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CONGRATS: The Choral Project, the wonderful San Jose-based ensemble led by artistic director Daniel Hughes, took home three awards at the California International Choral Festival & Competition in San Luis Obispo on July 1.

Competing against six other choirs from as far away as Uganda and Spain, the Choral Project took first place in the Choir's Choice category, placed second in the required music category and third in folk music.

The group is on its summer break right now but will kick off its 12th season with an Opening Gala Concert on Sept. 28 and 29 in San Jose. For more information or season tickets, head to www.choralproject.org.

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