### minnesota BOYCHōiR

#### From the Executive and Artistic Director



As we get ready to kick off our 64th season, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible music, milestones, and memories we've shared—and for you, our thoughtful, engaged, generous Boychoir community.

A quick recap: our 63rd season began last August with Boychoir Bootcamp, where nearly 50 current members (and several possible recruits!) gathered to learn, laugh, and sing together. In September

we welcomed singers back to rehearsals, plus traditional retreats at Camp Wapo, movie nights, snow tubing at Buck Hill, and Allegro Night Out at Mall of America—each event reminding us that being part of the Boychoir means building friendships and community as well as making music. We also launched a series of Alumni Happy Hours, a wonderful new way to connect with our extended family of former singers.

On stage, the Boychoir shone brightly. We hosted the Maryland State Boychoir, sang at the Minnesota Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service Ceremony, made our debut at Crooners Supper Club, and joined the Minnesota State Boychoir Festival. Guest artists and conductors Shekela Wanyama, Merrin Guice-Gill, and Christopher Mason enriched our singers' musical growth, while our winter and spring concerts and the Sing Into Spring Gala brought our community together in celebration and support.

The highlight of the season was our June tour to New York City. From Circle Line cruises and Central Park strolls to Broadway shows and trying just about every traditional NYC food you can think of, our 63 singers experienced the city's vibrancy firsthand. Along the way they shared their voices in churches, at the World Trade Center Oculus, and in the middle of Times Square, creating warm connections everywhere they sang. The pinnacle of the tour came at Carnegie Hall, where our solo recital performance brought the audience to its feet—a moment none of us will ever forget. New York fans were charmed by the poise, sound, and professional demeanor of the Boychoir, sharing applause, tears, hugs, and handshakes that carried us all safely back to Minnesota.

We ended the year with 128 singers across our four choirs, and said goodbye to seven graduating seniors heading off to new adventures at Lewis & Clark College, Luther College, Marquette University, Macalester College, the University of Washington, and a year of mission work and study in Chile. We also added 35 new member families thanks to robust recruitment efforts. When we include our Adult Choir and returning Alumni, our singing family grows to more than 200 strong.

Thank you for showing up for this organization in so many ways. Your support sustains this choir and shapes the lives of every boy who steps on stage. We look forward to another season of music and community in 2025–26!

# 2025 Annual Report

#### **Mission**

The Minnesota
Boychoir, through
inspirational music and
performance, develops
exceptional character and
musical ability in boys of
many backgrounds.

#### **Vision**

We nurture boys to find their voice and become leaders of the next generation.

#### **Serving**

During the 2024-2025 season the Boychoir served 128 boys ages 5-18. Choirboys hailed from Hudson to Mound, Isanti to Lakeville, and everywhere inbetween.

#### **Minnesota Boychoir**

75 W 5th Street, Suite 411 Saint Paul, MN 55102

www.boychoir.org

651-292-3219



/MNBoychoir



@mnboychoir

Cantando members at their Wapo music retreat.



Warming up with cocoa at the All Choir Tubing Party!



Number **Total social** Total rehearsal Total number of of events hours performances singers 40 Over 300! 5 128 Total number of **Outreach** Number of private individual **Total volunteer** performances foundation and donors hours (schools & corporate partners senior living) Over 1000! 411 22 (THANK YOU!) 16

#### **Staff**

Mark Johnson, Executive and Artistic Director Todd Price, Accompanist Anna Keyes, Managing Director Phillip Radtke, Assistant to the Director Amy Driscoll, Development Manager

#### **Board of Directors**

#### Officers

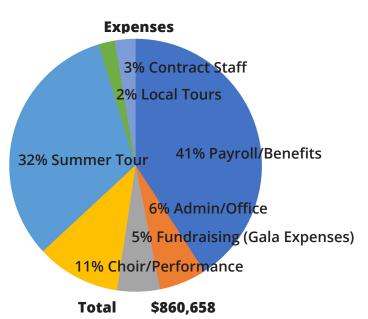
Cari Nesje, Chair Roger Williams, Vice Chair Kristen Swanson, Treasurer Molly Driscoll, Secretary

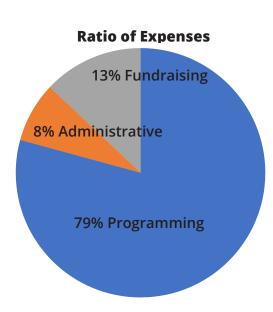
#### Directors

Kasey Brandt
Carmen Chavez
Angie Eder
Brian Huilman
Kevin Sauter
Melanie Broida Werl

# Donate Here!

# Sources of Income 4% Foundations 6% Government Grants 18% Tour 18% Individual Donations 5% Other 26% Tuition 11% Gala (Gross revenue) 3% Concert Revenue Total \$856,200





#### **Treasurer's Report**

As we close our 63rd season, I am pleased to share that the Minnesota Boychoir remains on solid financial footing, with strong reserves and growing impact.

With our mission "to develop exceptional character and musical ability in boys of many backgrounds" guiding every financial decision we strive to ensure our resources create opportunity, access, and excellence for every singer.

This year the choir recorded a total of \$856,200 in income, with over \$250K in prepaid summer tour fees.

Expenses for the year were \$860,658, also reflecting tour activity, with the majority invested in the programs, performances, and staff that shape the Boychoir experience.

We awarded \$24,000 in tuition scholarships, a 33% increase over the prior year, ensuring that any singer with a desire to participate was able to do so. In fact, we budgeted for a modest loss of \$5,129 to make this investment in increased access, and our final results, a realized loss of \$5,969, reflect that commitment.

Although we drew modestly from reserves to honor our commitment to expanded scholarships, our financial position remains strong with our cash reserves at 6 months of operating expenses, exceeding nonprofit best practice benchmarks.

Our strategic framework continues to guide us and includes growing diverse membership and audiences, broadening donor support, and building an engaged and representative board---all essential to strengthening and sustaining the choir's legacy.

As we look to the 64th season, our board and staff remain dedicated to providing any necessary financial assistance for Boychoir families, even in the current environment of rising operating costs and decreased non-profit funding. and given the consistent support of our generous donors and grantors, we are confident the Boychoir will continue to thrive for generations to come.

Here's to a vibrant and joyful 64th season!

Kristen Swanson Treasurer

As of June 30, 2024 \$332,185 As of June 30, 2025 \$330,956

## **Your Gifts Help Voices Soar!**

"Without the scholarship opportunities for the MN boychoir, my son wouldn't be able to participate. The Boychoir has provided him a brotherhood and countless opportunities to travel and feel accomplished. I have watched my son transform into a responsible young man. Thank you for your support." --Boychoir parent

"Boychoir has made such a huge impact on my life! It has taught me many things about music, like how to read music keys and time signatures, and how to make beautiful music with other people. It's a chance for me to hang out with other kids who love music as much as I do. I'm thankful for the scholarships that make this happen." --Boychoir singer

"I am deeply grateful for the Boychoir scholarship program. My son would not be able to participate without the generosity of the Boychoir community to help afford the tuition. It's a joy to see the Boychoir feed our son's love for music, and to see the joy and sense of pride that the Boychoir gives our son and our entire family. Thank you, thank you for your kindness; it's a relief knowing that family finances will not prevent our son from singing with the Boychoir." --Boychoir parent

"Now more than ever, it is essential to guide boys toward becoming caring, compassionate young men who lead by example. Thanks to receiving a scholarship, our son is able to experience the brotherhood of the Minnesota Boychoir—a place where boys grow not just as musicians but as friends, and as citizens— all made possible through the generosity of donors who are literally changing the world, one boy at a time". --Boychoir parent

"The experience of learning music, sharing dedicated time with friends, and contributing towards a vibrant community with the Boychoir's gifts is something I've been extremely grateful for. A program such as this has been essential for who I am, and who I strive to be, artistically and personally." --Boychoir singer



Cantar movie night!





Members of Allegro and Cantabile performing in Times Square during their NYC Tour.