HELLENIC COLLEGE / HOLY CROSS AND THE METROpOLIS OF BOSTON fEDERATION
WELCOME NATIONAL CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTE PARTICipANTS -
Youth Choir Directors, Church School Teachers, Youth Music Coordinators, Clergy, Youth Ministry Coordinators and others interested in hymnology programs for our youth gathered from throughout the Archdiocese at Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, MA in late July for a Summer Institute: Focus on Youth Music. The program was sponsored by the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians with a generous grant from Leadership 100 and in conjunction with the Department of Religious Education.

The Institute consisted of panel discussions about youth music programs, practical tips and techniques for young choirs, a youth music ‘Jam Session’, seminars on understanding the Byzantine Liturgy and workshops on repertoire for children and congregations, and guidance for youth music coordinators. Several children of our seminarians assisted in the youth music demonstrations. There was a healthy sharing of experiences that left all the participants invigorated with ideas and enthusiasm to take back to their parishes and metropolises. Special thanks to Dr. Vicki Pappas, National Chairman for the National Forum, and Joanne Kambouris, National Forum Youth Initiative Coordinator, for putting together such a wonderful and informative program! Please contact Heidi Mason at 781-344-2590 for ideas and information for starting or rejuvenating a youth choir program in your parish.

2009 MBfGOCM MEMBERSHIP
2009 is more than half over and many of us are enjoying the warm summer months with our family and friends. The Metropolis of Boston Federation continues to work throughout the summer to plan for upcoming events such as the Church Music Institute in conjunction with the Metropolis Clergy-Laity Congress at St. Demetrios Church of Weston, MA on October 3rd and the annual MBfGOCM Conference at St. Nicholas Church of Portsmouth, NH in November. Details are being finalized for the new Recognition Awards to honor church musicians for their years of service and the Scholarship Committee is reviewing applications for the brand new MBfGOCM Scholarship, both to be awarded at the annual Conference. Stewardship from the parishes of the Metropolis is your Federation’s primary source of revenue. Please note that parishes must be in good standing in order to vote at the Federation Council meeting during the November Conference. This year’s Federation Council meeting will feature elections for the 2009-2011 officers. Membership forms may be downloaded directly from the MBfGOCM Web site at http://www.boston.churchmusic.goarch.org/about/membership.html. Please don’t delay in sending in your membership for 2009!

MBfGOCM CONFERENCE 2009
Dates
Friday, Nov. 6 through Sunday, Nov. 8, 2009
Host Parish
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Portsmouth, NH
Celebrant
His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston
Music
Dean Limberakis Bilingual Liturgical Setting
Conductor
Dean Limberakis, Annunciation Cathedral, Boston, MA
Organist
Athena Marken, St. Demetrios Church, Weston, MA
Hotel Information
Upcoming Rehearsals
Sunday, Aug. 9, 2009 at St. Catherine Church, Braintree, MA, 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009 at St. Demetrios Church, Weston, MA, 7:00 p.m.
Many more rehearsals will be scheduled for September and October. Check future issues of the ‘Mini Acouste Key’ and the MBfGOCM Web site for updates. Please call Carol Salvo at 781-729-6658 if you would like to host a rehearsal at your parish!
“YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARDS” LAST CALL! - As previously announced in this publication, the Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians will begin honoring and recognizing Choir Members for their total years of choir participation: 10 years, 25 years, and 50 years - at this year’s Annual Conference in Portsmouth, NH. As time is drawing near, we ask all choir directors in the Metropolis of Boston to send a complete roster of all choir members, including organists and directors, showing their total number of years of service, beginning in youth choir (if applicable) through June 2009. Please mail or e-mail your rosters to:

Carol Salvo, 12 Robinhood Road, Winchester, MA 01890 - bcjas@comcast.net

Please help us to recognize all of our hard-working church musicians!

MBFGOCM SCHOLARSHIP - The 2009 deadline for the submission of scholarship applications has been extended to September 15, 2009. Any questions should be directed to the Scholarship Committee: Manny Mihailides, Chairman (401-524-8999 or mannym5@cox.net), Sophia Argeros (781-586-1286 or a.argeros@worldnet.att.net) and James Maheras (603-431-8893 or jgmplm@earthlink.net).

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS TRANSFIGURATION VACATION CHURCH CAMP - During the week of July 27 through 31 over 85 young people attended another wonderful Vacation Church Camp at the Transfiguration Church of Lowell, MA. Four activities were presented on a rotating basis - Athletics, Orthodox Life, Arts and Crafts, and Music. Each day began with a prayer service in the church. Snacks and lunches were provided each day by the different organizations of the church. The theme for this year’s camp was ‘Heroes of the Old Testament.’ Fr. Stephen Lawrence, the parish priest, was able to make the connection of each of these heroes to our Almighty God through his careful presentations during the Orthodox Life classes. The Heroes who were studied for the week were Moses, The Three Youths (Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego), Esther and Noah. On Thursday afternoon the children put on a 15-minute musical program that encapsulated their lessons through song. Toula Sparages, the music teacher, wrote songs for two of the heroes that were studied during the week: Queen Esther and the Three Youths. One of the older campers brought in a beautiful song called “Pass It On” which became a favorite with the campers. Parents were invited to hear and see what their children had accomplished in just 4 short days. Finally, on Friday the children rode a chartered bus to the St. Methodios Camp and Retreat Center in Contoocook, NH where they enjoyed a program led by the staff at the camp.

MTROpOLIS Of BOSTON CALENDAR
Please send us your dates to add to the Calendar.

2009
Aug. 9 Area Conference Music Rehearsal - 3:00 p.m.
St. Catherine Church, 119 Common Street, Braintree, MA

Aug. 25 Area Conference Music Rehearsal - 7:00 p.m.
St. Demetrios Church, 57 Brown Street, Weston, MA

Oct. 3 MBFGOCM Church Music Institute - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
In conjunction with the Metropolis Clergy-Laity Congress
St. Demetrios Church, 57 Brown Street, Weston, MA

Oct. 4 National Church Music Sunday

Nov. 6-8 2009 MBFGOCM Conference
St. Nicholas Church
40 Andrew Jarvis Drive, Portsmouth, NH

Nov. 21 Celebration of Greek Music - 7:30 p.m.
Sanders Theatre at Harvard University
45 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA

2010
Nov. 5-7 2010 MBFGOCM Conference
Submit your bids!