



CAPELLA REGALIS

6350 Coburg Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 2A1

MEN AND BOYS CHOIR

www.capellaregalis.com

Dear Friend of Capella Regalis,

May 21, 2015

In the past I've written to you at this time of year with a snap shot of the life of a particular chorister in Capella Regalis. This is because I feel that it is often through the stories of individual choristers that the story of Capella Regalis can come to life most clearly for you. But in this case it is a whole group of choristers that I wish to highlight, because they constitute an extremely exciting new moment in the choir's history.

If you've been to Capella Regalis concerts or services over our first five years, you may recognize some of the people in this photo – you would remember them as boys in the treble section. Or perhaps you've heard our debut CD, *My Eyes for Beauty Pine*, on which some of these young gentlemen sang – but it's hard to believe that in those recording sessions, barely a year ago, they were singing soprano!



These are the "Young Men" of Capella Regalis. They are our first generation of boys who have transitioned through voice-change straight into the men's section of the choir (they now sing alto, tenor, or bass).

In the fall, when many leaders in the boys section of the choir reached the dreaded moment of voice-change almost all at once, I realized that I'd better add another rehearsal to the week's activities: a separate one for the Young Men. These rehearsals allow more time for these fellows to work out the challenges, both vocal and musical (not to mention emotional and spiritual), of this particular stage in their path to adulthood.

I was hesitant to add another rehearsal to my personal schedule and to that of the choir, but I did not want to abandon our recent graduates right at a crucial time for them, since that would be counter to our entire mission. Little did I know that these rehearsals, with just the "young men" of the choir, would be an immense source of inspiration to me over the course of the season. The Young Men devote all the considerable talents they have acquired over the years to learning to use their 'new' voices. They rehearse with an enthusiasm and focus that continues to inspire the boys of the choir whenever our (now three) generations cross paths. They make the trajectory of the Capella Regalis chorister plain: having received mentorship, they become mentors. These young men represent our past, present, and future and are the founders of another great tradition in Capella Regalis.

Your support is crucial to Capella Regalis. Your generosity is our lifeblood. I hope that you will continue to contribute as generously as you are able.

We are currently soliciting donations for our next season (2015-2016), beginning with Choir Camp in August. Any donation you give goes directly to the character-building musical education of young boys and men. Cheques should be made payable to Musique Royale and a tax receipt will be issued.

Thank you,

Nick Halley, *Artistic Director*