

MADISON YOUTH CHOIRS

2016-2017
ANNUAL REPORT



MYC's 5th grade choir at Lincoln Elementary rehearsing with music teacher Cassie Krueger and MYC's Mike Ross.



Cantabile and Ragazzi performing at our "Shakespeare 400" concert, conducted by Artistic/Executive Director Mike Ross.



MYC's in-school choir from Leopold Elementary performing at the Wisconsin State Capitol in March 2017.

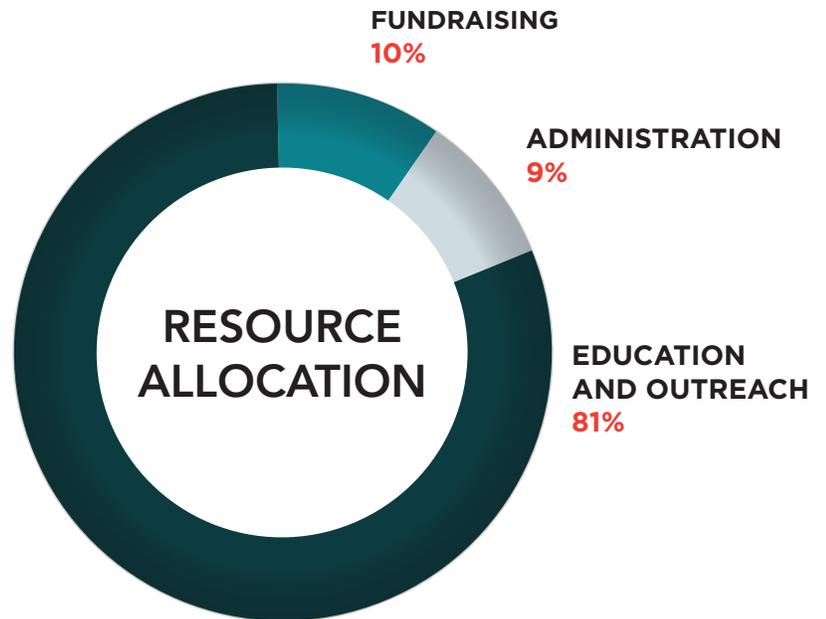
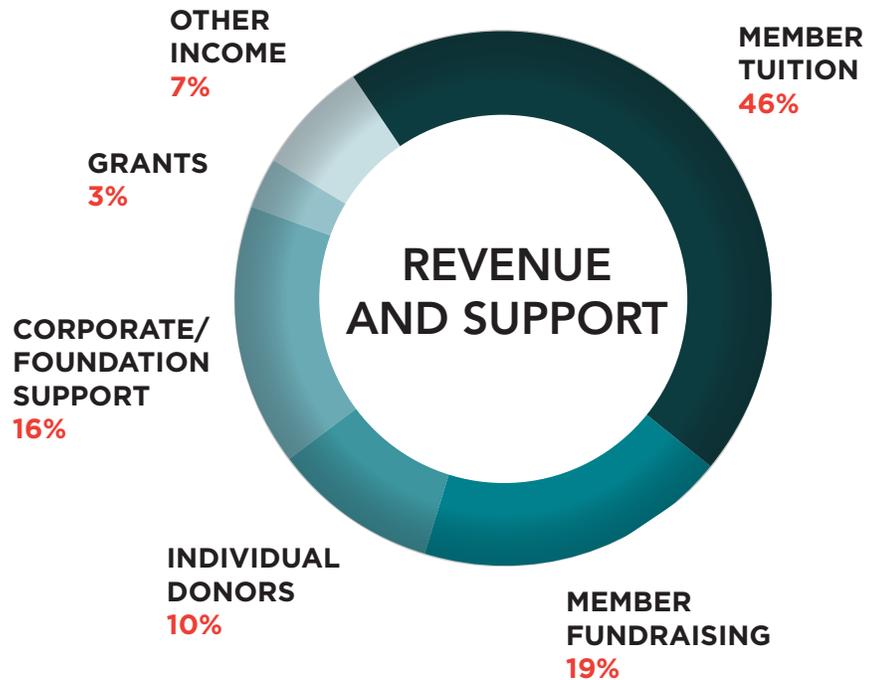
I just witnessed...a group of high school girls pouring every bit of their guts into singing a folk song, while the high school boys next to them mouthed the words silently, some of them fighting back tears from the melancholy of it all. I might have shed a few tears myself, seeing that kind of fierce emotional commitment from a group of young people.”

—Composer Scott Gendel
after MYC’s Cantabile and Ragazzi choirs performed their closing concert at Holy Wisdom Monastery in June 2017.

Scott Gendel’s heartfelt response to our final concert of the year reflects many of the stories we’ve heard from audience members, singers’ families, and supporters this year, recognizing our young artists’ ability to inspire compassion and hope in our community amid a confusing and challenging world.

Watching these young singers eagerly study the clicking sounds of the Xhosa language or decode complex musical notation from the Renaissance, we are not only cheered by their relentless curiosity but are reminded of the many ways creative expression can transcend time, space, and geography, enduring nearly everything.

It’s been our immense privilege to work with nearly 1,000 young people (and a talented group of young-at-heart singers in our Intergenerational Choir) through our choral education programs this year, and we look forward to welcoming even more new voices as we continually strive to remove barriers to participation, whether financial, perceptual, or physical.



This information reflects revenue and expenses from July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017 and is unaudited. Audited financials will be available later this year. See our full list of sponsors, donors, and supporters at madisonyouthchoirs.org.



MADISON YOUTH CHOIRS

A Note From Our Board President

As an alumnus of Madison Boychoir who has had the opportunity to serve as Madison Youth Choirs' board president for the past two years, it has been an honor to support MYC's tremendous mission to "inspire youth through a choral experience that fosters creativity, reflection, and the exploration of ideas."

We have carefully steered our board work, supported by a new strategic plan ratified in December 2015, to focus intently on the three cornerstones of our

organizational philosophy: education, collaboration, and community. This framework provides a guide to our long-term vision, ensuring that decisions we make will create and sustain programming to nurture curious, open-minded, caring, and deep-thinking young people who will embody these principles for the rest of their lives.

To accomplish this work, we have convened committees focused on strategic priorities, including welcoming students from diverse backgrounds, races, and identities, ensuring

that our facilities meet our programming needs, and offering meaningful musical opportunities to young people throughout our community.

On behalf of the board, I want to thank you for being a valuable member of the MYC community and invite you to join us for a board meeting. Please reach out to us for more information about anything shared in this annual report.

Sincerely,
Dan Sinclair
board@madisonyouthchoirs.org



Our combined boychoirs performing at First Congregational Church with conductor Margaret Jenks. Our boychoir enrollment set a new record this year, as we welcomed more than 150 young men to our choirs.

MYC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MYC STAFF

Michael Ross, *Artistic/Executive Director*
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Ian Disjardin, *Rehearsal Coordinator*
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Yanzel Rivera-Otero, *Bolz Center Intern*

Photos by Photos by Bill Rosholt and Nicole Sparacino.

CONDUCTORS

Bruce Clawson
Calli Ingebritsen
Margaret Jenks
Lisa Kjentvet
Michael Ross
Marcia Russell
Margaret Stansfield
Randal Swiggum

ACCOMPANISTS

Jingwen Fan
Andrew Johnson
Steve Radtke
Jess Salek