

It was hot, but so was *Voices*!

Voices of the South sang for an hour on a hot Saturday afternoon at **Artwalk** in downtown Birmingham September 10.

Artwalk is an arts festival that transforms Birmingham's loft neighborhood into an arts district that featured more than 100 visual artists, live musicians, street performers and food and drink vendors

More than 10,000 people walked the streets of downtown during the two-day event, which was free to the public.

“We can’t begin to find a big enough word to say thank you to all of Birmingham for supporting us like you have for 15 years,” the founders and directors of Artwalk 2016 posted on their Artwalk Facebook page.

“Thank you for joining us and opening your hearts to our artists and our performers. Thank you for strolling through downtown and appreciating this city and her vibrancy like we do.”



Voices, *Silver Lining* to compete at Dixie contest

Voices of the South chorus members and **Silver Lining** will make the two-and-a-half-hour trek to Atlanta to compete in the **Dixie District Chorus Finals** staged at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia Hotel on Saturday afternoon, October 8.

The chorus will compete against 14 other district choruses on Saturday afternoon. They sing in the 12th slot. Director **Matt Powell** has been working the chorus on their music for more than four months.

Choruses from the **Dixie District of the Barbershop Harmony Society** (Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and eastern Arkansas) compete. **Voices** will perform “It Rained Last Night” and “Skylark.”

Also competing will be **Silver Lining**, a registered quartet representing the Central Alabama Chapter. They compete on Friday night, October 7, in the Quartet Semifinals.

Silver Lining is competing as the chapter’s quartet for the first time at this contest and convention. They will compete against 25 other quartets. They perform two songs on Friday night in the preliminaries. They sing 12th. If they make the Top 10, they will compete with new songs on Saturday night.

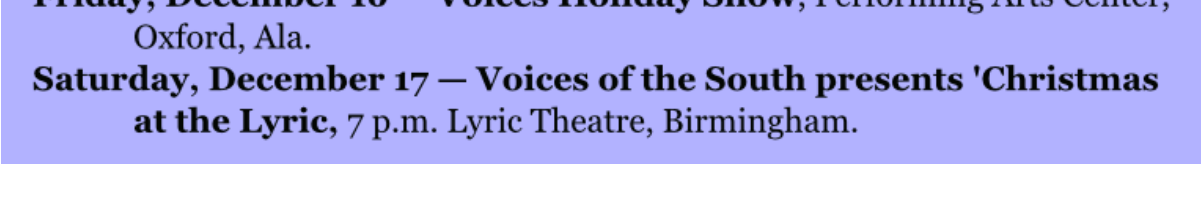
Jim Sams, the contest administrator for the district, says, “This is the largest number of quartets competing that we’ve had in the Dixie District.”



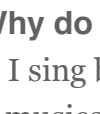
Buy your tickets now!

You can get your Lyric show tickets right now! Experience **"Voices of the South Presents Christmas at the Lyric"** while enjoying the newly restored **Lyric Theatre** in downtown Birmingham. Make your plans now!

The show is Saturday, **December 17, 2016**, at 7 p.m., at **The Lyric**. 1800 Third Avenue North. You can select your preferred seating. Go ahead. It’s time to hit the button. [Buy Tickets](#). See you at the show!



2016 – Calendar



October

- Monday, October 3** — Chorus Rehearsal *
- Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 7, 8 and 9** — **Dixie District Fall Convention and Contest**, Crown Plaza Atlanta at Perimeter, Atlanta. **Silver Lining** performs on Friday, **Voices** performs Saturday.
- Monday, October 10** — Chorus Rehearsal *
- Monday, October 17** — Chorus Rehearsal *
- Monday, October 24** — Chorus Rehearsal *
- Monday, October 31** — Chorus Rehearsal *
- Monday, November 7** — Chorus Rehearsal *

* Rehearsals from 7 to 9:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall, Saint Mark United Methodist Church



Upcoming

- Friday, December 16** — **Voices Holiday Show**, Performing Arts Center, Oxford, Ala.
- Saturday, December 17** — **Voices of the South presents 'Christmas at the Lyric**, 7 p.m. Lyric Theatre, Birmingham.

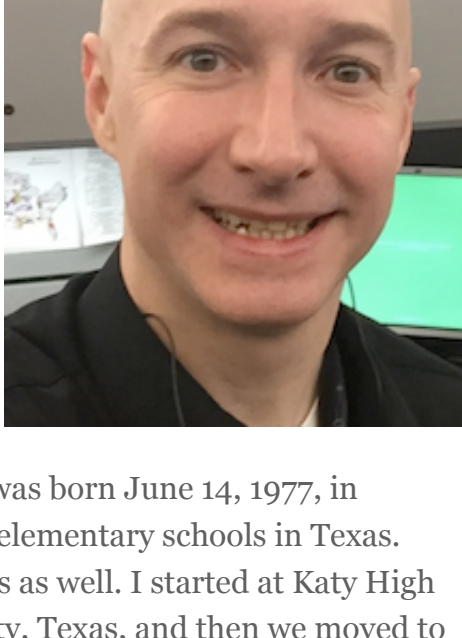
Andy is just carrying on his family’s tradition

Why do you sing?

I sing because it affects my mood in a positive way. I come from a family with lots of musical and singing backgrounds — my aunt sang with **Sweet Adelines** years ago. My mom and my aunt performed in a Christian a cappella quartet called, **Sweet Journey**, about 30 years ago. My older sister sang in her high school choir and has sung with many community choruses in the Cullman area. Her son sang with the Faulkner Choir a few years ago when he was in college. It’s not uncommon for my family to break out our church songbooks during Thanksgiving and Christmas to sing our favorite hymns. It’s something we’ve done for years. So I guess you could say I come by it honestly.

Why Barbershop?

Barbershopping has given me immense enjoyment. It’s great to be a part of this wonderful group of men. They’re more than a singing group. They’re family.



Andy’s Stats

My name is **Robert Andrew “Andy” Hogue**. I was born June 14, 1977, in Houston, Texas. Growing up I went to two different elementary schools in Katy. Both were near Houston. I attended two high schools as well. I started at Katy High



School in Katy, Texas, and then we moved to Trussville, Ala., where I went to Hewitt-Trussville High School. After high school I attended Herzing College in Birmingham where I learned about network engineering. I began my working career at Diebold, Inc., a security systems company, in Birmingham. I am a project manager for **Regions Bank** and have worked there for nearly two years. I have been married to my beautiful wife **Becky** for 16 years. My wife and I met at Hewitt-Trussville. We dated for three years after I graduated. We got married in April

2000. I have a 9-year-old girl, **Kaytlin**, and a 12-year-old boy, **Tyler**. We love to watch movies together and go camping. My e-mail address is andohogue@gmail.com.

Barbershop Experience?

I started playing the trumpet in junior high school, but switched to choir my freshman year of high school. I was a bass. I sang that until my senior year. The chorus was short on tenors, so I switched and have been singing tenor ever since. I sang with the **Birmingham Concert Chorale** for about six months before deciding it wasn’t for me. I started singing barbershop with **Voices of the South** in April 2016. I go to church at **Heritage Place Church of Christ**. The church doesn’t have a choir, but I do attend what we call a “singing” from time to time.

An Anecdote ...

I guess my most memorable experience with **Voices** was being asked to join the board as the “member at large” after such a short time with the group. I am honored to serve.



The Barbershop Harmony Society (originally known as **The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.**) was formed in 1938. It quickly grew to more than 700 chapters across the United States and Canada. It now has more than 23,000 members. Barbershop singing, which is native to the U.S., has now spread across the world. The group now has affiliate organizations in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Netherlands, Finland, Ireland, Spain, Sweden, and South Africa. The Society held its first International Quartet Contest in 1938. The Bartlesville Barflies from Bartlesville, Okla., was the first champion. The first International Chorus Competition was held in 1953. The winner was the Great Lakes Chorus from Grand Rapids, Mich.

Recent visitors

We love to have guests drop in on our Monday night rehearsals.

We were happy to have six visitors come see us this past month. Our visitors included, **Greg Jordan**, Chelsea, Ala.; **Will Jordan**, Chelsea, Ala.; **Bob Peters**, Louisville, Ky.; **Aaron Prince**, Birmingham; **Gene Rayfield**, Moody, Ala.; and **Jonathon Stewart**, Freeport, Fla.

Thank you for visiting. We hope to see you again!

Please come sing with us!

We meet for practice just about every Monday night. We hope you will come and sing with us.



You don’t have to be an accomplished singer to be in *Voices*. Most of our members don’t read sheet music. We use part-predominant “learning tracks” to help us learn our music. And, we provide sheet music for those who are used to it.

If you can sing “Happy Birthday,” we can teach you everything you need to know to hop on stage with us. There’s one restriction, though. You have to be a male. Sorry ladies!

We rehearse from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Mondays in the Fellowship Hall of Saint Mark United Methodist Church, 2901 Columbiana Road, Vestavia Hills, Ala., 35216. You can also call us at 205-252-SING (7464) or visit us at VoicesOfTheSouth.com.



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