New Name, New Genre

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NEW NAME, NEW GENRE

Two of Dordt’s music ensembles are renaming and, in one case, reinventing themselves. The vocal ensemble Kantorei will be called “Fourth Avenue Singers,” while Jazz Band will become “Fourth Avenue Band.” When performing together, they will be known as “Fourth Avenue Jazz.”

The new names are a nod to Dordt’s long-time address on Fourth Avenue and better represent the new focus coming to the Kantorei choir, says Ryan Smit, director of choral activities.

“We now sing exclusively vocal jazz music, we perform with microphones for each singer, and we will be limiting the group to sixteen singers,” says Smit.

Previously, Kantorei consisted of 16 to 24 singers who performed classical music suitable for a smaller ensemble. Smit is excited about the learning opportunities the new focus will offer students.

“The smaller size of the ensemble and the use of microphones makes each singer accountable for every aspect of their contribution,” Smit says.

The Fourth Avenue Singers will collaborate more frequently with the Jazz Band, whose focus will not change. Smit hopes this new direction will attract new participants and audiences.

Nicholas Schnell, a sophomore digital media and graphic design major, shares Smit’s excitement for the upcoming changes.

“I hope we can make jazz important to more students on campus, opening their minds to a world of music they hadn’t necessarily known before,” he says.

ANNEKE WIND (’19)

MEDIA NETWORK TRUCK ENHANCES BROADCASTS

With six cameras, an instant replay system, and a graphics computer, the new Dordt Media Network remote truck represents a major upgrade in broadcasting Dordt athletics events.

The media truck is a TV control room on wheels that allows students in the Dordt Media Network to record or livestream events, create athletic highlight videos, and promote everything Dordt.

Rich Lodewyk, Dordt Media Network director and the general manager of KDCR radio, says the media truck will give opportunities to learn about all aspects of remote broadcast production right on campus.

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The Dordt Media Network truck is equipped with a NewTek TC 1 Tricaster, a state-of-the-art video production system that is used by many in the broadcast industry.

To view the students’ latest and ongoing efforts, go to livestream.com/dordtcollegewebcast.

R. Lodewyk

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JUSTIN BANKS (’19)