



**For Immediate Release**  
**Contact: Kathy Bowers**  
**970-586-5193**

## **Saturday is last chance for Summer Sings**

Two *Te Deums* ("We praise you, O God") will be the choral masterworks to challenge singers at the final session of Summer Sings, presented by the Oratorio Society of Estes Park.

Joseph Haydn and John Rutter's *Te Deums* will be rehearsed back to back and then "performed" after a social break for snacks and drinks. The *Te Deum* is an ancient hymn, probably dating from the 4<sup>th</sup> century, that remains in regular use in liturgical churches. According to Kathy Bowers, OSEP's music director, "Each work is less than ten minutes long, so you can plan on it being an easier read than the Handel or Brahms. It will be educational and fun to sing through two *Te Deums* that were composed about two centuries apart."

Summer Sings registration begins at 3:30pm with the rehearsals starting at 4:00pm. The cost is \$8 a person. High school and undergraduate college students are free with a student ID.

The location is Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, 2000 Ptarmigan Trail, Estes Park.

This is the third and final session of OSEP's Summer Sings series. Anyone interested in sight-singing a choral masterwork is welcome to come and sing – just for the sheer joy of it. Last week's sight-reading of the Brahms' *Requiem* brought singers from as far away as New York, Michigan, and Kentucky.

### **What is a Summer Sing?**

In New York City, several traditional choral societies schedule so-called "Summer Sings" to maintain enthusiasm for choral singing during the summer hiatus. Rather than rehearse for weeks and then present a formal concert, choirs meet once a week on an informal basis—usually on their regular rehearsal night—to sight-sing through major choral literature. These evenings are open to the singing public, and one can usually find the schedules published in New York magazines, newspapers, and on the Internet.

Some singers are not really sight-singing, since the choral works chosen are often favorites that have been performed numerous times. If the evening's work is unfamiliar to singers, then they get plenty of sight-singing exercise, and at the same time acquire at least a superficial acquaintance with a choral masterpiece.

"Summer Sings is also a good way for singers to try a choir on for size; that is, to shop for a choir in which to sing during the concert season," said Bowers. "We hope that some of you who sing with us this summer will decide to join the Oratorio Society of Estes Park in the fall."

For more information about the Oratorio Society of Estes Park go online: [www.osep.info](http://www.osep.info).

### Submitted by: Doug Fox

970-586-8050

[dougfox@beyondbb.com](mailto:dougfox@beyondbb.com)