Grade Region Choir for over 8 years. He is also active as a church musician, leading music or playing piano. He has been happily married to his wife, Cindy, for over 20 years, and has two sons, Stephen, and Nathan.

About the Choir

The Honor Choir from Leon Heights Elementary School in Belton, Texas, is a select-by-audition choir made up of 40 fourth and fifth grade students who show an interest and commitment in music, sing well in tune and maintain passing grades and good citizenship traits. Leon Heights Elementary is a Title I school with two classes at each grade level serving approximately 340 students. Nearly half of all fourth and fifth graders at Leon Heights sing in the choir. Leon Heights has been recognized as an "Exemplary" campus for the last three years.

The choir rehearses on Tuesday afternoons from 2:45—3:45 with occasional longer rehearsals. The choir also has classes with local clinicians before major performances. The Leon Heights music program is based on the music philosophy of Hungarian educator and composer Zoltan Kodaly. Activities, songs, and spe cific music skills are sequenced from K-5th grade according to the National Stan dards, Texas TEKS, and Belton ISD music curriculum. All students are fortunate to receive music classes four days per week.

The Honor Choir, founded in 2003, has performed at the East Texas Children's Choral Festival, Sandy Lake, and NRH2O. In 2008 the choir performed John Rut ter's Mass of the Children with Temple College. The choir has been invited to sing for the Belton ISD Teacher of the Year Luncheon and the Belton ISD Employee Banquet. The Honor Choir tours each December and May performing for local as sisted living facilities and Thursday Club, an outreach for Alzheimer's patients.

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TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION 2012 CLINIC/CONVENTION

Leon Heights Elementary Honor Choir

Debra Johnson, Director

Jimmy Baas & Sarah Ricard, Accompanists

FEBRUARY 8–11, 2012 HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Leon Heights Elementary Honor Choir

Amy Adamson 4
Pablo Aguilar 4
Madden Baggerly 4
Hannah Barron 5*
Lydia Barron 5*
Gabriel Best 5*
Aislyn Caffrey 5*
Ethan Chapman 5
Jenny Choi 4
Makayla Coggin 5*
Avery Drake 5*
Caleb Drake 5
Haley Drake 4
Marshall Florence 5
Jessica Goforth 5*
Andrew Holcomb 5*
Jackson Ingram 5*
Kathryn Jones 5*
Thea Lancaster 4
Luke Lastovica 4
America McCoy 5*
Alex Mendoza 5
Mariah Montgomery 5*
Jillian Neal 4
Kirsten Peppers 4
Mathew Potter 5
Morgan Potter 4
Ariana Rangel 5
Cassidy Rendon 5*
Ethan Rodarte 5
Kate Salters 5*
Jamison Schilling 5*
Abigail Schneiders 4
J J Seo 5*
Sidney Sherwood 5*
Ahren Shorts 5
Kyli St. Clair 5*
Jessalynn Vannatta 5

** Denotes two year choir member.*

About the Director

Debra Johnson has been the elementary music teacher at Leon Heights Elementary in Belton, Texas since 1998. She is the founder and director of the school's Honor Choir. Ms. Johnson has served as TMEA Region VIII Elementary Chair since 2000. She also holds the office of KET Central Texas Representative. Ms. Johnson received her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of North Texas. Upon completion, she received a Ro tary International Award to study organ with Harald Vogel at the Nord deutsche Orgelakademie in northern Germany. She completed her national Organization of American Kodaly Educators (OAKE) certification in Killeen, Texas. Many of Ms. Johnson's students have sung in TCDA Elementary Honor choirs and OAKE National Honor Choirs. Ms. Johnson is active as a substitute church organist for several churches in the Bell County area. She also directs the training choir, Jubilate, for Temple College's Academie Musique. Ms. Johnson is currently a member of the professional music organizations OAKE, KET, and TMEA. She is the proud mother of Kimberly, Anneke, and Nicholas all of whom are active in some form of music.

About the Accompanists

Sarah Ricard is a classically trained pianist and has been the accompanist for the Leon Heights Elementary Honor Choir for five years. She has also accompanied the Jubilate choir at Acadamie Musique in Temple, Texas, and played with the Temple College Piano Ensemble. In addition, Sarah has been a church pianist and keyboardist for 17 years. She is a graduate of Texas A&M University - Central Texas.

Jimmy Baas is choir director at South Belton MS, a new school that opened this year in Belton ISD. He formerly taught in Killeen ISD for 11 years, as well as other parts of the state. He has been a regular accompanist for Re gion VIII, playing for MS and HS choirs for the past 11 years. Mr. Baas was coordinator for the Ninth and Tenth

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1. Never Far From Home *BriLee Music* . . . . . Mark Patterson 2:54
   Emily Grosshans, Violin and Priscilla Arasaki, Viola
2. If You Dance *OAKE* . . . . . Hungarian Folk Song/arr. Darla Eshelman 1:12
3. Ombra Mai Fu from *Serse* *Boosey & Hawkes* . . . . . Handel/ed. Randal Z Stroope 2:40
4. Shumayela *Manuscript* . . . . . Molly Spector Stone 1:44
   Taught orally by Mollie Stone & the University of Cape Town Choir for Africa
   Shumayela evangeli - Preach the gospel
   Scott Dudley and Brandon Knight, Percussion
5. My Singing Bird *Manuscript* . . . . . arr. Sheila Donahue 2:03
   2011 Commissioned work for Leon Heights TMEA Performance
6. Johnson Boys *Boosey & Hawkes* . . . . . arr. Jay Broeker 1:53
7. Ferry Me Across the Water *Boosey & Hawkes* . . . . . Lyn Williams 1:57
8. The Frim Fram Sauce *Shawnee Press* . . . . . arr. Greg Gilpin 2:35
   Carl Cooper, Bass and Brandon Knight, Trap Drum Set

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TEXAS MUSIC
EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
2012 CLINIC/CONVENTION

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2. If You Dance
3. Ombra Mai Fu from *Serse*
4. Shumayela
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6. Johnson Boys
7. Ferry Me Across the Water
8. The Frim Fram Sauce

Leon Heights Elementary Honor Choir

Debra Johnson, Director

Jimmy Baas & Sarah Ricard, Accompanists

Mark 1962 50 Years 2012

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Debra Johnson, Director

Jimmy Baas & Sarah Ricard, Accompanists

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