The Aeolians have been invited, and will compete July 11-13, 2012, in the 7th World Choir Games, the world’s largest international choral competition, it was announced by INTERKULTUR, the International Organizing Committee of the World Choir Games, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Aeolians will serve as the only Seventh-day Adventist, and/or the only historically black college or university (HBCU) and/or the only Alabama choir to participate in this biennial event, known as the “Olympics of choral music.”

According to Aeolians director Jason Max Ferdinand the Oakwood choristers, the 2010 and 2011 national HBCU choir champions and, more recently, the sole U.S. performers in the seven-day Second International Moscow Christmas Festival of Sacred Music in Russia in January, will compete in three categories: Contemporary Music, Music of Religions and Negro Spirituals.

“This also marks the first time ever the World Choir Games will be held in North America; previous venues were Austria, China, South Korea and Germany,” Ferdinand said.

The World Choir Games takes place every two years. Approximately 20,000 participants, including 400 choirs from 70 countries, are expected to compete in 23 musical categories during the 2012 Games. For more information on performances and tickets, go to http://www.2012worldchoirgames.com.
Oakwood Alumna continues Legacy as new Message Magazine Editor, tells of the Journey

During my years as a journalist, I have gravitated toward stories that championed the rights of the disadvantaged, the underdog, or the unseen hero. I started as a feature writer for the Syracuse Post-Standard in Syracuse, New York in 1988. I worked alongside my friend and Oakwood alum, Alva James (now Johnson). In those days we scoured the streets, attended zoning and planning commission meetings and pored over the police blotter for stories. It was a demanding training ground. I left Syracuse to become an assistant editor at MESSAGE where I worked for five years with editors Delbert Baker and Stephen Ruff. Working for MESSAGE proved to be very gratifying because I was able to use these interests and skills to point readers to their ultimate liberation.

I left journalism to broaden my analytical ability and to be able to help—in a tangible way—the disadvantaged. I studied at the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. Of particular interest to me has been the plight of children, thus I've spent most of my legal career speaking for them in court. I worked as a staff attorney for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) in Columbus, Ohio, representing the best interests of abused, neglected or dependent children. As a public defender in Dayton, Ohio, I advocated for children accused of what would be crimes if they were adults. My private practice for the past few years has enabled me to expand my practice into a variety of areas. I have been most fortunate to help represent a young Christian, asylum seeker. Were this person forced to return home, he would likely suffer violence or worse. We were blessed to help prevent that.

Not to be too deep, but the advocacy of the voiceless and the absolutely criminal, has strengthened my faith in Christ and my confidence in His love for me. After all, He’s not the “accuser of the brethren,” but has completely influenced my case in my favor. As I--guilty as sin--stand before God the Father, I have His Son as my Advocate, Defender, Mediator and Willing Benefactor. I’m now in the clear because of Him.
My father, J. Paul Monk, Jr., became editor of MESSAGE 32 years ago and his insight and coverage was brilliant. I, though, still remember how he came home with his pockets full of White House petit fours after a press briefing with President Carter. I remember him and my mother discussing topics that found themselves in the pages of the magazines. I also remember the friendliness of the then-assistant editor Kyna Hinson, who later became my patient professor at Oakwood, and remains one of my mentors today.

I fully appreciate the powerful potential of MESSAGE and the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Yes, even now. The Review’s publishing ministry as an institution pre-dates the General Conference. It was the mission around which the church was built. James and Ellen White worked at the helm with no money and a little printing press. What could they--what would they--do now if they had what we have?

The selection of a woman and a layperson is a strong statement, not just within the Adventist community, but to those with whom we share the gospel. It might even be a sign of the times! There is too much work to do, and we need more people on it. Lay folks like me do not have the luxury of outsourcing all the work to the theologians.

Adventist women--with a long history of substantial and competent service--must not be overlooked either. To do so, would negate the biblical views on the diversity of the spiritual gifts, and the clear calling Jesus extended to his female disciples. I considered it an honor to have this opportunity to serve. Adventist women like me must continue to serve substantively and competently on every level throughout this movement. It’s time for us all to get on it. I’ve got my gear; I’m going in.”

The previous MESSAGE editor, Washington Johnson, II (pictured at right), served from 2008 to 2012. As a chaplain in the Navy Reserve, he resigned when he received news that he was being deployed to Afghanistan.

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Tennessee Valley Dads Honored with “King for a Day” Contest

CONGRATULATIONS!!! to GRAND Prize winner - Damien Turner (left, with General Manager Victoria Joiner Miller and Underwriting Director, Ron Gilbert) - our WJOU King for a Day 2012!!! And to First Place Dad L.A. Hughes (with Miller, right)
Also at WJOU, on June 20 and 21, as part of the Mentoring Partnership for Young African Leaders, General Manager Victoria Joiner Miller and Chief Engineer Don Roden served as mentors for special guest, Mr. Theirno Diallo of Conakry, Guinea (pictured l-r: Roden, Diallo).

Mr. Diallo is interested in starting a radio station in a largely agricultural region of Guinea and was able to receive information on necessary equipment and software. He also discussed journalism and programming techniques with Assistant Manager/Program Director Dammeon Malone.

Diallo wants his radio listeners to hear the latest information on farming techniques as well as news, public affairs, and a variety of local and national entertainment.

The ISC Mentorship Partnership for Young African Leaders is sponsored by the U. S. Department of State and is a part of the International Services Council of Alabama.

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Alabamians interested in purchasing an “Oakwood University License Plate” for your car – visit your local Department of Motor Vehicles. Funds generated are directed toward scholarships for OU students who are Alabama residents.

Outside Alabama? Would you like to have an OU license plate for your state, as a means of helping to increase student scholarship funding here at OU?

PR Intern Quran Simmons has been working with Team PR to investigate interest and availability of an Oakwood license plate in additional states. PR Director Tim Allston says that Quran has been putting in “some long, persisting hours, (…)” and his investigation “is bearing good fruit.” The following states have responded to Quran’s inquiries: Connecticut, Delaware, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, North Carolina and Texas. We’ll keep you posted...

Brittany N. Winkfield (class of 2008) recently launched a new publication called Back 2 Basics Magazine. Her vision is to reach the young generation of the Seventh-day Adventist faith by filling the pages with relevant content for the youth, by the youth.

What is involved in getting “Back to the Basics”? Faith, hope, love, joy, peace: simple words, yet so essential to the “good life” Jesus has to offer those who come to Him, with the word of God and through prayer! Visit the website at www.back2basicsmag.com.
Oakwood Alum voted as Teacher of the Year: Adrienne King (class of 2004) has been recognized for inspiring interest in math in her middle school students at Discovery Middle School (Madison, Alabama). During the 2011-2012 school year, her co-workers nominated her for Teacher of the Year. Adrienne’s essay was judged as the winner – and she was voted as Teacher of the Year. She is pictured (middle) holding a representation of her $500 prize.

Adrienne graduated from Oakwood with a BA in Mathematics with a minor in Chemistry. While at Oakwood, she worked for Team PR, and “we could see then that she had ‘skills,’ said Debbe Millet, Communication Services Coordinator. In December 2007, Adrienne earned the Masters degree in Secondary Education/Mathematics from Alabama A & M University.

Pictured with Adrienne (L to R): Judy Warmath, Elementary Instruction Coordinator; Dr. Camille Wright, Secondary Education Director; Adrienne King, Madison City Schools 2011-2012 Teacher of the Year for Discovery Middle School; Dr. Dee Fowler, Superintendent; Dr. Robbie Smith, Discovery Middle School Principal)

Congratulations, Miss King!!

Employment Opportunities at "the Oaks"… “Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.” – Col. 3:23,24 (New American Standard Bible) As always, Oakwood continues in a building mode, building the quality of personnel that will serve our students and constituents in the best possible way. You can help us by recommending names of potential candidates to fill the following faculty positions at the University:

Academic Affairs Dept. | Contact Garland Dulan at phenry@oakwood.edu

- **Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs** – Doctorate in a teaching field preferred; and five (5)+ years in higher education leadership, administration and educational budgeting. [Assistant Vice President AA](#)
- **Registrar/Director of Records** – Masters degree required, and five(5)+years of progressive leadership in the Registrar’s Office. [Director of Records](#)

Chemistry Dept. | Contact Kenneth LaiHing @ laihing@oakwood.edu

- **Assistant/Associate Professor**: PhD in Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry required. [Faculty-Chemistry](#)
- **Lab Coordinator (Staff)**: Bachelor of Science in Natural Science required.
We encourage you to send the name(s) and contact information for which position you are making the referral to the department chairs or directors as soon as possible. Job descriptions and how to apply available at: [http://www.oakwood.edu/campus-services/human-resources](http://www.oakwood.edu/campus-services/human-resources). Thank you for assisting us. ~ C. Garland Dulan, Vice President for Academic Affairs

There are also several other positions listed on the Human Resources Office webpage: [http://www.oakwood.edu/campus-services/human-resources](http://www.oakwood.edu/campus-services/human-resources) | Job Line: 256.726.7300.

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Available on Oakwood’s website... 

The inaugural issue of the Consortium of African Adventist Universities and Partners (CAAUP) newsletter is available online at the following link:  http://www.oakwood.edu/about-ou/administration/caaup

Also look for the June, 2012, issue of the President’s FYI online at:

http://www.oakwood.edu/images/zfiles/administration/Presidents-FYI/Presidents%20FYI%20Issue%202012/Presidents%20FYI%20Issue%202012.pdf

Microsoft Office 2010 Training Classes Beginning August 2012

Instructors: Saundra Roach and Sandra Burton

What: Access, Outlook, PowerPoint, Excel and Word

When: Beginning Monday, August 20, 2012

Time: 5:45 pm – 7:45 pm Mon & Wed or Tues-Thurs

Cost: Free!!! (Snacks are provided each evening.)

Interested? Contact Patricia Beale: pbeale@oakwood.edu for enrollment instructions.

Hurry!!! Seating is Limited!
OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY, ACADEMY AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EDUCATION SUMMIT

Join us for the first-ever K-18 Summit in our community

Impressive facts or well-intentioned propaganda?

How Adventist Elementary and Secondary Schools Measure Up Academically to their Private and Public School Counterparts

Presented by:
Dr. Elissa Kido
Project Director, Cognitive Genesis

Tuesday, July 31, 2012 | 6:30 p.m.
Moseley Complex Auditorium
on the campus of Oakwood University

Sponsored jointly by:

If you have questions, please contact
Mrs. Sharon Lewis, Principal of Oakwood Academy at slewis@oakwood.edu

Oakwood University • 7000 Adventist Boulevard • Huntsville, Alabama 35896 • 256.726.7000
“Effective June 13, 2012, the Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences will be called Adventist University of Health Sciences,” announced David Greenlaw, current and founding president of the college. The name change coincides with the 20-year-old school's expansion. A new $25-million-dollar, five-story, 90,000-square-foot tower, which school officials expect will be complete in January 2014, will allow the school to add new graduate programs. Read the whole story by visiting: http://blogs.orlandosentinel.com/health/2012/06/13/name-change-florida-hospital-college-now-adventist-university/.

Oakwood alum and former NFL player awarded Doctorate from Liberty University, posthumously

Oakwood alum/former religion department instructor and lay pastor Ronald B. King was awarded his Doctorate in Ministry degree, with a concentration in Pastoral Counseling, posthumously, from Liberty University on May 12, 2012, at which presumptive GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney was the Commencement speaker.

Prior to his death on February 7, 2012, the former NFL Los Angeles Rams defensive tight end served as District Lay Pastor of the Triana Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church in Madison, Alabama and the Mt. Zion SDA Church in Scottsboro, Alabama.

Widow Mrs. Sharon King attended the 39th Commencement service, and received her husband’s degree in his honor.

Liberty University Chancellor Jerry Falwell, Jr. expressed sorrow for her loss, but wanted her to know that Liberty “is not just your husband’s alma mater, but your extended family.”
Thanks to gifts from friends like you, the Aeolians have been blessed to share their gift with audiences as far away as Russia. Although we are made up of a body of students from around the globe, we are proud to represent our God, our family, our school (Oakwood University) and the city of Huntsville, Alabama. Your donations will continue to support student scholarships, and aid in our goal to reach all corners of the world with the dynamic Aeolians sound.

For booking, please contact – Jason Max Ferdinand, jmaxferdinand@oakwood.edu or call 256.726.7277

Donations/Aeolians Live in Russia DVD

Name: ____________________________
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I want to...[ ] Purchase DVD @ $30/ea.  Quantity: _______  Total Amount: _______
[ ] Make a Tax Deductible Donation  Donation Amount: _______
[ ] Become an Aeolians Booster  (Receive Aeolians announcements, etc – no purchase necessary)

Payment type (select one):  [ ] Credit/Debit  [ ] Cash  [ ] Check (payable to Oakwood University)
Type of Card (circle one):  VISA  [ ] M/C  [ ] AmEx  [ ] Discover
Name on Card: __________________________
Credit Card #: __________________________
Expiration Date: __________________________  CVC #: __________________________
Signature: __________________________

Thanks for your support!
Released by the OU United Student Movement (USM) Music Department, the compilation highlights Oakwood's music ministry throughout its history. "The Takeover" features a genre of music palatable to every taste – from soulful sounds of various groups and soloists, to resonating melodies of the world-famous Aeolians and Dynamic Praise, to the modern sounds of Dimitri McDowell, Monique McFarlane, and Ugo Kakwi. It gives new meaning to expression “like music to my ears.” The CD is available through iTunes, on Amazon.com, and at http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/thetakeover,
Extra Funds are Available for College!
You must qualify!

The Federal Parent Plus Loan Portal
opens on July 15, 2012.

Apply at: www.studentloans.gov

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
MUST be completed prior to this process.

Parents, remember that you MUST have your 4-digit
FAFSA PIN in order to access this website.

If you are denied, your child may be eligible for up to an
additional $5,000 per year, based on classification.

For more information, contact the Financial Aid Office at 256-726-7210
or via email at finaid@oakwood.edu