

Ukrainian Sacred Music 101

Presented by:

Oleh Mahlay

former conductor of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus,
and St. Volodymyr Cathedral Choir, Parma, OH

and

Rev. Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay

St. Volodymyr Cathedral, Parma, OH

Course Description: introduction to the history of Ukrainian Sacred Music with an overview of the styles, trends, composers of the 1000 year history of church music in Ukraine. The lecture series will be complimented with examples (listening and singing) with a practicum of good vocal technique. Focus will be placed on the place and purpose of Church singing.

Core curriculum is Ukr. Church Music History (Early Singing to 17th and 18th cent.; The big 3 - Bortniansky, Berezovsky, Vedel; 19th to early 20th centuries: and modern).

Selected lectures on technique of singing (good for both conductors and the average singer), place and purpose music in the Church, and practical application of vocalization.

**Friday, April 30, 2010 6 pm (Registration 5:30 pm)
through Saturday, May 1, 2010 10 pm**

St. Sophia Seminary, South Bound Brook, NJ

To register: call Fr. Bazyl Zawierucha, Provost

(registration deadline: April 20, 2010)

(610) 262-2882 or zawierucha05@msn.com

**Fee: \$125 (paid upon arrival) includes Friday refreshments,
Saturday continental breakfast, lunch and dinner**

Own accommodations at Somerset Holiday Inn (732) 356-1700



Sponsored by:

**St. Sophia Theological Seminary of the
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of USA**

and

The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus



Oleh Mahlay

Oleh Mahlay, music curator of the Ukrainian Museum-Archives of Cleveland and the current music director of the Kobzarska Sich Ukrainian music programs, is an accomplished conductor, bandura player, and frequent lecturer on Ukrainian music. He is the former artistic director of the world-renowned Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, leading performances throughout North America and Europe.



At the age of sixteen, Mr. Mahlay became the choir director of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. This position was held for many years by the late Hryhory Kytasty - Ukrainian composer, bandura player, Artistic Director of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, and musical mentor to Oleh Mahlay. This post gave Mahlay the opportunity at a very young age to explore and gain insights into the art of choral conducting and the mystical sounds of Slavic sacred music. Along with Reverend Deacon Ihor Mahlay, he started the Ukrainian Sacred Music Workshop in Emlenton, Pennsylvania in 2007 as part of the Kobzarska Sich Ukrainian Music Program.

In 1996, at the age of twenty-six, Oleh Mahlay became the artistic director and conductor of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus. He was the youngest artistic director elected in the Chorus' history. His six recordings with the UBC, *Ukrainian Steppe*, *A Bandura Christmas*, *Golden Echoes of Kyiv: The Divine Liturgy*, *European Tour: Historic Live Recordings*, *Bayda*, and *1659* have earned artistic acclaim, and feature some of the conductor's own compositions and arrangements. He has led the group through various concert tours in the United States, Canada, England, France, Austria, Germany, and Ukraine. Highlights include performances at the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, *Palats Ukrayina* and St. Michael's Golden-domed church in Kyiv, Ukraine, and Cooper Union in New York City. He left this position with the Chorus in 2008 after thirteen years at the helm.

Rev. Protodeacon Dr. Ihor Mahlay



Fr. Deacon Ihor is a member of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. Over the years, he has actively served in various capacities within the parish and the Metropolia of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church most notable as an assistant conductor, music instructor, lecturer in Sacred Arts, coordinator of charitable and educational outreach programs.

Following 3 years of study and completion of St. Stephen's Course of Theology, Ihor Mahlay was ordained into the Diaconate in November of 1997 and is attached to and plays an active role in the pastoral staff at St. Vladimir's.

On the Diocesan level, Fr. Deacon Ihor has served on the Metropolitan Council of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. He is the president of the St. Andrew's Society – the charitable arm of the Archdiocese which assists the Church and faithful in Ukraine. In 2000, he had been appointed by the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. to serve as director of the Office of Missions and Christian Charity promoting the outreach of the Church.

Since 1979, Deacon Ihor has been involved with organizing and teaching at the Bandura Seminars – Kobzarska Sich at All Saints Camp Ukrainian Orthodox Church Camp in Emlenton Pennsylvania. Recently with the development of Ukrainian Sacred Music courses, he has been a lecturer in the field of music and iconography. He has promoted and assisted with the publications of Ukrainian Sacred Music for the use in parishes of the US and Canada.