C023 Tacoma, WA - Harmony Explosion Northwest 2018

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Project Description

In these times of school budget cuts, music programs are not available to many students. HX provides an opportunity for students to learn about a cappella music (especially barbershop harmony), and build confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills through a common performance goal. Harmony Explosion Northwest (HX) has gained national recognition as one of the premier music camps in the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS). Our staff of local barbershoppers provides a 3-day vocal music camp for Students (12-21 years old) and Student Staff (18-25 years old). An average of 150 students per year learn 9 songs and perform them on the Saturday Night Celebration Show. In addition, 30 students/groups have the opportunity to perform on a talent show on Friday night, and nine of those acts are chosen to perform on the Celebration Show. The show is held in a state-of-the-art auditorium on the campus of Pacific Lutheran University in front of 400 people. Many of our students return year after year because they have the opportunity to grow into leadership roles and pass on what they have learned, and the camp has even developed its own culture of family and team, providing students with emotional support throughout the year.

F046 Lexington, KY - 2018 Kentucky Youth in Harmony Workshop

Kris Olson
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Project Description

The 2018 Kentucky Youth in Harmony Festival will be our seventh barbershop harmony workshop for young students. This event is a one-day choral event that brings together predominately high school-aged students from Central Kentucky to work with some of the finest barbershop performers and teachers in the field. They receive three pieces of music that morning and rehearse them with our guest quartet/clinician over the span of an eight hour event. The day includes lunch, an informal tag singing contest, and an end-of-day concert that features the youth, the Kentuckians Chorus, and our guest quartet. We have resolved ourselves
to keeping this event free to students and educators. We also use a portion of the day to do a roundtable discussion with educators about topics related to barbershop in the classroom, opportunities for quartets, youth choruses, etc. Finally, this event has primarily focused on male barbershop singing and outreach, and we intend to create an event that is inclusive of male and female students interested in barbershop.

Q073 Research Triangle Park, NC - Triangle Harmony eXplosion (THX)

Jack Moody
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Project Description

The problem is both financial and cultural in nature. Priorities in current local education direction lean toward instrumental rather than vocal programs. It is ironic that for the cost of a couple of quality saxophones a school can support an entire choral program.

This Choral Festival is a Harmony Explosion event and will involve girls for the first time in an all-day a cappella festival featuring professional coaching and rehearsal of a complete performance package of several songs that will be presented to family and community guests in an evening show. The day will include breakout sessions on vocal technique and performance skills. Funding will pay for sheet music and part-predominant learning tracks (provided in advance to attendees), an experienced teaching Quartet and highly experienced vocal clinicians as instructors and coaches. Meals and snacks for the participants will be provided along with commemorative T-shirts worn at the event, and after as walking Festival billboards. Our goal is to attract at least 75 girls and boys from Wake County Public School System and in future years expand into Durham County Public School System.

This event supports and supplements vocal music programs in the local schools which are under increasing pressure from reduced funding in the arts. It seeks to provide evidence to both students and educators that lifelong singing is a realistic goal.

S081 Wasatch Front, UT - Youth Harmony Day 2019

Mark Andromidas
**Project Description**

Although Utah is full of many musical opportunities for youth, very few of our local youth have experience with barbershop harmony singing. There are a few regional high schools among dozens that focus on barbershop or other a cappella singing. We will organize and carry out our second annual Youth Harmony Day, with a focus on the barbershop harmony style. There will be one boys chorus song, one girls chorus song, and a mixed chorus song. This full-day (9AM - 5 PM) event will be run by chapter members. In advance of the event, we will invite local high schools with well-established choral programs to invite their youth. We will provide sheet music and learning tracks to those who register. On the day of the event, we will provide t-shirts and lunch to registrants. Our chapter directors, with other invited guests, will provide coaching and musical direction. The participants will perform their songs as part of an evening show, including performances from the host school, the Saltaires, a male BHS quartet, a female SAI quartet, and finishing with the boys chorus, girls chorus, and mixed chorus each singing one song. Our first event this year resulted in about 100 youth attending to raving reviews by attendees and parents alike. Having learned many lessons from our first run, we hope to increase attendance next year by 50% - 100%.

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**E007 Bloomington, IL - 2018 Central Illinois Youth in Harmony Festival**

Doug Ferrier
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**Project Description**

The 2018 Central Illinois YIH Festival has grown to capacity in its now 20-year history. We expect to draw over 400 singers from 17 area high schools to the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts on Oct. 25 for a very full day of choral instruction, small group coaching and multiple performances by festival/host choruses, small ensembles and guest performers. Schools tell us they come to this festival to enrich their curriculum, experience quality coaching and singing. As a result, the schools use the music in their schools and our BHS and SAI groups have received festival alumni as members over the years.

The festival is completely staffed by members of the Sound of Illinois chorus (BHS), Vermillion
Valley chorus (SAI), leading clinicians from BHS and SAI, and many volunteer singers and choral educators from groups throughout Central Illinois. While the choruses fundraise over $5,000 each year to help underwrite this event, we also depend upon grants such as yours to make the Central Illinois festival a positive and memorable a cappella event.

Due to continued cuts in state arts funding (Illinois Arts Council), and an increase in the 2018 venue fee, the Central Illinois festival is facing a $6,000 gap in funding for 2018. While we already have fundraising in progress, your assistance (of any amount) will help us offset these unexpected financial hurdles and continue to offer a exceptional musical experience to the youth of this area.

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**Young Naperville Singers (Naperville, IL) - Clever Belle “Sing, Share, & Lead”**

Esther Cook  
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**Project Description**

Young Naperville Singers (YNS) firmly believes in community outreach and service. For the past 8 years, female YNS directors and older girls from the more advanced choirs have offered a half-day choral workshop for our youngest YNS girls as well as non-member girls in grades 3, 4 & 5. Formerly known as "Diva Day", this "girls only" event was renamed Clever Belle "Sing, Share & Lead" in 2018. Although the primary focus of this outreach workshop celebrates and teaches different types of singing, it is about more than just music and performance. It also aims to build inner strength, confidence, courage, and leadership skills in young girls. Participants receive professional choral instruction, hear presentations from inspiring female role models, form friendships with YNS singers, learn a variety of fun songs, and have the opportunity to perform with YNS singers on the world-class stage of Wentz Concert Hall in Naperville, Illinois.

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**D023 San Diego, CA - Youth Harmony San Diego presents: Creating a Better World Through Harmony A Youth Outreach Workshop for Promoting Singing and Harmony Among the Youth of San Diego, CA**

Brad Roberts
President
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**Project Description**

“Creating a Better World Through Harmony” will launch with a reception at the end of the 2017-18 school year, intended to create partnerships with our San Diego County music educators and school administrators, and communicating information both about our fall youth workshop and to enhance our collaborative relationship with the six SAI and BHS chapters.

The event will be an all-day vocal clinic that promotes a cappella harmony singing and vocal education for Middle and High School students. Participants learn two to three songs in the barbershop style, followed by an evening concert for family, friends, and the community. Through an expanded collaboration between the six San Diego BHS and SAI chapters, students will work with professionals and qualified clinicians for a day of singing experiences. Young singers will be introduced to our authentic American musical art form, focused on quality vocal skills for barbershop, and sing with other students in an inclusive social setting, while having an amazing day!!

One of the goals of this event is to bring the youth of San Diego together to experience four-part harmony on multiple levels including learning about the benefits of working together in harmony and its far-reaching positive social implications in our world.

- [www.youthharmonysd.com](http://www.youthharmonysd.com)

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**Spirit of Syracuse (Liverpool, NY) - Lakeside A cappella Camp**

Kathy Zubal-Strang

Director of Operations

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**Project Description**

Started as a joint venture among the Spirit of Syracuse Chorus (Sweet Adelines, International) and Northern Blend Chorus (Harmony, Inc.), Lakeside A cappella Camp was created after the SLD HX Camp altered its format to exclude young women beginning in 2014. Lakeside’s mission is to offer both male and female singers an interactive weekend to keep them singing for a lifetime! Camp is open to all singers 23 and under who are looking for the opportunity to sing with and learn from some of the best clinicians in the world! This project is a 3-day residential program staffed by adult barbershoppers, music educators, parents, and medical professionals.
Attendance for the event is capped at 200 youth participants and 100 adult participants (chaperones and campers) because of the campus size. Musical offerings are primarily focused on the preservation and encouragement of the barbershop art form, as well as celebrating a cappella music of all genres. Campers spend the weekend on the lake at Cazenovia College with other young singers from around the country who come to find a better world singing and leave empowered to make it happen. At the request of associated adults, we have recently added an adult education track to bring adult barbershoppers and music educators into contact with the best of the barbershop world for training in youth programming, quartet coaching, vocal instruction, and the fellowship of those who believe in the power of music.

Sunshine District (Melbourne, FL) - Sunshine District Harmony Explosion Camp 2018

Steven Cragg
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Project Description
Since 1999 the Sunshine District of the Barbershop Harmony Society has sponsored a 3-day Summer Music Camp for Florida high school boys and girls and their Music Educators. This camp is called Harmony Explosion and will be held on the campus of the Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne, FL. This is not just another Camp. Attendees will experience the very best of a cappella singing. The students will sing music in the barbershop style taught by amazing clinicians and teaching quartets. It’s a great way for students to gain part independence, develop ear-training skills, learn about and experience singing a purely American musical art form and to sing in concert with their peers. Music educators will gain solid, usable teaching ideas and discover ways to generate excitement and attract singers to their program(s).

C027 Kitsap County, WA - West Sound 2018 Youth in Harmony Workshop

Ric Cederwall
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Project Description

The project is a key annual event of our youth outreach. It is a day-long workshop, held the day before our annual show, where we leverage the expertise of our headliner quartet when possible. It is designed to be a fully participatory activity for singers from age 12-22. The participating youth are exposed to the challenges and joys of a cappella singing at a fairly high level. The excitement of the musical leadership is contagious. An explanation of the workshop, along with sheet music and learning tracks, are provided to registered participants in advance of the workshop. The day culminates with a show for friends and family.

This year we plan to hold the workshop on August 3, 2018. We are anticipating about 60 participants. Last year, two-thirds of our participants were girls. For the first time, we are excited to have a women’s quartet (Renegade) leading the workshop. Renegade members are in their 20s, and placed 11th at International. Kitsap Chordsmen will assist as needed, along with women from the Kitsap Pines.

A critical element to success of this program is our relationship with local high schools and community children’s theatre. We are able to engage a core set of participants who bring their friends. We will promote the event during the latter half of the school year and register participants so that we can communicate with them in early summer to prepare them for the workshop.

Sunshine District (Inverness, Tampa, West Palm Beach, Jacksonville, Ft. Myers, Sarasota, Miami, and Sebring, FL) - Sunshine District Youth Harmony Workshop Program

Steven Cragg
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Project Description

Since 1998 the Sunshine District of the Barbershop Harmony Society has sponsored one day Youth Harmony Workshops for Florida high school boys and girls and their Music Educators. These workshops are held at the County level throughout the State of Florida. Attendees will experience the very best of a cappella singing. The students will sing music in the barbershop style taught by amazing clinicians and teaching quartets. It’s a great way for students to gain part independence, develop ear-training skills, learn about and experience singing a purely American musical art form and to sing in concert with their peers. Music educators will gain solid, usable teaching ideas and discover ways to generate excitement and attract singers to their program(s). The Florida Barbershop and Sweet Adeline, Inc chapters, quartets, and
individuals make every effort to raise funds to help cover all costs associated with this program above the amount awarded by this grant.