

TUSKEGEE

U N I V E R S I T Y

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Tuskegee University Golden Voices Choir to kick off spring tour

TUSKEGEE, Ala. (February 6, 2009) – The Tuskegee University Golden Voices Choir is kicking off its Spring 2009 Tour on Feb. 26 in Chattanooga, Tenn. The world-renowned ensemble is continuing a tradition of excellence and exposure to the masses.

Music has played a significant role in the life of Tuskegee University since its inception. Founder and first president Booker T. Washington encouraged his instructors to teach the folk songs/spirituals to their students so that they might appreciate the beauty and resilience represented by them.

“We continue to remember and to celebrate the music of our heritage, past and present,” said Dr. Wayne Barr, choir director

The choir’s beginnings are credited to Washington. In the late 1800s, Washington enlisted students to sing spirituals at weekly services in the school chapel. Under the leadership of the renowned composer and educator William Levi Dawson, the Tuskegee Choir rose to international prominence with appearances at Radio City Music Hall in New York, the White House (1932), Constitution Hall (1946), and a host of popular television shows. The 1955 recording, *The Tuskegee Choir Sings Spirituals* is still widely hailed today as one of the best recordings of spirituals. The choir has also performed at the request of national leaders, such as President John F. Kennedy and William Jefferson Clinton.

In 2006, the Golden Voices, led by Barr and accompanied by Lynda Garcia, produced a CD, *Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit*. The Spring 2009 Tour program includes works by Joseph Haydn, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Frank Ticheli, Maurice Duruflé, Ulysses Kay, Adolphus Hailstork and William L. Dawson.

The tour’s schedule is as follows:

Thursday, February 26:	First Baptist Church Chattanooga, Chattanooga, Tenn.
Friday, February 27:	Lexington, Ky.

Saturday, February 28: Shiloh Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio
Sunday, March 1: Antioch Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio
Monday, March 2: Detroit
Tuesday, March 3: First Congregational Church, Battle Creek, Mich.
Wednesday, March 4: Chicago, Ill.
Thursday, March 5: Witherspoon Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Ind.
Friday, March 6: New Sardis Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.

For more information on the Golden Voices and to view video footage, go to www.tuskegee.edu/goldenvoices.

About Tuskegee University

Founded in 1881 by Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee University is home to approximately 3,000 students from more than 30 countries. The campus, a National Historic Site, is spread across 450 acres of that reach out to encompass another 4,500 acres of forest and agricultural experiment/research station spaces.

Tuskegee University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award doctoral, professional, master's and bachelor's degrees. It offers accreditations in: architecture, business, chemistry, dietetics, education, engineering, clinical sciences, nursing, social work, occupational therapy and veterinary medicine.



TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

Golden Voices Choir

WAYNE A. BARR, D.M.A., DIRECTOR
LYNDA K. GARCIA, M.M., ACCOMPANIST

*T*he Tuskegee University “Golden Voices” Concert Choir is steeped in more than a century of pride and the richest of choral traditions. Since its inception, the Tuskegee Choir has served as an artistic model while carving its place in American history.

From the beginning, Tuskegee (Institute) University students were encouraged to express themselves in “communal singing.” Dr. Booker T. Washington, the school’s founder, insisted on the singing of Negro spirituals at weekly Chapel services. Dr. Washington told students, “If you go out to have schools of your own, have your pupils sing them as you have sung them here, and teach them to see the beauty which dwells in these songs.” Thus, Tuskegee developed and passed on a singing tradition.

In 1884, Booker T. Washington organized the Tuskegee Quartet to “promote the interest of Tuskegee Institute.” Two years later, he organized the school choir to lead vesper services and to sing for other special campus occasions. That choir, which has since grown to become the “Golden Voices Concert Choir,” is now charged with both leading the singing on campus and promoting the wider interest of Tuskegee University.

The Choir has a most colorful history indeed. Under the leadership of the renowned composer and educator William Levi Dawson, the Tuskegee Choir rose to international prominence with appearances at Radio City Music Hall in New York City and the White House (1932), Constitution Hall (1946), and on a host of popular television shows, including The Ed Sullivan Show (1952), The Eddie Fisher Show (1953), and Frontiers of Faith (1954). The 1955 recording, “The Tuskegee Choir Sings Spirituals,” is still widely hailed as one of the best recordings of spirituals today. The Choir maintains a national profile through invitations to the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony (1962) by President John F. Kennedy, the National Prayer Breakfast (1994) and to the White House (1997) by President William Jefferson Clinton.

The Tuskegee University “Golden Voices” Concert Choir continues its mission of campus service and ambassadorship through leadership at weekly Chapel Services and appearances in the community and across the nation. The Spring 2009 Tour takes the Choir through Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee.

MEET THE DIRECTOR

Wayne A. Barr is Director of Choral Activities at Tuskegee University. He earned degrees in church music and choral conducting from Westminster Choir College (B.M.), Southern Methodist University (M.M., M.S.M.), and The University of Michigan (D.M.A.). He has served as organist and choir director at churches in Alabama, Michigan, New Jersey and Texas. Before coming to Tuskegee University, Mr. Barr was Director of Music at the historic Hartford Memorial Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan, and instructor of music at William Tyndale College in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

Under Mr. Barr's direction, the Tuskegee University Choir has toured the Midwest and Northeast regions of the United States, and the San Francisco Bay Area. The Choir has also presented numerous concerts throughout the Southeast. The Choir's recent recording, *EV'RY TIME I FEEL THE SPIRIT*, is its first in over twenty-five years.

Mr. Barr is an organ recitalist and music workshop clinician. He is a member of the American Choral Directors Association, the Choristers Guild and the American Guild of Organists. He is also actively involved in the Tuskegee community as a musician and through the Tuskegee Repertory Theatre.



MEET THE ACCOMPANIST



Lynda K. Garcia, accompanist for the "Golden Voices" Concert Choir, is an accomplished pianist. A graduate of Oklahoma City University and Auburn University, she has participated in many competitions, including the Lawton Philharmonic Young Artists' Competition and the Miss Black America Pageant. Through these and other events, Ms. Garcia has had the privilege to meet composer/conductor Norman Dello Joio and the legendary "Duke" Ellington. Ms. Garcia is an instructor of music in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts at Tuskegee University.

“GOLDEN VOICES” CONCERT CHOIR, SPRING 2008-2009 ROSTER

Name	Voice	Year	Major	Hometown
Aaron, Lindie	Alto I	Sophomore	Biology/Pre-med.	Augusta, Ga.
Abrams, Cherilyn	Soprano I	Senior	Finance	Riverdale, Md.
Adeeb, Meroë	Soprano I	Junior	Sales and Marketing	Accokeek, Md.
Banks, Jessica	Alto II	Senior	Social Work	Cobbtown, Ga.
Bates, Monica	Soprano II	Senior	Political Science/ Psychology	Fort Washington, Md.
Beamon, Megan	Soprano II	Sophomore	Electrical Engineering	Montgomery, Ala.
Bean, Kala	Alto I	Sophomore	Chemical Engineering	Montgomery, Ala.
Bell, Shelbra	Soprano I	Sophomore	Business Administration	Memphis, Tenn.
Bowling, Juan	Bass I	Senior	Chemical Engineering	Mobile, Ala.
Brown, Andrew	Bass I	Senior	Sales and Marketing	Baltimore, Md.
Cherry, Kigwana	Tenor II	Senior	Physics	Augusta, Ga.
Clark, Evelyn	Alto I	Sophomore	Biology	Cincinnati, Ohio
Clements, Christal	Alto I	Sophomore	Animal Science	Stafford, Va.
Cottman, Brittany	Soprano II	Freshman	Political Science	Pocomoke, Md.
Cook, Brittany	Alto I	Freshman	Occupational Therapy	Mobile, Ala.
Cook, Whitney	Alto I	Freshman	Pre-med/ Clinical Laboratory Sciences	Mobile, Ala.
Davis, Ransom	Bass I	Senior	Electrical Engineering	Birmingham, Ala.
DeShields, Danielle	Alto II	Senior	Nursing	Mosspoint, Miss.
Dolberry, Amber	Alto I	Sophomore	Undecided	Philadelphia, Pa.
Dukes, Alexander	Bass I	Sophomore	Political Science	Palmdale, Calif.
Featherson, Erica	Alto I	Sophomore	Biology/Psychology	Svisvn, Calif.
Fitzpatrick, Stephon	Tenor I	Junior		Smyrna, Ga.
Fye, Regyné	Alto I	Senior	Physical Education	Suwanee, Ga.
Gardner, Shnita	Alto II	Senior	Political Science/English	Barstow, Ca.
Gentry, Mariah	Soprano I	Freshman	Animal Science	Lithonia, Ga.
Givhens, Charita	Alto II	Sophomore	Occupational Therapy	Bolingbrook, Ill.
Govan, Kiaylah	Soprano I	Freshman	Pre-Vet. Science	Clarkston, Ga.
Gillis, Brittnee	Alto I	Freshman	Animal Science	Gary, Ind.
Holmes, Danny	Bass I	Sophomore	Chemical Engineering	Pickerington, Ohio
Humphrey, Courtney	Alto II	Senior	English	Mobile, Ala.
Humphrey, Tamarah	Alto II	Senior	English	San Francisco, Ca.
Hundley, Danyelle	Alto II	Freshman	Biology/Nutritional Science	Augusta, Ga.
Hunter, Nigel	Bass II	Junior	Occupational Therapy	Fayetteville, Ga.
Jefferson, Antwan	Bass II	Sophomore	Electrical Engineering	Albany, Ga.
Jenkins, Charlie	Tenor II	Sophomore	Accounting/ Business Administration	Montgomery, Ala.
Joseph, Dionne	Alto I	Sophomore	Occupational Therapy	Marrero, La.
Lewis, Katie-Marie	Alto I	Senior	Animal Science	Charleston, S.C.
Lindsey, Lauren	Alto I	Freshman	Undecided	Jackson, Miss.
Lockhart, Ashley	Soprano I	Sophomore	Biology	Shaker Heights, Ohio
Martin, Isaac	Tenor I	Sophomore	History	Decatur, Ga.

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Mayers, Tiffany	Soprano II	Junior	Nursing	Brandon, Miss.
Mayes, Deidra	Alto I	Senior	Political Science	Birmingham, Ala.
McArthur, Lashá	Soprano II	Freshman	Animal Science	Birmingham, Ala.
McCrary, Chasity	Alto II	Freshman	English/Psychology	Jonesboro, Ga.
McCray, Dorotheann E.	Alto I	Senior	Elementary Education	Birmingham, Ala.
McMillan, Marquial	Tenor I	Freshman	English/Secondary Education	Mobile, Ala.
Mills, Maressa	Alto I	Sophomore	Pre-Veterinary Medicine	Cairo, Ga.
Mitchell, Jada	Soprano II	Senior	Biology	Philadelphia, Pa.
Moore, Amber	Alto II	Freshman	Biology	Kansas City, Mo.
Moorer, Trevor	Tenor II	Freshman	Animal Science/Pre-Vet.	Georgetown, S.C.
Moses, Karyn	Alto II	Freshman	Chemical Engineering	Angie, La.
Pearson, Ashley	Alto I	1 st yr. Grad	Occupational Therapy	Baltimore, Md.
Perkins, Randall	Bass I	1 st yr. Grad	Occupational Therapy	Huntsville, Ala.
Person, Glenn D.	Tenor I	Senior	Mathematics	Columbus, Ga.
Pertilla, Mia	Alto I	Sophomore	Animal Science	Atlanta
Pratt-Minor, Jasmin	Alto II	Sophomore	Nursing	Oakland, Calif.
Robinson, Adreana	Alto I	Sophomore	Nursing	Antioch, Calif.
Rogers, Arlevia	Soprano II	Sophomore	Accounting	San Francisco, Calif.
Rollins, Courtney J.	Bass II	Senior	Animal Science/History	Birmingham, Ala.
Shelton, Sydney	Alto I	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Detroit
Simons, Audrie	Alto I	Senior	Aerospace Engineering	Charlotte, N.C.
Small, Santanna	Alto I	Sophomore	Biology	Huntsville, Ala.
Soares, Joseph A., III	Tenor II	Junior	Architecture	Bridgeport, Conn.
Sparks, Jahrel T.	Tenor I	Freshman	Elementary Education	Waukegan, Ill.
Stewart, Jade	Soprano II	Freshman	Pre-Veterinary Medicine	Hephzibah, Ga.
Stone, Mia	Soprano II	Freshman	Biology	Cincinnati, Ohio
Swinney, Armani	Tenor I	Senior	Business	Philadelphia, Pa.
Tigner, Ira	Bass II	Freshman	Biology	LaGrange, Ga.
Turner, Carmen	Soprano I	Sophomore	Electrical Engineering	Newport News, Va.
Vaughn, Earlene	Alto II	Senior	Biology, Music Minor	Flatwood, Ala.
Waldron, Jessica	Alto I	Sophomore	Psychology	St. Thomas, Virgin Islands
Ward, Ashton S.	Bass II	Junior	Political Science	San Antonio, Texas
Whitney, Meagan	Soprano II	Freshman	Nursing	Waco, Texas
Wilkinson, Shanequa	Alto I	Junior	Elementary Education	Freeport, N.Y.
Williams, Afra	Alto II	Senior	Hospitality Management	West Palm Beach, Fla.
Williams, Qwyncile	Soprano II	Senior	Undecided	West Palm Beach, Fla.

SPRING 2009 TOUR

Thursday, February 26

First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, 7:30 p.m.
401 Gateway Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37402
423-267-7603
\$10

Friday, February 27

Imani Baptist Church, 7:00 p.m.
1555 Georgetown Road
Lexington, KY 40511
859-231-1555
\$10 Donation

Saturday, February 28

King Arts Complex, 1:00 p.m.
867 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Columbus, OH 42303
614-645-8871
Free admission

Saturday, February 28

Shiloh Baptist Church, 6:00 p.m.
720 Mount Vernon Ave
Columbus, OH 43203
614-253-7946
614-292-9411
Donations Accepted

Sunday, March 1

Antioch Baptist Church, 4:00 p.m.
8869 Cedar Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44106
216-321-7902
\$10

Monday, March 2

Detroit
Venue TBD

Tuesday, March 3

First Congregational Church, 6:00 p.m.
145 Capital Ave. NE
Battle Creek, MI 49017
269-965-1225
Donations Accepted

Wednesday, March 4

Chicago
Venue TBD

Thursday, March 5

Witherspoon Presbyterian Church, 7:00 p.m.
5136 North Michigan Road
Indianapolis, IN 46228
317-679-4128
Free Admission

Friday, March 6

New Sardis Baptist Church, 7:30 p.m.
7739 E Holmes Rd
Memphis, TN 38125
901-332-3138
Adults, \$15
Students under 18, \$10
College Students with ID, \$10