



August 2016

Dear Vocal Music Teacher:

We are asking that vocal music teachers such as yourself consider nominating an interested child for participation in Iowa Youth Chorus programs, tuition-free, for one year.

Iowa Youth Chorus, now in its 35th season, is open to all youth regardless of race, religion, gender, national origin or financial status. Our Choir School provides four chorus levels for Central Iowa children ages 6-18. Participants take part in weekly rehearsals with highly skilled choral conductors, perform four annual and community concerts and are given the opportunity to tour each year. More information is available at www.iowayouthchorus.org

Please consider nominating a student for participation in our programs, tuition free, for one year. Potential choristers would participate in a placement audition at one of multiple sites around the Des Moines area. They would be offered a position in a choir appropriate to their skill and experience level and could then complete registration for the upcoming year. There is a nominal registration fee (\$50 that can be waived for any child for whom this would present a hardship) and a need to acquire a uniform for performances (we do have an inventory of donated uniforms available). The registration and tuition waiver are good for both semesters of the 2016-2017 choir season.

We are hoping to expand choir participation by up to 50 choristers in the Des Moines area during the 2016-2017 season. We are hopeful that by reaching out at this time we can give you an opportunity to review our program, and to let us know if you would like more information to guide your decision on whether to participate in this initiative. While choristers can be added at any time of the year, starting chorister training in early September is the easiest way for our conductors to incorporate addition participants.

Iowa Youth Chorus Vision

The individuals we serve will flourish as part of an internationally acclaimed organization that inspires personal development, celebrates diversity, and fosters international goodwill. As advocates for the performing arts, we are partners with our community and with the world.

Our Mission

We will nurture the human spirit by enriching the lives of youth through musical excellence, helping them reach their fullest potential and live enriched lives through vocal music.

Our programs provide from 1 to 3.5 hours of music/choral training weekly, depending on choir assignment. Children in younger age groups may meet at any of several satellite locations in the Des Moines area whereas the upper-level choirs practice at a central location. Each choir has from 2-4 formal performance opportunities per semester. The upper level choirs typically tour in the summer months to regional events as well as to Canada and Europe in the past 5 years.

Our choral conductors are music educators from Des Moines area schools, experienced in choral training of children of varying ages. (Please visit our website at www.iowayouthchorus.org for more information about our conductors). As opportunities to pursue extracurricular music activities in schools may face budgetary and/or time constraints, non-profit organizations like Iowa Youth Chorus could be a great opportunity for children in the metro area to acquire additional vocal musical training.

Thank you for all of the wonderful things you do for vocal music as a school educator. We thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like to discuss this opportunity in further detail. We look forward to partnering with you.

Sincerely,

Iowa Youth Chorus Board of Directors: Dawn Gentsch, Maureen Korte, Ellen Thompson,
Ricardo Alverio, Jay Ramsey, Ginny Malcomson
and
Executive Director, Angie Pierce Jennings
angiepiercejennings@iowayouthchorus.org

Please act today and nominate one of your students to join IYC, tuition free, for our 2016-2017 season!