



toronto **children's** chorus
Elise Bradley, Artistic Director

Inspiring

our children and our global audience through excellence in song



Giving Opportunities



Message from the Artistic Director

I am honoured and privileged to be the Artistic Director of the Toronto Children's Chorus. While my home country is New Zealand, I ventured to Canada in 2007 for the opportunity to work with this organization because I knew what an incredible gift it is to countless children, families and audiences.



I am very passionate about teaching children and I am very passionate about music education. Every year, we inspire more than 300 children and youth through the study of the choral arts. We help build not only their skills in singing, theory and sight-singing, but also their self-confidence and their understanding of what it means to be contributing members of their community. We teach the children that achieving excellence requires hard work, dedication and discipline. They learn about leadership, responsibility and accountability while experiencing the special joys and friendships that participation in a choir provides. They learn life skills that take them beyond the rehearsal hall and into their adult lives—as ambassadors of music, and as citizens of the world.

This organization's 39-year legacy of artistic excellence is internationally recognized. Our professional artistic team is dedicated to expanding the choir's musical and educational boundaries through innovative teaching models, wide-ranging repertoire that bridges languages and cultures, and unique life-changing performance opportunities.

I invite you to join us as an audience member, supporter and advocate of the tremendous work that these children - and this organization - accomplish each and every season.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elise Bradley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elise Bradley
Artistic Director

“Let the music win.”





toronto children's chorus

Our History

Founded in 1978, the Toronto Children's Chorus is recognized as one of the finest treble choirs in the world. The Chorus is committed to the enrichment of children's lives through the discipline, teamwork and unique camaraderie of fine choral singing. The unparalleled music education and life-changing opportunities to perform exceptional music in local, national and international venues help to promote the personal welfare, growth and a portfolio of life skills that prepare children to become effective citizens.

The TCC offers artistic excellence, character-building experiences and leadership opportunities while nurturing musical academic and individual achievement. For nearly four decades, the TCC has built a musical education structure that includes sight singing, theory training, master classes and workshops with expert clinicians while offering exceptional performance opportunities and collaborations with professional groups such as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. The choir's vast repertoire embraces diverse cultures and traditions and covers an extensive range of musical genres. The TCC has commissioned many new Canadian works that have greatly influenced the treble voice repertoire.

Our Beliefs

WE BELIEVE IN:

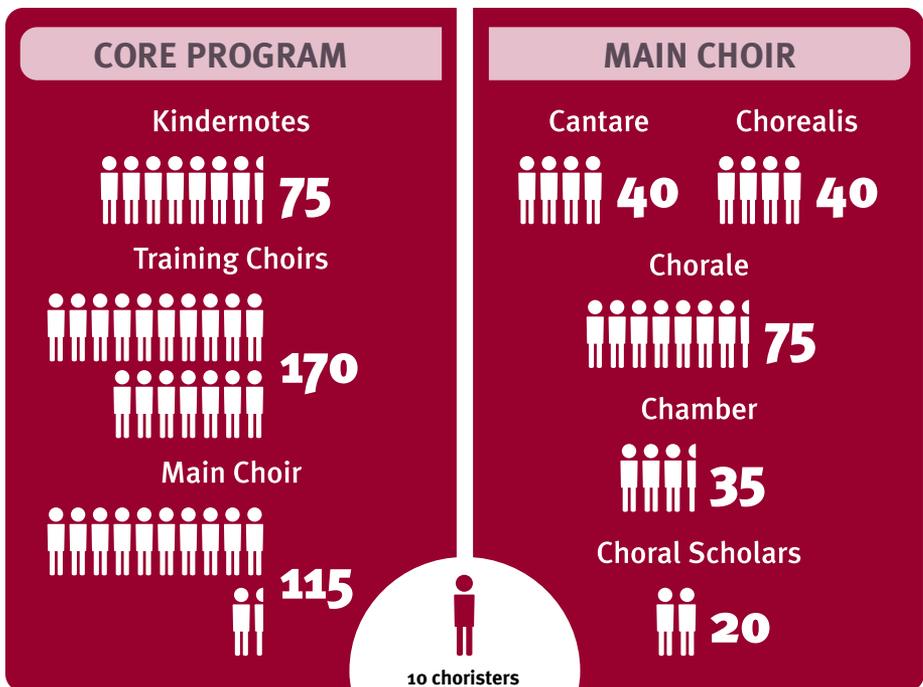
- ◆ Creating one of the finest treble choirs in the world through continuous learning, improvement, and personal growth;
- ◆ Providing unique musical and educational opportunities to children and youth, offering life enhancing experiences through the study and performance of the choral art;
- ◆ Performing the finest repertoire and championing Canadian works and new commissions;
- ◆ Performing and recording in Canada and around the world;
- ◆ Creating a respectful and collaborative environment that supports the wellbeing of children and families;
- ◆ Fostering a love and appreciation of music in our local, national, and world communities.





Toronto Children's Chorus Today

Over 300 children and youth register each year in the Toronto Children's Chorus. From ages 3 to 17, our choristers sing in one of 11 choirs in our program.



What Makes Us Unique

Research has proven the undeniable benefits of music-making on children's cognition, self-esteem, and academic ability.

Singing is the most natural and most accessible form of music-making, which allows any child to participate. There is no need to rent or purchase an instrument — the child's voice is the instrument. Group singing in particular enhances social development as it builds community, friendship and discipline.

The youngest children in the TCC begin in our introductory Kindernotes program for ages 3 to 6, followed by our Training Choirs, which offer children 6 and older the opportunity establish foundational skills in healthy vocal technique, ear-training and basic stage performance. Choristers progress into the senior divisions, collectively known as Main Choir, in which they develop ever-stronger skills in vocal technique, sightsinging and theory. Across the core program, children attend intensive music camps and numerous workshops with guest educators who specialize in a range of topics including pronunciation, movement and dance choreography. Main Choir members can also audition to join the prestigious Chamber Choir and Choral Scholars, which tour nationally and internationally.

CHORAL ACADEMY

Artistic Director Elise Bradley has expanded chorister opportunities for vocal training and extended the core program to include older youth and alumni. The Choral Academy at TCC features:

- ◆ Boys' Choir, combining all boys from across the core program
- ◆ RCM Theory Instruction and RCM Music History Instruction
- ◆ Theory support program for choristers entering the Main Choir
- ◆ The Toronto Youth Choir (SATB) for young singers and TCC alumni ages 17-30
- ◆ Vocal Academy featuring solo instruction, master classes and performance opportunities under the direction of Dr. Darryl Edwards (Associate Professor: Voice Studies, University of Toronto)
- ◆ Small-group lessons with Dr. Darryl Edwards for the members of TCC's elite Choral Scholars

Throughout the years since its founding, the Toronto Children's Chorus has become a model for children's choirs worldwide.





Award-Winning Performances

The Toronto Children's Chorus is internationally recognized for its uniquely challenging and eclectic treble repertoire that spans diverse cultures, languages, traditions and musical genres.

The Chorus has commissioned over forty new works that have enriched the treble voice repertoire, many of which appear on its vast catalogue of recorded albums. The Chorus' latest CD, *Sounzscapes: From Our Lands* - a juxtaposition of contemporary and First Nations music from Canada and New Zealand - received Choral Canada's national award as 'Outstanding Choral Recording' in 2014.





Sydney Opera House, Australia



Musikverein, Austria



Royal Albert Hall, England

International Reputation

Over the course of its history, the Chorus has won numerous competitions, notably the International Eisteddfod in Wales and the CBC, Kathaumixw, and Let the Peoples Sing competitions in Canada. The choir has also performed at many revered venues, including Vienna's Musikverein, the Haydn Hall in Eisenstadt, the Berlin Dom, Cape Town's St. George's Cathedral, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and Royal Albert Hall. Celebrated guest conductors include Sir Andrew Davis, Krzysztof Penderecki, Sir Simon Rattle, and Helmuth Rilling among many others.

In addition to demanding annual concert seasons, these young choral ambassadors have represented Toronto and Canada on 28 international and 6 national tours. Since 2011, the Chorus has performed at:

- ◆ the 6th Melodia Festival in Rio de Janeiro with additional performances in Buenos Aires
- ◆ the 9th World Choral Symposium in Puerto Madryn, Argentina
- ◆ the Adolf Fredrik Music School's international festival, 'Let the Future Sing' in Stockholm, Sweden
- ◆ Podium 2012 (Ottawa) & Podium 2014 (Halifax), the Canadian biennial national conference for choral conductors
- ◆ Ihlombe! South African Choral Festival in Soweto, also performing in Pretoria, Cape Town and Johannesburg
- ◆ 9 concert collaborations in Russia, the Baltics and Poland
- ◆ UNESCO's Songbridge Festival for Music and Peace, representing Canada

In 2017, the Chorus will be once again representing Canada at the 11th World Choral Symposium to be held in Barcelona, Spain.



Every Child Has a Voice

Toronto Children's Chorus performances set the benchmark for artistry and excellence among children's choirs worldwide. Our children are honoured to perform in the most celebrated venues, presenting new Canadian works and commissions to educate audiences, mentor other children's choirs and discover global histories and cultures.

TOUR TO BOSTON & NEW YORK, 2016

"Billeting with other choristers in Boston was really special, because there is so much more common ground between us, and we know that every one of us deeply values singing, which is why we joined choirs! Seeing and learning from their musically dynamic performances was a humbling experience."

- Georgia L., TCC Chorister (2007-2016)
Head Chorister 2015-2016

TOUR TO RUSSIA, THE BALTICS AND POLAND, 2015

"We began our day with heading out to see the city of Warsaw. Our first stop was to Lazienki Park where we took a group photo around the famous Frederic Chopin statue. The park was filled with flowers and was stunning.

We continued our way to the picturesque Historic Centre of Warsaw, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is hard to believe this city was once destroyed and now, and 70 years later has been completely rebuilt.

After a wonderful tour of the Historic Centre, it was time for our rehearsal at the most incredible church, the Church of the Holy Cross. Chopin's heart is buried here and it was an amazing space to sing in....The music filled the beautiful church and brought some people to tears. And I have to say I did cry walking off stage.

After the concert, we got to the hotel and had a very nice and meaningful conversation with Ms. Bradley about our performance and this put us in a great mood as we went off to bed."

- Annick R., TCC Chorister (2007-2015)



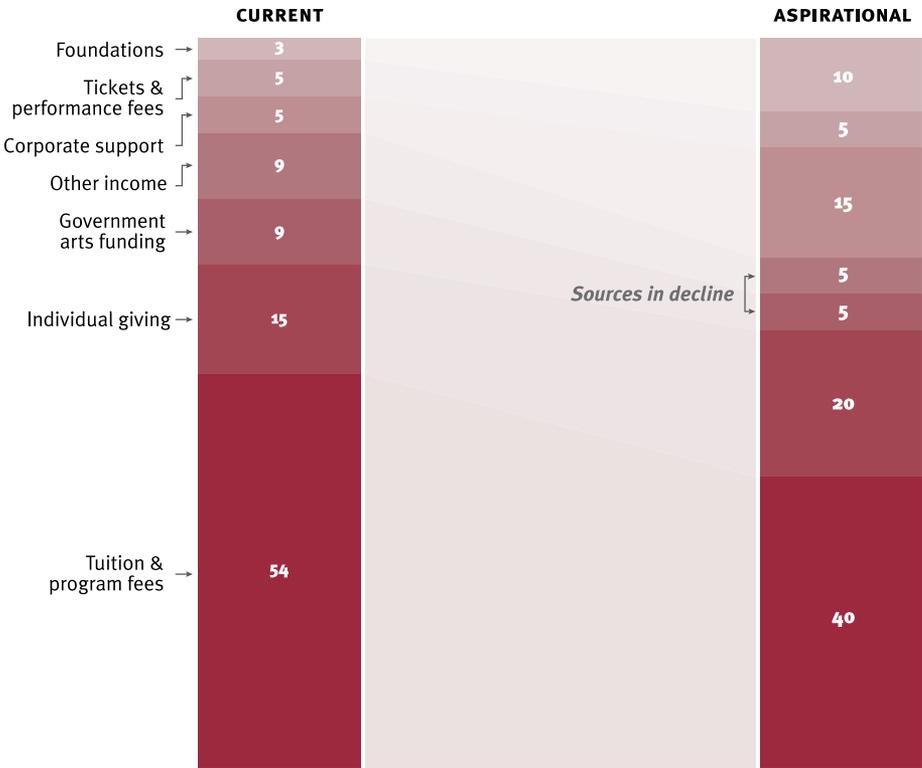


Toronto Children's Chorus Chamber Choir with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, New York, March 2016





Organizational Funding Structure



In percentages.





Chorus Operating Funds

The TCC's current operations rely heavily on program fees paid by our participants. Chorister families pay a tuition fee each year in addition to other fees for music camps, workshops and tours. Upholding the choir's standard of excellence and basic operations, however, would not be possible from tuition fees alone. The TCC must also secure a variety of funding resources to maintain our current activity level.

Today, there are many trends in arts funding that are impacting our operating success. These trends include cut-backs in government agency funding, shrinking disposable household income and changing dynamics in corporate giving. The TCC seeks to further diversify its funding sources to promote organizational stability and improved program accessibility in one of Canada's most multicultural cities.

To better support and serve our new and returning chorister families, we aim to:

- ◆ decrease Tuition & program fees paid by families from 54% of annual operating revenue to 40%;
- ◆ increase our funding from the private sector, foundations and individual donors by approximately 22%.





Why We Need Your Support

Your donation or sponsorship will support the organization's primary areas of need to ensure the best experience for children, families and audiences. The TCC is committed to delivering the highest standard of musical education and performance for which the Chorus is internationally acclaimed.

SUPPORT ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

Music Library ♦ Music Commissions ♦ Artistic Collaborations ♦ Recordings

SUPPORT CHORISTER DEVELOPMENT

Tuition bursary support ♦ Music camp ♦ Vocal training ♦ Leadership opportunities

SUPPORT OUTREACH

Recruitment ♦ Concerts for schools ♦ Regional festivals ♦ Community music concerts

SUPPORT OPERATIONS

Production equipment ♦ Teaching tools ♦ Office technology ♦ Chorister supplies



What People say about the Toronto Children's Chorus

"The Toronto Children's Chorus means standing up at a concert and singing your best, making beautiful music that other people can also enjoy."

– Melissa W., chorister, age 11

"The choir is my other family. It is everything to me. The friendships, the values, the discipline, the pride, the feeling of belonging are all part of it."

– Laura H., chorister, age 15

"The TCC has been a haven to run to, my hope, my joy; it has given me friends, memories and experiences I will never forget; and it has helped me to become a better person."

– Diana C., chorister, age 17

"A children's choir breathes life into the musical soul of a city. Without children, there would be no future. Without choirs, how could we give voice to our souls? The Toronto Children's Chorus symbolizes the gifts of life, soul, and music. Long may it shine in Toronto and beyond."

– John Rutter, Composer/Conductor



Ways to Give

SEASON SPONSORSHIP

(available for Individuals and Organizations)

Opportunity & Investment	Description & Benefits
Premium Season Presenter \$35,000	Enjoy top recognition as season presenter in all season materials for the highest levels of priority visibility, complimentary tickets and customizable marketing activation
Lead Season Player \$15,000	Receive lead recognition in all concert season materials, complimentary tickets and customizable marketing activation
Supporting Season Player \$10,000	Receive supporting recognition in all concert season materials, complimentary tickets and customizable marketing activation
Concert Player \$5,000	Sponsor an individual TCC concert for visibility, complimentary tickets and opportunities for cross-promotion
Concert Associate \$2,500	Become a listed sponsor for visibility, complimentary tickets and an opportunity for cross-promotion

SPECIAL PROJECT GIVING

Opportunity & Investment	Description & Benefits
Performance Tour Sponsor \$25,000 and up	Enjoy exclusive title support of a national or international TCC tour and the high-value associated with the TCC's global stature and lead position in its field
Choral Music Library Sponsor \$15,000	Support the richness and diversity of our +1000 title collection of choral repertoire for exclusive recognition, complimentary tickets and customizable marketing activation
Presenting Event Sponsorship \$15,000 and up	Enjoy exclusive title support of our annual fundraising event or a special performance and be recognized for your support of a distinguished performance and education program
Youth & Community Engagement Presenter \$10,000	Support community performance initiatives across the GTA in identified neighbourhoods with key local music partners and receive exclusive program presenting benefits



CONTINUO CIRCLE - MEMBERSHIP GIVING

Continuo Circle members support our ongoing legacy of artistic excellence through generous annual gifts of \$1000+ and enjoy exclusive privileges including recognition, VIP seating, special access to TCC events and more. Individual donors receive charitable tax receipts

Platinum Patron	\$10,000 and up
Artistic Director Patron	\$5,000-\$9,999
Continuo Patron	\$1,000-\$4,999

BURSARY PROGRAM GIVING

Bursary Program supporters provide direct gifts of support through program fee subsidies to choristers who demonstrate financial need. Customized activation and sponsorship benefits available. Individual donors receive charitable tax receipts.

Tuition Bursary Sponsor <i>(Supports 8-10 choristers)</i>	\$10,000 and up
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Tour Bursary Sponsor <i>(Supports 8-10 choristers)</i>	\$15,000 and up
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Performance Tour Gift <i>(Supports 2-5 choristers)</i>	\$5,000
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Music Camp & Tuition Gift <i>(Supports 2-3 choristers)</i>	\$3,500
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Tuition Gift <i>(Supports 3-4 choristers)</i>	\$2,500
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The Concerts

Every season the Chorus presents a minimum of 5 professional concert presentations and makes anywhere from 10-25 appearances at public and private events.

- ◆ Each and every chorister is given the unique opportunity to perform in professional venues with top artists including Roy Thomson Hall (Annual Holiday Concert) and the Toronto Centre for the Arts (Annual Spring Concert)
- ◆ High-caliber performance experiences leave positive lasting impressions on choristers, inspiring self-confidence and a love of choral art

2015-2016 – MUSIC OF THE SPHERES – 38TH CONCERT SEASON

The 2015-2016 season features:

- ◆ A repertoire of +100 songs in 5 different languages from 18 countries and 6 different continents
- ◆ Guest artist appearances with internationally renowned NEXUS percussion ensemble, Canadian baritones **James Westman** and **Russell Braun** and Canadian mezzo-soprano and Chorus Alumna, **Krisztina Szabó**
- ◆ Community concerts at **Princess Margaret Hospital** and in **Regent Park**
- ◆ Holiday appearances at the **Gardiner Museum**, **Art Gallery of Ontario**, **Canada AM** and the City of Toronto's **Cavalcade of Lights**
- ◆ Performance at the Choirs of America Nationals festival competition at **Carnegie Hall** (New York), preceded by a special engagement in Boston with the **Boston City Singers**



James Westman



Krisztina Szabó



Russell Braun

Still to come in 2015-2016:

- ◆ June 16 – Bloomsday Rejoicing celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Irish novelist James Joyce with guests the Irish Youth Choir from Dublin, Ireland
- ◆ June 26 – From the Prairies to the Cities, TCC hosts the Grand Prairies Boys Choir, regarded as one of Alberta's highest-quality professional voice and training programs



2016-2017 – IN PEACE AND CELEBRATION – 39TH CONCERT SEASON

In addition to our annual season activities, the children prepare for special performances next year with some of Toronto's most distinguished professional artists.

- ◆ September 28-29, 2016 – Mahler's *3rd Symphony* with the **Toronto Symphony Orchestra**
- ◆ October 20-29, 2016 – Opera Atelier's season performance of *Dido and Aeneas* with Canadian vocal stars Wallis Giunta (mezzo-soprano) and Christopher Enns (tenor)
- ◆ June 21 & 24, 2017 – Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the **Toronto Symphony Orchestra**
- ◆ July 22-29, 2017 – Representing Canada at the **11th World Choral Symposium** in Barcelona, Spain





Training Choir Choristers, 2010-2011 Season



toronto children's chorus

Elise Bradley, Artistic Director

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For more information about your giving opportunities,
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