



February 9, 2011

Dear Angelica families and friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I announce that Rita Docter has decided to retire as the artistic coordinator of Angelica Cantanti and director of the Con Brio Choir at the end of the 2010/11 season.

Rita has been a part of Angelica since 1986, and over the past 25 years she has shared her love of singing with thousands of children from our community. Not only has she directed the Varsity, Ensemble, Prep and Con Brio Choirs, she has worked tirelessly behind the scenes with the other directors, Angelica board members, volunteers and parents to make this small nonprofit choir organization the success that it is today. As a teacher and conductor, Rita has dedicated her career to children's music education and made many contributions to the field, including at Angelica. She has been the heart and soul of our organization, and we are going to miss her.

Announcing her retirement at the Feb. 8 board meeting, Rita said that being a part of Angelica has been a life-changing experience for her, allowing her to do what she loves: singing, laughing and sharing "ah-ha!" moments with the children and working with adults of great integrity and talent. Working with Rita has most certainly been equally life-changing for Angelica families and friends as well, and we are forever grateful that she has chosen to share her talents and passion for music with us. I know you will join me in wishing her all the best in her retirement as she makes plans to travel with her husband Dave and visit their children and grandchildren in New York, Ohio and California.

We will be celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with Rita at our "Favorite Songs of 30 Years" CD release concert at 4 p.m. Sunday, February 27, at the Bloomington Center for the Arts and at our Spring Concert on May 1, 2 p.m. at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Bloomington. For more information on these events visit the Angelica website at [www.angelicacantanti.org](http://www.angelicacantanti.org).

Sincerely,

Audrey Riddle  
Executive Director  
Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs  
[angelicayouthchoirs@gmail.com](mailto:angelicayouthchoirs@gmail.com)