coffee and light refreshments prior to the rehearsal. A special thank you to the Brockton Community for hosting this important gathering. Please look for announcements of additional Area Conference Music Rehearsals in upcoming editions of the *Mini Acouste Key*.

## Monthly Feature

### OUR CHOIRS AND OUR YOUTH

**MUSIC - Part 2** - *Music for youth must be written with them in mind.* There is music notation software available that is easy to use: some of the popular ones are Finale and Sibelius. I compiled and rewrote our liturgy using Finale, including the clergy responses. Make sure to use an authorized translation of the liturgy! I use songbooks from Holy Cross Press. Keep in mind the vocal ranges of your singers. Most boys and girls age 8-10 can sing using good tone from middle C up to the next octave. Of course, every child has strengths and weaknesses. You should listen to each child individually to determine the range, tone and projection of the voice. It is probably a good idea to have specific places for each choir member. Do not place your strong singers next to each other or in the front. Share the wealth! If you have older singers (middle school and/or high school), their voices come in many varieties and ranges. When trained, they could sing in the same ranges as your young singers. If you are fortunate to have young men in your choir, they could sing high or low depending whether or not they have experienced their voice change.

**Antonios Vatousios,**  
*MBFGOCM Youth Choir Coordinator*

## To submit information for the *Mini Acouste Key*:

Send to Carol Salvo  
either by email (bcjas@comcast.net)  
or mail (12 Robin Hood Road, Winchester, MA 01890)  
Deadline Date: May 22, 2008