



2014-2015

CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR
ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR

is a multiracial, multicultural choral music education organization, shaping the future by making a difference in the lives of children and youth through **MUSICAL EXCELLENCE.**

est. 1956



A NOTE FROM JOSEPHINE LEE



Reflecting on our 2014-15 program year, I am transported to Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park on a temperate spring morning. From the stage, I behold 4,000 children gathered together, their energy and excitement filling me with a renewed sense of hope for the future of our city. With a lift of the baton, the timeless beauty of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony resounds from the amphitheater. Suddenly, all the children are transformed. In unison, they proudly sing "freude," their voices ringing over the professional orchestra and alumni soloists performing with them. Words cannot capture the power of their collective expression of joy. Its impact is visceral, leaving an indelible mark on all who come into contact with it.

Every year, Chicago Children's Choir creates unforgettable moments like the one I have described above at our Paint the Town Red concert, which brings together our entire family of 4,000 singers. As our largest concert, Paint the Town Red embodies many of the values that underlie what we do. It provides thousands of young people throughout Chicago with access to a professionally produced concert experience in the heart of our city. It exemplifies musical excellence and innovation through evocative performances of diverse repertoire. Most importantly, it fosters empathy and intercultural understanding through the unifying power of choral singing.

Our core values were alive and well throughout the 2014-15 program year. In the fall, we received funds from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events IncentOvate Program to develop a fully staged musical work for our 60th anniversary season with the Q Brothers, a local hip hop duo known for their add-rap-tations of Shakespeare. During the East Coast tour, members of our premier ensemble Voice of Chicago proudly represented the best of our organization during performances at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center. Closer to home, a select group of singers performed alongside world-class musicians in the Lyric Opera of Chicago's production of *Tosca*, and more than 300 singers performed at the dedication of Maggie Daley Park.

What connects all that we do – from high-profile collaborations with world-renowned organizations to the day-to-day instruction we provide in Chicago Public Schools – is a steadfast commitment to creating a better world through the power of musical excellence. For nearly sixty years, Chicago Children's Choir has tirelessly pursued this mission, uniting children of diverse backgrounds through choral singing. As we prepare for our 60th anniversary season, we are committed to extending our reach, providing a growing number of children throughout Chicago with access to our choral programs. Thank you for joining us as we approach this pivotal moment in our history and for opening your heart to the transformative power of song.

With gratitude,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read "Josephine Lee".

Josephine Lee **PRESIDENT AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

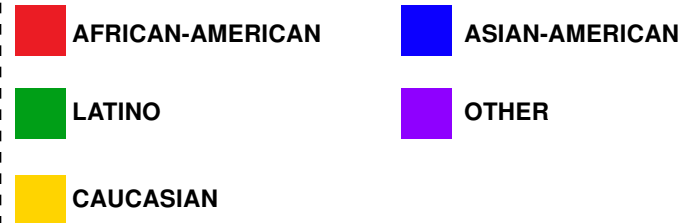
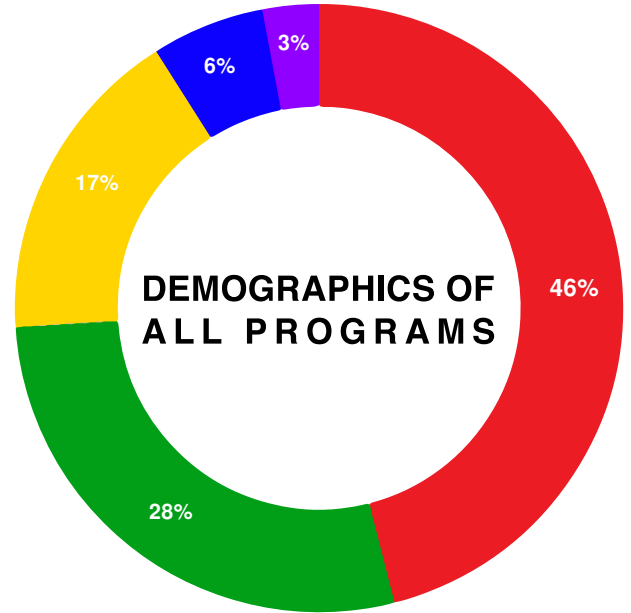
DEMOGRAPHICS & STATISTICS

86%

OF SINGERS PAID \$50 OR LESS FOR
ONE YEAR OF PROGRAMMING

- 1** VOICE OF CHICAGO
- 1** DIMENSION
- 9** NEIGHBORHOOD CHOIRS
- 72** CHICAGO SCHOOLS

4,000 VOICES



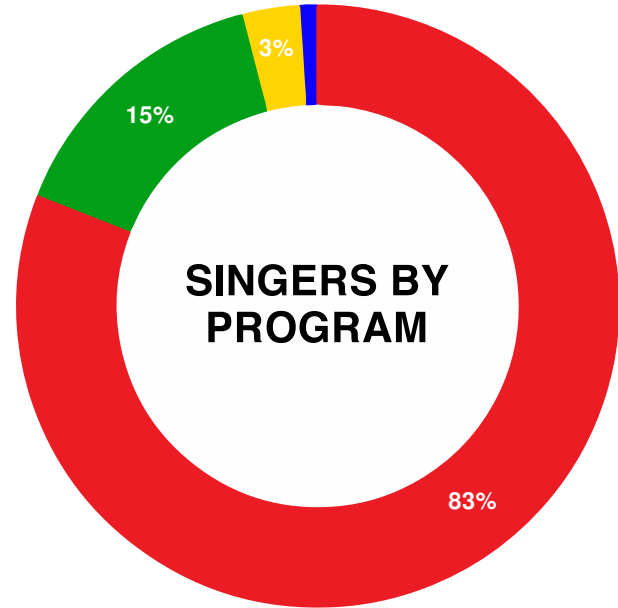
DEMOGRAPHICS & STATISTICS

50%

OF SINGERS IN CCC'S AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS, INCLUDING DIMENSION, THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHOIR PROGRAM, AND VOICE OF CHICAGO, CAME FROM LOW-TO-MODERATE INCOME HOUSEHOLDS.

89%

OF THE 72 SCHOOLS THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM PRIMARILY SERVED STUDENTS FROM LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS.



IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM



DIMENSION




NEIGHBORHOOD CHOIR PROGRAM



VOICE OF CHICAGO



72 CHICAGO SCHOOLS



Alphonsus Academy &
Center for the Arts
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Science Center Elementary School
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George Washington Carver
Primary School
Catalyst Elementary Charter School
- Circle Rock
Catalyst Elementary Charter School
- Howland
Chicago International Charter School
- Bucktown
Chicago International Charter School
- Irving Park
Chicago International Charter School
- Prairie
George Rogers Clark
Elementary School
Peter Cooper Elementary
Dual Language Academy
Crown Community Academy of
Fine Arts Center Elementary School
Nathan S Davis Elementary
School

Sir Miles Davis Magnet
Elementary Academy
Jose De Diego Elementary
Community Academy
Stephen Decatur Classical
Elementary School
William E.B. DuBois
Elementary School
Thomas A Edison Regional
Gifted Center Elementary School
Horace Greeley Elementary School
Wendell E Green Elementary School
Frank W Gunsaulus Elementary
Scholastic Academy
Nathan Hale Elementary School
Lionel Hampton Fine &
Performing Arts Elementary School
John Harvard Elementary
School of Excellence
William G Hibbard
Elementary School
Thomas J Higgins Elementary
Community Academy
Inter-American Elementary
Magnet School
Minnie Mars Jamieson
Elementary School
Annie Keller Regional
Gifted Center
Joshua D Kershaw
Elementary School

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Academy
of Social Justice
Anna R Langford Community
Academy
LaSalle II Magnet Elementary School
Mildred I Lavizzo Elementary School
Legacy Charter School
Benjamin E Mays Elementary
Academy
Ronald E McNair Elementary School
Irvin C Mollison Elementary School
Donald Morrill Math & Science
Elementary School
Mount Vernon Elementary School
Phillip Murray Elementary Language
Academy
Louis Nettelhorst Elementary School
New Field Elementary School
William K New Sullivan Elementary
School
William P Nixon Elementary School
Alfred Nobel Elementary School
Jesse Owens Community Academy
Francis W Parker Elementary
Community Academy
John J Pershing Elementary
Humanities Magnet
William H Prescott Elementary
School
A. N. Pritzker Elementary School
William H Ray Elementary School

Jackie Robinson Elementary School
Phillip Rogers Elementary School
Sherman School of Excellence
Jesse Sherwood Elementary School
Beulah Shoemith
Elementary School
South Loop Elementary School
South Shore Fine Arts Academy
STEM Magnet Academy
George W Tilton Elementary School
Enrico Tonti Elementary School
University of Chicago Charter
- Donoghue
University of Chicago Charter - North
Kenwood/Oakland
John A Walsh Elementary School
Daniel S Wentworth Elementary
School
John Greenleaf Whittier
Elementary School
Wildwood World IB World Magnet
School



CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR TOURS 2015



NEIGHBORHOOD CHOIR PROGRAM - BRIDGING AMERICA TOURS 2015

ALBANY PARK
BEVERLY & PILSEN/LITTLE VILLAGE
DIMENSION
HYDE PARK
LINCOLN PARK/DEPAUL
ROGERS PARK & HUMBOLDT PARK

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA



VOICE OF CHICAGO - EAST COAST TOUR

NEW YORK CITY & WASHINGTON DC

JUNE 21 – 29, 2015

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Performance with Young People's Chorus of New York City and Jerusalem Youth Chorus

Workshop with Gospel for Teens, who were recently featured on CNN's *60 Minutes*

Millennium Stage Presentation series performance at the Kennedy Center, broadcasted live online

Featured performance at Carnegie Hall, organized by Choirs of America

71 SINGERS

8 DAY TOUR

4 PERFORMANCES

4 WORKSHOPS

MAGICAL MUSICAL MOMENTS

“

Being a member of the CCC means being a part of something greater than yourself. **Each of us is responsible for doing what we can to contribute** to the choir, but it is only collectively that our mission can be accomplished.

VOICE OF CHICAGO SINGER

”

“

Seeing people of **all races, ethnicities, ages, and religions come together** proved to me how the CCC is changing lives and shaping the future.

VOICE OF CHICAGO SINGER

”

“

Even if I've had a difficult day, **I go to choir and come home smiling.**

NEIGHBORHOOD CHOIR
PROGRAM SINGER

”

“

I learned that even though some people are from different schools and communities, we can still **come together and sing together.**

IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM SINGER

”



A YEAR IN REVIEW

RED JACKET OPTIONAL

SIGNATURE SERIES

TARGET COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES

MEN'S FESTIVAL

WINTER CONCERT WITH SPHINX ORCHESTRA

BRIDGING AMERICA TOURS

TOSCA AT LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO

PAINT THE TOWN RED

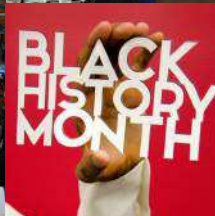
WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL

EAST COAST TOUR

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT SERIES



CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR
**PAINT
THE TOWN
RED**





STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEARS ENDED JUNE 30

	2015			2014		
	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
Support and Revenue						
Program Fees (including Tour Income)	1,180,718	-	1,180,718	1,089,047	-	1,089,047
Foundation and Corporate Grants*	1,106,759	(112,500)	994,259	812,027	210,000	1,022,027
Individual Contributions and Special Events	1,124,491	-	1,124,491	1,202,367	30,000	1,232,367
Government Grants	88,400	-	88,400	17,100	-	17,100
Concerts	206,129	-	206,129	172,774	-	172,774
Other (incl. In-Kind Contributions and Net Sales)	3,868	-	3,868	6,360	-	6,360
Total Support and Revenue	3,710,365	(112,500)	3,597,865	3,299,675	240,000	3,539,675
Operating Expenses	889,471	-	889,471	947,336	-	947,336
Voice of Chicago	897,873	-	897,873	853,817	-	853,817
Neighborhood Choir Program	722,350	-	722,350	603,047	-	603,047
In-School Program	142,240	-	142,240	120,957	-	120,957
Marketing	250,257	-	250,257	320,345	-	320,345
Management and General	555,153	-	555,153	440,213	-	440,213
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses	3,457,344	-	3,457,344	3,285,715	-	3,285,715
Change in Net Assets	253,021	(112,500)	140,521	13,960	240,000	253,960
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	807,245	460,000	1,267,245	793,285	220,000	1,013,285
Net Assets at End of Year	1,060,266	347,500	1,407,766	807,245	460,000	1,267,245

*Includes Net Assets Released from Restrictions

Source:2015 Audit Report

A copy of the audit is available upon request





CORPORATE, FOUNDATION, GOVERNMENT, AND INDIVIDUAL DONORS

The following list of organizations and individuals represents Chicago Children's Choir donors who made gifts from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

We gratefully recognize their support, which is vital to our success.

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