

CONCERT GOERS ENJOY A CAPPELLA HARMONY ENTERTAINMENT

REVIEW BY BILL THOM

Members and friends of the Centerville Concert Association enjoyed an evening of a cappella harmony presented by the Harmony Central Sweet Adeline Chorus of Des Moines last Saturday, October 17th at Simon Estes Auditorium. This was the second of a six concert series being presented during the 2015-2016 year.

I want everyone reading this to know that I am a barbershop style junkie, so I am prejudice in reviewing the performance by the Harmony Central Chorus. I love the harmony of seventh chords and the ring of sounds that are in tune because I have performed in the barbershop style for many years.

The title of the show was “Sing Like A Girl” and the chorus opened with a neat arrangement of I Will Survive. They carried the theme of Girl Friends United throughout telling how girls and women are successful in life and work together by supporting their men and each other. Some of the selections illustrating this philosophy included You Raise Me Up, I Get Around and He Stole My Heart. I was impressed with the Bass section, which is always important in the barbershop style. With many of the up beat tunes, the chorus added movement with hands, arms, feet and heads that went with text of the music. The audience enjoyed the segments between songs that the chorus members shared about life with a touch of humor. The first half of the program concluded with two songs that I really enjoyed because they were beautiful with great harmony. The titles were Cry Baby and Here's to Mom. We had a history lesson about women of the past and the chorus closed before intermission with Rhythm of Life and Sing Like a Girl.

We were treated to two of the Harmony Central Chorus Quartets during the second half. The first quartet is called **CLASSIFIED** and included a Seymour connection. The bass singer went to school in Seymour and credited Mary Parker, her vocal teacher, for keeping her singing. The quartet sang Falling In Love, Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy and I Love You More. The second quartet is called **MIDNIGHT MADNESS** and I loved their blend on Sing Hallelujah, Ob La Di and Can You Feel the Love. The chorus returned with a clothes change and closed the performance with I'll Be Loving You Again, Zing Went the Strings of My Heart and then I Will Survive.

It was announced at the concert that the Harmony Central Chorus and the Pride of Iowa Chorus will be presenting a combined Christmas Show in Des Moines on December 5th. Kudo's to the many individuals and companies that have chosen to support the fine arts programs in Centerville. The next concert will feature an INTERNATIONAL STRING TRIO on Thursday, November 19th. And remember to LIKE US on Facebook; <https://www.facebook.com/centervilleconcertassociation>