



Aspiro will be accepting applications for new members for their various ensembles for the new year commencing Sept. 2010. Catering for boys and girls from age 6/7 up to 20 yrs and beyond with no auditions needed we would love to see new faces. So spread the word and/or invite a friend to come along & join in the fun!



**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2010 -  
12.30pm GB Shaw Theatre**

Aspiro are delighted to be featured as part of Éigse Carlow Arts Festival Lunchtime Concert programme which will include a selection of pieces from their programme for 2010 performed by Aspiro Girls, Male Voice Squad and Senior Ensembles. Please come along and support us at this event.



It is important to acknowledge the great work done by so many people which continues to make our organisation the success it is.

To our Board of Directors, Committee Members, 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 our Chaperones without who trips away would not be possible. To all who contribute in any way-Thanks!



**WEBSITE  
LAUNCHED**

At the end of April we officially launched our website which is now up and running and can be viewed at [www.aspirochoir.ie](http://www.aspirochoir.ie).

We thank David Kirwan and T2 for all their work with the design and Dynamic Business Systems for agreeing to host our site for the current year. Please log on to view photos and let us have your comments and suggestions.



breathing life into music

## Summer Newsletter June 2010

Dear All,

As we come to the close of yet another great year we take this opportunity to look back on the activities of the last term.

As always each of our choir groups have worked hard and their commitment and dedication has shown in their performances.

Our Friends scheme has received a positive response to date and we would ask that you promote this as its success will ensure fees & fundraising can be kept at a minimum.

We wish all our members and their families a restful and relaxing break and look forward to seeing you back in September. Choir will resume back w/c 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Yours in music,

**Mary Amond O'Brien**

**Concert in Helix** - As a result of our success in Lyric FM 'Choirs For Christmas' competition Aspiro were invited to join with the Band of An Garda Siochana to present - **A Musical Charity Concert in aid of The Daughter's of Charity** with special guests Anthony Kearns (Tenor) and Fiona Murphy (Mezzo Soprano) on 16<sup>th</sup> April at the Mahony Hall in the Helix.

Aspiro were joined by Karen Kelly who performed Andrew Lloyd Webber's Pie Jesu with soprano Fiona Murphy.

It was a wonderful opportunity for all involved to help this great charity and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience.





As part of our residency with the GB Shaw Theatre Aspiro Alpha and some of Aspiro Youth Ensemble are engaged in Dance & Vocal workshops with John Scott of Irish Modern Dance Theatre. These workshops will resume again in September 2010. To mark the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the opening of the new GB Shaw Theatre, Aspiro Youth ensemble will perform the World Premiere of a piece commissioned by Aspiro and composed by Elaine Agnew in September. Details to follow!

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**Parent's Committee** - Next year we hope to get a Parent's Committee up and running to assist in a more formal manner with the organisation of our various activities. 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 expertise, knowledge and support in any way they can. Many thanks for fantastic ongoing help and assistance with activities.



We are delighted to announce that our funding application for the current year has been granted by the Arts Council, which in the current climate, is great news!

We are also delighted to have the continued financial support of Carlow County Council and Carlow Town Council. This continued support is recognition of the importance of Aspiro to the local community.

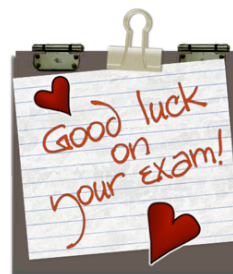
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On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May a large number of members from the Girls, Male Voice and Senior ensembles traveled to Waterford as part of an exchange project with the Waterford Choir. The members met with their counterparts from the WIT choir and spent the morning working collaboratively together at various workshops. Following lunch the groups had an afternoon of fun activities including bowling and pottery with their new found friends before getting together to give a concert at St. John's Church that evening to an appreciative audience. It is hoped to host a return visit in November.



## Membership Fees

Membership fees are now due to be paid. The office is open to receipt payments each Tuesday & Thursday evening between 5pm - 6.30pm. Many thanks for your continued support in this regard.



To all our members undertaking Junior Cert, Leaving Cert or College Exams, we wish you the best of luck!

Well done to all our members who opted to utilise their singing talent very successfully as part of their practical music exams.

For all next year's exam students remember this is a very feasible option for you. Please talk to Mary in September for help and advice.



Last Thursday evening the Senior ensemble recorded a number of pieces for a Lyric FM programme on Choral Music In Ireland - Congratulations to this group to being one of two youth choirs to be chosen for this project.

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The Senior Choir traveled to Prague in March 2010. The group was made up of 20 members and 6 chaperones and all enjoyed their Eastern European experience. The group performed at three locations during their visit while also having time for some sightseeing around this beautiful city.

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**Friends Scheme** - On 29<sup>th</sup> April we launched our latest fundraising venture in an attempt to keep Aspiro a financially viable organisation and to ensure that our level of performance continues to be at the standard of excellence. This scheme will seek out "**Friends**" willing to donate €10/Month for a specified period and so help guarantee the future of the choir. We are hoping to aim our scheme at past members, friends, local businesses or indeed any fans of Aspiro who would like to express their support in a tangible manner.