

Scholarship Recipient Information

The Associated Male Choruses of America is proud to be associated with such fine young men and women who will certainly make our world a better place through their music. Congratulations to the Choruses who sponsored these champions and to all the folks who contributed to the Scholarship Fund.

David Buren will begin his freshman year this fall at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, majoring in Vocal Performance. A first-time winner of the AMC of A Scholarship Award, the Lansing, Michigan, native was a three-year member of the Waverly Reflections, Lansing's Waverly High School honours choir. As a member of the highly respected Reflections, David performed throughout Michigan, as well as in Italy and Canada. He has won Superior ratings in Michigan State Solo-Ensemble contests and was a finalist in the Lansing Community College-sponsored Machtel competition. In addition, David performed leading roles in his high school's productions of the musicals *State Fair* (in which he played Pat Gilbert) and *Grease* (in which he played Danny Zuko). David is proudly sponsored by the Greater Lansing Orpheus Male Chorus, Michigan District.

This award is **Leah Gordon's** third AMCA Scholarship, having been a recipient in both 2000 and 2001. Profiles on the 2000 and 2001 Winners' pages at the AMCA web site outline her previous accomplishments.

Leah is entering her third year at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. As a result of her outstanding work over her first two years she has been accepted in the Opera School undergraduate program, usually reserved only for graduates. As well, Leah will serve as the Opera Representative (2002-2003) for the Faculty of Music Undergraduate Association. In 2003, Leah will be a featured soloist (Messiah) with the Peterborough Singers. Leah is proudly sponsored by the Kawartha Male Chorus, Ontario District of AMCA.

Matt Reichart is receiving his first AMCA scholarship this year. This fall he will be a Sophomore at St. John's University studying vocal music and history. Prior to his college studies Matt was extremely active in a variety of musical activities, ranging from his involvement in over thirteen musical productions in which he often had the lead role, to four years with the Central Lakes Conference Honors Choir and the ACDA Honors Choir.

At St. John's Matt sings in the Chamber Choir and in the Monastic Schola for St. John's Abbey. He works with the St. John's Boys' Choir giving recorder and voice lessons, teaching music theory, and helping run sectional and full group rehearsals.

Matt is also the Director of "In the Key of G" choir at St. Boniface Catholic Church. This past summer Matt helped host the AmericaFest International Festival for Men and Boy Choirs and also was involved at the Sixth World Choral Symposium. Matt is proudly sponsored by the **Cold Spring Area Maennerchor**, Upper Midwest District.

This AMCA Scholarship will be **Christina Rice's** second award, having been recognized by AMCA last year. Please see her a profile of her previous accomplishments on the 2001 Winners page.

Update: This school year Christina will begin her Sophomore studies (vocal music education major). She has been elected as the Vice-President of the Central Michigan University chapter of the American Choral Directors' Association. As well, she has joined the CMU Chamber Singers.

In May, 2002 Christina participated in the Central Michigan University Concert Choir and Chamber Singers ten day performance tour throughout China. She was selected to the Dean's List in the School of Music for both of her Freshman semesters at CMU. Christina's father, Andy, is an active member of the Men of Music. Christina is proudly sponsored by the Midland Men of Music.

This is first AMCA Scholarship for **Tim Westerhaus**. Tim will commence his Junior year program at the University of St. Thomas where he currently studies Liturgical Music.

In 2000-01 Tim attended the Indiana University School of Music where he was honoured with IU School of Music Ambassador status. Later, he discerned that he felt drawn to music ministry and thus transferred to the University of St. Thomas.

In high school Tim's musical activities ranged from vocal (Concert Choir, musicals) to Band member (trumpet and drum major). Tim is also an accomplished pianist.

At St. Thomas, Tim has participated in the Liturgical Choir and assisted Campus Ministry as Student Music Ministry Coordinator. Tim has recently completed a professional recording "The Journey of Life" with David Haas, choral composer and music artist for worship. The **Cold Spring Area Maennerchor**, Upper Midwest District, is proud to serve as Tim's sponsoring chorus.

HONOUR THE WINNERS AT LANSING

At our district events, we always take a collection for the scholarship fund. This is the major way we raise money to award these talented young people.

We do not have the District Sings when we have an International Big Sing to encourage as many choristers as possible to attend the international event. This year is no exception.

Gayle Pohl would like to see 2003 men singing on the stage in Lansing in April 2003. Wouldn't it be great if every man gave \$10 (that's US dollars) for the scholarship fund. We could raise over \$20,000 in a single day.

Let's make our goal \$20,000 raised for the scholarship fund at Lansing.

The Chorister offers our sympathy to AMCA President Norm Goodling on the death of his father and we also thank him for sharing the following thoughts with us.