

Introducing a Musical Masterpiece....Kathy Price

How does one corral 30-plus people to blend their voices into a variety of musical pieces, match musical pitches and learn how to read notes? Some of our OLLI students have had years of singing experience while the shower. Our wonderful choral teacher, Kathy Price, is up to that challenge! She has been teaching music in one fashion or another since she was young. God gifted her with a love of music, as well as growing up in a “musical” family.

Kathy was born and raised in the Long Beach area. She acquired her love of music from her family of musicians and encouraged by her “musical” aunt, Fran Harding, who also taught in the Long Beach Unified School District. Kathy was influenced by the teaching method of Zoltan Kodaly, a composer and musicologist. He created the Kodai method which instructs that everyone is born with musical aptitude that should be developed as early as possible - first at home, then in the school curriculum. Kathy learned the method while studying at CSULB.



She was a music specialist with local private schools in the Long Beach and Orange County areas. She taught choral music, hand bells and music theory, but her focus with children was how to read and feel music, often without instruments. She has carried this forward with her ***Beginning Music Theory class*** at OLLI. At one time Kathy had a business called “The Sport of Music,” and she feels that choral music is a team of sorts, where the “team” of singers play together vocally.

Along with her volunteer work at OLLI, Kathy also sings with both the Meritage Vocal Arts choral group and So Cal Chorale in Orange County. Her past professional vocal work includes two sacred/gospel solo albums, musical theater, multiple ensembles and choirs which perform in various venues such as Disney Concert Hall, Universal Studios and Disneyland. She is a very busy lady!

After she retired from teaching, she realized she wasn’t ready to quit and felt blessed that she inherited the ***Catch the Spirit Chorus*** class at OLLI. Kathy feels fortunate to hear people learn their pitches, perform various types of music and have fun in the process. Friendships have been made between the “regulars” who have been in the class for many years and the newer students who have recently joined.



The OLLI chorus is planning a performance on August 22nd in the sanctuary of the Los Altos United Methodist Church, 5950 E. Willow St., Long Beach, CA 90815 so stay tuned!!