



Please consider becoming a Grand Rapids Youth Choruses season sponsor!

The Grand Rapids Youth Choruses is a choral organization for young people which seeks to promote excellence in singing and appreciation of music from all around the world. We instruct five age-based choirs, from Kindergarten through the twelfth grade, teaching developmentally appropriate vocal tone, music literacy, and musicianship. We offer several family concerts each season in addition to special concerts with professional musicians, community ensembles, and area schools.

Did you know that tuition and ticket sales cover about half of our operating budget?

The generosity of our donors is what makes it possible for us to provide accessible programming to every singer and family who seek to join our choir community. It is our goal to put beauty into the world through singing and making music together. We have a long history and commitment to keeping our programs affordable while offering top-tier training and experiences. Families pay between \$12-\$18 per rehearsal (\$400-\$600 per year). Season sponsorships fund need-based scholarships and supplement our tuition income which supports the daily operations of the choirs. Operational costs include paying the salaries of our dedicated staff, purchasing diverse music for our library, commissioning composers, hiring guest artists, and developing collaborative experiences for our singers in our community and beyond.

Some highlights from the past two seasons (2022-2024)

- Annual fall, holiday, and spring family concerts
- Youth Chorus (grades 7-12) featured annually in the Grand Rapids Symphony Holiday Pops programs
- Youth Chorus featured this past season with the Grand Rapids Symphony "May the Fourth" Star Wars concert
- Full-length audio recording with Mandala (select treble ensemble) showcasing their 2022-2023 season repertoire
- Commission, workshop, and concert with author, composer, and ethnomusicologist Dave Kobrenski, spring 2023
- Youth Chorus concert tour to Ireland in June, 2023
- All-chorus community performances at Griffins games and holiday singing at the Downtown Market
- Global Music fundraising concerts

Please consider partnering with us this year!

GRYC is the only comprehensive youth choral organization in West Michigan and we desire to see it grow well into the future. If you are a past donor, **thank you.** We would not be here without you! Your support is an integral part of our success. If you are considering becoming a first time donor, **thank you.** We believe that you will be thrilled to know that your donations directly benefit our students and their families by funding our scholarship program and supporting exciting and educational programming.

We welcome you to give at any level and we are grateful for your partnership in making the world a better place through music and community! In addition to **all donations being recognized on our concert programs and website**, complimentary tickets will be offered at these giving levels:

- ANGELS \$2500 and up: 4 reserved tickets to the holiday concert, 4 reserved tickets to the spring concert
- BENEFACTORS \$1000-\$2499: 2 reserved tickets to the holiday concert, 4 tickets to the spring concert
- CONTRIBUTORS \$100-\$999: 4 tickets to the spring concert
- FRIENDS up to \$99: 2 tickets to the spring concert

*All giving levels open to both individuals and businesses

Season sponsorships can be made online at <http://gryouthchorus.org/sponsors/> or by emailing GRYC manager Emma Ivory (info@gryouthchorus.org) with your sponsorship intention. She will follow up with an invoice for your specified amount. You can also pay by check to the Grand Rapids Youth Choruses and mail to PO Box 68665, Grand Rapids, MI 49506. GRYC is a registered 501(c)3; your donations are tax deductible.

From our alumni

We get to hear lots of stories from our alumni about how choir has shaped them, and we'd like to share a few with you!

"I went on two trips with GRYC. The first was Iceland in 2019 and the second was Ireland in 2023. These trips had a huge impact on my life. I wrote my college essay about an experience I had at a retirement home in northern Iceland. There was a moment when we sang Bridge Over Troubled Water to the community when I truly realized the power of music."

- Lana Gouin-Hart

"Being a part of a community like GRYC taught me many life skills that I believe everyone should learn. As a young singer, I was taught how to be a part of something bigger than myself, and to be sensitive to the people around me. We were more successful as an ensemble the more we listened to each other, and it inspired me to believe that real teamwork was possible. This has carried with me throughout my life, and to this day I firmly believe in working collaboratively with others in my life."

- Sam Ivory

"The global focus of GRYC gave me opportunities for learning and empathy that shape my current prayers for justice, peace, and flourishing for all people.

Choir is a beautiful thing. It's uniting. It is a gift to both the audience and the performers."

- Madeline Witvliet

"It was a formative experience for me that really laid the foundation in my mind of what hard work gets you. The commitment to excellence and working as a whole was something that carried over into other parts of my life. Choir helped me learn to lead by example, to take responsibility for your own success, and to always do what is best for the team."

- Andrew DeBoer

As a valued part of our community, we thank you for your consideration and we will close with sharing the lyrics from our theme song: People who make music together cannot be enemies, at least while the music lasts. So let's sing forever, hold our hands together, make the whole world better, come and sing!

We believe this is true. Please join us in our mission of making the world a better place!

Leah Ivory

GRYC Artistic Director

GRAND RAPIDS YOUTH CHORUSES P.O. Box 68665 GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49506

WWW.GRYOUTHCHORUS.ORG INFO@GRYOUTHCHORUS.ORG