

Klingman to Conduct His Final SWOSU Concert This Thursday

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Charles “Skip” Klingman rehearses with the Southwestern Singers. Thursday’s choral concert at SWOSU will mark the final performance in which Klingman will conduct the Southwestern Singers as a SWOSU faculty member. He is retiring this spring after 27 years of service to the music department at SWOSU.

Four Southwestern Oklahoma State University choirs will be featured in concert this Thursday, April 23, at 7 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center lobby on the Weatherford campus.

The concert will feature the Southwestern Singers, Chamber Choir, Women’s Chorus and Men’s Chorus. Admission is free, and the public is invited.

The concert will mark the final performance in which Mr. Charles “Skip” Klingman will conduct the Southwestern Singers as a SWOSU faculty member. He is retiring this spring after 27 years of service to the music department at SWOSU, where he received his undergraduate and graduate music degrees.

Before coming to SWOSU, Klingman was employed as choral director in the Clinton and Muskogee High Schools. He has performed as tenor soloist with the Oklahoma City Philharmonic, Canterbury Choral Society and Ballet Oklahoma and is a past president of the Oklahoma Music Educators Association.

The Southwestern Singers, conducted by Klingman, will present the Liebeslieder Waltzes by Johannes Brahms. These choruses had their public premier at a January, 1870 concert in Vienna. The poems are all from a vaguely oriental collection called Phlydora, a work published in 1855 by Georg Friedrich Daumer. Though the work is often heard as a solo quartet, it is more frequently performed by a chorus of mixed voices.

Soloists are Amanda Isenbart Hughes, graduate assistant, and Daniel Farris, vocal faculty. Pianists are Dr. Dennis Widen, piano faculty, and Stephen King, pharmacy major. The Chamber Singers, conducted by Daniel Farris, will perform a series of German works by Johannes Brahms, Johann S. Bach and Johann Schein. Three student conductors will be featured on this portion of the concert. Graduate students Mallory Turlington and Amanda Hughes will conduct two of Brahms’s Marienlieder, and Emma Grosz will conduct Die mit Tränen säen.

The Women’s Chorus, under the direction of Joyce Adams Curtis, will present three selections. In these delightful, pleasant groves, by Henry Purcell, will be conducted by Amanda Isenbart Hughes. Curtis will conduct Hymn of the Travelers, by Gustav Holst, based on an ancient Hindu sacred text, as well as Shenandoah, an American folk song. Accompanying are Paula Price and Annette Voth of the SWOSU music faculty. They are playing flute and oboe, respectively. Pianist for the Women’s Chorus is Karena Van Horn, sophomore piano major.

The Men’s Chorus, conducted by Farris, will perform a variety of music.