

Mark S. Johnson

Artistic & Executive Director

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Helping boys find their voice

Thank you for your interest in auditioning to become a member of the Minnesota Boychoir. Founded in 1962, the Minnesota Boychoir, the original boychoir in the Twin Cities area, has enchanted audiences around the world. Boys begin the choir program as young as age 6 and can sing through their years in high school. Potential members audition for the choir each year. Once accepted, boys are placed in one of 3 choirs: *Cantar*, *Cantando* or *Cantabile*. All choirs perform choral literature from classical to contemporary. Our season begins each year in September and ends in June. The choir performs major public concerts in December, January, May and June, and a school concert series in a number of schools in the metro area each fall and spring. The remainder of the choir schedule includes performances at local churches, social gatherings, corporate and business meetings, fundraisers, hospitals, sporting events and retirement homes.

There are many benefits for boys who sing in the Minnesota Boychoir. In addition to vocal training and music education, boys gain concert experience and an appreciation of the fine arts. They develop longer attention spans, enhanced listening skills and the ability to focus at a greater level. They learn self-discipline and perseverance, responsibility and commitment, and form a positive self-image. While many of the Boychoir experiences have an immediate return, the boys are also building skills for a lifetime. Our success in these areas is indicated, in part, by the fact that in a typical year over 90% of the choirboys who did not graduate from the choir return to sing again the following year.

We invite you to visit a rehearsal or attend a concert, as these are among the best ways to get a feel for the choir experience. There are scheduled open rehearsals on April 12, 17 and 19. Younger prospective members are invited to sit in on our Bring-a-Friend rehearsals on May 3. If you would enjoy seeing the choirs perform live, our Annual Spring Concerts are Sunday, May 20; 4:30pm at Roseville Lutheran Church and Sunday, June 10; 7:00pm at Ted Mann Concert Hall in Minneapolis.

Upcoming New Member Auditions for the 2018-2019 season will be held July 17 and 19, and August 14, 15 and 16. No prior singing experience is necessary. The audition consists of an interview, test of the boy's range, tonal memory and pitch matching. Each audition lasts about 20 minutes. Please call 651-292-3219 if you have any questions, if you would like to learn about upcoming concerts and performances, arrange a rehearsal visit or request an audition time.

Sincerely,

Mark Johnson