

The Boychoir of Ann Arbor

*Through excellence in vocal training and choral performance,  
The Boychoir of Ann Arbor enriches the cultural life of our community and  
enhances the social, emotional, and musical development of boys who love to sing.*

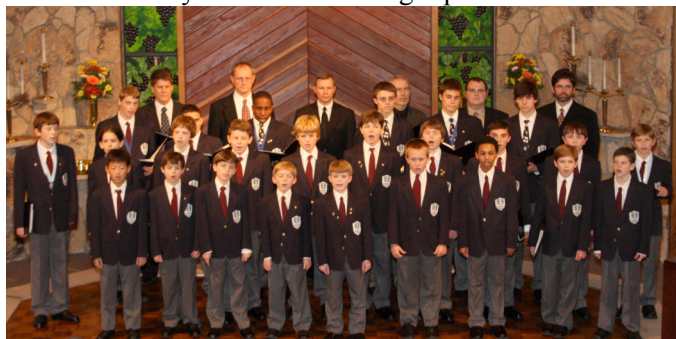
# Bravo!

The Newsletter of the Boychoir of Ann Arbor  
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www.aaboychoir.org  
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### ***Enriching the lives of boys who love to sing...***

We knew our son liked to sing, but until he joined the Boychoir of Ann Arbor, I'm not sure he realized quite how wonderful singing is and how interesting and challenging vocal music can be. At first, he was concerned about long rehearsals and wondered if he could make it through them; now he wonders how they fly by so fast. I remember him struggling to learn a complex German song and being frustrated by the rhythm and pronunciation; then I remember watching his face light up as he performed the piece with the choir and realizing how amazing it sounded. From this moment on, he, and we, were "hooked." Dr. Strode believes his choristers can sing challenging and rewarding music, and this faith, I'm convinced, gives boys the confidence to try things that are harder than they would have thought possible.



My son has developed wonderful friendships through the Boychoir. The boys come from diverse backgrounds and perspectives, yet this group of energetic, bright, curious, talented, and, yes, occasionally mischievous boys can come together as a team and demonstrate the beauty of the universal quality of music: bringing boys together in a love of music and in the power of song.

### ***Enriching the cultural life of our community...***

The Boychoir of Ann Arbor was invited to perform for a Veterans and Military Appreciation Concert on the Sunday before Veteran's Day in Hamburg, Michigan.



Watching the solemnity that came over the boys as they paraded in to the sanctuary behind the honor guard with flags was quite moving. They sang their hearts out and poured their music into the sanctuary, touching the hearts of the capacity audience. As a parent, I was both humbled and proud that my son was part of this event honoring our veterans and those currently serving our country.

I believe that the more you give to an organization, the better it is, for everyone, and I certainly have experienced this as a Boychoir parent. I have truly enjoyed getting to know many of the other parents, and I have to add thank you, thank you, to all those who help proctor practices, sort music, help with mailings, fit uniforms, chaperone trips, and all the many tasks that make it possible for the Boychoir to function. The staff deserves all the help they can get from us as they are clearly doing it not for the modest remuneration, but because they truly believe in the value of this experience for our boys.

My current volunteer role with the Boychoir is as a board member. As such, I would be remiss if I didn't share with you that the board and the staff have been working hard to ensure that the Boychoir manages its limited resources thoughtfully. Numerous budget items, even including accompanists and new music purchases, have been reduced or eliminated in efforts to keep the Boychoir viable. In the face of economic realities, the staff, board, and parent volunteers will continue to do all we can to continue to provide the quality music education and choral performance opportunities that we all value so much, for our community, and for the boys.

– Jeannette Jackson

## ***"A Boychoir Christmas"***



Join us for the 23rd annual presentation of *A Boychoir Christmas*. This year's program features some wonderful new pieces: "Glory to the Christ Child," an energetic and rhythmic burst of joy from the pen of Alan Bullard; and a beautiful French baroque work, "Salve puerule" by Marc-Antoine Charpentier. As in recent years, alumni will once again be invited to join the choir for "Tomorrow shall be my dancing day" by John Gardner, a setting that has been performed at every Boychoir of Ann Arbor Christmas concert for over 20 years!

### Upcoming Boychoir of Ann Arbor Events

<http://www.aaboychoir.org/upcoming.html>

- Nov. 29** 3:15 p.m. – Singing outside Hill Aud.  
**Dec. 11** 7:00 p.m. – “A Boychoir Christmas”  
First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti  
**Dec. 12** 3:00 p.m. – “A Boychoir Christmas”  
First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor  
**Dec. 13** 5:00 p.m. – “A Boychoir Christmas”  
First Presbyterian Church of Howell  
**Feb. 16** 7:00 p.m. – Kaleidoscope Concert Series  
Silver Maples of Chelsea  
**Mar. 21** 4:00 p.m. – St. James Church. Dexter  
**June 6** 4:00 p.m. – Spring Concert  
**June 8** 7:00 p.m. – Joint Concert with Fort Bend  
Boys Choir (TX)

Purchase tickets for “A Boychoir Christmas” online at [aaboychoir.org](http://aaboychoir.org), from a chorister, or at the door. We also take reservations online, by email [tickets@aaboychoir.org](mailto:tickets@aaboychoir.org) or phone (734-663-5377). Order your tickets today!

### Meet our new Assistant Music Director



A native of Milan, Michigan, Alex Sutton recently earned his B.Mus. in Music Education (high honors) from the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre, and Dance. He has studied conducting with Paul Rardin and Jerry Blackstone, voice with Caroline Helton, and choral music curricula with Julie Skadsem. During his time at Michigan, Alex served as music director for the Michigan Pops Orchestra, where he was responsible for the artistic

direction, programming, and conducting the 100-member symphony orchestra.

In addition to his responsibilities as Assistant Music Director of the Boychoir of Ann Arbor, Alex sings with the UMS Choral Union, and teaches music for the Ypsilanti Boys Preparatory Academy.

Bryan Zaros, our previous assistant, graduated from the University of Michigan in May 2009 and landed a new position as Director of Choral Activities at a boys' boarding school in Connecticut. We wish him all the best!

### Did you know?

Are you on Facebook? We are! Become a fan today!  
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Boychoir-of-Ann-Arbor/68244257861>  
We are also registered with Facebook Causes.

**facebook** <http://apps.facebook.com/causes/56542>

### You could be helping the Boychoir when you shop:



**Kroger Community Rewards:** Register your Kroger Plus card to support the Boychoir, and every time you scan your card at the register, Kroger donates a percentage of your purchase to the Boychoir! It's that easy.

<http://krogercommunityrewards.com> NPO # 82892

Got scrip? Purchase gift cards to use for your regular and holiday shopping and your ordinary spending can help support the Boychoir at no extra cost to you!

<http://shopwithscrip.com> Boychoir code 8D2C188F368



**iGive.com** Start your online shopping at [igive.com](http://www.igive.com) and a portion of your purchase goes to the Boychoir!

<http://www.igive.com/Boychoir>

### Yes! I want to help ensure the future of the Boychoir!

\$1000  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please allocate my gift to:  Operating Expenses  Scholarships  Tour Fund  
 Endowment Fund  Wherever needed  \_\_\_\_\_

*Many companies match employee donations; ask your employer for details. United Way contributions may also be designated for the Boychoir.*

Please make checks payable to Boychoir of Ann Arbor. We now also accept VISA, Mastercard and Discover.  
Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV# \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

- Please send me 2 tickets for “A Boychoir Christmas” as a premium benefit with my donation of \$50 or more.  
 Thanks, but no tickets needed, please use my full donation to help support the Boychoir of Ann Arbor.

- Please update my contact information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send information to [office@aaboychoir.org](mailto:office@aaboychoir.org) or mail to:

**The Boychoir of Ann Arbor**  
1100 North Main Street, Suite 215  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

*The Boychoir of Ann Arbor is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible as allowable by law.*