

NJYC Harmony Newsletter - April 2018

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NJYC Harmony *April 2018*

Recent Highlights



Coriste's performance at the Choirs of America **2018 Choral Convergence Festival** on April 14 was nothing short of spectacular. They received the first perfect score in the history of the festival! The audience response at the concert was also quite jubilant. To quote one member:

The New Jersey Youth Chorus was in a class of its own. In addition to a great program, the young women sang from the heart and with passion. There was soul and pride there. They used the full dynamic range, and when the piece called for it, they sang for the rafters with joy in their faces.

Upcoming NJYC Events

Friday, May 18
Dorney Park
Allentown, PA
Primo Coro
High Note Festival

Sunday, May 20
3:00 PM
Ridge High School,
Basking Ridge
All Choirs
NJYC Spring Concert
Tickets can be purchased [here](#).

Saturday, June 9
Chatham, NJ
Primo Coro
Performance at
Fishawack Festival

Congratulations to all the choristers and Mrs. Joyce!



Camerata and Coro Vivo performed for the residents of Fellowship Village on Sunday, April 22nd, much to the delight of all involved. Fellowship Village is an assisted living facility in Basking Ridge, NJ.

Monday, June 18
Carnegie Hall, NYC
Coro Vivo

Masterwork Festival
Chorus Concert

Tickets can be purchased [here](#).

June 24-28
Jacksonville, FL
Sola Voce

Jacksonville Children's
Choir Festival

2018-2019 Auditions

Auditions are currently being scheduled for our 2018-19 Season. Please help us get the word out! To find and print the flier below, click [here](#).

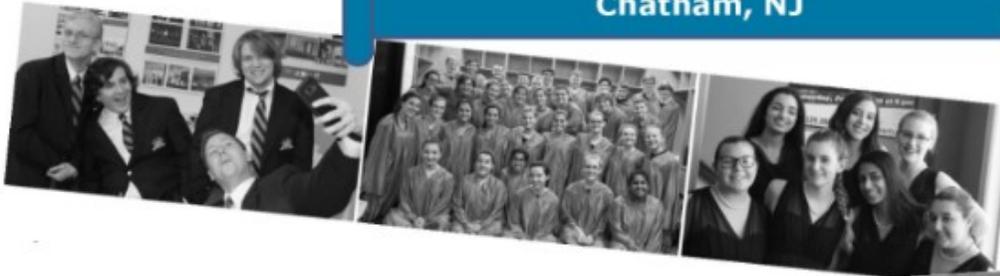
NEW JERSEY
NJYC
YOUTH CHORUS

AUDITIONS

AVAILABLE NOW
TO BOYS & GIRLS IN GRADES 3 THRU 11
FOR 2018-19 SEASON

Rehearsals & Audition Location:
Chatham United Methodist Church
460 Main Street

460 Main Street
Chatham, NJ



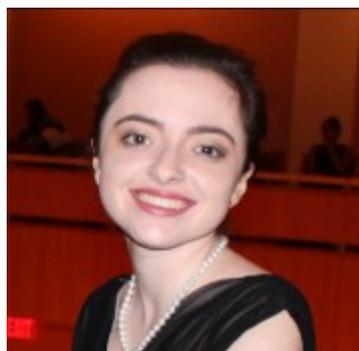
TO LEARN MORE & SCHEDULE AN AUDITION APPOINTMENT:
njyouthchorus.org · admin@njyouthchorus.org
973-998-5670
SCHEDULING DEADLINE TUESDAY MAY 29, 2018

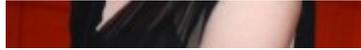
OneVoice Annual Appeal



Only 75% of our operating costs are covered by tuition. It is only through the generosity of our supporters that NJYC can continue to offer the highest level of festival, performance and educational opportunities to our choristers. **So far we have raised only 63% of our 2017-18 goal.** We need your help. You can make a donation or find mailing instructions on the [One Voice page](#) of the NJYC website. Thank you.

Senior Spotlights





CASEY GRISPIN

How long have you been with NJYC?

I've been in NJYC for 8 years.

What is the best thing about being in it?

The sisterhood I've established with all my fellow choristers.

What is your favorite memory of NJYC?

When my dad was going through cancer treatment in 7th grade, and I was having a very rough time, one of my friends, Mary Kate Wilmot, pulled me aside. She handed me a little box, and inside, was a hand-beaded bracelet with stars and pink beads. She told me that she made it, and it was supposed to give the wearer strength. When it broke, it would mean that I didn't need the strength from the bracelet anymore. I had never received a gift that thoughtful in my life. It broke on stage in the mass practice in Chicago, and Z. Randall Stroope helped me collect my beads. Mary Kate gave me a hug afterwards. Without NJYC, I would have never met Mary Kate, and my support during that hard time would have been so much less powerful than it was.

Do you plan to continue singing after you graduate?

Singing has been part of my life since 4th grade. I don't know how to properly function without it, and I will most likely never stop singing.

Anything else you'd like to say?

Attending NJYC has been one of the best choices I've ever made. Without it, I don't know what I would have done with my Monday nights these past 8 years.

Choir is the sport of people who don't do sports. It provides us with a group activity that promotes bonding in the same way sports does, and that bonding is so important. Without choir, I would not have that group bonding.

NJYC is one of the only places I've been where it is socially acceptable to cry. It is my safe space. The comfort I experience there is like none other. I love NJYC, and I know I can go there if I ever need help.





KATE PARKER-LENTZ

How long have you been with NJYC?

I have been with NJYC for 9 years.

What is the best thing about being in it?

I don't mean to sound cheesy, but I love knowing that as we sing together, our heartbeats synchronize.

What are some of your favorite memories of NJYC?

Of course, the Super Bowl with Queen Latifah when I realized I had peaked as an eighth grader is up there. But some of my favorite moments in NJYC were at rehearsals when a piece finally clicked.

Do you plan to continue singing after you graduate?

Yes! I hope to join an a cappella group or choir when I attend college. I will also continue performing with my sister in our band, The Parkers.

Anything else you'd like to say?

I have been in this choir for more than half my life and I'm so appreciative for this experience. I will look back and cherish every choir trip, every performance, and every friendship I made in this choir. And of course Mrs. Joyce who I was so intimidated by as a fourth grader watching advanced choir on stage during the winter concert. Her passion, musicality, and kindness is something I will always remember when I no longer have to say "no sorry, I have choir".



NICOLE JOHNSON

How long have you been with NJYC?

I have been in the choir for 11 years! I have been told I am the grandma of the group...

What is the best thing about being in it?

There's no one "best thing" because every aspect of the choir keeps me and everyone else coming back year after year. To name a few favorites: the wonderful people I get to share my time with, the crazy amazing experiences we partake in, the music that moves us to tears, and last but not least Mrs. Joyce who inspires us and teaches us new things every week.

What are some of your favorite memories of NJYC?

Some of my favorite memories have been the trips we have taken, in particular the Chicago and Hungry/Austria tours. It was life changing to be able to see new places and sing in areas I'd only every heard of. But I will also always remember the fact that I got to experience this exploration and freedom with some of my best friends.

Do you plan to continue singing after you graduate?

One of the things I learned from NJYC is to never stop singing! So while I'm not going to be studying music, I will definitely join a singing group.

Anything else you'd like to say?

I want to thank Mrs. Joyce and everyone who has made my incredible experience at NJYC possible. I would not be the person I am today without choir and all of the people that I have met here.



RHIANNA BHATIA

How long have you been with NJYC?

I have been with NJYC for two years. However the connections and experiences I've had make me feel like I've known Mrs. Joyce and have sung with these girls for my entire life.

What is the best thing about being in it?

Every Monday evening, I look forward to rehearsal, no matter how terrible my day at school has been. Just seeing Mrs. Joyce and my choir sisters' faces and hearing the vibration of our joint voices is enough to turn any day around.

What is your favorite memory of NJYC?

The summer tour to Budapest and Vienna was an amazing experience! I will never forget riding in our long bus warming up our voices through the hills of Austria and Hungary. During a particular performance, opening my eyes to St. Mark's Basilica in Budapest as we sang Psalm 23, I felt a connection to the international audience in front of me and the rest of NJYC. Though faced with a language barrier, song had conveyed our message.

Do you plan to continue singing after you graduate?

I *definitely* plan to pursue music throughout the rest of my life. Hopefully I will join an a cappella group at UVA and continue to experiment with writing and recording music.

Anything else you'd like to say?

Anything else you'd like to say :

I remember 3 years ago during this time, I had **laryngitis** a week before my NJYC audition and was terribly nervous for the audition. I am so glad my parents pushed me to get better and go to the audition. I can't imagine my life without this choir! I will never forget my choir family and hope to always come back and sit in on rehearsals and performances.



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