

## **BABS Directors College 2006 ( DC VI )**

Applications are now invited to attend Directors College in January 2006 at Bablake School Coventry. Accommodation will be provided in the Aston Court Hotel which is a 5 minute walk from the School where the event will take place and where all meals except breakfast will be taken.

The event starts with dinner at 6.30 pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January and finishes around 5 pm on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

In addition to delivering the educational elements of chorus directing, DCVI will also cover the BABS Director Certification Programme: a structured certification process for all levels of Chorus Directing. Those areas not covered at the College will be detailed for the Delegates to work on at home, or at other educational events.

It is envisaged that the Certification process will take place over several years and each Director's College will provide suitable classes, at all levels of ability, to enable individual directors to achieve higher and higher level of certification.

This year we are pleased to announce that Steve Armstrong of the Toronto Northern Lights will be with us again on the Faculty as our special guest educator for DCVI.

Details on Steve and our other visiting educators Andrew Padmore and Manvinder Rattan can be found on the new website [www.babs-education.info/directors](http://www.babs-education.info/directors)

As in previous years we will again have two choruses at the College. In a change from the past two years we have invited the local ladies chorus The Belles of Three Spires from Coventry and the Anvil Chorus from the West Midlands Barbershop Club. Novice Directors will be assisted by a quartet, the Acapella Fellas based in the Coventry club.

Delegates are requested to place themselves either in the Novice stream or in 'Other'. This latter group will receive copies of music and tapes of the choruses singing a selection of songs.

As a further aide to the teaching processes being used over the weekend we have decided to continue with the use of a College Song. The team has selected Bright Was The Night since it was the one used recently at Harmony College and we have teaching materials as well as a recording made of the HC Chorus. The song is for use by all delegates who should learn it well enough to both sing and direct it.

As in 2005 we will be using the session on Saturday to demonstrate aspects of warm-up, Director Coaching and Chorus Coaching as well as Leadership and Management. We have decided to give one 'lucky' delegate the opportunity to be part of this process. If you feel you can cope with Directing your peers whilst being coached by members of the faculty then tick the box on the application form. We will have time to allow only one person to take part and he/she will be chosen by a draw process.

As in 2005, we will record this and other sessions during the weekend and will be providing a copy of a DVD to all participants.

Please note that music and tapes issued will be registered to you by name and must be brought to Bablake where they will be collected at the end of the College.

In addition to receiving music and tapes, all delegates will receive a copy of The Complete Idiots Guide to Leadership. This book will be used over the weekend to provide all participants with ways to handle issues in this area.

All delegates will be recorded on video as part of the training, and for future reference and the faculty will give individual feedback to every attendee.

The college will provide something for everyone - from novices to experienced Chorus Directors - so if you are in a music team, do the warm-up, are an assistant or a front line CD or just want to see what it is all about, apply now.

Copies of the prospectus and application forms can be found on the Directors College website [www.babs-education.info/directors](http://www.babs-education.info/directors)

It would help if you applied using the web based forms but in case of problems they can also be obtained from the Enrolment Manager Sue Loughran

23 Letchlade Close, Coventry, CV2 1RP

Email :[Susan@letchlade.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:Susan@letchlade.fsnet.co.uk)

Home telephone number: 024 7660 4717 Mobile: 07765 580120

Fax number: 024 7664 0905

Demand is expected to be high so please apply early to avoid disappointment.

Note that to accommodate as many people as possible we are looking for attendees to share rooms where feasible. There is an economic incentive to do so so please be sure to find someone who will share and indicate that on the application form.

Closing date for applications will be Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November.

#### Chorus Director Scholarships

The Trustees of Harmony Foundation in conjunction with the relatives of Steve Hall would like to apply some of the money from the Steve Hall Fund to support Chorus Directing in the UK.

To that end for the 2006 event we will again offer four " Steve Hall Directors Scholarships". The criteria are as follows :

#### Steve Hall Directors Scholarships

- The awards are open to people who have never been to BABS Directors College before.
- There are no age or sex limitations
- Applications from non-BABS members will be considered
- Applications should contain a brief description of the applicant and his / her directing experience and should be accompanied by a supporting letter from a BABS club.

Applications should be sent to David Wright [dm@wrightstwo.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:dm@wrightstwo.freeserve.co.uk) with a copy to Mike Lofthouse [mike.lofthouse@babs-education.info](mailto:mike.lofthouse@babs-education.info) by the closing date of Monday 29th November.