

The Princeton Girlchoir Search Committee

formed September 2008

Lorraine Seabrook, Chair

Jo Butler

Jordan Corn

Dr. Frederic Ford

Deborah Herman

Vicki Krampf

Deborah Modzelewski

Janet Perkins

Mary Szeles

Janet Westrick

Lorraine Seabrook

Lorraine Seabrook is Chair of the Search Committee. A member of the Princeton Girlchoir Board of Directors since 2004, she served as President from '07-08 and Vice President from '06-'07. She currently serves as chair of the Publicity Committee. Her daughter, a high school junior, joined Girlchoir in 2003 as a member of the Semi-Tones. She participated in Concert Choir tours to Ireland, Germany, and the Czech Republic. She currently sings with Cantores, is an enthusiastic participant in her school's choral and performing arts programs, and cantors at her church.

Lorraine volunteers with the Hopewell Valley Central High School music and theater programs and has served as Vice President of the school's Music and Theater Parents Association. She has served on the Executive Board of the Hopewell Valley Historical Society and currently serves as Secretary of the St. Alphonsus Parish Council in Hopewell. She is also a volunteer with Princeton Community Works.

She earned a bachelor of arts degree in English and history from Rutgers College, Rutgers University. She is a freelance writer and editor as well as the co-author with her husband, Jack, of *Images of America: Hopewell Valley*, a book of local history. She works extensively with the marketing and public relations department at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Hamilton and is a regular contributor to Mercer Business Magazine where she writes the "Ask a Busy Person" feature.

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Jo Butler

Jo Butler is a part-time research associate at Wickenden Associates, a nationally known search firm specializing in leadership positions in independent schools. She holds an undergraduate degree from Indiana University in Bloomington, IN, and a master's in finance from Northwestern University - Kellogg School of Management. Jo's daughter, Annie, sang with the Concert Choir from 1996-1999 and participated in two European tours (Spain and England).

Jo recently completed two terms as Recording Secretary for the Friends of the Princeton Public Library. She chaired the auction ('04) and Benefit ('05) for the Friends. She has been an active parent volunteer at both Stuart Country Day School and Princeton Day School. Jo also serves on the board of People & Stories.

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Jordan Corn

Jordan Corn is a current Princeton Girlchoir board member and is serving as the Search Committee's liaison to the board's Finance Committee. His daughter, a sixth-grader, sings with the Semi-Tones and is in her fourth year with the Girlchoir. She has performed with the Princeton Festival's Children's Chorus in recent productions of *La Boheme* and *Carmen*, and is a frequent soloist in school and at her church.

Jordan is an IT manager for AAA Mid-Atlantic with significant volunteer experience. He has served on several boards. He is a member of the Princeton Charter Club's board, for which he served as recording secretary for many years. He serves on the Executive Team of the Philadelphia Knowledge Management Group, and is his congregation's immediate past president, as well as its current Music Committee chairman.

Jordan has played keyboards since kindergarten, and has composed and arranged numerous piano pieces, including a two-piano duet first performed at a recital early this year. He plays weekly for his congregation's children's worship services. Jordan holds a bachelor of science and engineering degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University.

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Dr. Frederic Ford

Fred Ford has held faculty and conducting positions at Rutgers University (Rutgers Glee Club, University Choir, Collegium Musicum, and Queens Chorale), Wabash College, the University of Virginia, the State University of New York at Buffalo, and Harvard University.

He recently retired as music and choral teacher at Bridgewater-Raritan Regional High School, where he taught for over 16 years, and subsequently served as an adjunct instructor at Montclair State University. His choruses have toured Europe, Canada, the southern and western United States, and Puerto Rico. He is Past President of the Eastern Division of the American Choral Directors Association, chaired the 2000 Baltimore convention, is Presenters and Accompanist Chair for the 2010 Philadelphia Convention, and served two terms as President of the New Jersey chapter. In 2007, he served as Conductor of the New Jersey All-State Chorus.

Fred has prepared choruses for the Buffalo Philharmonic and American Symphony Orchestras, has been Guest Conductor of the New York Choral Society, and the Society's Chamber Singers, the New Brunswick Chamber Orchestra, and the New Jersey Chamber Singers. He directed the Highland Park (NJ) Community Chorus for seven years, and was a singing member of VOICES, a professional choral ensemble in Princeton. In 1996, he directed two concerts of the Harvard Alumni Glee Club on a tour of Japan with Kyoto University Alumni, and follow-up concerts in 1998 in New York and Cambridge.

He holds degrees from Harvard College, the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he earned a PhD in Music History. Fred is past Secretary of Intercollegiate Men's Choruses, Inc., and former Program Director (1988-89) of the New Jersey State Teen Arts Program. He conducted the CJMEA Region Honor Choirs in 1995 and 2003, and accompanied in 1999 and 2007. Fred received the 2006 Arts in Education Award from the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Foundation.

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Deborah Herman

Debbie Herman is a former Princeton Girlchoir board member. She served on the executive committee, first as Vice President and then as President, and was instrumental in the creation of Princeton Girlchoir's strategic plan in 2005-2006. Her oldest daughter sings with Cantores and has been a part of Princeton Girlchoir for eight years. Her younger daughter sings with Concert Choir and is in her sixth year with Girlchoir.

Debbie is President of Martin Baer & Co., Inc., an import-export firm (and a 50-year-old family business). Her previous background is in consumer products marketing (General Mills, J&J) and accounting (Peat Marwick). Debbie attended Stanford Graduate School of Business after receiving an economics degree from Smith College. Debbie has served as a volunteer with a number of other community organizations over the years, including Stuart Country Day School, Girl Scouts, Cherry Hill Nursery School, and the Smith College Club. She lives in Montgomery Township, NJ.

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Vicki Krampf

Vicki Krampf is the current President and past Vice President of the Princeton Girlchoir board. Her daughter sings with Cantores and has been a member of Girlchoir since 2004. She has participated in three tours (Prague/Germany, Oregon, and Ireland) and is enjoying serving as the intern for the Grace Notes this year.

Vicki has served on the board of McCarter Theater and volunteers for the Hopewell Valley Central High School music and theater programs. She has worked on many fundraising benefits including *Mel Torme at McCarter, Singsation!* at Richardson Auditorium and Princeton Girlchoir's *Absolutely A Cappella*. Vicki also spends each summer working with the Hopewell Valley Children's Theatre producing two musicals for young thespians in first through ninth grades.

Originally from Virginia, Vicki received her bachelor of music degree from St. Andrews College in North Carolina where she studied with Emily Ellsworth; she later studied with Rose Ingrahm in New York City. She sang with Double Treble, a local all-female *a cappella* group for twelve years until they disbanded in 2000. Highlights of her "life before the suburbs" include a national tour with The Repertory Theatre of America, doing extra roles on TV shows, and training sales teams for Chanel and Prescriptives.

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Deborah Modzelewski

Debbie Modzelewski served on the Princeton Girlchoir board from 2003-2007, three of those years as Treasurer. Her daughter joined Girlchoir in 6th grade and is now a senior at Princeton Day School (PDS) with aspirations to major or minor in vocal performance in college. Debbie volunteers extensively at PDS in support of the music, performing arts, and parent communications areas. She was a member of the PDS board from 1996-2003, serving as Vice Chair for several years and on the Executive, Finance, Development, Faculty/Trustee and Head of School Search Committees. Debbie chaired the Planning Committee during the school's most recent strategic planning process.

In previous lives, Debbie attended Stanford Graduate School of Business after receiving an engineering degree from Harvard. She has worked as a computer marketing manager, a financial consultant, and an office manager for her husband's hedge fund business in its first ten years.

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Janet Perkins

Janet Perkins is the Executive Director of the Princeton Girlchoir. She has been involved with the organization in many capacities since 1992. She began as a volunteer and then was elected to the Board of Directors serving as assistant choir manager and tour manager. She stepped down from that position to become the organization's Business Manager, Managing Director, and now, Executive Director. Janet has an alumna daughter who sang with the Princeton Girlchoir from 1992-1997.

Originally from Memphis, TN, Janet has a bachelor's degree in education with a minor in sociology from Southern Methodist University. She taught school in Virginia, Tennessee, and Wisconsin, and was a substitute teacher in New Jersey. Janet's past employers include Minsuk, Macklin, Stein; The Lawrenceville School; Princeton Day School; and Krog & Partners. Her local volunteer activities have included the University Medical Center at Princeton's June Fete and Princeton Community Works.

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Mary Szeles

Mary Szeles is Chair of the Music Department of Rutgers Preparatory School in Somerset, NJ, has been a music educator for 28 years. She earned her bachelor's degree from Goucher College and studied voice with George Woodhead and Flore Wend at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, MD.

Mary taught music and directed choirs in the Baltimore Public School System and sang with the Baltimore Opera Chorus.

She has taught music at Rutgers Preparatory School since 1986 where she has taught general music to Lower School students in Kindergarten through Grade 4. She has also directed the Lower School Choir, 5th and 6th Grade Choir, 7th and 8th Grade Choir, as well as the Upper School Men's Choir and the Madrigal Singers. The Madrigal Singers have sung at Carnegie Hall and annually participate in the New Jersey ACDA High School Choral Festival and have consistently received ratings of "superior." Many of these students have been selected to perform in ACDA National and Eastern Division Choirs as well as New Jersey All State Honor Choirs.

Mary earned her Kodaly Certification from Westminster Choir College and was also director of the Semi-Tones of the Princeton Girlchoir. She has presented workshops for music teachers in Franklin Township as well as the National Association of Independent Schools. She is a member of the American Choral Directors Association, the Organization of American Kodaly Educators, and the Music Educators National Conference. She has regularly been selected into "Who's Who Among American Teachers."

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Janet Westrick

Janet Westrick is Founder and Artistic Director of the Princeton Girlchoir. She has been an accomplished music educator and choral director for over forty years. She is an honors graduate of Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, has done graduate work at Western Michigan University and Westminster Choir College, and is certified in both Kodaly and Orff instruction. Jan currently serves as parish musician at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Kendall Park, New Jersey.

She served as the Chair of the Music and Performing Arts Department at Princeton Day School for many years. A life member of the American Choral Directors Association, Jan has served that organization in committee and conference work. She has presented workshops at Westminster Choir College and was a presenter at the American Boychoir National Choral Conference in 2002 and 2003. Her peers recognize her as a specialist in drawing out the very best from children's voices.

In April 2008, Jan was inducted into the Hamilton City Schools Fine Arts Hall of Fame in Hamilton, Ohio. She was the 1997 recipient of the Women of Distinction Award for the World of the Arts presented by the Delaware-Raritan Valley Girl Scout Council, and a recipient of the 2005 Princeton YWCA Tribute to Women Award.

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