



Performing Small Miracles



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About Us



The Houston Children's Chorus was founded in 1989 by Stephen Roddy. The Chorus involves over 150 children in grades 2 through 8 by annual audition. In the first year of its existence the Chorus performed for over 15,000 people in events including the 1990 World Economic Summit and the UNICEF Gala with Audrey Hepburn and Michael Tilson Thomas. The annual audience for the Chorus numbers in the tens of thousands.

Education is the primary purpose of the Chorus. Its goal is to teach children to achieve high artistic standards through choral singing and performance. The Chorus provides the Houston community with a major children's choral group, celebrating the diversity of Houston's population. Chorus membership encourages personal growth, teamwork, discipline, confidence and self-control.

Members of the Chorus represent all ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. Students come from every school district of the Houston area, private schools and home schools.

The Houston Children's Chorus has performed all around the world. Over the years, Chorus groups have presented concerts in Russia, England, Scotland, Italy, Hong Kong, Japan, China, New Zealand, Mexico, and Taiwan. Domestically, HCC has performed several times at Carnegie Hall in New York City and toured a number of states. Most recently, a performance residency was held New England, with concerts in Boston, Maine, New York and the Poconos in Pennsylvania.

The Chorus has performed for the President of the U.S. over 28 times, including the 1992 Republican

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, Dec. 1, 6:00pm
Concert Choir sings for Mayor's Tree Lighting, City Hall.

Thursday, Dec. 7 6:00pm
Concert Choir sings for annual "Santa's Elves" fundraiser for M D Anderson Cancer Center.

Saturday, December 16, 5:00pm
"Kids & Christmas" Pops Concert
Stude Concert Hall, Rice Univ

Sunday, December 17, 4:00 and 6:00pm
"Concert of Sacred Christmas Music"
Chapel of Villa De Matel Convent

Sunday, December 24, 4:00pm
Concert Choir sings for

Convention and the 2005 Bush/Clinton Tsunami Relief Fund Celebration. Civic performances include the Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony and numerous civic ceremonies for world leaders. The Chorus performs with the Houston Symphony and has been featured in their annual Christmas Pops Concert, Carmina Burana, The Matrix, and several performances of The Lord of the Rings. The Houston Masterworks Chorus, Cantare and the Rice University Orchestra and Chorale have all performed with the Chorus in various concerts through the years. Soloists from the Chorus have performed with the Houston Grand Opera, Theater Under the Stars, and the Alley Theater. Alumni from the Chorus have been finalists and winners in "American Idol," Metropolitan Opera auditions, Hollywood movies, and Broadway musicals.

Celebrities calling upon the Chorus to perform include Celine Dion, The Beach Boys, Lee Greenwood, Tommy Tune, Randy Travis, Marilyn McCoo, Dionne Warwick, Peabo Bryson, Roberta Flack, Shirley Jones, Josh Groban, Larry Gatlin, Susan Graham, Sarah Chang, and Maureen McGovern. Memorable performances

were the opening gala concerts for the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Houston, recording the BlueBell Ice Cream commercial for radio and television, and singing with Josh Groban at the 2004 Super Bowl.

Fred Bock Music Company of California has printed over one million copies of the "Houston Children's Chorus Choral Series," a collection of anthems for churches and schools. Several compact discs featuring the Chorus have been produced by the Fred Bock Company.

The Houston Children's Chorus is known throughout Houston and the State of Texas for their diversity in membership and repertoire. They perform all types of music, from classical to pop, by memory. The Chorus is constantly in demand for weddings, gala fundraisers, ribbon-cutting ceremonies, church services, corporate events, radio and television commercials, recordings and civic events. It is the goal of the Houston Children's Chorus to make singing accessible to every child in the Houston area regardless of race or economic status.

The affairs of the Houston Children's Chorus are managed by its Board of Directors, comprised of individuals from a cross-section of the community. The Board oversees financial and legal aspects of the Chorus. Stephen Roddy, Founder & Director, conducts all concerts and oversees the artistic aspects of the Houston Children's Chorus.

Alumni

- Our alumni excel in local high school choruses, and many are accepted at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts
- Our alumni have sung on Broadway, appeared in movies, been finalists on American Idol, and excelled in Metropolitan Opera competitions and other performances.

Christmas Eve Mass at
Co-Cathedral of the Sacred
Heart, Houston

Summer, 2018

Tentative Concert Tour to
China



Chorus

- Performances for former President and Mrs. George W. Bush, former President and Mrs. George H. W. Bush, and former President Bill Clinton
- Regular performances with the Houston Symphony and the Houston Symphony Pops
- Performed for Super Bowl Opening Ceremonies (2004)
- Performed concerts in New Zealand (1992), Hong Kong (1994), Russia (1997), The Vatican and Italy (1999), England (2000), Japan (2002), Mexico (2002, 2003), New York Carnegie Hall (1997, 2005), China (2008), Taiwan (2011), Canada (2017).
- Thanksgiving Day Parade, Downtown Houston (600,000 in attendance, 16 million on TV)
- Featured at the World Economic Summit (1990)
- Featured in the Republican National Convention (1992)
- Commercials for local networks, Blue Bell Ice Cream, Berber Baby Food, Coca-Cola, SuperCuts, and United Way
- Performed with Broadway touring production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- Performance for the 1998 World Energy Congress
- Performances with Celine Dion, Reba McEntire, Christopher Cross, Ana Maria Martinez, The Tenors, Shirley Jones, Maureen McGovern, Randy Travis, Beach Boys, Tommy Tune, Lee Greenwood, Dionne Warwick, Christopher Cross, Anna Maria Martinez, Yolanda Adams, Reba McEntire, and many other celebrities
- Inaugural ceremonies for Texas Governors and Houston Mayors
- Featured in the opening concert of the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts (1992)
- Mayor's Tree Lighting and Uptown Lighting; televised performances with over 200,000 people in attendance
- Summer Residency Program in Galveston and Mexico

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Our Staff

Stephen Roddy, Founder and Director



Stephen Roddy is the Founder & Director of the 200-voice Houston Children's Chorus. This auditioned group of children represents the very finest of Houston's young musicians. They are frequently called upon to represent Houston at local and worldwide civic and cultural events, including 32 performances for the President of the United States. They perform over 40 concerts each year to an approximate audience of 750,000 people. They are regularly featured with the Houston Symphony and sang as back-up vocals to Josh Groban during the pre-game ceremonies of the Super Bowl in 2004. In 2008, the Children's Chorus performed concerts in the major concert halls of Beijing and Shanghai as part of the 2008 Olympics cultural arts festival. In 2010, The Chorus performed with full orchestra at Carnegie Hall in the

premiere of "Heartsongs," a major composition on the poetry of Mattie Stepanek and commissioned by Houston Children's Chorus.

An accomplished pianist, organist and conductor, Mr. Roddy has conducted state honor choir festivals in Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and Texas. A most recent concert involved 1,500 singers and a 100-piece orchestra at Our Lady of Angels Cathedral in Los Angeles. He is in demand as a children's music recording specialist and has directed or produced recordings for Silver-Burdett Ginn Music

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, Oct. 12 6:00pm
Performance for Houston
Methodist Hospital

Saturday, December 16,
5:00pm
"Kids & Christmas" Pops
Concert
Stude Concert Hall, Rice
Univ

Sunday, December 17, 4:00
and 6:00pm
"Concert of Sacred Christmas
Music"
Chapel of Villa De Matel
Convent

Sunday, December 24,
4:00pm
Sing for Christmas Eve Mass
at
Co-Cathedral of the Sacred
Heart, Houston

Summer, 2018
Tentative Concert Tour to
China

textbooks, Shawnee Press, Lifeway, Fred Bock Music Company, Warner Bros. Music, Blue Bell Ice Cream, Gerber Baby Foods, and United Way. Mr. Roddy has choral compositions published by Fred Bock Music Company, Gentry Publications, Shawnee Press, Harold Flammer, and Hal Leonard.

Prior to the founding of the Houston Children's Chorus, Mr. Roddy served as organist/music associate at First Baptist Church of Houston, First Presbyterian Church, St. Luke's Methodist Church, as well as Tallowood Baptist Church. He was the Director of Music at Grace Presbyterian Church of Houston for 10 years, and recently Director of Traditional Music and Fine Arts at Chapelwood United Methodist.

Mr. Roddy is a native of Dayton, Ohio and Memphis, Tennessee and is a graduate of Auburn University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Texas Foundation for the Arts and on the Advisory Board for the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and Houston Masterworks Chorus.

Stepheny Scott, Director, Preparatory Choir and Music In The Schools



Stepheny A. Scott, a native Houstonian, is an accomplished pianist and teacher whose contributions and reputation have brought her numerous accolades and awards. Her preparatory studies in Houston were with Ms. Jessie Wilson and further private studies with Dr. Charles Rhinehart of Texas Southern University and Dr. Albert Hirsch of University of Houston. As a piano major at University of North Texas, Ms. Scott studied with Margaret Grubb.

In addition to recital performances, Ms. Scott has accompanied such groups as the Houston Ebony Opera Guild and other renowned vocalists and instrumentalists, and she has recorded on Gospel Music Workshop of America releases with major artists. As a

piano instructor, she is known for an intensive teaching approach to grooming piano and vocal students for auditions for performing arts high schools, universities, and music conservatories.

Ms. Scott is a music technician whose skills and knowledge continue to afford her the privilege of serving the community, locally and abroad. Ms. Scott is the mother of two sons – Stephan Andrew Harris, noted Houston musician and songwriter; and Kendrick Allen DeWitt Scott, renowned percussionist and jazz music educator.

Kaylie Kahlich, Vocal Coach and Rehearsal Assistant



Kaylie Kahlich, soprano, is a Houston-based artist with a deep love for the Texas classical music scene. Ms. Kahlich is pleased to join the Houston Children's Chorus family as vocal coach and rehearsal assistant. Ms. Kahlich has a passion for choral music that began as a child in church choirs and community choruses, and is excited share her love of singing with the children of HCC.

Miss Kahlich recently received her Master's Degree in Voice Performance from the University of Houston Moores School of Music as a student of Cynthia Clayton.

While at the Moores Opera Center, Kahlich performed the title role of

Beatriz Rappaccini in Daniel Catán's *La hija de Rappaccini*, Fiordiligi in Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, and the title role in David Carlson's gripping operatic interpretation of Leo Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*.

Ms. Kahlich's summer engagements have included performances of the title role in Donizetti's *Rita* for Operativo Houston's inaugural season, and *Lady Billows* in Britten's comic gem *Albert Herring* with the Miami Summer Music Festival.

Ms. Kahlich earned her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Baylor University under the guidance of Dr. Randall Umstead. While at Baylor, Kaylie performed such roles as Dido in Henry Purcell's Baroque masterpiece *Dido & Aeneas*, *Blanche de la Force* in Francis Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, and Miss Jessel in Benjamin Britten's *The Turn of the Screw* with the Baylor Opera Theater.

A native of Texas, Kahlich has also enjoyed performances with ensembles across the Lone Star State. She has appeared as a soloist with the Texas Baroque Ensemble in both Handel's *Messiah* and Monteverdi's *Vespro della Beata Vergine*. In her hometown of College Station, Ms. Kahlich has been a featured soloist with the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra, including a performance of the beloved "Aria" movement from Heitor Villa-Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5*.

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