



VOCAL**ESSENCE**

Singing brings people together to create, connect, and transform one another in an extraordinary way. VocalEssence is proud to annually bring more than 10,000 people ages zero to 100+ together through song.

Note: Some of these programs are being modified or on hold due to COVID-19 and may be reconfigured for the future.



VocalEssence iCantaré! connects Mexican composers to school choirs and community choruses to share Mexico's vibrant music and cultural traditions and compose new Spanish language songs for each school. Singers premiere the songs at a community concert each spring.

Annually engaging:
200 Twin Cities Elementary and High School students



VocalEssence Concert Series features the 32 voice professional Ensemble Singers and 130 voice Chorus in performances celebrating music of the past and present. Over 500 new works have been premiered by VocalEssence in prominent concert spaces throughout the community and artists from John Rutter to James Earl Jones have made guest appearances.

Annually engaging:
10,000 music lovers of all ages



VocalEssence Family Series are accessible programs for families with tickets free for ages 0-17 that expand access to singing together for the whole family. Programs take place at community venues and feature age appropriate music and engagement experiences ranging from sing-alongs to craft-making.

Annually engaging:
2,500 Minnesota family members of all ages



VocalEssence Lullaby Project, a program of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute, pairs pregnant women and new mothers with professional artists to write and sing personal lullabies for their babies, supporting maternal health, aiding child development, and strengthening the bond between parent and child.

Annually engaging:
12 teen moms and their babies at Longfellow
Alternative High School in Minneapolis



VocalEssence Together In Song programs provide opportunities for singers of all ages and abilities to connect, sing, and give back to the community. Experiences include a movie musical sing-along, MLK inspired consciousness raising festival and an evening of singing and sharing with local soul artists. Participants expand their horizons and explore the diverse fabric of our community.

Annually engaging:
600 Minnesota singers of all ages



VocalEssence WITNESS celebrates the contributions of African Americans to our shared American heritage through in-school workshops with teaching artists for students grades 4-12, professional development and classroom resources for teachers, and **VocalEssence WITNESS Young People's Concerts** featuring VocalEssence singers.

Annually engaging:
3,200 Minnesota 4-12 students



VocalEssence Singers Of This Age is a dynamic group of young people from Twin Cities high schools who sing, dance, write their own music, rap, and—most importantly—reflect the diversity of our community in its membership. Singers receive all meals, transportation, uniforms, and tickets for families free of charge. Watch their inaugural performance by [clicking here](#).

Annually engaging:
45 students from Twin Cities High Schools



The **VocalEssence Together We Sing Festival** is a place for singers of all ages and abilities to connect, sing, and give back to the community. VocalEssence invites guest artists from the community to expand the horizons of the participants and encourage them to embrace the diverse fabric of our community.

Annually engaging:
120 Minnesota singers of all ages



VocalEssence Vintage Voices fosters the creation of choirs in assisted living communities and senior centers, aiming to elicit proven health benefits, including improved health outcomes, reduced depression, increased engagement and pleasure, and improved self-esteem.

Annually engaging:
100 Twin Cities older adults

In addition to the larger programs described above, VocalEssence brings together more than 5,000 community members through song at smaller, one-time programs, including:

- Osher Lifelong Learning Institute programs for older adults
- Greater Minnesota tour visits to schools, senior centers, and other community venues
- In-depth Concert Conversations at most of our season concerts
- Community Sings with guest artists