



Metropolitan Boys Choir  
PO Box 19348  
Minneapolis, MN 55419

*“Minnesota’s Young Ambassadors of Song”*

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



**Metropolitan  
Boys Choir**  
OF MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL

Dear Friends and Families of the Metropolitan Boys Choir,

We are approaching the finale of our 2014-15 season with our Spring Benefit Concert on April 26<sup>th</sup> and a tour to Washington D.C. in June. With all this excitement, we are already beginning our plans for the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Metropolitan Boys Choirs.

In our plan is the creation of a book of our 45 years together. It will not be just a ‘history’ book but will include an update on as many alumni as we can, past and future letters from alumni and alumni parents, highlights from over the years, and exciting, moving, fun and ‘funny’ stories of our years together.

We plan to spend much time this summer compiling photos, programs, memorabilia and recordings from the ‘archives’. Alumni and alumni parents are invited and very welcome to join in on these projects.

In this newsletter, we have compiled short excerpts from letters and alumni spotlight articles that we have received which give our readers the ‘flavor’ of the MBC and what it does for our young men. You will read a lot of comments about Ms. Speed/Mrs. H giving me credit for the successes of our guys. I am humbled by this but it is certainly through the power of music that makes this happen. Music itself is such a discipline. It also allows one to be free to ‘feel’, express oneself, enjoy making music, and sharing all of this with their fellow singers, audiences and families. Yes, I have the passion and the skill for orchestrating this and passing the passion on but it is truly the power of music that has shaped our wonderful MBC guys...past and present.

The passion for music starts at a very early age for our guys. Recently a five year old Junior Singer spent a full day at the choir, had an overnight in the church, and sang in the St. John’s church service. You would have thought by then he would be ready to go home. When his mother came to pick him up at noon on Sunday, he told her that he wanted to stay and sing some more.

The MBC is what it is because of our wonderfully diverse make-up. Our guys come from many different cultures, religions, life-styles and economic backgrounds. We do not set out to do this on purpose. We are just so fortunate to be known as a welcoming ‘real world’ organization.

We exist because of all of the people who believe in what we are doing. Each season we need to ask for contributions to cover expenses. We continue to be able to say that “no boy has ever been kept out of the choir for financial reasons.” I feel comfortable in asking because your contributions go directly to benefit the boys and not to compensate me. We need to raise a minimum of \$25,000 up to \$50,000 annually to take care of expenses and to continue our mission. We ask that you consider the MBC when planning your charitable giving. It will go to the development of young men who can be future leaders in their communities.

Fasten your seatbelts for our 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season! We hope that you will be involved.

Sincerely,

*Bea Hasselmann*

Bea Hasselmann

# The Metropolitan Boys Choirs & Metropolitan Men’s Choir

*present their 44<sup>th</sup> annual*

## Spring Benefit Concert

**Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - 3 p.m.**

**Christ the King Church**

**5029 Zenith Ave. S. Minneapolis, 55410**

Free will donation with a Silent Auction in the lobby beginning at 1:30 p.m. This will be a fun family event!

Please join us as we celebrate our 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

For more information or call (612) 827-6501

or visit our website: [www.mbchoir.com](http://www.mbchoir.com).

**Several of our talented MBC singers** auditioned for and were accepted to participate in the ACDA honor choirs this year! Congratulations to the following boys who made the State Honor Choir for their age group: Mateo Castro (Grade 4-5-6), Matthew Duffy (grade 9-10), Isaiah Johnson (grade 7-8) and Jacob Peterson (grade 4-5-6).



Three of our boys were accepted for the National Honor Choir in Salt Lake City! Over 3,300 boys auditioned from all over the country, and 200 were accepted. Congratulations to Mateo Castro, Andre Dukes and Isaiah Johnson, pictured at right with Conductor and Composer Bob Chilcott.



**The MBC is off to Washington D.C.!**

Our annual tour this June will bring the boys to our nation's capital, Washington D.C. This will be a fun-filled and educational trip, where the boys will experience such sites as the Capitol building, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Lincoln, Jefferson, and Washington Monuments, the White House, the Smithsonian, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Museum of Natural History/Museum of Man, National Air and Space Museum, Library of Congress, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, the new Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial and more! Donations to the MBC can be designated towards sponsoring this experience for one of our boys.

**The annual MBC Raffle is underway!** We will be selling raffle tickets up until and during our Spring Benefit Concert on April 26. Prizes include Vikings tickets, hotel stays, dinners for two, an HDTV, a grand prize of \$500 and much more! Tickets are \$1 each. Our drawing will take place on Wednesday, April 30, need not be present to win. Prizes can be shipped anywhere in the United States. Proceeds from the raffle help support the MBC program. To purchase raffle tickets, please place a separate check marked 'Raffle' in the enclosed envelope. Please include your phone number or email address. Your name will be entered and the ticket stubs sent to you for each dollar sent.

**MBC JUNIOR SINGERS MAKE FRIENDS OF ALL AGES!**



**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Charles Bremer, Scott Carlson, Bea Hasselmann, Paul Konrardy, Dale Korogi, Bob Lurtsema, John Najarian, Heidi Stulberg, Tom Tipton, Aura Wharton-Beck, and President Patrick Maurer.

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: BRANDON TREVON**

Alumnus Brandon Trevon has been a natural performer since before he started kindergarten. He was a member of the Metropolitan Boys Choir in 1998. He continued to write for and perform in local talent shows and events into his teens. Presently, he works with youth helping them to develop their talents in writing, singing, dancing, rapping and spoken word in a program he helped build entitled "We Are Hip Hop." He has continued performing in venues such as the Fine Line, Target Center, Dinkytown, Capri Theater, college campuses and more. He was also part of the Grammy award-winning ensemble Sounds of Blackness' "Twas the Night Before Christmas" at the Guthrie Theater. Currently, he is finishing up his first EP project, titled "Inside Out."



**Brandon's heart-warming testimonial (as sent to Bea) of his experience with the MBC can be read below:**

"My name is Brandon and I used to sing with your choir back in 1998 at the age of 10. I have been looking for you so much. I always wanted to say THANK YOU. This is why I will always be thankful to you and that is for always believing in me because at that time I never understood the magnitude of my gift. I didn't know the specialty of what I possessed because I didn't come from a singing background. You took me under your wing and started the fight inside of me. You took me to go experience Dionne Warwick LIVE then you allowed me to meet her. That is something that always sticks out to me. I was a poor kid and didn't have it all so you would come pick me up and drop me off for rehearsals. You helped me earn the money for the raffle so that I could go on tour. I am so grateful for you because I had no idea what your interest in me was but you knew I had something. I appreciate you Mrs. H and I hope to hear from you very soon. I hope you remember me. Talk with you soon!"



**MBC ALUMNI SEARCH**

We have kept and updated Alumni and Alumni Parent address records since Day 1. We are asking adult Alumni and Alumni Parents to please help us by updating current mailing addresses. We know that you are not all still living at your address as you did as a Choir Boy. ☺ These addresses will only be used by the MBC.

We have received periodic updates on 'what's happening' with a number of our Alum but I want very much to start compiling more complete records on 'where and how' our talented guys are and 'what they are up to'.

My personal email address for this 'Alumni update' plan is: [Metroboysalumni@gmail.com](mailto:Metroboysalumni@gmail.com). I REALLY do want to hear from you and to know about your life 'after choir'.

With lots of fond and fun memories, Ms. Speed/Mrs. H