



ANNUAL REPORT

season

4th



vocalessence
Philip Brunelle, Artistic Director

2013-2014

The Mission of VocalEssence

VocalEssence champions choral music of all genres, celebrating the vocal experience through innovative concerts, commissions and community engagement programs.

Our Core Values

- **We believe that music is a living art** and are committed to its continual discovery through innovative concerts and commissions.
- **We believe in the importance of quality** in everything we perform and do. We strive to be a cooperative partner and leader in our field.
- **We advocate for the choral art** in Minnesota, nationally and internationally.
- **We present culturally authentic education programs** that engage participants of all ages.
- **We believe in fostering the talents** of composers, conductors, and artists.
- **We believe in financial responsibility.** We are committed to operating on a sound financial basis and building a legacy for our future.

From the Executive Director

Our 45th season was filled with a diversity of programs that our patrons have come expect from VocalEssence! We were pleased to welcome Tesfa Wondemagegnehu as our new Assistant Artistic Director and benefited from his work engaging new audiences, especially students. To ensure a strong future for VocalEssence, we invested in a brand refresh to focus on strengthening our recognition and impact in the community.

Here is a brief overview of our accomplishments last year:

- Inspired more than 17,917 audience members at our season concerts
- Sold more season subscriptions than in any previous year—631 subscribers
- Melanie DeMore's WITNESS community engagement work touched the lives of more than 8,500 people
- Created a new brand for our bi-annual fundraiser, Choralia, which generated \$260,000 to support community engagement programs
- Adopted an organization-wide diversity and inclusivity plan
- Strengthened our virtual engagement, reaching 55,000 people online and 110,877 via television and radio
- Finished a 45th consecutive season on a positive financial footing

This impact is only possible through the generosity of our many patrons, donors and artists.



Mary Ann Aufderheide, Executive Director



2013-2014: Timeline



AUG 2013

Minnesota Public Radio Day at the State Fair:
Performed for hundreds in Carousel Park.



OCT 2013

There Was a Child:
Joined forces with The St. Olaf Choir for the U.S. premiere of Jonathan Dove's poetic masterpiece at Central Lutheran Church.

From the Artistic Director

How exciting and fulfilling to have celebrated our 45th anniversary season with such a wonderful array of marvelous choral music, performed by our outstanding singers in the Chorus and Ensemble Singers. It was a pleasure to welcome Tesfa Wondemagegnehu joining Sigrid Johnson and me on the artistic staff—and all of this made possible, of course, by the first-rate VocalEssence staff and by your continued encouragement and support. I am most grateful.

Here are some of the artistic highlights:

- We opened the season at Central Lutheran Church with several premieres: Aaron Jay Kernis's *Glorious Majesty*, and the United States premiere of Jonathan Dove's oratorio, *There Was a Child*. We were joined by The St. Olaf Choir and the Northfield Youth Choirs, soloists Maria Jette and Dan Dressen, and full orchestra—a thrilling way to begin our anniversary season!
- **Welcome Christmas** gave us the opportunity to reprise *in memoriam* Dave Brubeck's charming Christmas cantata, *La Fiesta de la Posada*, with Dan Chouinard at the piano and the mariachi band Mariachi Mi Tierra. Our Christmas carol competition continued with this year's winners Dale Trumbore and William Malpede.
- **WITNESS** was "over the top" with Melanie DeMore filling us with the rhythms and melodies of the Gullah people. The stick pounding and loud hallelujahs were a thrill to the Orchestra Hall audience as we were joined by the Patrick Henry High School Concert Choir and our Talented Tenth singers from South High School.
- The Ensemble Singers' **Heartland Tour** took them to Cincinnati as the featured artists at the American Choral Directors Association Central Division Conference and then to Chicago for concerts at Wheaton College and Rockefeller Chapel. These concerts included new works of Minnesota composers Timothy Takach and Jake Runestad.
- Although John Rutter was unable to be with us to conduct, we enjoyed the opportunity to sing his beloved music at Central Lutheran Church—works that spanned a 40-year composing cycle. And, as we did all season, the audience was involved as singers—this time in two of John Rutter's hymn arrangements with orchestra.
- **Tchaikovsky for Voices** was a fitting conclusion to the subscription season as the VocalEssence Chorus was joined by the choirs of Bethel College, Gustavus Adolphus College, Luther College and the University of St. Thomas in Tchaikovsky's thrilling *Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom*. This was preceded by each of the choirs offering selections from their own repertoire. This Bethel College concert was a moment of glorious sound with hundreds of voices singing this seldom-heard Tchaikovsky work.
- Our sixth year of **¡Cantaré!** gave us the music of José Galván and Pamela Mayorga, two composers from Mexico who worked with elementary and high school choirs from across the Twin Cities, composing music for each school in a happy finale at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts.

The process of planning and executing the season reaffirmed my belief that sharing life-changing musical experiences is vital to the health of our community. It reminded me that we have the unique power to send our listeners on a personal journey. I am blessed to lead an organization which brings joy and light to people in and beyond Minnesota.



Philip Brunelle, Artistic Director



OCT 2013

The VocalEssence Young Singers Group: Hosted a happy hour with composer Jonathan Dove.

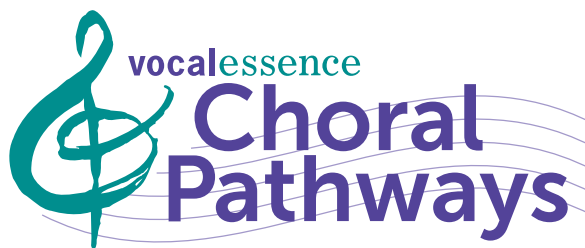


FALL 2013

ArtSage Arts & Aging Initiative: Three VocalEssence staff members learned about creating fun and engaging program activities for older adults in our community.

VocalEssence Choral Pathways Forges Ahead

The 2013-2014 season was the second for Choral Pathways, which enriches the appreciation of choral music and the arts for older adults in assisted and independent living homes across the Twin Cities metro area. Nearly 125 seniors from two residential facilities and senior centers, Lyngblomsten Care Center and Sabathani Community Center Senior Center, participated in Choral Pathways in 2013-2014!



Here are some of the comments by Choral Pathways participants who attended the **VocalEssence WITNESS: Stomp & Sing** concert featuring Melanie DeMore.

“Was awesome & unique. A good learning experience.” —Sabathani participant

“Loved the music – Beautiful!” —Lyngblomsten resident

“Thoroughly enjoyed!” —Lyngblomsten resident



Choral Pathways includes:

- **Music Appreciation Workshops:** Participants engage in music history and appreciation workshops at their place of residence, highlighting the lives, legacies and music of composers and artists featured in each of the concerts that Choral Pathways guests attended. Workshops are led by VocalEssence staff and teaching artists.
- **Sing-Along Sessions:** The acclaimed VocalEssence Ensemble Singers engage participants in singing choral music related to repertoire presented at the concerts, which has included familiar hymns, folk songs, spirituals and pop tunes of the 19th and 20th centuries.
- **VocalEssence Concerts:** Nearly 150 participants attended the WITNESS: Stomp & Sing concert in February 2014.



NOV 2013

Cocktails & Cabaret: Philip Brunelle was at the piano, with Simone Perrin, Bradley Greenwald, Greta Oglesby and Dieter Bierbrauer filling the Metropolitan Ballroom with songs of love, life and laughter.



DEC 2013

Welcome Christmas: Celebrated the season Latin-style with Dave Brubeck's charming cantata *La Fiesta de la Posada*.

Louise Heffelfinger



To meet Louise Heffelfinger is to find out immediately that she is a generous person filled with energy and curiosity.

If you visit her, she simply won't let you leave without asking if you would like a tomato or cucumber from her garden, and if you've gotten enough of them.

As a gardener, Louise knows that in order to get a good yield, it takes time and continued effort. And, of course, you first need to plant a seed.

She knows the same is true of choral music. For over 30 years, she has given not only her treasure, but also her time and talent in order to help nurture choral music and the impact VocalEssence has in Minnesota and the world.

She first came across VocalEssence when it was called the Plymouth Music Series. As someone with a strong music background and a great love of the piano, she joined the bell choir at Plymouth Congregational Church in 1988, though she was first introduced to Philip Brunelle and his chorus long before.

“The sound of success is knowing that I can hear another generation of singers and listeners. It's why I continue to give.” —Louise Heffelfinger

“I heard the choir over the sound of our bells,” Louise said. “It was simply powerful. I knew that it was something that I wanted to help grow.”

And help it grow she did as VocalEssence achieved international attention through recordings and touring thanks to her interest and generous contributions. Even today, as an honorary board member, she still gives to ensure that choral music in Minnesota stays strong.

“I've always believed that you should put your heart into your passion,” Louise said. “Music has been a passion of mine, well, ever since I can remember.”

Her passion for music was a seed planted early on in her life, which continued throughout her life. She took up the piano as a child, and ever since, a day hasn't past where she did not sit down to play the piano. As an alto at Carleton College, she found harmony with her soprano roommate. And, she picks up the accordion and cello occasionally.

She still attends VocalEssence concerts to hear that same sound she heard over 40 years ago.



DEC 2013

Live on Minnesota Public Radio: The Ensemble Singers perform delightful and frightful Christmas carols on *The Daily Circuit*.



DEC 2013

Star of Wonder: Baby bottles and blankets abounded at the annual family concert, which invited young children to sit close and sing along.

WITNESS: Melanie DeMore Connects with Stomp & Sing



The 2013-2014 **WITNESS School Program** celebrated the rhythmic spirit of the Gullah, a group of enslaved Africans on the Sea Islands of Georgia and South Carolina who retained many of their African

traditions. Through powerful spirituals, stick pounding, clapping and stomping, vocal activist Melanie DeMore challenged students and adults to connect with neighbors and the music within them.

Serving 3,003 students in 36 partner schools, grades 4-12, VocalEssence engaged these youth in two Young People's Concerts at Orchestra Hall as well as in related school workshops presented by our roster of six Teaching Artists. Guest artist Melanie DeMore reached an additional 5,500 youth and adults through movement-based master classes and workshops at Plymouth Congregational Church, Augsburg College and Macalester College, as well as through community engagement at Central Lutheran Church and Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, Sabathani Community Center Senior Center and Bolder Options.

- **97%** of teachers responded that the WITNESS workshops effectively provided the students with new enthusiasm for the subject.
- **95%** of teachers responded that the WITNESS guest artist was a positive role model for their students.
- **100%** of surveyed teachers responded that they will choose to participate in the WITNESS program or other VocalEssence education programs in the future.

“It was really nice to see some students who are typically more withdrawn with us be very engaged with the visiting artist. ALL students were highly engaged with the learning.”

—WITNESS School Teacher

Teaching Artists:

Timothy Berry: *Vocalist, Composer and Percussionist*
Patricia Brown: *Dance Instructor, Choreographer and Performer*

Ginger Commodore: *Singer, Songwriter and Actress*
T. Mychael Rambo: *Actor, Vocalist, Arts Educator and Community Organizer*

Anita Ruth: *Musician*

Roxane Wallace: *Performer, Dance Instructor and Choreographer*



2014 Reatha Clark King Award: General Mills

The eighth recipient of the annual Reatha Clark King Award is General Mills, which is committed to engaging and supporting communities where its employees live and work. More than 60 years old, the General Mills Foundation and Corporation have given more than a billion dollars in support of causes tied to education, the arts, hunger and nutrition wellness and natural disasters in its communities. Its Communities of Color grant program, founded in 2004, supports nonprofits—including schools, theaters and other Twin Cities organizations with programs that enrich the lives of people of color. It has served more than 700,000 children, families and individuals across the Twin Cities with a total of \$4.5 million in grants, providing the resources to empower youth through direct contact and making a way for them to be as successful as they can be.



FALL-FEB

WITNESS guest artist Melanie DeMore touched the lives of more than 8,500 people through community activities and concerts.



FEB 2014

WITNESS: Stomp & Sing: Through powerful spirituals, stick pounding, clapping and stomping, vocal activist Melanie DeMore shared the African traditions of the Gullah people of the Sea Islands of Georgia and South Carolina.

In 2013-2014, VocalEssence brought its WITNESS program to 22 partner schools.

Alice Smith Elementary
 Anoka Middle School for the Arts
 Battle Creek Elementary School
 Birch Grove Elementary
 Boys Totem Town
 Brooklyn Center High School - Arts IB
 Buffalo High School - Arts Magnet
 Epsilon-Hennepin County Home School
 Evergreen Park World Cultures Community School
 Folwell School, Performing Arts Magnet
 Fridley Middle School
 Frost Lake Elementary
 Gatewood Elementary School
 Glen Lake Elementary School
 Gordon Parks High School
 Highland Elementary School (Apple Valley)
 Highland Elementary School (Columbia Heights)
 L.H. Tanglen Elementary School
 Lincoln Elementary School for the Arts
 Minnehaha Academy
 Mississippi Creative Arts School
 Nativity of Our Lord
 North Park Elementary School
 Northern Lights Community School
 Oak Ridge Elementary
 Osseo Senior High School
 Parkview Elementary
 PYC Arts & Tech High School
 Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet
 Rosemount High School
 Southside Family Charter School
 St. Pascal Baylon School
 St. Peter Catholic School
 St. Peter Claver Catholic School
 Valley View Elementary
 Westview Elementary

“Every part of this process has been great, from administration to workshops to the final concert. I am thrilled we've made this partnership with VocalEssence and look forward to continuing to partner in the future. For a small school like ours, where we don't have the funding or time to do a traditional music program, opportunities like this are invaluable.”
 —WITNESS School Teacher



“[WITNESS] brings many things to students: a multi-cultural experience that cannot be duplicated in the school system. High quality music experiences with Melanie and the choirs, professional experience of sitting at Orchestra Hall for the performance. The use of the study guide is wonderful, some of the best use of arts integration curriculum I have seen written. Plus, this all connected to arts and core curriculum state standards. It really is an amazing experience for students and teachers. Also, use of YouTube, video, and the CD is amazing with students [being] able to hear and experience things that they would not usually have the opportunity to see and hear in their regular learning.”
 —WITNESS School Teacher



FEB 2014

WITNESS Young People's Concerts engaged the 3,000 students in the WITNESS School Program during two performances at Orchestra Hall.



FEB 2014

Choral Pathways: Nearly 125 seniors from two residential facilities and senior centers, Lyngblomsten Care Center and Sabathani Senior Center, participated in Choral Pathways in 2013-2014!

Composer Residencies and Concerts Foster Cultural Exchange

VocalEssence ¡Cantaré! brought the talents of composers from Mexico directly to Minnesota elementary and high schools and community organizations for a sixth consecutive year. In the 2013-2014 season, composers José Galván and Pamela Mayorga introduced their music and culture to six local schools and a community choir, inspiring more than 450 students.

Audience members were asked to describe in their own words what they enjoyed most about the concert they had seen. While diverse responses were received, many shared fundamental sentiments that included:

- “It was enjoyable listening to the variety of music and hearing the choirs from different schools. Variety of music was outstanding!”
- “I loved the way the songs taught a little about the culture.”
- “Knowing that kids of all ages and backgrounds had the opportunity to help with these songs and perform them so well at the Ordway.”

90% of surveyed concert attendees responded that it is very important for the Twin Cities community to have programs like ¡Cantaré!



Anoka Beacon Academy Charter School

“It was the best school experience ever!”
—Participating elementary school student

“Thank you so much for everything! Singing with José was a true blessing and an amazing learning experience!”

—Participating high school student



¡Cantaré! Community Concert 2014

“It's more than the music, it's the stories of people's lives. I would never have researched that if I hadn't been given that piece. It doesn't have to be just about the music.”

—¡Cantaré! school teacher



Pamela Mayorga at Mississippi Creative Arts Magnet



FEB 2014

12 students from South High School participated in the **VocalEssence Talented Tenth Apprenticeship Program**, which offers urban-area students the opportunity to receive professional music and vocal training.



FEB-MAR

Heartland Tour: VocalEssence Ensemble Singers traveled to the land of Lincoln and the Buckeye State, performing the best of American choral music, including a headliner appearance at the American Choral Directors Association Central Division Conference in Cincinnati.

Partners:

Anoka High School
Anoka Beacon Academy Charter School
Eagan High School
Latino Children's Choir
Mississippi Creative Arts Magnet
South High School, Minneapolis
Whittier Elementary School

Commissions:

José Galván

Chocolate (Chocolate)
Creo (I Believe)
Son de la Vida (Life's Groovy Beat)
Pirekua por la Paz (Pirekua for Peace)
Pirekua de Cartero (The Mailman's Pirekua)

Pamela Mayorga

¡Hola, Hola! (Hello, Hello!)
El Cenzontle (The Mockingbird)
México de Colores (Colorful Mexico)
Dulces al Compás (To the Rhythm of Sweets)
Las Flores del Cacao (The Cocoa Flowers)
¡Ahí Viene la Catrina! (Here Comes the Catrina!)
Tochan in Altepétl (The City, Our Home)
Un Lugar de Esperanza (A Place of Hope)



José Galván at Anoka High School



Latino Children's Choir

“Of course this experience has marked me as a musician, the musical and human experience was wonderful, I taught Mexican music, but I learned a lot about the organization, the level and discipline of the choirs in Minnesota, I helped to improve the image of Mexico, but I also greatly improved my understanding and vision of the United States and I know that through my work in Mexico I will help to improve the understanding of United States in Mexico. The part of this program that has had the most impact is to achieve the challenge to communicate and transmit the spirit of the music I wrote ... I will remember forever Tesfa [Wondemagegnehu's] phrase: 'We don't perform to impress, we sing to inspire' because that's what I want as an artist, in this case I wrote not to impress but to inspire.”

—José Galván, VocalEssence ¡Cantaré! composer

vocalessence
¡cantaré!

resonate

Vision: A world where choral music resonates with all people.
Mission: To engage and unite the next generation in choral art.

MAR 2014

Young Singers Group changed its name to Resonate, refining its mission to engage and unite the next generation in choral art.



MAR 2014

John Rutter Jubilee:
VocalEssence celebrated the dean of British choral composers with his world-famous *Requiem* and jazzy “Birthday Madrigals” filling Central Lutheran Church.

2013-2014 Volunteer Honor Roll

In 2013-2014 there were 277 active volunteers supporting VocalEssence activities. Volunteers and volunteer singers served over 12,000 hours. Independent Sector, a coalition of nonprofit and charitable organizations, estimates the value of volunteer time to be \$23.07 per hour, making the total value of our volunteer time over \$276,000!

Steve Aggergaard*
Amanda Allen*
Deborah Allen
AnnaLisa Anderson*
Barb Anderson*
Christian Anderson
Gary Anderson
Marilyn Anderson
Mary Anderson
Rolan Anderson
Christina Arndt
Duane Arndt
Max Athorn*
Stacey Athorn*
Alanna Bach Kucera*
Kevin L. Bailey**
Diane Balfany*
Mary Baremore
Ann Barkelew
Eric Bartlett**
Jo Beld*
Becca Bellman*
Scott Berger*
Carol Berglund
George Berglund
Jennifer Bevington**
Steve Blank
Hannah Bolt*
Clay Bogart
Susan Bogart
Kristin Borski*
Christopher Bozeman*
Lornell Brand
Ted Brand
Carol Brandenburg
Lilli Branzitzki
Dana Brinton*
Carolyn Brunelle
Ann Buran
Karen Burger
Steve Burger**
Chase Burkhart**
Brenda Bush
Patricia Cameron
Patty Campbell*
Phyllis Campbell
Mary Lou Carpenter
Rick Cedergren*
Jerdis Cerney
Abigail Chute
Lloyd Clausen*
Sarah Cohn
John Colangelo
Margaret Colangelo
Marie Colangelo*
David Colwell

Katryn Conlin
Meg Connolly
Bonnie Cox
Jim Cox
Deric W. Craig**
Peggy Dale
Carolyn Day
Dara Deal
Maria Deutsch*
Dan Doffing
Joan Dornfeld
Richard Dornfeld
Becky Dougherty
Dan Dougherty
Judy Drobeck*
Anders Eckman**
Elizabeth Egger*
Joseph Ellickson**
Randolph Elliott
Kaia Ellis
Chelli Esser
Debbie Estes
Jean Fagerstrom
Michael Fairbairn**
Kris Felbeck
Bruce Feld
Jodie-Marie Fernandes*
Daniel Fernelius
Katherine Ferrand
Sarah Fincham*
Elwyn Fraser*
Steve Freeman
Ryan French**
Zoey Friesen
Annie Gleeman*
Kate Gordhamer*
Mary Gossett*
Susan Govern
Jan Graham
Robert J. Graham**
Robert Graham, Sr.
Leola Greene
Elaine Grittner
Yvonne Grover*
Angela Grundstad**
Kristina Guiffre*
Daniela Guillen
Autumn Gurgel*
Donna Hackler
Bonnie Hallett
Ellie Hands
Joan Healy
Dee Hein*
Robin J. Helgen**
John Henrich*
Sarah Henrich

Katie Henrichsen*
Alex Hiniker
Katie Holisky*
Ede Holmen
Kirsten Howe
Kristin Howlett*
Steve Hughes*
Tim Huttner
Amanda Inhofer**
Ashley Jacobson*
Sally Jaffray*
Kirkja Janson*
MaryEllen Jaspers
Karne Johnson
Sharanya Johnson*
Karen Jollie
Beth Judnick
Meghan Kane*
Barb Kastens
Jeanne Kavanaugh*
Seth Keeton**
Stephen Kemp*
Curtis Kettler**
Anika Kildegaard*
Jan Kilton*
Jenny Kisner*
Lynne Kitto
Kartra Kohl*
Eleanor Kowalczyk
David Kozisek**
Judy Krause
Steve Krause
Kathleen Kroska
Ben Kucera*
Josh LaGrave*
Tricia Landers
Jeff Lantto
Marcia Lantto
Heidi Larson*
Benta LeMunyon*
Evelyn Lennon
Nikki Lewis
Katherine Lewiston
Sheri Lieffring*
Hannah Lindahl*
Scott Lindstrom
Marita Link**
Kris Linner
Mariel Lisud
Philip Lowry*
Amy Luehmann
Patricia Lull
Joy MacArthur*
Mindy Macy
Beatrice Magee
Nicholas Mattsson*

Cristin McCormick
Ned McCraime
Jessica McMahan*
Anna George Meek**
Judith Melander**
Bob Metzger*
Carl Mitchell
Luana Mitchell
Carolyn Mitchell Steele**
Rebecca Modert*
Tonia Moskalts
Padra Ann Maria Moua*
Kristi Mueller*
Martha Mutch
Laura Nelson*
Lynne Nelson
Paul Nevin*
Carrie Noble*
Sheridan O'Keefe*
Milo Oien-Rochat*
David Olson*
Laura Olson*
Matthew Olson
Clara Osowski**
Dick Otterstrom
Rae Otterstrom
Krista J. Palmquist**
Chris Paulson*
William Pederson**
Christina Pederson*
Curt Phelps+
Jonathan Pinkerton*
Brandee Polson*
Brendan Pulk
Owen Pulk
Jordan Ray*
Anna Reetz
Signe Reistad*
Marcia Richter
Sean Richter
Kathryn Roberts
Victoria Rogers
Andrea Roeger
Alexandra Roisen
Barbara Rosenberg
Spenser Rudolf*
Brian Ruhl*
Jake Runestad*
Margaret Sabin**
Carlos Sabo
Jorge Salvatierra+
Coral Sampson*
Nadine Sanders*
Vickie Sanders Dunn*
Ann Sather*
Cheryl Saunders*

Sandra Schoenecker**
Ann L. Schrooten**
Connie Scott
Mari M. Scott**
Steven Schwartz
Sandra Shallcross*
Gretchen Shogren
Luke Slivinski*
Bill Smale*
Bryan Smith*
Robert Smith**
Andrew Song
Ariana Song
Meredith Song
Barbara Souther
Mike Steele
LeAnn Stein*
Trent Stenoien*
Betsy Stites
Angela Sullivan
Christine Sutphen
JoAnna Swantek**
Kristin Swedlund*
Rob Tambyraja*
Laura Tanner*
Josiah Telschow**
Alicia Thompson*
Judy Thrawl
Ruth Torkelson*
Richard Tow
Melanie Tuininga
Katie Tuininga
Jackie Vickermann
Jennifer Vickerman*
Keith Vickermann
Jane Wade
Jenny Wade
Phil Wade
Nancy Wall
Jennifer Wallis*
Paul Weller
Charlie West
Karen Wilkerson**
Dwight Williams*
Sharon Williams*
Shane Wilson*
Michael Winikoff*
Loren Wolthoff
Lorna Wolthoff
Amy Wong
Andrea Young*
Cynthia Youtz*
Xiaoxi Zhang

*VocalEssence Chorus Member
**VocalEssence Ensemble Singer
+In remembrance



MAR 2014

The **John Rutter Community Sing** featured "What Sweeter Music" and "Dormi, Jesu" with VocalEssence Artistic Director and Founder Philip Brunelle as well as John Rutter talking about each piece through pre-recorded audio introductions.



APR 2014

Tchaikovsky for Voices: VocalEssence and four acclaimed college choirs joined forces to recreate the spirit of the performance that Tchaikovsky called "one of the happiest moments" of his career.

Raising Money for VocalEssence Education and Outreach

Cocktails & Cabaret

On November 18, 2013 at the Metropolitan Ballroom, 240 people gathered for hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and an incredible cabaret show featuring Philip Brunelle at the piano with local musical theater stars Simone Perrin, Bradley Greenwald, Greta Oglesby, Dieter Bierbrauer, and directed by Peter Rothstein. Highlights from the evening included Oglesby and Perrin's "The Alto's Lament" and Bierbrauer and Greenwald's comical performance of "Agony" from *Into the Woods*. The event raised more than \$40,000 for VocalEssence education programs through event ticket and raffle ticket sales.



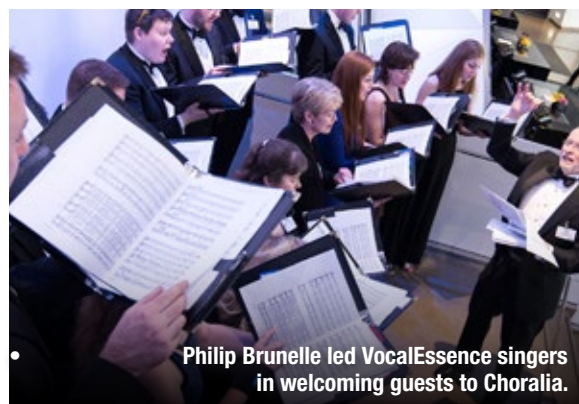
Bradley Greenwald, Greta Oglesby, Simone Perrin and Dieter Bierbrauer crooned at Cocktails & Cabaret.

Choralia

VocalEssence presented the re-imagined biennial gala, Choralia, on May 18, 2014 at the newly built Radisson Blu at the Mall of America. The 480 attendees were regaled with singing throughout the evening, while enjoying cocktails and an incredible meal. There were performances by the VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers, led by Assistant Artistic Director Tesfa Wondemagegnehu, and Patrick Henry High School Concert Choir, led by Tim Buzza. VocalEssence Artistic Director Philip Brunelle directed guests in singing for their supper, and a world record was achieved when all performed together as the World's Largest Nose Flute Choir. Revenue from the event totaled more than \$260,000.



Students from Patrick Henry High School



Philip Brunelle led VocalEssence singers in welcoming guests to Choralia.



Choralia planning committee leaders: Jenny Wade, Kathryn Roberts, Ann Barkelew and Nikki Lewis



MAY 2014

Choralia: The re-imagined biennial gala held at the newly built Radisson Blu was attended by 480 guests, and attendees set a world record performing together as the World's Largest Nose Flute Choir.



MAY 2014

¡Cantaré! Community Concert: Brought the talents of composers José Galván and Pamela Mayorga to seven Minnesota elementary schools and community organizations for a sixth consecutive year.

The Endowment Honor Roll

VocalEssence salutes the individuals and corporate and private foundations whose generosity and leadership sparked the creation of the Endowment Fund. This permanent fund was established in 1987 and is now valued at \$3 million. Its interest income provides ongoing support to VocalEssence. We welcome new contributions to the Endowment Fund and extend our deepest appreciation to the following for their generous gifts.

Mrs. Fred C. Andersen*
 Athwin Foundation
 Carol A. Barnett
 Alice Baver*
 Ronald & Joyce Beauchane
 Warren & Donna Beck
 Judson Bemis Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
 Judy Blaseg & John Engelen
 Charlie Boone & Carol Heen
 William & Margee Bracken
 David Brink
 Lucile Brink
 Wayne & Marilyn* Brock
 Elise Brunelle & Jeremy Greeff
 Philip & Carolyn Brunelle
 Ann & David Buran
 Norman R. Carpenter
 Cole Sewell Corporation
 Claire Colliander & Greg Steenson
 Colwell Industries
 Kip & Kathy Colwell
 Community Credit Company
 Dr. Susan & Dick Crockett
 Thomas Davies*
 Target Stores, Dayton's & Mervyn's by the Dayton Hudson Foundation
 Ernest & Mary Dorn
 Dan Dressen
 Katherine & Kent Eklund
 Exxon Corporation ±
 Jack & Cathy Farrell
 Robert B. Fering
 Gloria Freeman
 General Mills Foundation
 Robert & Katherine Goodale
 Marion Goward
 Susan & Barry Graceman
 Shelley Greenwood
 Jane D. & James L.* Hall
 Margarette & Charles Hann
 Terrance* & Ruth* Hanold
 David & Mim Hanson
 Ann G. Harding
 Louise Heffelfinger
 Lowell & Cay Shea Hellervik
 Jack & Linda Hoeschler
 HRK Foundation
 A.D. (Bill)* & Betty* Hulings
 Douglas & Mary Jones
 William & Suzanne Joyce
 Arthur & Martha Kaemmer
 Katherine B. Andersen Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation

Garrison Keillor
 James & Jane Riley-Koll
 Daniel & Constance Kunin
 Libby Larsen & James Reece
 Helmer* & Christine Larson
 Laura Jane Musser Fund
 Mary Sue Lindsay*
 Jean & Kenneth Linwick
 Patricia Lund*
 Herb & Corrine Lundberg
 Thomas* & Patti* Maetzold
 The MAHADH Fund of HRK Foundation
 Marbrook Foundation
 Kay & Mike McCarthy
 Walt McCarthy & Clara Ueland
 Mancel* & Harriet* Mitchell
 Peter & Judy Mitchelson
 William & Julie Moyer
 Elizabeth Musser*
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The Philip Brunelle Founder's Society recognizes those who make a provision for VocalEssence in their will or estate plans. The society is named in honor of our visionary founder, Philip Brunelle, who every day inspires the community to open their ears to new music from diverse cultures.

Philip and Carolyn Brunelle
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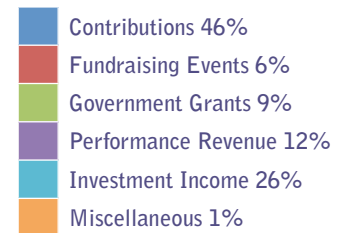
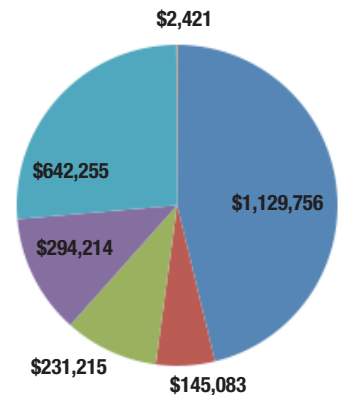
2013-2014 Financials

Revenue grew significantly from the 2013 fiscal year with contributions up by 14%, government grants (primarily Minnesota State Arts Board Legacy Grants) up by 80%, performance income (impacted by 45th anniversary programs) up by 32% and investment income up by 53%, resulting in a strong fiscal year end.

2014 REVENUE	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Contributions 46%	\$602,323	\$527,433	\$1,129,756
Fundraising Events 6%	\$145,083		\$145,083
Government Grants 9%	\$91,049	\$140,166	\$231,215
Performance Revenue 12%	\$294,214	\$0	\$294,214
Investment Income 26%	\$270,833	\$371,422	\$642,255
Miscellaneous 0%	\$2,421		\$2,421
Assets Released from Restrictions 0%	\$447,344	(\$447,344)	\$0
TOTAL	\$1,853,267	\$591,677	\$2,444,944

EXPENSE			
Artistic Series 55%	\$881,073		\$881,073
Education 14%	\$221,014		\$221,014
Fundraising Events 6%	\$93,911	\$0	\$93,911
Management & General 13%	\$213,738		\$213,738
Fundraising 13%	\$201,508		\$201,508
TOTAL	\$1,611,244	\$0	\$1,611,244
Change in Net Assets from Operations	\$242,023	\$591,677	\$833,700

Operating Revenue

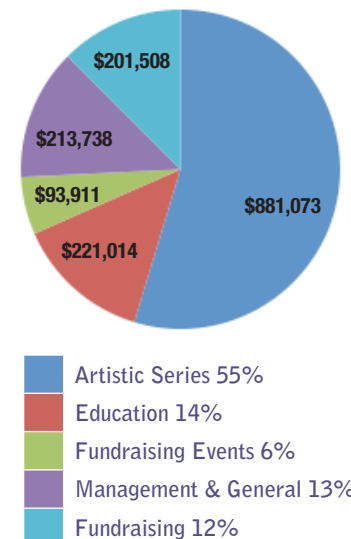


VocalEssence Statements of Financial Position June 30, 2014 and 2013

ASSETS	2014	2013
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 208,857	\$ 104,781
Accounts Receivable	493	12,433
Pledges Receivable	111,823	73,267
Prepaid Expenses	163,139	75,460
Total Current Assets	484,312	265,941
Investments	4,263,185	3,614,561
Pledges Receivable	-	20,018
Property & Equipment - Net	17,505	20,002
Total Assets	\$ 4,765,002	\$ 3,920,522

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2014	2013
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 31,123	\$ 16,450
Accrued Vacation	15,543	20,036
Total Current Liabilities	47,266	36,486
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted:		
Undesignated	1,224,870	1,026,630
Endowment	1,177,089	988,838
Total Unrestricted	2,401,959	2,015,468
Temporarily Restricted	1,342,318	895,109
Permanently Restricted	973,459	973,459
Total Net Assets	4,717,736	3,884,036
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 4,765,002	\$ 3,920,522

Operating Expenses



VocalEssence

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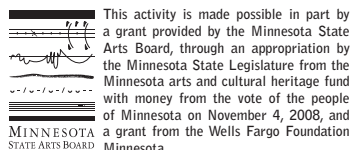
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