

Generations ROCK!

With the world premier of *Definition Suite* by guest artist Mankwe Ndotsi, and featuring spoken word ensemble Teens Rock the Mic!

Saturday, June 16, 2007 • 7:30 pm



Sunday, June 17, 2007 • 3:30 pm



History Theatre • St. Paul, Minnesota

Jane Ramseyer Miller
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Philip Everingham
ACCOMPANIST



Part of the Music

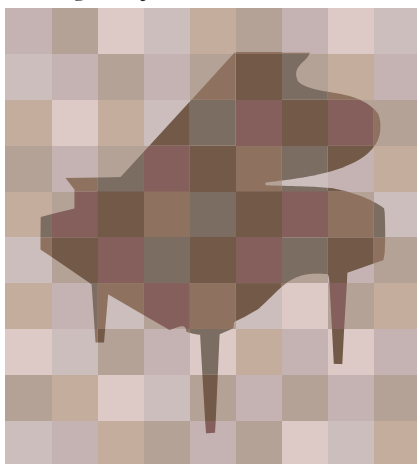
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One Voice Auditions

Auditions for our 2007-2008 season will be held on August 27, 2007 & September 4, 2007. Sign up for auditions in the lobby, or call the One Voice hotline to schedule an audition and receive an information packet. One Voice rehearses at Unity Church Unitarian in St. Paul, from 7-9:30 pm on Monday nights. For a complete performance schedule, ticket, volunteer and audition information contact us:

612.332.1302 • info@ovmc.org • www.ovmc.org



One Voice 2007 – 2008 Calendar

One Voice Singer Auditions

August 27, 2007 & September 4, 2007

February 4 & 5, 2008 for our spring season

One Voice Outreach Tour to Iowa!

Friday, November 9 - Concert hosted by the Des Moines Gay Men's Chorus

Saturday, November 10 - Concert hosted by The Quire, Iowa City

Sunday, November 11 - Joint concert with the
Queer Music Consortium, Saint Paul

With additional concerts in Iowa schools and colleges along the way!

Between Dark and Light

In collaboration with the Central High School Concert Choir

With guest conductor, Dr. Vance George

January 25 & 26, 2008 at 7:30 pm

Central Presbyterian Church, 500 Cedar Street in downtown Saint Paul

Twenty Years – Many Voices: 20th Anniversary Concert

Saturday, June 21, 7:30 pm

Sunday, June 22, 3:30 pm

ASL & audio description

History Theatre, 30 East Tenth St., Saint Paul

GALA Festival VII in Miami, Florida

July 12-19, 2008



WOMEN'S CHORUS
IS SEEKING AN ACCOMPANIST!

Auditions Dates:
August 15th & 22nd!

Join us starting this August!
Call 612-285-5835 or visit us online at:
www.calliopewomenschorus.org



Building community and
creating social change
by raising our voices in song.

Contact Us:

we're moving!

Beginning August 1, 2007
we will have our own office!

Our new address:

One Voice Mixed Chorus

732 Holly Avenue

Saint Paul, MN 55104

612-332-1302

(new phone TBA)

info@ovmc.org or

www.ovmc.org

greetings from the artistic director



Welcome,

Ever wonder what it takes to pull off a concert that includes music, spoken word artists, visual artists, youth, elders, percussion, and a whole bunch of singers? This project could not have happened without the nearly 80 volunteers and artists who have contributed to the various artistic and logistical details to make this concert possible.

Generations ROCK! explores the wit and wisdom of youth and elders through a fusion of choral music and spoken word. As I approached the challenge of designing a unified concert that gives justice to both art mediums, I was determined to find a way for our groups to perform simultaneously. Through a grant from the American Composer's Forum we discovered artist, performer and musician Mankwe Ndosi and she took up the challenge – composing a new work of art for a spoken word ensemble and a GLBT chorus!

Ndosi, who composes through improvisation, initially utilized the voices of OVation, our a cappella ensemble, in a collaborative, organic process to create the music. As she guided OVation in creating melodies, colors and sounds, Ndosi worked simultaneously with youth from Teens Rock the Mic on the spoken text which weaves in and out of her soundscape. It was exciting to see her *Definition Suite* come together as the full chorus, spoken word artists and OVation joined together at our Saturday rehearsal in April.

As One Voice approaches our 20th Anniversary in 2008, we are invigorated to experience our mission of building community and creating social change unfold through our recent strategic planning, new programming and unique collaborations. Thank you for supporting our mission!

~ Jane Ramseyer Miller, Artistic Director



GALA Choruses, Inc.

For nineteen years, One Voice Mixed Chorus has united gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people, and straight allies in working for social change. One Voice is known for its musical excellence, diverse repertoire, humor, and strong commitment to community outreach. One Voice's eighty singing members span ages 16-69, and its Fifth Section boasts over forty non-singing volunteers. Together, they dedicate their time and energy to the One Voice mission: "Building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song." One Voice is the largest GLBT mixed chorus in the United States, and has performed for thousands of people in the Twin Cities, greater Minnesota, and beyond.

Thanks from the Artistic Director to:

- Teens Rock the Mic and alumni for your energy, passion and profound words. You inspire us to be courageous and honest – you kick our butts!
- Paul Petrella, founder of One Voice and our out-going Board Co-chair for his leadership and vision.
- Cathy Sherwin and Andy Kedl for keeping all the details in place.
- The singers of One Voice for your willingness to struggle beyond the notes and rhythms and to grapple deeply with the emotions that our concert topics and mission inspire.

concert **guests & artists**



**Mankwe
Monika
Nkatuati
Ndosi**

Mankwe Monika Nkatuati Ndosi is an active vocalist, composer and writer. She is a member of Douglas R. Ewart and Inventions out of Chicago, and facilitates the Shakopee Writers' Workshop. Mankwe is currently the Artistic and Managing Director for the Center for Independent Artists – an incubator for independent artistic vision from diverse perspectives. Mankwe has a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and has studied informally with master artists and mentors in the fields of theater, performing arts, voice, music and common medicinal plants. Interests include indigenous folk music, conservation, myth and ritual, African economic development, women's work and bridging the divides among people of the African Diaspora.

Teens Rock the Mic

The mission of **Teens Rock the Mic** is to impact society by giving voice to those without – through story, experience and art of spoken word. These young activists and artists want to raise awareness, promote social justice and uplift the community, the nation and the world. – June, 2005

Teens Rock the Mic began as an ensemble of urban poets and youth leaders who traveled to San Francisco for the *Youth Speaks Brave New Voices™ International Youth Poetry Slam Festival* in April, 2005. Since that time, a core group of participants has been gathering once a week at the Loft Literary Center to continue to build on the success they've encountered in this spoken word movement. As a program of The Juno Collective, **Teens Rock the Mic** members embody and demonstrate leadership and literacy in and through the arts. TRTM is an ensemble led and run by teen artists with the support of adult community mentors. Sadly, this collaboration marks TRTM's last performance as the organization does not have the financial resources to continue. We look to the emerging young adults forming such groups as *TruArtSpeaks* and *Spoken Word University* as the next leaders in this work.

Tish Jones	Tru Art Speaks
Brittany Delaney	Central High School
Gayle Smaller	Patrick Henry High School
Kelly Xiong	North High School

We are grateful to TRTM graduates Brittany and Tish, who have graciously joined us to participate in this collaboration. Thank you also to Stacey Garratt who is a Mentor for TRTM and a great support person, and to Colette DeHapporte for all of her support for TRTM.

Tag Art Project

While planning the production details for this concert, Guy Stridsigne had the fabulous idea to dress up our concert space with graffiti tag art. The idea, which began as "wouldn't that be fun if..." slowly took root as Guy contacted youth from District 202 and Youth Link, and Andy Kedl and Cathy Sherwin conquered the logistical challenges. Several tag artists from Saint Paul Creative Arts High School volunteered to join in the fun. On June 9, a team gathered with artist John Grider to create the backdrop you see on stage. A huge *Thank You* to John and these youth artists!



staff bios



Artistic Director ~ Jane Ramseyer Miller

Jane Ramseyer Miller is in her twelfth year as Artistic Director for One Voice Mixed Chorus. She holds a Masters of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Minnesota and a BA in Psychology from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. Ramseyer Miller has served as Music Director for several church choirs as well as for TransVoices, Calliope Women's Chorus, Fierra Voce Femmina, and Voices for Peace – a multi-cultural youth choir. Ramseyer Miller's compositions are published by Yelton Rhodes Music and Pilgrim Press. She especially enjoys creative arts collaborations and has created choral music with 15-Head Theater Lab, The Women's Cancer Resource Center, Shakopee Women's Correctional Facility, In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre, Mu Daiko and District 202, among others.



Operations Manager ~ Ann Follett

Ann Follett comes to One Voice with an extensive background in screenwriting, filmmaking, arts administration and community activism. She was a singing member of Calliope Women's Chorus for six years and a singer with Brouhaha, a vocal improvisation ensemble, for two years. In addition to her work with One Voice, Ann is currently working on the documentary, "Go Oaks! Taking a Stand on Sacred Land," and is writing a series of short screenplays.



Accompanist ~ Philip Everingham

Philip Everingham, a native of Springfield, Ohio, has collaborated with singers throughout the United States and Austria, specializing in a variety of art song and opera repertoire. He has served as coach/accompanist for various opera companies, including the Fargo/Moorhead Opera productions of Carlyle Floyd's "Susannah," Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte" and their upcoming production of Bizet's "Pearl Fishers," as well as several productions at the University of Minnesota and Opera in the Ozarks.

He recently received his Doctorate of Musical Arts at the University of Minnesota, where he researched Finnish composer Yrjö Kilpinen's songs set to the text of Swedish poet Erik Blomberg. His research took him to Finland in the fall of 2006 to perform a concert series beginning at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki with baritone Peter Halverson.



OVation Ensemble Coach ~ Randi Grundahl Rexroth

OVation Ensemble Coach Randi Grundahl Rexroth is very pleased to be working with OVation and has enjoyed singing with this talented group of singers. She is also a choir director at the Visitation School in Mendota Heights and is music directing several shows in Hudson, Wisconsin and at Macalester College. When she's not conducting, teaching, or directing, she's arranging and composing while trying to perform.

community **groups & personnel**

Community Groups

We appreciate those who offer support to GLBT youth and elders in our community, including the following organizations:

Avenues for Homeless Youth
 Bridge for Runaway Youth
 District 202
 Face to Face
 Gay-Straight Alliances
 GLBT Generations
 G.L.E.A.M. (Gay & Lesbian Elders Active in MN)
 Kulture Klub Collaborative
 MN School OUTreach Coalition (MnSOC)
 Old Lesbians Organizing for Change (OLOC)
 Out 4 Good
 Out 4 Equity
 Outward Spiral-Empowering Expressions
 PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays)
 Prime Timers
 Youthlink

A 2006 study by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force reports that between 20 percent and 40 percent of all homeless youth identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Family conflict is the primary cause of homelessness for all youth, LGBT or straight. According to one study, 50 percent of gay teens experienced a negative reaction from their parents when they came out and 26 percent were kicked out of their homes. Another study found that more than one-third of youth who are homeless or in the care of social services experienced a violent physical assault when they came out, which can lead to youth leaving a shelter or foster home because they actually feel safer on the streets.

- Ray, N. (2006). *Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth: An epidemic of homelessness*. New York: National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute and the National Coalition for the Homeless.

Personnel

Artistic Director	Jane Ramseyer Miller
Accompanist	Philip Everingham
Operations Manager	Ann Follett
Assistant Director	Kevin Wojahn
Assistant Accompanist	Earl D. Moore, Jr.
OVation Ensemble Coach	Randi Grundahl Rexroth
Tag Art Brainstorm	Guy Stridsigne
Tag Art Lead Artist	John Grider
Percussion	Kari Kjome
Percussion Ensemble	Philip Everingham,
	Kevin Reardon, Kate Lynn
	Hibbard, Dianne O'Donnell,
	Lynne Larsen, Karen Muleski
	Natalie Bower
	Gayle Smaller, Kelly Xiong
	Tish Jones, Brittany Delaney
Teens Rock the Mic Project Lead	Libby Turner
Teens Rock the Mic Artists	Randi Grundahl Rexroth
Spoken Word Artists	Paul Pederson
Definition Suite Advisor	Catharine VanNostrand,
and Transcription	Erin McGovern
Definition Suite Transcription	Rick Jacobson
Guitar Rocker	Elissa Green
ASL Interpreters	Ann Follett
	CJ Michurski, Robin Keck,
	Guy Stridsigne
Audio Descriptor	Robin Keck
Stage Manager	Andy Kedl
Front of House	Mike Pedl
Assistant Stage Managers	Daniel Ellis
	Karen Muleski &
	Keith Campbell/Aspen Design
Production Manager	Jen Rivera
Technical Guru	Jennifer Dunnam
Sound	Bradley Hanson
Lighting Designer	Elaine Voboril
Program Design	James Gottfried
	Anne Breckbill
Program Coordinator	James Gottfried
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Carla Peck
Cecilia Miller
Cheryl Hornstein
Darcy Juhl
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† Section Leader
• On Leave

Tenors

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Branden Mosley •
Cate Hesser
Duane Dial •
Earl Moore
Guy Stridsigne •
John Bagniewski •
John Whalen
Katrina Johnson
Keith Campbell •
Kevin Reardon †
Kevin Wojahn
Michael Dodson
Mike Bredenkamp
Paul Petrella

Basses

Allan Henden
Allen Christian •
Andrew Eldred •
Andy Kedl
AP Hopper †
Brian Millberg •
Conrad deFiebre
Dennis Kearney
Dick VanDeusen
Ed Leaf
James Gottfried
Jay Kurvers
Jim Stratton
Joel Mugge •
Lane Skalberg
Michael K. Mlinar
Michael Moore •
Scott Burglechner
Spencer Putney
Theo Park

Fifth Section

Adam Hamilton
Allan Warrior
Allen Blaich
Amy Barankovich
Angie Nielsen
Anita Wheeler
Anna Marie Johnson
Anne Breckbill
Barbara Bradford
Barbara Satin
Bayla McDougal
BJ Andrade-Ward
Brad Hanson
Brenda Balling

Fifth Section - Continued

CJ Michurski
Carolee Lindsey
Cathy Sherwin
Chris Phillips
Chris Svare
Christi Anderson
Cyndi Hopper
Dale McCumber

Daniel Ellis
Darolyn Gray
Elaine Lossing
Gary Burseth
Jeanne Barkey
Jessica Rivera
Jessica Stromgren

JoAnn Jones
John Lentz
Jon Novick
Kate Reilly
Kim Makie
Kimberlee Wagner-Adams

Laurie Dickinson
Lynn Seigel
Linda Alton
Mary Cleary
Marya Hart
Mary Warne
Marylou Steeden
Mathew Peak
Max Gries
Mel Dinius
Mollie Stensliem

Orit Ackerman
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Our special thanks to
recently retired board
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and Anita Wheeler.

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Guy Stridsigne
Katrina Johnson
Robin Keck
S. Peck

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Joy MacArthur, Soprano Rep
Kevin Reardon, Tenor Rep
Lane Skalberg, Bass Rep
Sara Pecor, Alto Rep

Nominations

Earl Moore, Chair
Annie Follett, Staff
Paul Petrella

set one

show flow

It Takes A Village

Joan Szymko

Featuring OVation – the a cappella ensemble of One Voice Mixed Chorus:

Britt Abel, Joy MacArthur, Cheryl Winch, Jen Rivera, Duane Dial, Benjamin Lamb, Spencer Putney



Somagwaza

South African

A traditional South African song, Somagwaza is performed as part of a coming-of-age ceremony as the initiates run down to the river to wash off the ceremonial clay with which they have decorated themselves.

TRANSLATION: "One who is old enough to carry one's own spear, no longer needs one's mother."

Dreams

Langston Hughes, Rolo Dilworth

Pride's Child

John Schrag

SOLO: Kevin Reardon

Jabberwocky

Lewis Carol / Karen Thomas

POEM: Darcy Juhl, Cheryl Hornstein, Michael Dodson, Erika Rae, Benjamin Lamb

Lewis Carol's Jabberwocky is generally considered to be one of the greatest nonsense poems written.

Nonsense aside, the themes of conquering adversity and coming of age seemed a perfect fit for this concert celebrating youth and elders. According to Alice [in Wonderland], "Somehow it seems to fill my head with ideas--only I don't exactly know what they are!"

1000 Grandmothers

Holly Near, arr. J. David Moore

Featuring OVation

Holly's song has inspired the creation of an actual group of peace activists called The 1000 Grandmothers. One Voice tenor Kevin Reardon writes, "In my four trips to the peace vigil at the School of the Americas the crowd has always been dominated by two age groups – elders and those under 25 years old. The younger group has grown the fastest and was estimated to represent nearly half of the 22,000 peace activists who participated this year."

The Size of Your Heart

Charles Miller / Eleanor Daley

ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR: Kevin Wojahn

Michael's Letter to Mama

Armistead Maupin / David Maddux

SOLO: Michael Mlinar

Maupin's Tales of the City is a series of six books, originally serialized in the San Francisco Chronicle. The series is a vivid depiction of San Franciscan life from the mid-70s to the late 80s, spanning classes, sexual orientations, and genders from the often humorous and at times bizarre perspective of several housemates residing at 28 Barbary Lane. This excerpt chronicles Michael's coming out letter to his parents transcribed by his good friend and housemate, MaryAnn.

Motherless Child

Gwyneth Walker

Sung in honor of the many organizations that support queer and homeless youth in the Twin Cities.

INTERMISSION



Tish Jones



Brittany Delaney



Kelly Xiong



Gayle Smaller

When we talk about youth culture these days we seem to focus on the difference, perhaps in order to understand how they are unique. But as I've interacted with the teens and the younger singers in One Voice we find a way to see and talk about how our journeys have common ground – the questions that we ask and the things that we find disturbing—we share. ~ Cheryl Winch, alto

set two



Wanting Memories

Ysaye M. Barnwell

Mandy, Make Up Your Mind

Meyer / Johnston

Barbershop singing originated in African American communities in the U.S. around the 1900s, where barbershops were social gathering places. The tight, four-part harmony has its roots in black church music, where close harmony has a long tradition. We offer this traditional barbershop song with a twist in honor of GLBT elders in our community.

A Small But Fateful Victory

Francisco X. Alacon / Roger Bourland

ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR: Kevin Wojahn

Definition Suite

(World Premier, commissioned by
One Voice Mixed Chorus, 2007)

Mankwe Ndosi

*Underwritten by the American Composer's Forum
with funds provided by the Jerome Foundation.*

Definition Groove I

Brittany Delaney, spoken word

Swamp of Self

Gayle Smaller, spoken word

Prayer

Improvisation featuring OVation

Lyrical

Kelly Xiong, spoken word

Definition Groove II

Teenagers Kick Our Butts

Dar Williams, arr. Jane Ramseyer Miller

SOLOS: Ellen Royse, Jessica Eastman

*With our thanks to the amazing youth of
Teens Rock the Mic and their graduates!*

Don't Bend Down

Stephen Hatfield

SOLOS: Ashley Schumacher, Paul Petrella,

Darcy Juhl, Benjamin Lamb

Thoughts from the Composer

How to give enough but not too much? How to lay the foundation for poets who haven't written? How to translate rhythms and non-verbal utterances that live in my body to the bodies of others from different realities? How to concretize the improvisation enough to be held & practiced & perfected? How to give voice to the search for self love & the casualties that come in comparing ourselves to some mythic, illusory "normal" which keeps us in pain - ostracized, isolated from loved ones and community?

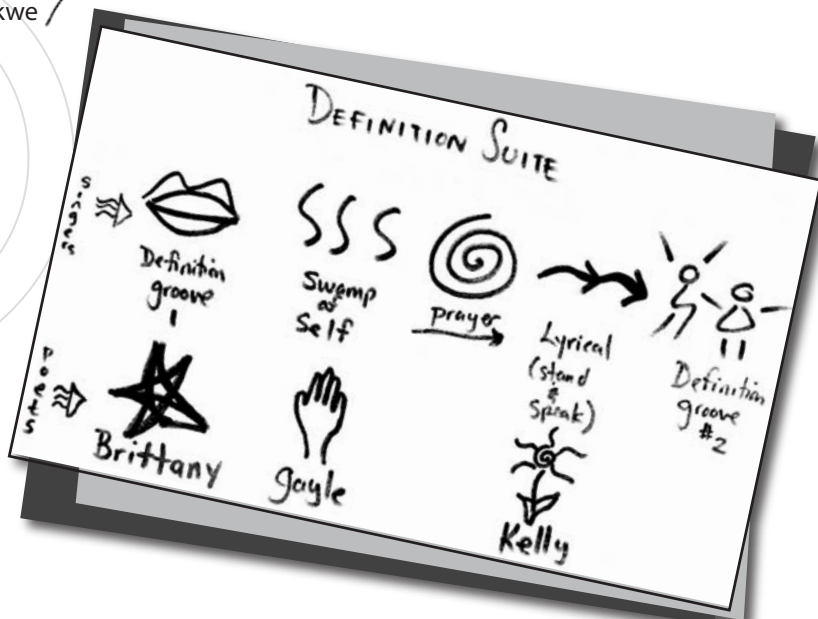
This was both a challenging and rewarding project for me. The wonder and intimidation of hearing your work on other voices - and 60+ at that! So much good energy and acceptance and assistance from OVation, Libby T, Randi, Jane, and Natalie - and watching the piece get written, taught, fought, and fine-tuned has opened up new ideas, goals and skills in me. Working with One Voice has been an inspiration because of their courage, their caring, their dedication and detail, and their absolute fierceness.

The young poets Gayle, Brittany, Kelly and Llaslin (missing from the final piece), are inspiring as they speak candidly about the difficulties and contradictions in the realities that they face everyday. Their willingness to jump in and persevere in unfamiliar situations, and with new people is to be commended - keep on writing!

In this piece I sought to make rhythmic beds, atmospheres, surroundings for poems that would lead us through a journey from asking what defines us, through the difficult task of discovering, establishing and speaking proudly who we are - often without support, often with casualties along the way. This rhythmic **Definition Suite** is dedicated to all of those passed on and those among us currently lost in trying to define themselves only by what others say they *should* be. Let us all keep moving away from the *shoulds* & *myths* of *normal* to *valuing* and *making use* of the *unique gifts* that each of us possess.

In respect & rhythm


~ Mankwe





major donors & sponsors

Crescendo Society Founding Members, April 2006

In April of 2006, One Voice Mixed Chorus introduced a multi-year giving society to ensure our financial stability for expanding the reach of our mission of social justice. These chorus members, board members, and volunteers were the first to step forward with a five-year pledge of support. A broader audience of individuals then joined us at our first annual fund raising breakfast, "One Voice, Many Hearts." To mark this historic occasion, each of these names will be engraved on a commemorative plaque to forever honor their forward-looking commitment of ensuring a better future for our GLBT community. Our deepest appreciation to these generous donors:

Christi Anderson	Kim Makie
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Scott Griesbach	Karen & Jay Rusthoven
Kyle Gunderson	Jane Sage
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Jo Ann Jones	Elaine Voboril & Maren Milbert
Katrina Johnson	Allan Warrior & Duane Dial
Joe Kestel	Colleen Kay Watson & Mary McDougall
Robin Keck & Cecilia Miller	Anita Wheeler
Rachael Kroog & Shannon Pierce	John Whalen, in memory of
Lynne Larsen & Linda Alton	Bernice Whalen
Carolee Lindsey	Cheryl Winch & Christine Hazel

Crescendo Society Major Donors:

Enlightening Individuals – \$1000

When we introduced the option of multi-year giving, we also wanted to have a special way to acknowledge our major donors.

These individuals have pledged this level of support for each of the next five years:

Neec Bowyer & Amy Gifford
 Scott Burglechner & Britt Abel
 Kyle Gunderson
 Katrina Johnson
 Rachael Kroog & Shannon Pierce
 Carolee Lindsey
 Jane Ramseyer Miller & Anne Breckbill
 Joel Mugge & Adam Hamilton
 Karen & Jay Rusthoven
 Colleen Kay Watson & Mary McDougall
 Anita Wheeler
 Cheryl Winch & Christine Hazel

Foundation & Grant Support

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donations **dynamic donors**

Donations from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006

One Voice Mixed Chorus relies on the generous gifts of individuals whose hopes and dreams harmonize with our mission. In 2006, we were blessed with many gifts and wish to express our profound gratitude to these supporters:

Fortissimo

\$2500 and up

Pete Bissonette
Colleen Kay Watson &
Mary McDougall, in
memory of
Esther Watson *
Laura Westphal, in honor
of my friend Paul Petrella

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Joe Stanley &
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Malcolm O. Watson, in
memory of
Esther Watson
John Whalen, in memory
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Anita Wheeler *

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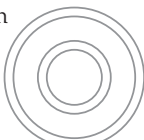
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Hearts in Harmony can also be brought to your social or employee group as a way to educate people on the need to Build Community and Create Social Change through song. Please contact us if you're interested.

2007 Hearts in Harmony dates are

Mondays: September 17 • October 15
November 19 • December 17

Hearts in Harmony begins at 6:30pm at:

Unity Church Unitarian

Please RSVP to 612-332-1302 or

heartsinharmony@ovmc.org

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