



SPRING NEWSLETTER 2022

As I write this, the world is aching under the strain of war in Ukraine, Climate Change and the long-term effects of Covid. I wonder, how can we “have fun”, “make music”, “enjoy fellowship”, when so many of our global community are worrying about their next meal, their next breath....

I have no answers, except to make music. The Lansing Children’s Choir strives to be a place of comfort, a place of acceptance, a place of healing....

If you are cis-gendered, binary, questioning, male or female – We Welcome You.

If you have one parent, two parents, grandparents, guardians – We Welcome You.

If you are labeled as “ADHD”, “Cutter”, “On the Spectrum” – We Welcome You.

If you like Anime, Graphic Novels, Bo Burnham - We Welcome You.

If your family loves your singing & arts, if your family doesn’t understand your singing or art – We Welcome You.

The Lansing Children’s Choir is excited to be the managing partner of **M.A.D.D. Camp** this year (MADD = Music.Art.Drama.Dance.). Our **FREE summer camp runs from July 11-15** and could not have been made possible without the financial support of the **Michigan Council of Arts and Cultural Affairs Mini-grant Program (administered by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing)**. Find more info at our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/MaddCampLansing>.

MADD Camp is embracing the theme of “Circus” this year...where all talents are welcome! We hope that you can either join us or help us (financially or with volunteer hours) as we bring this bright light of “art” to the city of Lansing this summer.

Warmest regards,
Megan Hagle
Artistic Director



P.S. If you are looking for additional ways to help, consider a Yard Sign (Ms. Megan’s is easy to see in Delta Township!) or a window sticker. Thank You.



This activity is supported in part by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing.

*Notes from the Executive Director –
Ben English*



This group of singers is special. Don't get me wrong. I've enjoyed every iteration of the Lansing Children's Choir and feel so fortunate to have been able to work with so many wonderful choristers over the years. But it is especially evident to me that these young musicians have a passion and love for music. Their commitment to attending weekly rehearsals and participating fully when here is evident in how wonderfully they are making music. But beyond that, these choristers don't just come to make music; they also make friends.

I was speaking with a friend recently about the Lansing Children's Choir. My friend asked what my "why" was for being a part of the choir. I started telling him our mission statement. He stopped me and asked, "No, you personally." I told him that my best friends and especially my wife are in my life as a direct result of making music together. Whether through musical theater or through choral music, when one participates in making music, one already shares a common goal. There is a common desire and common interest. Making music is a powerful experience. When my friend, Megan, the Artistic Director, gathers the choristers together before a concert, she tells them that what they will be doing during this concert has never been done and will never be done again. It is a unique experience for this group of singers, to perform these songs, for these people.

So, while I don't expect everyone in the choir to be lifelong friends, I hope that by making music together, they will remember the special and unique experience they get to share together.

A Message from the President of the Board of Directors – Kathe Smith

Again this year, the Lansing Children's Choir has put together another season of music for children in the greater Lansing area. Ben English and Megan Higle do not just sing songs with the children and youth each Wednesday evening; they build a community of young people eager to learn about music and to SING out! There is time to be silly and time to learn their craft. Ben and Megan choose music that is a bit challenging, but always fun and rewarding in the end. After a year of ZOOM singing, the children are masked and singing together again. We, and they, are happy to have to the opportunity to show what they can do through the Lansing Children's Choir. **Come to the Spring Concert on Saturday, May 7, 2022 and cheer on these special choristers!**

Lansing Children's Choir Board of Directors: Kathe Smith, Kathy Banghart, Miranda Hartmann, George Bennett, Renee Hall and Chelsea Hare-West

Artistic Team: Megan Higle, Artistic Director; Ben English, Executive Director, Elene Kobulashvili, Accompanist

Lansing Children's Choir 2022 Calendar

Spring Concert

Saturday, May 7
4:00 PM

Choir Potluck

Wednesday, May 11

MADD Camp

July 11 - 15
9:30 - 3:30

8th Season Begins

Wednesday, September 7

Lungut's Game – Sing the National Anthem

Saturday, September 10



Donations are gratefully accepted through our website (lansingchildrenschoir.org) or by check/ cash to Lansing Children's Choir, 510 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, MI 48933.