



2020 Outreach Grants

Award Summary

For Projects Occurring

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Harmony Explosion Camp Northeast

Daniel Anthony

Camp Director

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NED Northeastern District

Project Description

Harmony Explosion Northeast is a three day a capella camp with a focus on Barbershop. Sponsored by the Northeastern District of the Barbershop Harmony Society, HXNE is supported by individuals and chapters from the surrounding states and Canada from BHS, SAI and HI. Open to high school students, campers rehearse under a clinician from the Barbershop world and teaching quartets (typically chosen from the international and youth medalists of BHS/SAI/HI, or other quartets with great reputations as educators) in two choruses, male and female. Peer Leaders are college-age students who help to coordinate rehearsals and activities, while Chaperones sing in an adult chorus along with Music Educators who observe and discuss rehearsals and teaching techniques.

Youth Harmony Day 2020

Mark Andromidas

VP Music and Performance

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S081 Wasatch Front, UT

Project Description

Utah has many musical opportunities for youth, but few involve barbershop harmony. Only a few regional schools among dozens focus on barbershop or other a cappella singing. Our annual Youth Harmony Day focuses on the barbershop harmony style. There will be one boy's chorus song, one girl's chorus song, and a mixed chorus song. This full-day (9 AM - 5 PM) event will be run by qualified clinicians and chapter members. We invite local junior high and high schools to invite their choral youth. (Last year's event drew kids from about 20 schools from the tri-county region of SLC.) We provide free sheet music and learning tracks, free t-shirts, and free lunch to registrants. Darin Drown (Storm Front) and Tori Postma (SAI judge) will provide coaching and musical direction. The youth choruses will perform their songs on an evening show for parents, friends, and teachers, also including performances from the Saltaires chorus and local quartets. Our 2018 event drew about 100 youth; the 2019 event drew about 140. We consider about 150 attendees the sweet spot for

our event. We continue to learn lessons each year and plan to build on the success of prior years.

Cardinal District Harmony Explosion 2020

Elizabeth Gallagher

Executive Director

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CAR Cardinal District

Project Description

Harmony Explosion is a four day, three-night Barbershop Harmony youth camp sponsored by the Barbershop Harmony Society's Cardinal District located in Anderson, Indiana for ages twelve through twenty-four. Our goal is to give young adults, both locally and regionally, an excellent barbershop experience with highly skilled clinicians and teaching quartets. In 2019, we had 12 active Internationally competitive quartets represented, as well as numerous choruses from across the nation spanning four organizations. It is essential to the Harmony Explosion staff that each and every camper has a positive experience singing barbershop. To us, there is nothing more important than creating an all-accepting atmosphere where everyone can sing in harmony and experience joy. We strive to be positive role models for these campers, but by the end of camp, all we want is to be more like them. We have seen current and former campers form quartets, join local choruses, pursue music education degrees, take on leadership roles in their community, take on starring roles in local theatre, and develop everlasting friendships with each other. Between mixed chorus rehearsals, physical and vocal exercise, sectionals, tag-time, evening team building activities, a talent show, and a Saturday Night Showcase, Harmony Explosion works to develop the whole person and instill skills that they will carry forward the rest of their lives.

Youth Harmony Festival 2020

Dean Rust

Grant Writer

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J047 Alexandria, VA

Project Description

The 2020 Youth Harmony Festival will build on the successful 2019 Festival by seeking a 25% increase in participation and making a few changes in our planning and execution. The "problem" or "challenge" is to embed in the youth and the choral educators an increased appreciation for a cappella particularly barbershop. We want the Festival to grow the students' appreciation for the importance of life-long singing and to provide educators with new ideas to enrich their choral programs. The festival will last one day, with sessions of 30-45 minutes that involve: interaction with the teaching quartets including sectionals; informal, fun activities such as tag singing; social time with youth from different schools; and rehearsing the Festival songs. There will be a roundtable for the educators. The Festival will close with an evening show that allows the youth to present what they learned. The Harmonizers Education Director will be the Festival Coordinator supported by male and female clinicians and teaching quartets. There will be ample time for meals and breaks.

Jersey Harmony Explosion 2020

William Downey

Festival Coordinator

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J011 Montclair, NJ / J132 Caldwell, NJ

Project Description

"This will be a full day Youth in Harmony event for middle and high school students with the goal of exposing young people to and educating them about barbershop. There will be a TTBB ensemble, SSAA ensemble and combined festival chorus. During the day, these ensembles will rehearse, but participants will also have the opportunity to take diverse classes on topics related to barbershop and a cappella. Any pre-existing quartets will have the chance to be coached and all other participants will have an opportunity to sing in a quartet. The day will culminate in a nighttime concert which will be free and open to the public."

Barbershop Revival 2020

Andrea Fuson

Director of Development

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NCS Carolinas District

Project Description

"The true origins of barbershop harmony in the African American musical tradition has only recently been acknowledged. Barbershop Revival 2020 aims to share this history

Barbershop Revival 2020 is a second youth outreach weekend at North Carolina Central University (NCCU). Revival 2020 is a 2-day event aimed at introducing barbershop harmony and its true origins in African American musical culture to students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in North Carolina.

Revival will use the Harmony Explosion model, so successful for Revival 2019 when we received very positive feedback from participants. We will engage attendees in active participation in master classes and performance of four songs harmony. Guest teaching quartets and attendees will perform on a Saturday night finale concert.

The classes will be augmented by an informal discussion with the teaching quartets HALO and Forefront about their experiences singing in the traditionally white world of barbershop harmony. The discussion will explore African American musical culture as the true origin of barbershop harmony and how other forms of American music, like jazz, blues and gospel grew from it. Local African American gospel group, The Gospel Jubilators, will discuss how they focused on singing old spirituals founded in the early African American tradition."

Collegiate Outreach Program

Dennis Berg

Marketing, Grants & Co-chair for the Idaho Youth Barbershop Festival

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C039 Boise Chordsmen, Evergreen District

Project Description

Building a relationship between higher education and local BHS chapters has been a mostly unrealized opportunity within local chapters.

The following concept is a collaboration between Steve Scott, Music Education Specialist for BHS and Ian Kelly, Boise Chordsmen director.

Two scholarship programs would be established as a pilot program with the Boise Chordsmen, the local Chapter of BHS. These scholarships would give Choral Education Majors the opportunity to work directly with skilled (albeit untrained) community choirs, barbershop chapters, etc. and learn the procedures and organization of a nonprofit choir.

Initially, it would be open to juniors and seniors pursuing a degree in Music Ed with a choral emphasis. The program would be during the fall semesters. Expectations would be as follows and can be modified for individual programs:

- 1) Teach and conduct one piece in a performance setting
- 2) Attend and teach at six rehearsals between September and November (2 per month)
- 3) Attend two board meetings introducing the function and organization of a nonprofit community choir

This is an opportunity to work with untrained voices, getting podium time, and learning how to deal with other issues that come from community choirs (ie attendance issues, ageing minds, retention, funding, etc.)

Youth in Harmony 2020

Jon Schmidt

YiH 2020 Chair

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H080 Willmar, MN

Project Description

The West Central Connection Chorus will be hosting our 11th Annual Youth in Harmony Festival on February 1st, 2020 at the Willmar High School in Minnesota. Our program starts at 1:00p

and concludes with a free performance at 6:30p. We have reached out to all local area choir directors to invite young men interested in a fun day of singing a cappella music together with their peers and with our chorus. All youth that signup for the event will be supplied with learning tracks and sheet music to better prepare for the day. We will provide the students with a snack, a meal and a t-shirt to wear at the performance. We start with warmups with our clinician (yet to be confirmed) and sessions for both sectional and group instruction. Sectionals will be lead by the quartet Kordal Kombat who originated within our chorus and have completed at the International level. We have tags prepared to sing during break times which allow our chorus to interact and have fun with these students. We want to make sure that the students remember the event and that they will keep in their minds that joining and organization like the West Central Connection Chorus is a fun and worthwhile endeavor.

ACA-CON 2020

Scott Tyree

Development Director

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N116 Greater Oklahoma City, OK

Project Description

Expand the initial success of ACA-CON 2019 to provide a harmony training weekend for northeastern Oklahoma public and homeschool students.

ACA-CON is a full-day event with clinician-led training in singing/choreography. There will also be an evening show for family and the public. Boys and girls will work on two or three songs separately and in combined sessions.

Three choruses (Acappella Federation, Tulsa Founders, and the Tulsa Metro Sound - SAI) are partnering to continue to build this event.

Most all of the target student population are in economically challenged and under-served areas. Our goal is to provide this event without cost to the students, teachers, or schools.

Harmony Explosion! 2020

Jerry Meier

Harmony Explosion! Director

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A048 Kansas City, MO

Project Description

"Harmony Explosion! 2020 is a one-day clinic that introduces Middle School and High School students (boys and girls) and teachers and family members and friends to the 4-part a cappella harmonic sounds created by singing Barbershop style music. The goal of Harmony Explosion! is to promote and support vocal music education in Middle School and High School programs, using 4-part a cappella Barbershop music as the vehicle to create lifelong singers. 200 students participate in this event each year.

Harmony Explosion! includes vocal music activities for students that wish to sing Barbershop music in quartets or in larger groups, with a common goal to promote 4-part a cappella singing, in a mistake-friendly environment, that encourages participation and performance, with plenty of support and fun!

Registered Quartets from the BHS and SAI perform for the students. Sheet music, learning media, quartet coaching and performance ideas are provided upon request. The event is sponsored and staffed by the Heart of America Barbershop Chorus and the Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines. There is no cost to the students that participate, or to those that attend this event. A catered lunch is offered for an optional \$7 donation."

2020 All-in-Harmony A Capella Workshop

Greg Dreyer

Events Coordinator Silver Statesmen Chorus

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D075 Las Vegas, NV

Project Description

This would be a full day of education for High School aged boys and girls to provide information/instruction regarding the art of Barbershop Quartet singing. We would provide all

the music, instruction, lunch and end the day with a performance structured event. We are looking to support the All in Harmony movement and prepare the attendees to attend the FWD Conventions and possibly compete on that level.