

ASPIRO MEMBERSHIP FEES

Aspiro Choir fees have remained the same for the last few years and due to the current economic climate there has been no increase in fees for this year. Fees can be paid weekly, monthly, by term or annually. To facilitate ease of payments a Standing Order option is also available to those who would like to pay by this method. Please put EXACT payment in plastic pocket & give to Aileen, Mary or Imelda, the sheet will be returned to you marked paid the following week. It is essential that membership forms are completed and returned should contact need to be made in case of emergency.

Keeping in touch - Contact by text

All texts are sent to you directly from computer so please ensure to INCLUDE NAME when replying to texts.

Many thanks for your continued support.



It is important to acknowledge the great work done by so many people which continues to make our organisation a success. To our Board of Directors, Friends and Sponsors we say a grateful thanks for all your hard work and effort on our behalf. To our members for their unfailing commitment, their parents who constantly chauffeur and support and to all who contribute in any way-Thank You!



ASPIRO WEBSITE UP AND RUNNING

Our web site was officially launched in April. It provides lots of info and images of the choir in action. Log on to view images of the "What Did You See?" on www.aspirochoir.ie or view the performance on www.carlowtv.ie

We look forward to welcoming lots of visitors online! Don't forget to check it out!



breathing life into music

Autumn Newsletter November 2010

Dear All,
Two months into our 14th year I welcome all our members, old and new and look forward to a year filled with learning, enjoyment, musical challenges and fun!

A big welcome to our new Aspiro Junior leader Imelda Andrews & our new administrator Aileen Nolan to the ASPIRO team. November fees are now due and we would appreciate if correct money along with payment sheets are placed in the plastic sleeves provided.

Our activities for the coming months are outlined below. We will need help from all quarters to make our planned projects a success and so would ask people to come on board and lend their support any way they can.

We always welcome suggestions, ideas and comments so please do not hesitate to give us yours - Enjoy the term!

Yours in music,

Mary Amond O'Brien

Choir Groupings

This year we have five ensembles:-
Aspiro Junior - boys & girls aged 7 - 8/9 meet on a Tuesday evening from 5pm - 5.50pm and are led by Imelda Andrews. **Well done to all on your Halloween performance on 19th Oct!**

The following groups are led by Mary
Aspiro Girls - girls age 9+ meet on Tuesday evenings between 6pm - 7.30pm

Male Voice Squad - boys age 9 + meet every Thursday evening at 5 - 6pm

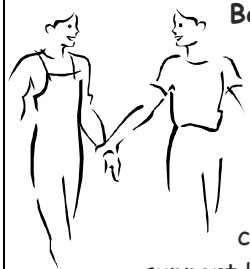
Aspiro Youth Ensemble - boys & girls age 13+ meet Thursday from 6.30pm - 8.15pm and again on Saturday mornings 9.30am - 11.15am.

Aspiro Alpha - past members currently meeting once a week.

New members are always welcome in September & January each year, so feel free to encourage others to join or indeed to bring a friend.

Remember we believe in the innate musical ability of all children & young people so no previous singing experience or auditions required!

Check out our website on www.aspirochoir.ie



Become a Friend of Aspiro

The Friend's scheme exists to allow Aspiro followers to continue their support between

performance projects and to provide Aspiro a more sustainable method of fundraising to ensure long-term sustainability.

Benefits of being a Friend:

- Two discounted tickets for any concert organized by Aspiro
- Quarterly email newsletter keeping you updated with our activities and plans.
- Knowing you are doing good for the benefit of others.

How to become a friend:

We are asking for "Friends" to commit to a monthly contribution of €10. This will help secure the future of Aspiro and ensure the choir goes from strength to strength.

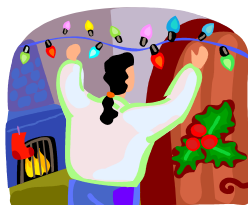
If you are interested in becoming a Friend or know of someone who would like to support our scheme please contact Mary or 087-6536143 for a membership form.

Arts Council funding for 2011 -

Our funding application for 2011 is currently being prepared for submission to the Arts Council but due to the current climate we must wait until well into the new year before we learn what if any funding we will receive, so keep your fingers crossed for some good news on this front. Where possible spread news of our good work to local politicians for continued support at local level.

"Deck the Halls!!"

I'm sure you have heard some Christmas songs already at home. Our Christmas concert 'I Wish You Christmas' will take place in **Askea Church on Saturday 11th December 8.30pm and afternoon on Sunday 12th at 4.30pm.** It will feature all Aspiro ensembles & special guests.



Proceeds will go to The Delta Centre, Saplings and Askea Youth Development. If every family commits to selling 5 tickets we will have a guaranteed 500 audience not including sales by the charities. Tickets €10 & Children €5

WORLD PREMIERE OF "What Did You See?" At VISUAL & The GB Shaw Theatre.

On 25th September last Visual played host to the world premiere of a collaborative commission between Elaine Agnew (Composer), Sean Hardie (Writer), Bryan Burroughs (Movement Consultant), Mary and the members of Aspiro Youth Ensemble with support from the Arts Council Commissions award.

"What Did You See?" explored 'aural' and 'visual' and the physical spaces and surrounds of VISUAL, Centre for Contemporary Art and The George Bernard Shaw Theatre, in Carlow. For the performance element of this project Aspiro members worked with movement consultant Bryan Burroughs.

The piece is written for four part mixed choir with piano and chime bars. The piano was played by Maeve Lyons our valued and much loved accompanist. The chime bars were played by Aspiro members.

On the night the performance took place in the Link Gallery where work from Michael Warren's installations became part of the performance piece. A big thank you is due to

Michael for giving us this opportunity

We performed the piece again on 28th October in the National Library as part of a showcase for politicians in advance of the budget to create awareness of the importance of the arts in the lives of our young people.



ASPIRO Girls & Male Voice Squad In Concert with John Spillane

On Friday 8th October Aspiro joined Cork Singer Songwriter John Spillane when he performed a special bilingual concert as part of Feile an Fhonnhair.

John was joined by Aspiro Girls and Male Voice Squad Ensembles in performing six songs from his two 'Irish Songs we learned at school' albums as well as his other well known favorites. A great night was had by all with many commenting on the evident enjoyment of the singers on stage! Well done to all the boys and girls.