

MADISON YOUTH CHOIRS

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

Arts and Minds

Like a contemplative walk through the famed Metropolitan Museum, our 11th season theme, *Arts and Minds*, provided some wonderful moments of reflection, punctuated by bursts of youthful energy and the joyous sounds of children's voices as they discover great works of human creativity for the first time.

Through their hands-on exploration of the intersection between visual art and music, our students continued their journey in becoming "expert noticers" who look for the details in the world around them and find connections between ideas separated by centuries. When our boychoirs gave the world premiere performance of Scott Gendel's *Macbeth*-inspired "Sound and Fury," all in the Capitol Theater were reminded that a 400-year-old text can sound startlingly fresh in the hands of an innovative artist and fearless performers.



Photo by Karen Holland

On an even larger stage in Overture Hall, our 5th-8th grade girlchoir, Con Gioia, gorgeously sang "For the Beauty of the Earth" with poise and maturity while accompanied by a formidable co-star: a 4,040 pipe organ weighing 174 tons. The girls' performance at the Madison Symphony Organ Concert, which also featured Britten, Cantabile and Ragazzi, introduced hundreds of new audience members to the immense talent of our young people.

By the end of the year, when our Cantabile choir raised the rafters at the acoustically fabulous Holy Wisdom Monastery with lush arrangements of U2 and Cyndi Lauper, it was difficult to see this amazing season come to a close. We simply had to take comfort in knowing that thanks to the fantastic support of our community, MYC students will continue to have life-enriching opportunities like this, as the girls sang, "Time After Time."



ADOPT-A-SCHOOL

Over 100 students, including many from economically challenged backgrounds, received their first weekly choral experience through this collaborative program with the Madison Metropolitan School District.



BOYCHOIR FESTIVAL

We welcomed a record number of 400 young men to this all day celebration of multi-cultural choral music showcasing songs in five different languages.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our singers performed for over 30,000 audience members this year through school tours, concerts at retirement homes, and appearances with professional artists.



Building a Solid Foundation

This June, through the wonders of technology, we were able to watch 17-year-old Eden Girma, who has sung with MYC for the past ten years, walk on stage at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. to perform as a US Presidential Scholar in the Arts. This great honor is presented to only 20 students in the entire country who have demonstrated outstanding academic, civic, and artistic achievement.

Eden is in great company among this year's wonderfully talented, intelligent, and thoughtful senior class. We bid farewell to over 40 seniors this year, 32 of whom have been singing with MYC for five years or more.

Among this group of emerging leaders you will find a young woman going on to study mechanical engineering at MIT and a young man on his way to the US Military Academy at West Point. You will see future teachers, biologists, environmental conservationists and musicians. Working with these remarkable young singers has

been a privilege and has given us a great indication of the amazing accomplishments possible for students who have a **solid foundation in the arts.**

Through the generosity of our donors and supporters, a student with a five year tenure at Madison Youth Choirs has had the opportunity to collaborate with terrific guest artists like one-armed singer/songwriter Tony Memmel, perform with Madison Opera and Madison Symphony Orchestra, tour schools and retirement homes throughout Dane County, sing at benefits for local charities like The Road Home, and belt the national anthem at Madison Mallards and UW Hockey games. These musical experiences turn out to be more than just artistic challenges. They are also character-building opportunities and moments to show leadership.

While our youngest singers may watch our seniors in awe and dream about how they too might shine onstage and off in the future, these young people are also empowered to understand that as MYC members, they can have a positive impact on their community right now, even as children.

As we close this year on a high note, both artistically and financially, we begin to look ahead to our 12th season with several very exciting projects waiting in the wings. We hope you will join us as we draw the

curtain, find our places, and welcome new voices to share our song.

MYC ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ian Disjardin
Alyssa Gunsolus
Lynn Hembel
Lori Koeritzer
Michael Ross
Nicole Sparacino

MYC ARTISTIC STAFF

Margaret Jenks
Andrew Johnson
Lisa Kjentvet
Steve Radtke
Michael Ross
Marcia Russell
Jess Salek
Lisa Shimon
Randal Swiggum

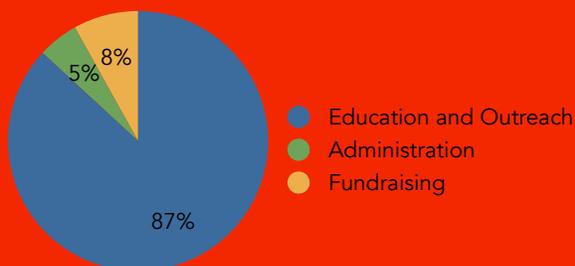
MYC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rahel Desalegne
Dani Luckett
Elizabeth Odders-White
Kathleen Otterson, Secretary
Kris Rasmussen
Alan Sanderfoot
Dan Sinclair, Vice-President
Andrew Turner
Julie Verban, President
David Schmiedicke, Treasurer

SEE OUR FULL LIST OF SPONSORS, DONORS, AND SUPPORTERS AT MADISONYOUTHCHOIRS.ORG



2013-2014 Resource Allocation



2013-2014 Revenue and Support



**This information is unaudited.
Audited financials will be available after November.*