



2019-2020 Outreach Grants

Award Summary

For Projects Occurring

June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020

Encouragement of A Cappella Harmony for Everyone

Richard Muir

Young Voices in Harmony Youth Coordinator

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Project Description

The Melbourne Chapter's project is to promote and encourage a cappella singing among the youth of Brevard County, FL. We adopt the "Everyone in Harmony" theme and each individual workshop will include both young men and women.

The public schools in Brevard County have not really embraced a cappella harmony in most of their choral programs. The purpose of this grant is to continue our efforts to introduce and enlighten the choral educators that barbershop harmony is a very good vehicle to enrich their choral program.

The project will be for the 2019-2020 school calendar year and is targeted as three separate, all day multi-school workshops, two for public school students and one for private school students. The workshop enrollment for private schools will be in the summer and will be open to all high school age students. This grant will help provide funds for two clinicians and two teaching quartets to conduct each workshop, and to fund for the sheet music, food and venue costs. During the year the chapter members will visit individual schools in the county, to promote this project, and continue to encourage a cappella singing.

Harmony Explosion Northeast 2019

Daniel Anthony

Camp Director

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Project Description

HXNE is in its twentieth year as THE youth event in the Northeast District. We cater to high-school students, providing a young men's and women's chorus for campers aged 14 to 18, as well as leadership opportunities for our Peer Leaders, aged 18 to 24. We also have a growing program for music educators that runs parallel to the camper experience. We bring in top-level quartets and talented clinicians, from all three US-based barbershop organizations, to lead the choruses in the barbershop style. Thursday and Friday include rehearsals and activities to foster the community experience, including singing tags and recreational games. A Saturday-night show is filled with local

talent, the choruses and the teaching quartets performing on the same stage. The show is attended by a variety of audience members, including family from all over New-England, barbershoppers from the entire Northeast District. This year, one of our clinicians attended the camp when it first started, and we have continued to have chapters sponsor students from their towns year after year, maintaining supportive relationships with their local school districts. We are striving to expand the reach of camp, after several years of declining enrollment.

2019 Kentucky Youth in Harmony Festival

Kris Olson

Youth in Harmony Coordinator

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Project Description

The Kentucky Youth in Harmony Festival is a one-day workshop that focuses on introducing primarily high school-aged male singers to barbershop harmony. They learn three songs under the tutelage of a world-class quartet and clinician and perform them at a public concert at the end of the event. The day begins at 9:30 a.m. and is a mix of warm-ups, full group rehearsals, sectionals, lunch, a tag contest, and a concert featuring the kids, our guest quartet, and our chapter the Kentuckians Chorus. The event concludes at 5:00 p.m., so about seven and a half hours total. We strive to provide this event at no cost to the students or their teachers/schools as a means to break down any barriers between barbershop and the outside world. The event is now in its eighth year, and teachers consistently say our workshop is one of the best choral events in the state. Our goal is to make the day a fun, accessible experience that gets men fired up about singing and helps their vocal development, as many high school programs consistently struggle to recruit men and find opportunities for them to sing.

Greater Cincinnati Harmony Camp

Joy Suellentrop

Music Chair

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Project Description

The Greater Cincinnati Harmony Camp (GCHC) is a three-day summer camp that brings barbershop to students aged 13-18. In 2019, the camp will be held at Xavier University from June 19th-22nd. Campers will spend three days and four nights at Xavier, singing, learning, tagging, performing, and meeting life-long friends. The camp will culminate in a free performance featuring the campers, the three host choruses, and the two teaching quartets. Through this camp, students are taught the basics of vocal production, harmony, and performance. Evenings are filled with several fun activities. On Friday night, local barbershop quartets and VLQs perform for the campers, including the two teaching quartets.

We have learned that a difficult aspect of holding a camp such as this is forming a relationship with choral educators. In our experience, some professionally trained musicians in our community are still hesitant about the barbershop style. Additionally, we have found they are hesitant to promote anything that may take their singer's attention away from their school programs. With that in mind, we strive to provide quality examples of our art form, while never giving the impression that we are trying to recruit their students away from them.

2019 Dixie District Harmony Explosion Camp

Lee Franks

Vice-President, Youth in Harmony, Dixie District, Barbershop Harmony Society

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Project Description

Since 2002, the Dixie District of the Barbershop Harmony Society (save 2017) has hosted a three-day summer choral music camp for high school boys, girls, and their music educators. The 2019 camp will be led by two clinicians (male and female) as well as two teaching quartets (male and female). Boys and girls choruses will each learn three songs for performance and will learn one more song as a combined chorus. All music will be in the barbershop style of four-part close harmony singing. The final show will feature all choruses, teaching quartets, and male, female, and mixed quartets that have formed during the camp. The camp's purpose is to give youth and music educators the opportunity to experience barbershop singing and to take that experience and enthusiasm back to their home schools' music programs.

Montana Music Educators Association

Brett Foster

President, Treasure State Sound, S095, RMD

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Project Description

The Montana Music Educators Association conference will be held in Billings, MT on October 17 & 18. The conference includes the All-State High School Band, Choir and Orchestra. Thursday night is the Host Night Concert, which will be held at Lincoln Auditorium, 415 North 30th, Billings. Sound of the Rockies and Storm Front will be the performers for the concert. In addition, 3 sessions are planned specific to barbershop including "Coaching Under Glass"; "Tune it or Die" and a reading session of a selection of music from BHS. Sessions will be conducted by Darin Drown and the men from Storm Front. Possible BHS staff for a reading session or Adam Scott of RMD for a reading session

Building a Barbershop Program at the High School Level

Rich Kirwin

WYHF Marketing Chairman

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Project Description

Music educators can greatly influence a lifelong interest in singing among young people, but most are unfamiliar with barbershop. The Wisconsin Youth Harmony Festival has organized a statewide barbershop festival for the past four years. To increase awareness among music educators and youth barbershop participation, we are seeking BHS grant funding to support our participation at the fall 2019 Wisconsin State Music Conference on October 23-26, 2019.

In a 75-minute presentation entitled "Building a Foundation for a Cappella Quartet and Chorus Singing," music educators will hear from a panel of three of their peers. Attendees will learn how these individuals, all of whom have had students compete successfully at state or national competitions, have built successful barbershop programs for students at their high schools. Steve Scott, a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) staff, will also describe the support offered by the BHS for music educators.

The WYHF will also host a booth in the Conference Exhibit Hall to provide the music educators and students present with face-to-face time with barbershoppers as well as a look at videos, handouts, BHS resources, and a youth barbershop quartet singing

A Cappella Academy 2019

Lars Isaacson

Chair of the Sounds of Aloha Youth Outreach Committee

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Project Description

A Cappella Academy 2019 will take place on June 7 - 8, 2019 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) Music Department. This two-day festival is designed to teach vocal and a cappella singing skills through the medium of barbershop harmony to high school singers from across the island of Oahu. It provides a learning opportunity for all high school-aged singers, but one goal of the program is to offer public school students a high-level singing experience that many of their private school counterparts experience. An example of the amazing level that the private schools reach is the Kamehameha Schools Song Contest, which is televised live every year.

Significantly, after two past successful A Cappella Academies, this will be our first co-ed Academy. It is important to give girls the opportunity to sing our style of music, and they too will benefit them by learning advanced singing skills and building self-esteem. After Friday evening and full-day Saturday sessions with clinicians Vocal Spectrum and GQ, the festival will culminate in a performance at UHM's Orvis Auditorium. The evening show will feature performances by both the men's and women's ensembles, Vocal Spectrum, GQ, and the combined mixed voice ensemble.

Creating a Better World Through Harmony

Henry Schrik

VP Marketing and PR

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Project Description

A Youth Outreach Workshop for Promoting Singing and Harmony Among the Youth of San Diego, CA

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 among eight San Diego BHS, SAI and HI chapters, students will work with professionals and qualified clinicians for a day of singing. Youth will be introduced to our authentic American musical art form, focusing on quality vocal skills for barbershop, and singing with other students in an inclusive social setting, while having an amazing day!!

One of the goals is to bring the youth of San Diego together to experience four-part harmony while learning about the benefits of working together in harmony and its positive social implications in our world.

“Creating a Better World Through Harmony” is designed to create partnerships with San Diego County music educators and school administrators, communicating information about our youth workshop and enhancing our collaborative relationship with multiple chapters in San Diego County.

Boise Chordsmen Community Outreach Performance Series

Dennis Berg

Marketing & Grants

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Project Description

The Boise Chordsmen pair with schools that attend the Idaho Youth Barbershop Festival to bring barbershop music to their communities. Most of these smaller communities do not have the resources to hire groups to perform. We use the school's venue, allowing them to charge admission as a fundraiser for their choral program. The Chordsmen provide, at no charge, the printing of flyers, tickets, posters and programs, paying for the venue if necessary, speak to civic groups, PTA's, school boards, etc., place ads in local media, provide radio commercials and more. ALL proceeds from ticket sales stay with the school choral program. The Chordsmen sing at least one combined song with the school chorus and encourage student-led groups to perform. We have 7 quartets that provide additional entertainment.

Music City Harmony Festival

Thomas Lawrence

VP-Youth in Harmony for Music City Chorus

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Project Description

The Music City Harmony Festival is a one-day event that will bring together 50 young men and 50 young women for a one-day barbershop workshop that will end with a performance that evening. With this event, the Music City Chorus wants to reach out into Middle Tennessee schools and teach them about the world of barbershop singing through quality coaching and performing. We will also be inviting music educators from participating schools to see how incorporating barbershop into their programs will benefit the sound of their ensembles with the hope they will form quartets or small barbershop ensembles in their schools.

Participants will learn how to manipulate the barbershop style of singing compared to the “choral” style through warm-ups, chord exercises, and learning a few tags during their time at the festival. In addition to preparing for a show, we will have members of the Music City Chorus there to answer questions about barbershop talk about experiences they have had through performing and being a part of the society, and share with them their passion for music.

Harmony Explosion NorthWest

Katherine Erickson

Co-Director

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Project Description

Harmony Explosion NW (HX) is a three-day sleepaway summer camp for students age 13 to 25 with a focus on singing and performing Barbershop-style harmony.

Students rehearse and receive coaching from Thursday morning through Saturday afternoon culminating in a concert which showcases the seven to nine songs presented by the student chorus(es) and capped by a headliner quartet and/or local SAI/BHS chorus.

Over the past 17 years, the camp has operated with an expectation that donations and grants will be used for a large portion of event costs. Beginning in August (2018) the new administrative team developed and implemented a plan to raise student tuition to cover base costs and consider longer-term options for funding HX. This has enabled us to delegate certain responsibilities to our local teams and empower them to help drive the financial and marketing success of HX.

Our short term financial goal is self-sustainability within five years. Through receiving this grant for 2019, we will be able to continue to bear the cost of hosting our all-volunteer staff during camp, allowing them to focus fully on preparing and providing the best experience possible for the campers.

Bootstrapping The Gap II

Paul Girard

Youth In Harmony Chairman

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Project Description

This project is a follow-on to Bootstrapping The Gap funded in 2017, as summarized below. It will enlist current choral educators (CCEs) to conduct after-school programs to fill the gap in schools with under-populated choir programs, and/or where schools lack choral teachers. The milieu is a cluster of middle schools that feed a high school in their geographic area. The objective is to motivate more middle school student to attend choir and carry that enthusiasm to high school. CCEs will be from schools inside or outside the cluster, who will be trained in the nuances and pedagogy of barbershop harmony by attending Harmony University so they feel comfortable conducting the course. By introducing students to barbershop and choir in MS, and having a qualified choral teacher (rather than just an instrumentalist) at the HS level, more participation is expected.

Harmony Explosion Camp

Steven Cragg

VP, Youth in Harmony

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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. "Harmony Explosion" will be held on the campus of the Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne, FL. 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, Tony DeRosa, After Hours, Debbie Cleveland, and Windsor! Every year, this camp becomes more popular, and the number of kids expands! Many kids not otherwise able to attend functions like this are able to do so through generous scholarships made possible through grant awards.

