North Chorale

of Central Minnesota

2020 - 2021





Our Mission

The Mission of the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota is to prepare select high school singers for performances of the highest caliber for the widest possible audience. It supports its mission by presenting concerts, recordings, commissioning and performing new choral works, and by working collaboratively with the community at large to promote singing, specifically with school music programs and other music organizations.

Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota

Paramount Center for the Arts 913 West St. Germain Street St. Cloud, MN 56301

320-281-9226 info@youthchorale.org youthchorale.org

Find us on Facebook and Instagram @youthchorale





This organization is funded, in part, by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Central Minnesota Art Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Dear YCCM Patron,

There is no question that these times test the strength and resolve of our neighborhoods, our community, and our nations. This pandemic has stretched and frayed the very fabric that has otherwise held us together in historically difficult times. Not only does it threaten our physical health, it also highlights those who are vulnerable and in need, and sheds light on disparities in marginalized communities. But above all, the separation and isolation created by the pandemic brings to the fore a resource that we all need to feed and cultivate: Community.

Speaking for myself, I want to hear people sing without masks or microphones on a computer. I want to sit in a concert hall and hear gorgeous music with a few hundred friends. There is a genuine ache for this togetherness.

Before I move on from that pain to a solution and find "normal" again, I want to take stock of what that pain represents. At the heart the matter is this kernel of self-evident truth: I need you. We need you. You need us. We need us. Community.

In most natural disasters it is easy to see where the heroes are. The ones clearing debris, fighting fires, keeping harm at bay. Even the obvious heroes of our frontline healthcare workers are isolated from us, and often their own families, to keep us safe. But there is another type of hidden hero in this pandemic...those that are reaching, striving, and building community.

I would propose to you that the singers in this book are those such heroes. They have found creative ways to build community. While we may not understand all of their methods (ahem... TikTok, Among Us), they have creatively found ways of staying connected with each other. Online Prom. Friendsgiving over Zoom. Reintroducing family game night. They have had to adapt to a crisis that has robbed from them much of what defined our youth. Time together in community.

One of the most significant ways they have kept community is through singing. They have been a part of the transformation of a nearly 2,000 year old artform - singing in a chorus. I assure you that none of them joined choir to sing their individual part into a computer screen to be stitched together into a beautiful, but inadequate representation of choral music. But they did it anyway. They pushed aside self-interest to give back to something that means a lot to them... singing in community.

While all of our voices come from different backgrounds and perspectives, I believe we can agree and join our voices in unison to hope that these times will bring us together in community. We all wish for them a future where they take the skills they've earned through this trying time to make this world a better place. We at YCCM are honored to be a part of their path, and heartened by their efforts to work with us to present this unique season of the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota.









2020 - 2021 Schedule

Information available www.youthchorale.org/events

All Is Well

December 2020 • all-is-well.yccm.org

YCCM's annual traditional holiday concert featuring YCCM Cantanti and Con Brio with the St. Cloud String Quartet.

Central MN Idol

February 2021 • idol.yccm.org

YCCM fundraiser featuring a friendly competition among local performers, including performances by The Throwbacks, Justin Ploof, Jeff Engholm, and more! Contestants raise money for their favorite charities and the audience picks the winner. YCCM choirs perform, too!

YCCM Masterworks: Requiem for the Living

April 2021 • masterworks.yccm.org

YCCM Cantanti and Con Brio with orchestra

Youth Sing Out

May 2021 • yso.yccm.org

This annual concert gathers Central Minnesota's premiere children's choir organizations: St. Cloud State University's Cantabile Girls' Choirs, The St. John's Boys' Choir, and the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota.

All events can be viewed at youthchorale.org/events

Auditions

First two weeks of May 2021 www.youthchorale.org/audition For questions call 320-281-9226 or email info@youthchorale.org





Singers 2020-2021











Elizabeth Ahlin, Age 16Little Falls Community High School

Hobbies: tennis, cross country, skiing, running track, singing, acting and hanging out with my friends

I like singing with new and different people, and strengtheing my connections with others.



Lily Becker, Age 15St. Cloud Christian School

Hobbies: drawing, biking, editing, and singing

You're usually not proud of something you weren't scared to do, so you might as well audition for YCCM if singing is something you really love because you might get in. :)



Emma Ahlin, Age 17 Little Falls Community High School

Hobbies: theater, make-up, and over analyzing books

"All is Well" is my favorite concert. It is always so heartwarming to be able to sing such wonderful songs in a beautiful space.



Bryce Berger, Age 16Becker High School

Hobbies: acting, spending time with friends and family, and enjoying Minnesota weather

I would encourage others to audition for YCCM. It has been really great so far and has helped me become a better singer.



Grace Allen, Age 17Apollo High School

Hobbies: music, art, working with animals, and knitting

I keep coming back to YCCM because of all the amazing memories I've made and all of the things I've been able to experience.



Christina Binder, Age 17Sartell High School

Hobbies: painting, drawing, upcycling clothing, sleeping

If you like to sing, just audition already!



Alyse Bailey, Age 15Cathedral High School

Hobbies: reading, art, singing, math, forensic science

I was encouraged to audition by my school choir director and my parents. I wanted to join so I could have an accomplishment in the singing world that I could be proud of.



Mackenzie Bingel, Age 17

Apollo High School

Hobbies: guitar, piano, running, reading

The song that has really stuck with me from my YCCM experience is "Loch Lomond". While YCCM was virtual, listening to it helped me to feel connected and reminded me that YCCM would be back together soon.



Stephanie Bluhm, Age 16Sartell High School

Hobbies: hanging out with friends, eating ice cream, working, and attending school events

I am most looking forward to making new friendships and having fun!



Carleena Byrd, Age 15
Sartell High School

Hobbies: swimming, singing, and scrolling through TikTok

YCCM is one of my favorite parts of the week and I always look forward to rehearsals.



Reanna Borgen, Age 17 ROCORI High School

Hobbies: volleyball, National Honor Society, Student Senate, snowmobiling, and singing

My favorite song with YCCM has been "Somebody to Love." We get the opportunity to enjoy the music of local artists as well as getting to perform untraditional choir pieces.



Kelsey Christensen, Age 17 Tech High School

Hobbies: singing, reading, and taking road trips with my family and friends

I love the community and the people who I get to see and meet that I might otherwise not. Even with COVID it's nice to see familiar faces.



Elena Bowen, Age 14 Kimball High School

Hobbies: watching anime and musicals, playing video games, and drawing.

I look forward to making new friends because it opens up different opportunities, you can learn new things and it's fun!



Austin Clemen, Age 16Becker High School

Hobbies: singing, acting, piano, golfing, hanging out with friends

My favorite concert was definitely "Central Minnesota Idol". It was such a fun atmosphere and it felt good knowing that we were also serving our community while entertaining people.



Ashley Burditt, Age 14Sartell High School

Hobbies: swimming, playing the viola and violin, knitting, diamond art

I look forward to getting closer with the people I didn't get to sing with very often last year in Cantabile and meeting new friends.



Alice Colatrella, Age 18 Sartell High School

Hobbies: sewing, knitting, crocheting, playing with my dogs

I love the "All is Well" Concert every year because the extra instrumental accompaniment adds a lot to our music and the church really changes our sound into something powerful and beautiful.



Jan-Rose Davis, Age 17 ROCORI High School

Hobbies: reading, coloring, drawing, and singing

The opportunity to expand my musical horizon and hone my musical ability is what keeps me coming back to auditions for YCCM.



Ethan Eltgroth, Age 16 Tech High School

Hobbies: cello, saxophone, guitar, tennis, reading, traveling

Auditioning for YCCM is not as scary as you'd think because the reward of singing fun and unique music makes it worth it.



Daniel Dusing, Age 15 Sauk Rapids-Rice High School

Hobbies: baseball, hockey, football, wakeboarding, tubing, playing the organ

I wanted to audition to see friends and keep singing. I knew of YCCM from performances between the Boys' Choir and YCCM.



Brendan Engels, Age 15 Apollo High School

Hobbies: robotics, playing on my computer, YCCM

I love the diverse range of different kinds of music.



Celine Dvorak, Age 16 St. Robert Bellarmine Academy

Hobbies: singing, volleyball, babysitting, piano, and being with family and friends

I get goosebumps every time we sing, and that feeling keeps me coming back.



Elizabeth Ernst, Age 16 Apollo High School

Hobbies: softball, tennis, singing, being outside-hiking

I love the music and the people involved in YCCM. I also like that we are able to get a new piece of music and have it sounding pretty good in just a couple of rehearsals.



Tobias Dvorak, Age 14 St. Robert Bellarmine Academy

Hobbies: singing, hunting, Civil Air Patrol, reading

My sisters enjoyed singing in YCCM so I thought I would enjoy it also.



Haley Evenson, Age 17 Foley High School

Hobbies: singing, band, trapshooting, tennis, archery, track, and being outside

I keep coming back to audition for YCCM because I have met many wonderful people who share my love of singing and have had the privilege of performing at amazing concerts throughout the community.



Rachel Foos, Age 16 Kimball High School

Hobbies: singing, musical theatre, art, and hanging out with my dogs

I look forward to singing with the entire group, because I have never sung in a choir as big as YCCM before.



Audrey Gillian, Age 16
Sartell High School

Hobbies: flute, spending time with friends and family

"All is Well" is one of my favorite concerts because I really enjoy the music that we sing and this concert really puts me in the holiday spirit!



Clayton Fuller, Age 17Sartell High School

Hobbies: tennis, playing piano, talking with or playing any sort of games with friends

I keep coming back is because the environment is really positive. A place where I can do something I love and also be supported is all you can really ask for.



Mark Goenner, Age 16
Jane Goodall Environmental
Sciences Academy

Hobbies: video games, swimming, guitar, fishing

The thing that I like most about YCCM is seeing all of my friends.



Erica Gaebe, Age 17Paynesville Area High School

Hobbies: reading books, baking, running, and spending time with my friends and family

Multiple friends of mine who were in YCCM said that they thought I'd fit right in. They told me about how much fun it was and that I should give it a try!



Cassandra Halbur, Age 18

Osakis Public School

Hobbies: reading, astronomy, being with friends, art, and photography

I love the Christmas concert. Everyone was able to really get to know each other. It was one of the first times that both choirs were able to just enjoy time with each other.



Payton Gerdes, Age 15Sauk Rapids Rice High School

Hobbies: tennis, karate, choir

I look forward to becoming a better singer.



Joanna Hamilton, Age 14

Sartell High School

Hobbies: skiing, tennis, baking

I grew up attending YCCM concerts and couldn't wait to be part of the choir myself.



Tierney Hammer, Age 17Sartell High School

Hobbies: theatre, painting, dance

The music and direction helps

me grow.



I loved singing "The Stars Stand Up in the Air" last year, I just loved the way it sounded with our choir.

Hobbies: guitar, piano, reading,

Delaney Ignace, Age 17

Paynesville High School



Little Falls Community High School
Hobbies: singing, musical theatre, camping, hunting, softball, spending time with friends

Lily Hanson, Age 15

I love to sing and I get to spend time with friends.



Brice Kadlec, Age 15Sartell High School

Hobbies: running, swimming, biking, tennis, and kendama

I am excited to try something new as I love to sing.



Henry Heinen, Age 15 Sartell High School

Hobbies: piano, saxophone, bass, songwriting and composing

I'm looking forward to meeting new people and making new friendships.



Sara Kampsen, Age 17Sauk Centre High School

Hobbies: Teaching piano lessons, volleyball, cross country, musical, one act, speech, reading, student council

I heard about YCCM from upperclassmen in my school who were also in YCCM. I came to visit during "Bring a Friend Day" and had so much fun!



Emma Heying, Age 17 Sauk Rapids Rice High School

Hobbies: choir, hunting, photography

I absolutely loved "Jubilate Deo". It had such a variety of languages and different tones throughout the piece.



Safiya Khan, Age 15Sartell High School

Hobbies: ukulele, going to concerts

I am most looking forward to getting to know new singers and learning unique music pieces that I might not sing in school.



Sophie Klemp, Age 15 Sartell High School

Hobbies: swimming, theatre, and reading

I loved the "All is Well" concert because the time between concerts was so fun to hang out with other YCCM members.



Brooke Kotten, Age 17 Albany High School

Hobbies: baking, running cross country, and drinking coffee

I love the song "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel". This song is a cappella, in a minor key, and half in Latin. It's quite different from the typical Christmas tune we sing, and I enjoy the change of style.



Hayden Koehn, Age 15Sartell High School

Hobbies: biking, hanging with friends, choir

I was part of St. John's Boys Choir and after I graduated out of that program I wanted to continue to sing in a choir.



Aliza Kresha, Age 16Little Falls Community High School

Hobbies: running, nordic skiing, biking, piano, hangout with friends, singing

I keep coming back to YCCM because it helps keep music alive in my life and I just really enjoy rehearsing and learning new skills.



Andria Koester, Age 16Sartell High School

Hobbies: singing, reading, and acting

"Bohemian Rhapsody" is my personal favorite song that I have sung in YCCM because of how much fun the choir seemed to have while singing it.



Maddie Kulus, Age 17 Sartell High School

Hobbies: tennis, singing, trumpet, and shopping

I love the "Central Minnesota Idol" concert. I think it is so cool that we get to sing with all of the different local artists.



Marcus Kolbinger, Age 16
Becker High School

Hobbies: theatre and speech

The welcoming nature of YCCM where everyone is a team player and valuable to the choir is why I continue to audition.



Nick Kulus, Age 17

Sartell High School

Hobbies: hunting, fishing, football, trap shooting, and eating

The reason why I keep coming back to YCCM is because it is a friendly and welcoming environment to be in.



Jacob Lance, Age 15Sartell High School

Hobbies: camping, fishing and football

I am looking forward to furthering my experience with music because I appreciate how other conductors teach music.



Spencer Lathe, Age 16Sartell High School

Hobbies: track and field, nordic skiing and theatre

I liked "The Stars Stand Up in the Air".



Evan Laning, Age 17Paynesville High School

Hobbies: reading, biking, running, playing video games, and sketching

I feel like YCCM gives you a real chance at making someone's life brighter through music which is really nice.



Emma Lathe, Age 18 Sartell High School

Hobbies: skiing, snowboarding, longboarding, being outdoors, and

spending time with friends and family

I LOVED "Jubilate Deo"! It was so fun to sing with the full orchestra and I liked hearing so many different parts at once.



Bryan Larson, Age 16Paynesville High School

Hobbies: shoes, music, hurrying to practice every Sunday

What I like most about YCCM is the connection between everyone while we sing.



Heidi Lenarz, Age 17Sartell High School

Hobbies: swimming, piano, National Honor Society, enoing, painting

My favorite thing about YCCM is hearing the amazing sounds that we can make together.



Katharine Lathe, Age 15Sartell High School

Hobbies: soccer, downhill and nordic skiing, track, trumpet, participating in student council

My favorite part of YCCM is definitely the people. There are so many fun and funny people here that love connecting not just through their love of music, but for their love of community.



Karl Lexvold, Age 15

Homeschooled

Hobbies: singing, listening to music, thinking

My sister was in YCCM. I was in the St. John's Boys Choir and really enjoyed that, so I decided to sing here, too.



Brenna Lindeen, Age 16 Sartell High School

Hobbies: music, enjoying the outdoors, and hanging out with friends

Watching a performance of YCCM at SCSU last fall made me want to join. Many of my friends are in this program and encouraged me to join. Also, my choir director, Mrs. Richards thought this would be a good fit for me as well.



Kate Manning, Age 16 Sartell High School

Hobbies: theatre, baking, and ukulele

I wanted to audition for YCCM because a lot of my friends really enjoyed it, I wanted to sing more and I thought I would enjoy it.



Sophie Ling, Age 17Sartell High School

Hobbies: road trips, painting, movie nights, fuzzy blankets, and sleeping

I loved singing "The Storm is Passing Over" and "Let Everything That Hath Breath". Everyone really enjoyed those songs and it showed. They felt like the songs that truly captured why I love singing.



Salma Maray, Age 17 Sartell High School

Hobbies: piano, theater

Everyone involved in YCCM is extremely kind. It is a very welcoming environment.



Charlie Magnuson, Age 16Sartell High School

Hobbies: Swim and Dive team, water sports (water skiing and surfing), piano

I enjoy singing as a group and making a beautiful sound that brings joy to community members.



Luis Martinez, Age 17 Annandale High School

Hobbies: running, singing, reading, piano and hiking

"All Is Well" has been one of my favorite songs that we have sung. It is such a beautiful piece of music that reminds me of hope and peace.



Emily Manar, Age 14 Cathedral High School

Hobbies: art, acting, sewing, playing video games with friends, playing with my dog -Riley, playing board games with family

I wanted to join YCCM because I love to sing, and I was in Cantabile in the past.



Jakob Martinson, Age 17Tech High School

rech nigh school

Hobbies: singing, running

I would say I enjoy the music the most. Most of the songs we've done are songs that I've never done anywhere else.



Josh Mertensotto, Age 15Sartell High School

Hobbies: soccer, golfing, and playing around on the guitar

I am most looking forward to a new choir experience and getting to know new people.



Libby Nelson, Age 16Sartell High School

Hobbies: watching "Criminal Minds", all music genres, time in nature

The music we sing is always different than what our choir teachers may choose, we all come with different areas of strength and all of our choir classes teach us differently so we learn more about other styles and practices.



Emily Meyer, Age 15Becker High School

Hobbies: painting, playing sports, camping, and of course singing

My advice to someone considering auditioning for YCCM would be to just go for it. Everyone is so nice and welcoming.



Lindsey Nelson, Age 14Sartell High School

Hobbies: shopping with friends, baking desserts (brownies are my favorite), singing and acting

I most look forward to meeting new people and being able to be a part of such a beautiful choir.



Henry Moore, Age 15 Little Falls Community High School

Hobbies: singing, dancing, being with friends, learning, soccer, board and card games, being with family, acting

My friends and choir director encouraged me to audition for YCCM.



Bryant Neumann, Age 17Sauk Rapids Rice High School

Hobbies: theater, saxophone, piano, running, singing, community projects

The atmosphere, the talent, and the connectedness you feel when among a hundred others becoming one voice, sharing a common purpose, is surreal and keeps me coming back to YCCM each season.



Isaiah Mugg, Age 17Sartell High School

Hobbies: Working at Chick-fil-A and longboarding

My favorite song performed with YCCM was "Betelehemu" because I got to play djembe.



Josh Nguyen, Age 16Sartell High School

Hobbies: listening to music, hanging out with friends, cooking and baking

"Betelehemu" was simultaneously the most beautiful and most energetic piece I've ever sung.



Alexa Noyes, Age 17Apollo High School

Hobbies: reading, hiking, camping, theater, and band

What keeps me coming back to YCCM is making music in such a fun and powerful way.



Levi Patton, Age 15Sartell High School

Hobbies: space science, drama, tech

I look forward to spending time with my friends who I don't get to see through school.



Kayla Okonu, Age 16 St. John's Preparatory School

Hobbies: painting, singing, napping, watching "Parks and Recreation"

I keep coming back to YCCM because it fills my soul. The feeling of singing with the choir is indescribable. It's amazing.



Chanin Quillo, Age 18Long Prairie Grey Eagle High School

Hobbies: exercise, martial arts, track, outdoor activities, cello

It was satisfying to see the masterwork "Jubilate Deo" come together.



Atira Olson, Age 14Sartell High School

Hobbies:spending time with animals, especially my cat Whiskers. playing my mandolin and violin

When I was in the Cantabile Choir I enjoyed listening to the YCCM Choir at concerts. I couldn't wait to be old enough to be a part of such an amazing group of musicians.



Kusi Quillo, Age 15Long Prairie Grey Eagle High School

Hobbies: soccer, saxophone, cooking, guitar, reading, running cross country, track and fleld, basketball

I am most looking forward to improving my singing voice and sight reading so that I can pick any piece up and sing it.



Wyatt Oxton, Age 15 Sartell High School

Hobbies: camping, hunting, acting, trap shooting, and skiing

I would tell anyone that the conductors at the audition were welcoming, very encouraging, and really nice.



Grace Radeke, Age 18Sartell High School

Hobbies: drinking coffee, making coffee, shopping, petting dogs and subsequently sneezing

The relief of ending my weekend and starting a new week with making music is what keeps me coming back to YCCM.



Isabella Randolph, Age 18 PSEO at SCTCC

Hobbies: photography, poetry, acrylic painting, piano, traveling, reading

Every single year, our Christmas concert "All is Well" touches my heart like no other. Each piece of music is chosen intentionally and performed to perfection, and the whole atmosphere is just ethereal.



Lily Robins, Age 14Cathedral High School

Hobbies: Mock trial, theatre

I wanted to audition because I love singing and I thought it would be fun and my choir teacher sent out an email for it.



Luke Rentschler, Age 17Albany High School

Hobbies: theatre, reading, saxophone, hiking, and singing karaoke with my friends

YCCM is like being with a group of people my age who share my love and devotion to music! Getting to sing with all of these talented individuals is such a blessing!



Noah Rosenberger, Age 16 Sauk Rapids Rice High School

Hobbies: hiking, baking, spontaneous adventures, and being around friends and family

I feel like I can make friendships with people who also have a deep love for the choral arts.



Quin Ringsmuth, Age 16 Apollo High School

Hobbies: building computers, playing dnd, playing video games

I am looking forward to learning new music that's different from other choirs.



Dean Rothstein, Age 17 ROCORI High School

Hobbies: theatre, cooking and baking

I enjoy when we first get a new song because in just a few short weeks, I know we will have created this beautiful piece and we will have done it with our best friends.



Hannah Rivard, Age 14 Sartell High School

Hobbies: writing, acting, dancing

I'm looking forward to being a part of a larger community of youth singers and making closer relationships with my peers.



Nathan Rysavy, Age 15 Sartell High School

Hobbies: video games, hanging out with friends, sleeping

Getting to see my friends who have the same interests as me, when I can't see them normally due to COVID.



Gracie Schad, Age 16 Melrose Area High School

Hobbies: singing, running, binge watching Netflix, baking banana bread, reading Twilight

My favorite concert by far would be "All is Well". The music is so beautiful, and I love that we get to share our music with so many people!



Victoria Smith, Age 16 PESO, SCTCC

Hobbies: guitar, piano, and books.

I am most looking forward to gaining more experience and learning more about singing, because music is something I am passionate about.



Esther Scheele, Age 18 Saint Cloud State University PSEO

Hobbies: nordic skiing, guitar, making pizza, playing with dogs, and camping

Having a regular time set aside for making music has been a relief from the stress surrounding school and work.



Jada Soltau, Age 15 Becker High Schools

Hobbies: theatre, playing softball, and hanging out with

One of my favorite songs was "Jubilate Deo". It is such a diverse and enchanting piece.



Grant Schroers, Age 16 Sartell High School

Hobbies: playing sports with siblings, going fishing, hanging out with friends

I think that more people should consider trying out for YCCM because you get to make music with the people you love and you get to move people with your music.



Avery Sommers, Age 15 Annandale High School

Hobbies: volleyball, cross country, track, art, band

I am most looking forward to meeting new people, and having a new view of choir.



Catie Sikes, Age 17 Saint John's Preparatory School

My favorite concert was getting to sing at a nursing home during the St. Louis trip. It was so fun to get to sing for the residents, and they loved the songs! Getting o brighten their day was a wonderful experience.



Sophia Speckhard, Age 17

Sartell High School

Hobbies: soccer, spending time with friends and family, painting, spending time outside

I have made so many friends through YCCM and I am always excited for meeting new people each year.



Riley Spoden, Age 17 Kimball Area High School

Hobbies: singing, acting, cooking, running, and participating in many clubs and organizations

I love coming to rehearsal every week because I get to see people from around central Minnesota and get to create amazing music.



Chase Triebenbach, Age 14
Osakis Public School

Hobbies: golfing, basketball, hunting, fishing, saxophone, playing video games with my friends, and playing

My sister encouraged me to audition, because she said that she has had a very good time participating in YCCM and that I could make new friends.



Nora Steil, Age 17 Sartell High School

Hobbies: swimming, skiing, piano and violin, baking

"Jubílate Deo" is my favorite piece performed with YCCM. It was so fun to perform something we worked so hard on and I've never sang anything like it before.



Kadyn Triebenbach, Age 17

Osakis Public School

with my dog

Hobbies: tennis, golf, basketball, organizing events, crafts, outdoor activities, bonfires, stargazing, and anything musical

Last winter's "All is Well" was my favorite concert to participate in. We sang a lot of beautiful songs and there was a wonderful feeling of community that I felt from this concert in particular.



Sarah Sypnieski, Age 17 Monticello High School

Hobbies: piano, choir, chamber singers, piano teacher, theatre, one act, hiking, hanging out with friends, camping

I liked "The Snow" that I sang with Con Brio last year, it was such an elegant and beautiful piece, and so much fun to learn.



Carter Trombley, Age 17
Sartell High School

Hobbies: soccer, swimming, singing

I have enjoyed "The Road Home" for many years across multiple choirs. Regardless of the choir, this song is often performed and it does a fantastic job eliciting hope and joy.



Zayda Thalacker, Age 17Sartell High School

Hobbies: napping, gardening, yoga, thrifting

I like that I can improve my musical abilities in a supportive environment where everybody loves to sing.



Carter Vonderahe, Age 17

Sartell High School

Hobbies: Piano, Guitar, Singing, Cross Country, Nordic Skiing, Chess

What I enjoy most is being a part of a community that strives for excellence. Within that community, I get to experience relationships with some really awesome people, both peers and staff members.



Elliot Weber, Age 16Sartell High School

Hobbies: singing, acting, drawing and playing tennis

I continue to come back to YCCM because we make great music even though we only practice on Sunday.





Aria Webster, Age 17Becker High School

Hobbies: speech team, theatre, being with friends and family, hopping, and of course YCCM

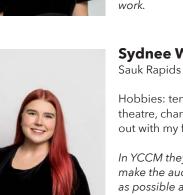
My favorite thing about YCCM is a tie between the music and staff. I absolutely love both of them, when you combine them it makes my week a million times better!



Cassandra Wendt, Age 17 Foley High School

Hobbies: cross country, dance, track, choir, band, reading, piano, playing with my pets, and spending time outside

I look forward to singing with other singers from the community and hearing the outcome of our hard work.



Sydnee Wick, Age 17Sauk Rapids Rice High School

Hobbies: tennis, theatre, choir, musical theatre, chamber choir, art, and hanging out with my friends

In YCCM they do everything they can to make the audition process as comfortable as possible and when you're done you'll be so glad you did it. YCCM rehearsals are my favorite part of every week.



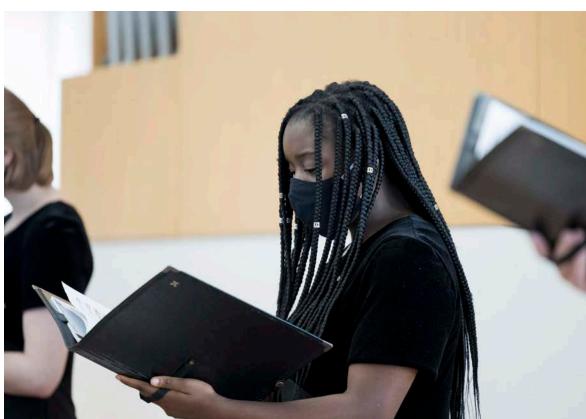






Indoor
rehearsals
and recording
sessions at
Bethlehem
Lutheran
Church



















2020 rehearsals required masks and social distancing. YCCM choirs began the year rehearsing in a city parking ramp.

















Garrett Lathe, Artistic Director

Cantanti Conductor

Garrett Lathe, founding Artistic Director of the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota, has directed ensembles to critical acclaim for local, regional, and national audiences, including an invitation to sing at the National Conference of the American Choral Directors Association, ACDA of Minnesota's State Conference, and the Minnesota Music Educators Association state clinic, Mr. Lathe earned his Bachelor Degree in Music Education from Bemidji State University under the mentorship of Dr. Paul Brandvik. He has completed coursework for a Masters in Music in Choral Conducting at St. Cloud State University. Mr. Lathe has been a music educator for over 20 years, including twelve years at Sartell High School, where the enrollment in choirs nearly doubled under his leadership. After working full time in the business sector from 2013-2017 while maintaining his tenure with YCCM, Mr. Lathe re-entered the classroom as the Choir Director at Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School. There he conducts a program of 250 singers in three choirs. He is a frequent adjudicator and clinician around Minnesota and is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota, serving on their Editorial Board. He is active in community theater both as an actor and music director.



Sara Erickson, Executive Director

Sara Erickson, is in her third season as the Executive Director of the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota. She is responsible for the overall administration and day-to-day management of the Youth Chorale including operations and fiscal management, communications, development, and grant writing. Prior to joining the YCCM staff, Ms. Erickson was a YCCM parent for over 10 years, as well as serving on the Board of Directors. An active member of the Central Minnesota community, she has volunteered with GREAT Theater, St. Cloud schools, and many other local non-profit organizations. Currently an "empty nester" living in St. Cloud, she loves theater, travel, and sports. She especially enjoys visiting her four adult daughters who live in Malawi, Africa; New York City, NY; and Orlando, FL.



Holly Lathe, Associate Artistic Director

Con Brio Conductor

Holly Ann Lathe is in her fourth season with The Youth Chorale Of Central Minnesota as Con Brio Conductor and Associate Artistic Director. Holly Ann Lathe earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Superior and has completed her Master's coursework through St. Cloud State University. Mrs. Lathe is a Regional Arts Teacher Leader through the Perpich Center for the Arts and is currently employed at Pine Meadow Primary School in Sartell, MN, where she serves as Elementary Content Specialist and teaches music to students in grades 1-2. Her love for learning prompts her to regularly host university students in observation, practicum, and student teaching experiences. Mrs. Lathe is active in local theater as an actor, music director, and rehearsal accompanist. In addition, she has served as Artistic Director with the St. Cloud State University Cantabile Girls' Choir and worked for St. John's Boys' Choir, leading the inaugural "Sing In The Summer" camp for girls. Outside of her professional interests, Mrs. Lathe enjoys cooking, gardening, and reading. She resides in Sartell with her husband, Garrett Lathe, their four children, and their dog. 25



Susan Hill, Cantanti Accompanist

Susan Hill has been the accompanist for the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota since its inception. She loves choral music and has accompanied numerous choirs in the St. Cloud area including Apollo and Tech High Schools, St. Cloud State Concert and Women's choirs, Great River Chorale, Minnesota Center Chorale and Cantabile Girls' Choir as well as competitions and recitals for vocal studios. She has a Bachelor's degree in Music from Brigham Young University. Susan and her husband have three grown daughters and made up the Hill Family Singers when the girls were young. In addition, she is a Licensed Psychologist and functions as Clinical Supervisor of the Catholic Charities Intensive Outpatient Day Treatment as well as having a private psychological practice.



Denise Bernard, Con Brio Accompanist

Denise Bernard was born and raised in Connecticut. She studied piano at the Hartt School of Music in West Hartford, CT and received her BS in Music Education. Denise spent her musical career doing a variety of things including teaching K-8 music, serving as a church organist, pianist, choir director and hand bell choir director, managing her own piano studio, and accompanying choirs and musicals. Denise currently teaches K-6 general music at Swanville Elementary. She also serves as organist/pianist at St. John's Episcopal Church and teaches piano at her home studio. For fun, she loves to quilt, create with fabric, work in paper arts, and travel. Denise lives in Rice with her husband, Chris, and enjoys the company of her two grown children and expanding family, including her grandsons, Spencer and Silas.



Cynthia Hogenson, Volunteer Coordinator/Office Assistant *Music Intern*

Cynthia Hogenson is in her sixth season with YCCM as Volunteer Coordinator/ Office Assistant, where she is responsible for coordinating parent volunteers, providing logistical programming support, and assisting with all YCCM-sponsored events. She is a graduate of the College of St. Benedict with a B.A. in vocal performance. This year Cynthia has taken on an additional role as Music Intern while she finishes her final year at St. Cloud State University for a second bachelor's degree in K-12 vocal music education. In addition to her work with YCCM Cynthia teaches private voice lessons from her home and is the Bell Choir director at Sacred Heart Parish in Sauk Rapids. Cynthia has a love for the arts and enjoys working for an organization that is committed to fostering that same love in young people and the community. She lives in Sauk Rapids with her husband, Erik, and their four young children.



Brenda Wright, Wardrobe Manager

Brenda Wright is in her third season with YCCM as the wardrobe manager where she is responsible for fitting and maintaining clothing for all singers. With over 40 years of sewing experience, she has been involved with costuming for the MN State Fair 4-H Arts In, Sauk Rapids-Rice High School, and St. Cloud's GREAT Theatre. Brenda's passion for creativity has flourished through 4-H, her mom's craft room, theatre experiences (both on stage and behind the scenes) and her 30+ years as creative talent for the Coborn's, Inc. Marketing Department. Brenda enjoys anything to do with art, theatre, sewing, photography and food! She also loves to travel with her husband, Tim, and enjoys spending time with their 3 children and 2 grandchildren.



Maria Schneider, Music Intern

Maria Schneider is a junior choral music education major at the College of Saint Benedict. She is heavily involved in the music department at school, taking part in chamber choir and opera workshop, as well as being a member of the crew team and walking club. Maria entered college as a theatre major, but soon discovered that music was her passion. In her free time, Maria writes her own music, bakes, and watches movies with friends. She hopes to teach elementary music in a city somewhere and hopefully move to New York City someday.



Alyssa Wedin, Music Intern

Alyssa Wedin is currently a junior at the College of Saint Benedict, and is a music major with concentrations in choral education and vocal performance. Alyssa is the VP of the Chamber Choir at CSB/SJU, and she is heavily involved in the music department as a student worker. Outside of music, Alyssa loves to be outside. In the summer, Alyssa's favorite activities are hiking and kayaking, and in the winter she loves to downhill ski. After graduation, Alyssa hopes to get a Fulbright grant to teach abroad for a year, and then have her own music classroom.

2020-2021 Board of Directors

The Board of Directors for the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota consists of choir directors, professionals, and community members from around the Central Minnesota area.



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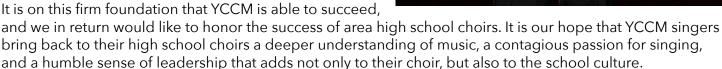
Holly LatheAssociate Artistic Director
Con Brio Conductor



Where credit is due ...

YCCM was founded in the spirit of collaboration and community. It is because of the dedicated work of Central Minnesota Music Educators that YCCM can exist. Every successful performance from eachensemble is not just the result of the hard work of YCCM directors and singers, but also a product of elementary music classrooms, middle school and high school choirs, and the St. John's Boys' Choir and the St. Cloud State University Cantabile Girls' Choir.

The high school choral programs around Central Minnesota not only bring high quality music education to hundreds of singers, but also take time out of their schedules to prepare them for contests, honors choirs, and promote YCCM to their singers. Their tireless advocacy for their students, and their efforts of going above and beyond, have an indelible influence on our community.



Thank you, Music Educators, for the work that you do every single day for Central Minnesota singers. Special thanks to the following choir directors for the guality education provided for our 2020-21 singers:

- Nina Aardahl, St. Cloud Christian School
- Gretchen Bordson, Becker High School
- Cheryl Bungum, Paynesville High School
- Dr. Matthew Erpelding,
 St. Cloud Tech High School
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- Nathan Herfindahl,
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- David Paulson, St. John's Preparatory School
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- Jonathan Rydberg, St. Cloud Cathedral High School
- Michael Sellheim, Annandale High School





The Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota wishes to thank its generous 2019-2020 Donors:

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The Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota also wishes to thank our special contributors:

- The Parents of our Cantanti and Con Brio Singers
- The YCCM Board of Directors
- Central Minnesota Arts Board
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- Bethlehem Lutheran Church
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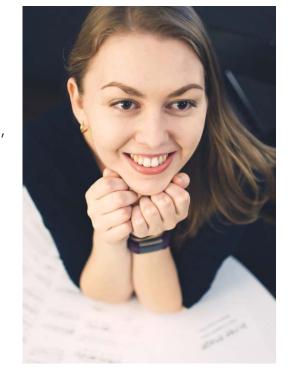
2020-2021 Commissioned Composer



"What I'm most looking forward to about writing for YCCM is having the opportunity to involve the singers in the actual creation process of this work, basing the topic/text on material created by the singers themselves! I hope this unique collaborative process will allow for the creation of a new work that reflects the world we are in today and the voices of YCCM 2020-21."

Katerina Gimon Named as one of Canada's "hot 30 classical musicians under 30" by the Canadian Broadcasting Company; composer, improviser, and vocalist Katerina Gimon's uniquely dynamic, poignant, and eclectic compositional style is rapidly gaining her a reputation as one of the most distinctive emerging voices in contemporary Canadian composition and beyond. Katerina's music has been described as "sheer radiance" (Campbell River Mirror), "imbued...with human emotion" (San Diego Story), and capable of taking listeners on a "fascinating journey of textural discovery" (Ludwig Van). Her music draws inspiration from a myriad of

influences – from Eastern European folk music to indie rock, as well as from her roots as a songwriter. Katerina's works have been performed across Canada, the United States, Europe, Asia, and Oceania at prominent events such as ACDA Conferences, Choral Canada's Podium Conferences, Let the Peoples Sing Euroradio Choral Competition Finals, as well as at renowned venues such as Carnegie Hall, Orpheum Theatre, and the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Recent commissions include new music for the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, the University of Montana, the Hamilton Children's Choir, and the Orpheus Choir of Toronto. Katerina is currently the composer-in-residence for female vocal ensemble Myriad as well as the Canadian





Lemote work session with the composer

Men's Chorus and is primarily based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. As a vocalist, Katerina performs as part of dynamic new music and AR/VR collective Chroma Mixed Media of which she is a founding member (vocals, electronics, composer) alongside multi-media artists David Storen and Brian Topp. Excited by the ever-evolving landscape of technology in today's society, Chroma endeavours to explore new avenues and

intersections for artistic expression by combining various art forms and new technologies in order to invite and challenge audiences expectations. Katerina holds a Master of Music in Composition from the University of British Columbia ('17) and an Honours Bachelor of Music degree in Composition and Improvisation from Wilfrid Laurier University ('15). She has studied composition under Dorothy Chang, Keith Hamel, Stephen Chatman, Linda Catlin Smith, and Glenn Buhr; and voice under Vicki St. Pierre, James Westman, and Brian McIntosh. Katerina serves on the BC Advisory Council for the Canadian Music Centre.



2019 - 2020 Volunteers

YCCM depends heavily on the generous volunteers who share their time and talents. We are very grateful to the following volunteers.

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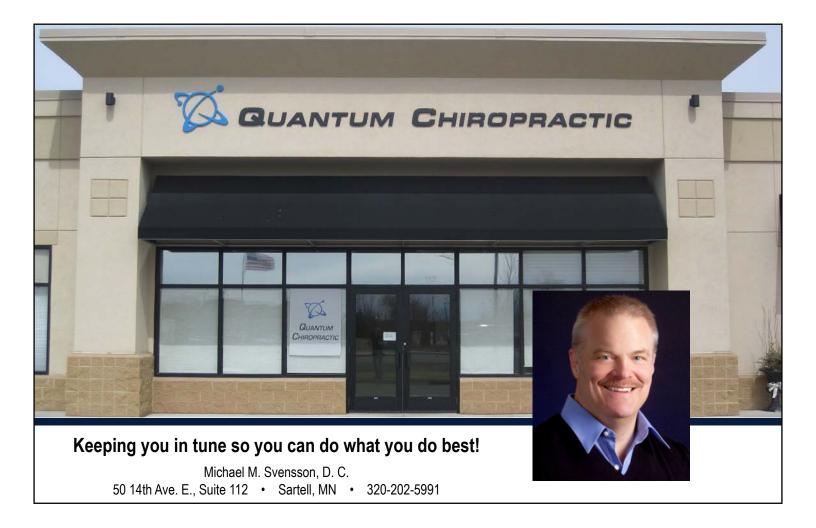


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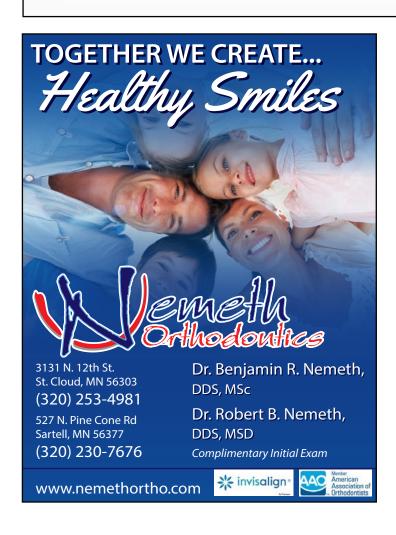
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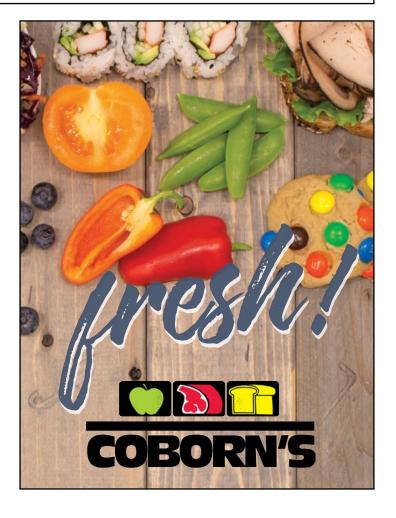
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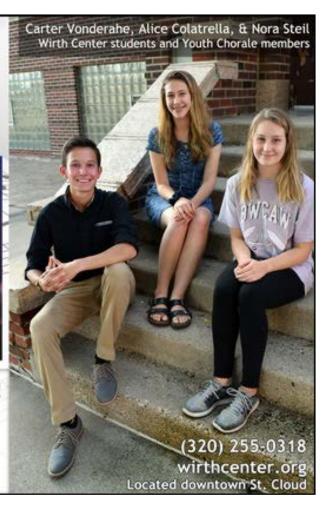






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