



“Honor, talent, ability and kindness, The Metropolitan Boys Choir...I know what you’ve done...I know how much you’re respected... I know the concerts you give and the times you’ve been with the Minnesota Orchestra... But I think that the nicest thing that you do is when you go around to community groups, to the elderly and others to sing for them because you know music is truly the universal language...You have brought us happiness, you have brought yourselves honor and fame, you have brought to me a wonderful experience. **You are truly Minnesota’s young ambassadors of song.**”

Hubert H Humphrey May 9, 1975

The MBC Mission

To provide a unique program of musical excellence and personal growth for Twin Cities area boys of varied social, cultural, and economic backgrounds; to develop responsibility and leadership; and to empower these young men to become positive influences in their communities.

The Metropolitan Boys Choir is an organization of young men from the twelve-county Minneapolis /Saint Paul metropolitan area. Multiple choirs of boys, whose ages range from five to fifteen, and a men's choir make up the MBC which was founded in 1971 by Music Director, Bea Speed-Hasselmann.

The Choir Regularly Appears in concert halls, churches, convention centers, and senior-care centers throughout the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The Choir performed regularly with the Minnesota Orchestra for thirty years. Henry Charles Smith, Resident Conductor, introduced the choir to the Orchestra in 1976, and they have since had the honor of singing under the direction of many world-renowned conductors including the late Robert Shaw. They have also been honored to sing with other premier ensembles and performers such as: the Russian Bolshoi, Royal Winnipeg, Joffrey and Moscow ballet companies, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, and Minnesota Opera. They were the featured choir for the traveling tour of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” with Patrick Cassidy.

Top Quality Musical Performances keep the Metropolitan Boys Choir in high demand. Over the years, the choir has performed at many notable events a few being: Super Bowl XXVI, Robert Schuller's “Hour of Power”, and the 1985 All-Star Major League Baseball Game. They have performed for many Minnesota Governors, United States Vice Presidents, Senators, and Legislators. They have sung the national anthem at the Minnesota Vikings, Twins, Timberwolves, and Wild games. The boys have been invited on many occasions to sing for state and national conferences such as the American Choral Directors, Music Educators, Orff-Schulwerk and Kodaly associations.

Annual Tours have taken the choir through forty-one of the fifty United States, including Hawaii. Foreign tours have introduced these “Young Ambassadors of Song” to audiences in nineteen countries.



Metropolitan Boys Choir

OF MINNEAPOLIS/SAINT PAUL

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Director's Corner:

We are beginning our 40th Anniversary Season enjoying the great music making of our talented boys and celebrating them and many fine young singers who have worn the red blazers before them. Times change many things in our culture but the sounds and sincerity of these young men stay constant.

It is interesting to have alumni come up to me after not seeing each other for years and have them amazed that I remember them. They are now taller, of course, some have beards, and hair has sometimes changed color over the years.

I have had the honor and privilege of looking into the eyes of these young men for thirty-nine years. In music groups, the members are required 'to look' at their conductors throughout every rehearsal and concert. Some of our alumni have spent up to ten years meeting me 'eye to eye'. Even with the changing times, eyes do not change. That's my 'secret' to recognizing them!

Our mission has always been to include boys from various cultural, religious and economic backgrounds. No boy has EVER been kept out of the program for financial reasons. The one thing that time has changed is that more families than ever want the growing experience for their sons and cannot afford anything 'extra' in their budgets. This includes city and suburban boys.

Our transportation assistance project has had a year of success and we are raising funds to support its future. We borrow and maintain the church van from St. Johns Lutheran Church in south Minneapolis to provide transportation to and from rehearsals and concerts. Many boys from various parts of the Metro area otherwise could not take part. The talent that we have collected and the music making that is going on is absolutely wonderful.

We hope to see you in our audiences during this 40th Anniversary season and ask for your support of our singers. I can assure you that your contribution will go directly to benefit the boys of the Metropolitan Boys Choir.

Sincerely,
Bea Hasselmann, Music Director

Denny Schulstad

Air Force Brigadier General, retired:

"The Metropolitan Boys Choir is an outstanding musical organization, but they are about much more than music.

I have often asked them to perform for various military ceremonies and they always agree and are the stars of the show. However, the work Bea does goes far beyond teaching them to sing.

These young men learn self confidence, attention to detail, pride, etiquette and teamwork. They will benefit from the lessons they learn long after they have "graduated" from the Boys Choir.

I'm always amazed and impressed by their professional performances, but also by their enthusiasm and joy. Yes they sing, but they also are becoming the future leaders of our community.

Everyone should have the opportunity to study under the guidance of Bea Hasselmann. I'm proud to support this very worthwhile organization and encourage everyone to do what they can to assist this superb group of young men."

UPCOMING PUBLIC MBC PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS:

MBC performs at many private and small events during the season. Please check our website for updates on the Public Performance calendar. Below are some of the major performances to which the public is invited.

December 5, 2010 - 3:00pm

Holiday Concert
First Lutheran Church of Columbia Heights
1555 40th Ave. N.E. Columbia Heights
Free will offering

March 13, 2011 - 4:00pm

'Music at First Series' featuring the Metropolitan Boys Choir
First Lutheran Church of Columbia Heights
1555 40th Ave. N.E. Columbia Heights

April 10, 2011 - 4:00pm

'Music Series' Concert
St. John's Lutheran Church
4842 Nicollet Ave. S. Minneapolis
Free will offering

May 15, 2011 - 3:00 p.m.

MBC Spring Benefit Concert
Christ the King Catholic Church
5029 Zenith Avenue, South Minneapolis

Thank you for considering a contribution to the Metropolitan Boys Choir. All contributions are tax deductible. A formal acknowledgement will be provided for your records.

For your convenience, you can contribute:

- Via the enclosed envelope
- Click the GiveMN link on our website **mbchoir.com**
- If you should want to contribute stocks, please contact the MBC office.

Thank you!

Many thanks for your support