



HOLIDAY CHEER
Positioned where visitors enter Sierra Providence Hospital, junior Jayme Ortiz, freshman Cynthia Chavez, sophomore Ryann Parham, and junior Jasmine Montoya sing Christmas carols to lighten the mood. "I really enjoy doing things like this," Ortiz said. "Singing is supposed to make people happy, and times like these, I feel like we're doing just that." Members performed there three times during the year.

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WE'RE LOVIN' IT
Coffee to keep them warm, seniors Kayla Reyna and Naomi Aguirre share a laugh outside the Ronald McDonald House. "The weather was freezing cold," Reyna said. "It really didn't matter to us though because we were there for a good cause, which was to sing holiday carols and bring joy to the kids staying there." The Ronald McDonald House provides families a place to stay while their children receive extended medical care. (photo by annabeth burgress)



NO JITTERS
Parents enter the multi-purpose room as freshman Cynthia Chavez and members prepare for the first performance of the year. "I wasn't really nervous," Chavez said. "I've been singing since second grade, so this wasn't really new to me."

GENERATIONS COMBINED
Senior Isabelle Barnett hits the high notes during the annual Parade of Choirs. "It was my first time singing accompanied by middle school choirs," Barnett said. "I enjoyed how solos were divided up and performed by the different schools."



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"What I like about singing is that you have the freedom to express yourself. Music is what feelings sound like."
-dallas del rio-11

FIRST NOTE
Top of the risers, junior Carlos Vargas sings "City Called Heaven." "I've never been one to sing outside of the shower," Vargas said. "I came to enjoy the friendships I've made through this program."



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MOVE TO THE MUSIC
"What If" by Andrew Lipa plays as sophomore Michael Dominguez and senior Marcela Zacarias dance the waltz. "I'm used to being in front of crowds," Dominguez said. "I used to be on a dance team in middle school."

just their forte

by jasmine tabler

After dropping off her boyfriend, senior Naomi Aguirre drives down Edgemere to take friends Kayla Reyna and Andrea Mendoza home. She notices headlights a little too close for comfort on her left side as she goes through an intersection. Realizing what's about to happen, Aguirre tries to turn the car to avoid being hit. All she can hear is Mendoza's screaming and Reyna's crying, as the other car collides with hers and pushes them into a stop sign. Aguirre and Reyna bounce off of the dashboard as the air bags deploy. The result is bruised ribs and sternums. Reyna is the first to get herself together. She pulls Aguirre out, lays her down, and tells her not to move. In the emergency room for almost two hours, Aguirre realizes that they won't be going to the solo and ensemble competition. It's just 12 hours away.

"It was extremely disappointing, especially for me and Kayla," Aguirre said. "We're both seniors, so this was our last chance to compete and go to state. If it was possible for us to compete, we would have, but we were physically unable to. Our injuries made it difficult to breathe normally, let alone be able to take a deep breath to sing. We put a lot of practice into this competition, and I felt like it was kind of a waste of time. When we got back and saw the people who were going to state, they told us that it wasn't worth it and it wouldn't be as fun without us there. This competition meant a lot to me, and I wish I would have had the opportunity to compete."

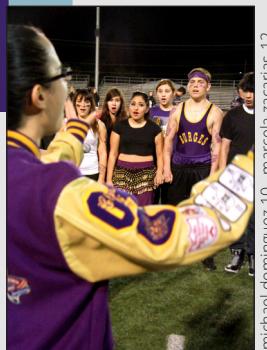
Without the girls, 13 singers qualified for state in solo and ensemble. 2004 campus graduate Laura Sambrano, the new director, was able to maintain the program's winning reputation. Members said she helped them with more than rehearsals for the competition.

"Class was a lot more productive," sophomore Bianca Navarrete said. "Being in A-Choir, we sight-read a lot and worked more on our songs. We even did writing prompts that were related to music. I feel like she made us a better choir skill wise. Ms. Sam is stricter than Ms. Val [Gina Valverde], but in a good way. She made us work a lot harder and it helped us to improve. Because she was a part of choir in high school, Ms. Sam knows what it's like and what needs to be worked on. I think that her experience helped her to create a quicker bond with all of us, and that's why we were able to work together so well her first year."



naomi alvarado-9 mari marquez-9

nicole garcia-12



danielle winfield-11

michael dominguez-10 marcela zacarias-12