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## Community Music Center opens fall season

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Perhaps one of the South End's — and Boston's — best-kept secrets, the Community Music Center of Boston on Warren Avenue has been around for nearly 100 years. Offering music instruction for all ages and in a wide variety of instruments, the center proves that you don't have to be a 10-year-old piano prodigy to tickle the ivories or a rich dilettante to pick up the accordion.

Registration for fall classes is underway at the Community Music Center of Boston, and new this year is Una Voce adult chorus, which is open to anyone from age 15 on up, regardless of their musical background.

"We really see this as an opportunity for community members to come together and folks who have always wanted to sing," said Claudia Haydon, director of development and programming for the Center. And with no entrance audition, some of the pressure of actually singing in public — and not just in the shower — is taken away. Moreover, the new choir is an opportunity to expand their offerings for area adults.

In addition to the new chorus, the Center is also conducting a new series of concerts, aimed at getting more people to take a walk down Warren Avenue and visit the Center. The John Kleshinski Concert Series, named after a dedicated board member who died in Nov. 2006, will feature faculty and guest artists in concert. The concerts are scheduled nearly every week, on Thursdays, through the fall and the season will kick off with a fundraiser event on Sun., Oct. 21. The event, the first of what will be an annual fundraiser for the Center, will be a luncheon at nearby Hamersley's Bistro.

The concerts are designed with the casual music aficionado in mind, and are a relaxed way for interested people to be introduced to new music. "You can go and be exposed to new instruments new styles of music and I think that people who might be intimidated by going to a music concert... it's kind of low impact, it's not overwhelming," said Haydon. "People who you couldn't get to go all the way to Symphony Hall to hear music live, you can get them to come down stairs here... and the music is phenomenal."

Classes include private and group instruction in accordion, bass guitar, bassoon, cello, clarinet, digital piano, double bass, dulcimer, flute, French horn, electric and acoustic guitar, jazz harmony, music theory/Solfege, oboe, percussion, performance, piano, recorder, saxophone, tin whistle, trombone, trumpet, tuba, viola, violin and voice. Performing groups include Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Ensemble, youth chorus, jazz and jam bands, and string and wind ensembles. Early childhood classes for ages five months to eight years old; and musical therapy for children and adults. Private lessons begin Fri., Sept. 7. Group classes and ensembles begin Fri., Sept. 14. Early childhood programs begin Mon., Sept. 17. The Una Voce adult chorus begins Sept. 18 and runs through June 3, 2008. The cost is \$400 for the 32 weeks, and to register, call artistic director William Fickes at 617.482.7494, ext. 23. Community Music Center is at 34 Warren Ave., call 617.482.7494, or visit [www.cmcb.org](http://www.cmcb.org).