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Local children in Ouachita Honor Choir to perform annual concert on campus Nov. 21

By: Meaghan Pollizi

November 16, 2015

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at newsbureau@obu.edu or (870) 245-5208.

ARKADELPHIA, Ark. -- Ouachita Baptist University will host the Ouachita Honor Choir on Nov. 21 at 3 p.m. in Mabee Fine Arts Center's McBeth Recital Hall. The concert is free and open to the public.

The Ouachita Honor Choir, started by Assistant Professor of Music Dr. Becky Morrison in 2014, consists of children from 4th grade to 8th grade.

"I saw a need in our community to bring students together from public school, private school and home school and offer them a musical experience that would enrich their lives," Morrison said.

Morrison is assisted by Ouachita choral music education students in sectional and full-choir rehearsals. The choir gives the Ouachita students hands-on experience in teaching elementary music and is an opportunity "to practice what they are learning in the elementary music methods and materials class," Morrison added.

The Ouachita Honor Choir also gives children the opportunity to receive musical instruction using the Kodaly method. Children are taught solfege syllables, how to blend voices and how to sing in two-part harmony.

"One of our main goals is to create beautiful singing in Ouachita Honor Choir," Morrison said. "Music should also be fun; so, in our time together on Tuesdays we play singing games as well as work on our concert music."

Morrison said she hopes "that the students have a wonderful musical experience. I want them to learn notes, rhythms, phrasing and beautiful singing, but I also want them to have fun!"

Registration for Ouachita Honor Choir is open in September and January. In addition to their Nov. 21 concert, the group will be featured in Ouachita's Festival of Christmas performances Dec. 4-5.

For more information about the Ouachita Honor Choir, contact Dr. Becky Morrison at morrisonb@obu.edu or (870) 245-5143.