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## Pat Boone in concert

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CRYSTAL LAKE - A group of young musicians will join a legendary crooner today on the stage of the Raue Center for the Arts. About 50 young singers from the Northwest Community Youth Choir will take the stage with **Pat Boone** to sing medleys with the renowned early rocker. The children, who come from across the county and are between the ages of 7 and 18, will sing a medley with **Boone** as part of his Christmas show.

"They're just absolutely thrilled to have this professional experience," said Cynara Pierzina, the executive director of the choir's parent Northwest Community Music Academy. "They've been so excited, and the parents are so excited. It's an interesting opportunity for them."

The **concerts** are scheduled for 4 and 7:30 p.m., according to the Raue Center Web site. Tickets sell for \$48 and \$52.

Pierzina said the **concert** will introduce the young musicians to life as a professional musician. Whereas they usually get the chance to have a full blocking and dress rehearsal before performing, the children will step onto the Raue stage for the first time during a 2 p.m. sound check.

"They've never even rehearsed with **Pat Boone**," Pierzina said. "They will be blocking where they'll stand without **Pat Boone**."

And while they will only be **in** the limelight for a few minutes, that time will be memorable, Pierzina said with a laugh.

Emily Floyd, the conductor of the group, said the shows should give a leg-up to those students who want to be professional musicians. While not all of the kids know **Boone's** music, they know they need to be

professional performers, she said.

"They're singing with a celebrity, so they're excited," Floyd said. "We missed our rehearsal [Friday night] because of the snow, but we should be ready."

If you go: About 50 young singers from throughout McHenry County will take the stage with **Pat Boone** today at the Raue Center for the Arts, 26 N. Williams St., Crystal Lake. Performances are at 4 and 7:30 p.m., and tickets cost \$48 and \$52. For ticket information, call the box office at (815) 356-9212.

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