Did You Know…

California State University Northridge's acclaimed choral group, the Northridge Singers, led by music professor Paul Smith, was named “Choir of the World” during its debut appearance at an invitation-only international music competition, Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, in Wales. The festival featured singers from nearly 40 nations and in past years included performances by tenor greats Luciano Pavarotti and Placido Domingo, and numbers of other luminaries of the international music scene.

Cal State Northridge was recently honored by the Economic Alliance of San Fernando Valley for its leadership and community outreach in the Valley. The university was recognized at the Economic Alliance’s sixth annual Valley of the Stars awards ceremony.

Cal State Northridge biology professor Robert Carpenter has received a $500,288 grant from the National Science Foundation to study marine ecosystems in Hawaii during the next four years. Carpenter’s research will address several fundamental questions in marine ecology and biological oceanography using coral reefs, which are among the most productive marine ecosystems in the world.

Will popped popcorn grow? What cooking ingredient kills bugs best? Cal State Northridge faculty helped teams of elementary, middle and high school student scientists from throughout California explore those questions, and the result appears in “Journal of Student Research Abstracts, Vol. VIII,” recently edited by CSUN biology professor Steve Oppenheimer. The journal contains abstracts (summaries of experiments) from experiments conducted by nearly 600 young scientists.