

RAISING VOICES

2017-18 ANNUAL REPORT



CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR IS A NON-PROFIT **ORGANIZATION THAT INSPIRES AND UNITES DIVERSE** YOUTH TO BECOME GLOBAL CITIZENS THROUGH MUSIC.

OUR MISSION IS TO INSPIRE AND CHANGE LIVES THROUGH MUSIC.

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RAISING VOICES CAMPAIGN: ELEVATING THE VOICES OF CHICAGO'S YOUTH

Dear Friends.

At Chicago Children's Choir (CCC), the heart of what we do can be summarized by two words: raising voices. Our work is not limited to teaching students how to sing well. In fact, the impact of the training we provide extends far beyond the last note of each concert. Our programs are rooted in the belief that all young people have something valuable to contribute to their community, their city, and the world at large. We empower Chicago's youth by fostering their curiosity, nurturing their personal growth, and widening their worldview through exemplary choral music education. We establish common ground between young people from diverse backgrounds and provide them with the opportunity to create something beautiful together. The result is nothing short of amazing. As Howard Reich wrote in the Chicago Tribune, CCC is an "indispensable institution" for the city of Chicago.

In 2015, CCC made a commitment to create greater opportunities for young people to experience the transformative power of CCC's mission, both now and in the future. To make this vision a reality, CCC undertook the Raising Voices Campaign, a three-year, \$12 million comprehensive fundraising initiative to expand CCC's choral programs throughout Chicago, offer incredible artistic opportunities to our students, and establish an endowment to secure our financial future. The 2017-18 program year marked the public phase of the campaign, and we are grateful to share that your generous support allowed us to exceed our \$12 million goal. Thank you for investing in one of Chicago's most notable approaches to youth development, in an organization that has served as a model for others throughout the country, and most importantly, in the place that raises the voices of Chicago's youth.

In the coming pages, you will learn more about our campaign priorities, as well as our accomplishments during the 2017-18 program year. None of this would be possible without you.

With gratitude,



Josephine Lee President & Artistic Director

RAISING VOICES



David Koo Chairman of the Board

CAMPAIGN PRIORITY

EXPANSION OF CHORAL PROGRAMS



Every child deserves the opportunity to experience the transformative power of music. At CCC, we work tirelessly to offer high quality musical instruction and life-changing experiences to thousands of young people year after year. We are committed to building



Since starting the campaign...

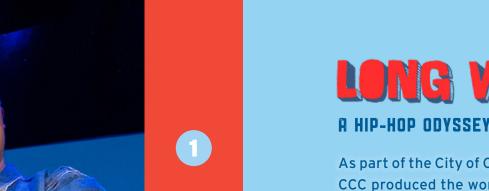
We've increased school partnerships by six schools and plan to add fifteen more by 2021

We've increased enrollment by 500 students and plan to add 1,500 more by 2021 +500

and sustaining partnerships throughout Chicago so that even more students have access to excellence.







3

LONG WAY HOME A HIP-HOP ODYSSEY FOR 21st Century Chicago

As part of the City of Chicago's Year of Creative Youth, CCC produced the world premiere of Long Way Home, a musical adaption of Homer's Odyssey created with the Q Brothers Collective, starring CCC students.

INVESTING IN CREATIVITY

CCC captures the voice of the next generation. CCC was founded on the belief that diverse, creative young people can change the world by uniting their voices in song and performing together at a high level of artistic excellence. We honor this legacy by providing students with life-changing opportunities to work with world-class artists and by creating new, innovative works that resonate with their lives.

3,500 total attendees CCC singers

on stage

SHOWS

Long Way Home was made possible by the Artistic Initiatives Fund of Chicago Children's Choir, an IncentOvate Grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and Allstate Insurance Company. In-kind set design was produced by Kehoe Designs.

CAMPAIGN PRIORITY

ARTISTIC INITIATIVES FUND

2

RAISING VOICES





SOLD-OUT





Milestones in Establishing CCC's Endowment

> \$1,000,000+ **COMMITTED TO ENDOWMENT**

100 + DonorsSEEDED ENDOWMENT

Voice of Tomorrow Circle

CCC'S PLANNED GIVING SOCIETY, INAUGURATED DURING THE PUBLIC PHASE OF THE CAMPAIGN

PRESERVING OUR LEGACY

Since our founding in 1956, CCC has grown from a single choir into "an indispensable institution" (Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune) serving thousands of young people throughout Chicago. For the first time in our history, we have established an endowment to secure our financial future and support our programmatic vision, giving us the confidence to dream bigger and reach higher.

CAMPAIGN PRIORITY

FUND FOR THE FUTURE

RAISING VOICES

THE ELIZABETH MORSE CHARITABLE TRUST MATCHING GRANT CHALLENGE

CCC is grateful to The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust, which generously provided CCC with a two-year, \$500,000 matching grant challenge to seed our endowment with gifts from donors who normally support CCC's annual fund. For individuals who permanently restricted their annual fund contribution to CCC to our endowment, The Trust matched their gift dollar-fordollar with unrestricted funds. For those who increased their contribution, The Trust matched their gift for more than 1:1 based on the donor's past three years of giving. As a result of the matching grant challenge, CCC raised over \$400,000 in cash gifts and \$100,000 in increased gifts for its endowment and received \$500,000 in unrestricted funds from The Trust.

2017-18 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS





TARGET COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES

CCC's Target Community Concert Series, an annual concert initiative, showcased all levels of CCC's programs through five concerts held throughout Chicago. Free and open to the public, the Target Community Concert Series featured hundreds of students from CCC's in-school and after-school programs in Pilsen/Little Village, Beverly, Englewood, Austin, Albany Park, and Hyde Park.



CCC brought together more than 4,000 of our In-School Program students to Orchestra Hall to honor the history and contributions of the black community to our national heritage. Sponsored by Target, this immersive, interdisciplinary concert experience included historical lessons led by CCC's Associate Artistic Director Judy Hanson and performances from the stage by all In-School Program students. To accommodate our program growth, CCC added a third day to the series.



CCC uses music as a vehicle for fostering intercultural understanding. By performing repertoire from other cultures, student embrace cultural difference while also recognizing the qualities that unite all people. In April, CCC brought together over 500 students from our after-school programs for the sixth annual World Music Festival. Students shared repertoire from over 10 countries and presented a concert in the Aon Grand Ballroom at Navy Pier featuring special guest artists, the Medicine Tail Singers.

"I think it's inspiring when children are brought up to think not in terms of nationalities or ethnic groups or languages, but that everything is part of their culture."

-MRIDU SEKHAR, ALUMNI PARENT AND GRANDPARENT

BRINGING *LONG WAY HOME* TO MILLENNIUM PARK

As a central component of this year's Paint the Town Red concert, CCC presented a shortened version of *Long Way Home* featuring all actors and musicians from the world premiere. CCC students in the Pavilion sang and danced along to pieces from the show. DETROIT, MI ENGLEWOOD NCP & AUSTIN NCP; DIMENSION

GRAND RAPIDS, MI ROGERS PARK NCP & HUMBOLDT PARK NCP; DIMENSION

BRIDGING AMERICA TOURS

CCC's Bridging America Tours provided 240 students from the Neighborhood Choir Program (NCP) and DiMension with the opportunity to spread CCC's mission throughout the United States.

PAINT THE TOWN RED

CCC's largest annual free concert, Paint the Town Red, brought together thousands of CCC students for an interactive performance experience at Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park. This year's concert celebrated the City of Chicago's Year of Creative Youth. \$1.25M raised 653 ATTENDEES

150 SINGERS

7 INSPIRING EVENING

RED JACKET OPTIONAL

Every October, CCC hosts Red Jacket Optional, an extraordinary evening of performances and fundraising in support of CCC's choral programs throughout the city. Hosted at The Geraghty, Chicago's premier event space, RJO 2017 brought together over 600 philanthropists and leaders and raised over \$1.25 million.

2017 RJO HONOREES: COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

CCC honored Community Champions, individuals who contribute to the vitality and vibrancy of Chicago and whose commitment to CCC's success ensures authentic and long-lasting connections in the communities that we serve.





ERIN ROCHE Principal, William H. Prescott Elementary School

CCC In-School Program Partner

CCC Neighborhood Choir Program Development

UNPLUGGED

"I feel so proud to be part of DePaul University's partnership with Chicago Children's Choir, to be able to go outside of my program and see everything that Chicago Children's Choir does on a world stage."

JOSEPHINE ROBINSON Partner Coordinator, World Vision



DR. SUSANNE BAKER Director, DePaul University, **Community Music Division**

CCC Neighborhood Choir Program Partner

NEARLY \$50K RAISED 300 attendees

4 performance sets

7 ROCKING GOOD TIME!

11

CCC's Ambassadors Board, a group of Chicago's brightest young professionals, hosts CCC Unplugged each year to raise visibility and funds for Chicago Children's Choir. Held at Chop Shop in Wicker Park, CCC Unplugged offers an exciting evening of cocktails, dancing, and performances that capture the vitality of Chicago's young arts scene. This year's event featured a special performance by OHMME, a celebrated Chicago duo including CCC alumna Sima Cunningham, and raised nearly \$50,000 in support of CCC's mission.

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

NEIGHBORHOOD CHOIR PROGRAM: BRANCH LOCATIONS

Albany Park Neighborhood Choir Program

North Park Covenant Church 5250 N. Christiana Ave. Chicago, IL 60625

Austin Neighborhood Choir Program

Austin Town Hall, Chicago Park District 5610 W. Lake St. Chicago, IL 60644

Beverly Neighborhood Choir Program

Beverly Arts Center 2407 W. 111th St. Chicago, IL 60655

Englewood Neighborhood Choir Program

Hamilton Park Cultural Center Chicago Park District 513 W. 72nd St. Chicago, IL 60621

Garfield Park Neighborhood Choir Program

Off the Street Club 25 N. Karlov Ave. Chicago, IL 60624

Humboldt Park Neighborhood Choir Program

Casa Central 1335 N. California Ave. Chicago, IL 60622

Hyde Park Neighborhood Choir Program

First Unitarian Church 5650 S. Woodlawn Ave. Chicago, IL 60637

Lincoln Park/DePaul Neighborhood Choir Program DePaul University 2130 N Kenmore Ave

Chicago, IL 60614

Pilsen/Little Village Neighborhood Choir Program Rauner Family YMCA 2700 S. Western Ave. Chicago, IL 60608

Rogers Park Neighborhood Choir Program Indian Boundary Park, Chicago Park District 2500 W. Lunt Ave. Chicago, IL 60645

VOICE OF CHICAGO & DIMENSION

Chicago Cultural Center 78 E. Washington St., 5th Fl. Chicago, IL 60602

IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM: PARTNER LOCATIONS

Alphonsus Academy & Center for the Arts

Alice L. Barnard Computer Math & Science Center Elementary School Belmont-Cragin Elementary School Daniel Boone Elementary School **Orville T. Bright Elementary School** Milton Brunson Math & Science Specialty School John C. Burroughs Elementary School

George Washington Carver Primary School

Catalyst Charter Elementary School -Circle Rock

Catalyst Charter Elementary School -Maria

Chicago International Charter School -Bucktown

Chicago International Charter School -Irving Park Chicago Jesuit Academy George Rogers Clark Elementary School

Peter Cooper Elementary Dual Language Academy Crown Community Academy of Fine

Arts Center Elementary Nathan S. Davis Elementary School

Sir Miles Davis Magnet Elementary School

Jose De Diego Elementary Community Academy Disney II Magnet Elementary School

Drummond Montessori School Thomas A. Edison Regional Gifted Center Elementary School

Stephen F. Gale Elementary Community Academy

Great Lakes Academy Charter School Horace Greeley Elementary School Wendell E. Green Elementary School Walter Q. Gresham Elementary School Frank W. Gunsaulus Elementary Scholastic Academy

Nathan Hale Elementary School Lionel Hampton Fine & Performing Arts

Elementary School John Harvard Elementary School of

Excellence Charles R. Henderson Elementary School

William G. Hibbard Elementary School Thomas J. Higgins Elementary Community Academy

Homeschool Choir at Independence Park Edward N. Hurley Elementary School

Inter-American Elementary Magnet School

Keller Regional Gifted Center Kate S. Kellogg Elementary School Joshua D. Kershaw Elementary School

Anna R. Langford Community Academy LaSalle II Magnet Elementary School Mildred I. Lavizzo Elementary School R. H. Lee Elementary School Legacy Charter School Leslie Lewis Elementary School Joseph Lovett Elementary School Benjamin E. Mays Elementary Academy Ronald E. McNair Elementary School Irvin C. Mollison Elementary School The Montessori School of Englewood Donald Morrill Math & Science Elementary School

Phillip Murray Elementary Language Academy Louis Nettelhorst Elementary School

New Field Elementary School William P. Nixon Elementary School Alfred Nobel Elementary School Ogden International School of Chicago Richard J. Oglesby Elementary School William Bishop Owen Scholarship Academy

Jesse Owens Elementary Community Academy

Francis W. Parker Elementary Community Academy Manuel Perez Elementary School

John J. Pershing Elementary Humanities Magnet

William H. Prescott Elementary A. N. Pritzker Elementary School William H. Ray Elementary School William C. Reavis Math & Science Specialty Elementary

Jackie Robinson Elementary School Phillip Rogers Elementary School Jesse Sherwood Elementary School **Beulah Shoesmith Elementary School** South Loop Elementary School South Shore Fine Arts Academy George B. Swift Elementary Special School

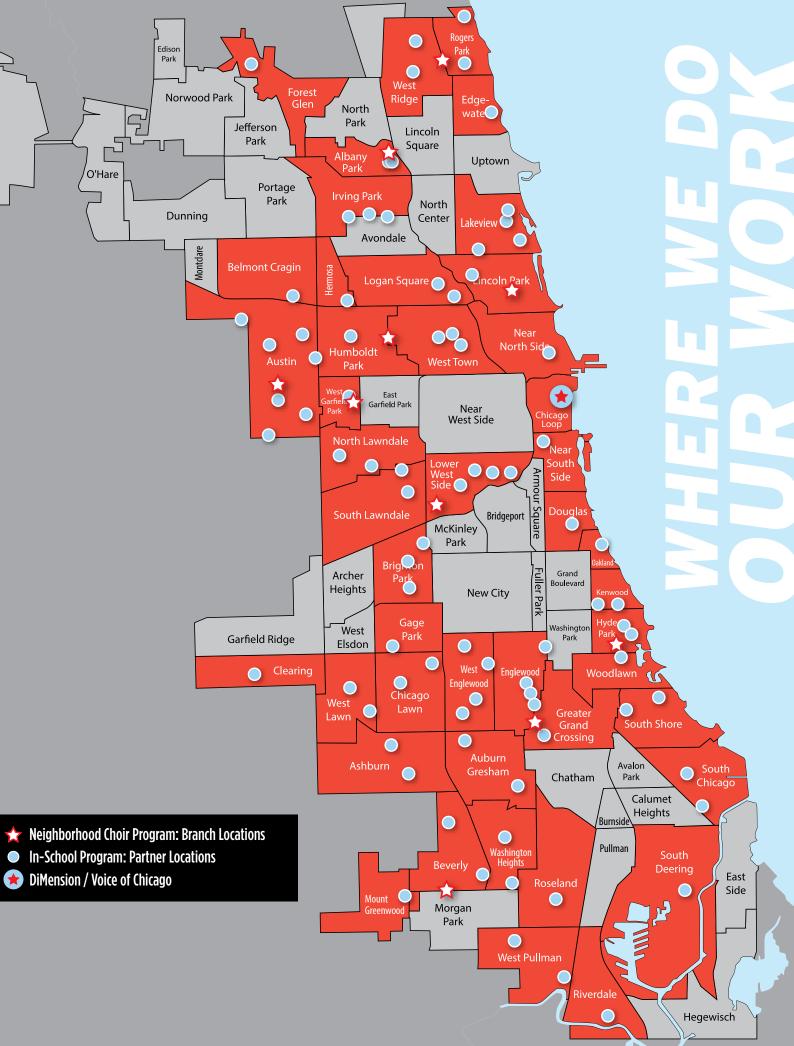
John Spry Elementary Community School

St. Philip Neri Catholic School George W. Tilton Elementary School Enrico Tonti Elementary School UCSN Octavio Paz

John A. Walsh Elementary School John Greenleaf Whittier Elementary School

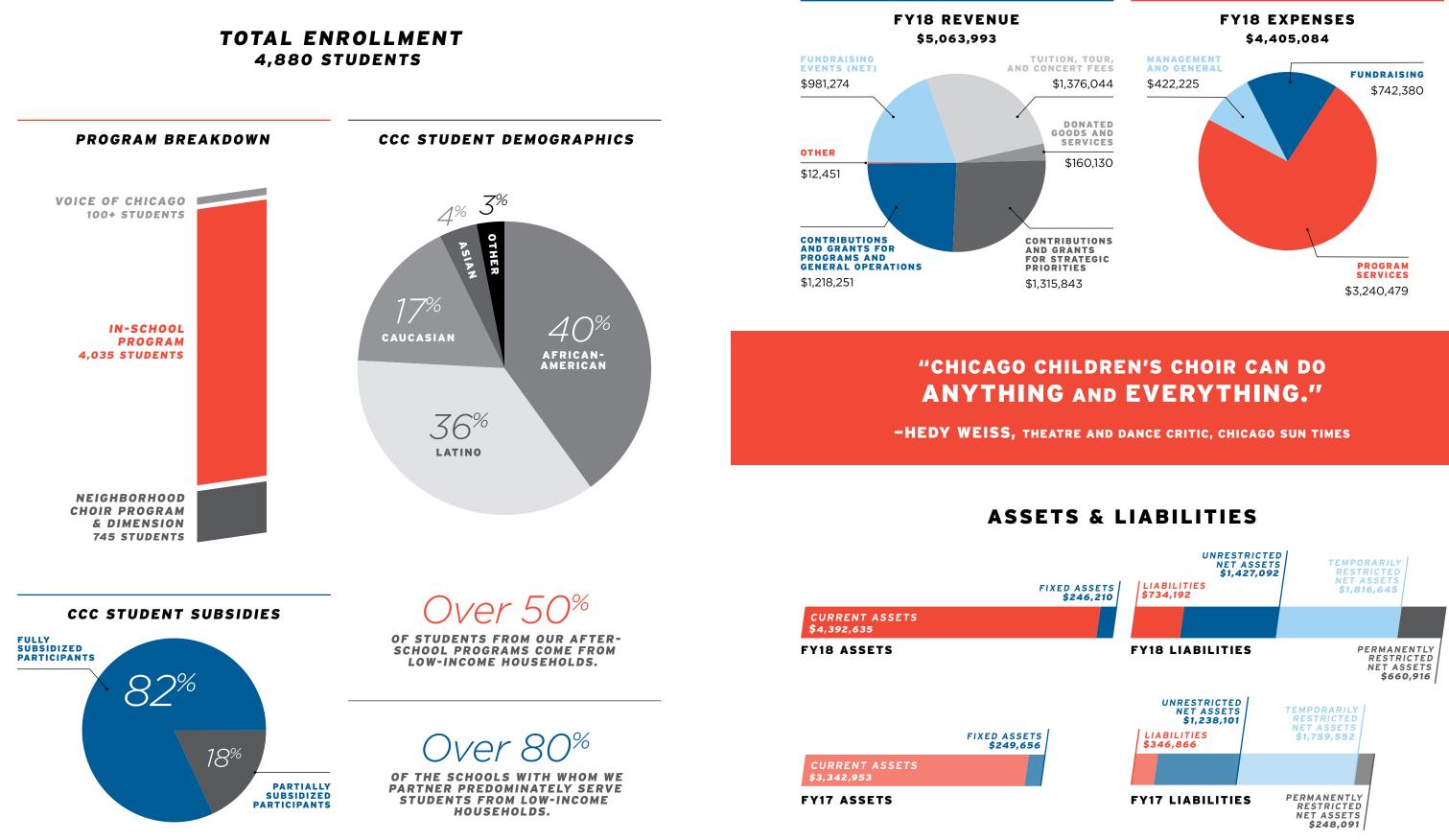
Wildwood World Magnet Elementary School

Woodlawn Community Elementary School



Mount Vernon Elementary School

CCC BY THE **NUMBERS**



REVENUE & EXPENSES

OUR SUPPORTERS

Chicago Children's Choir gratefully recognizes the cumulative support of generous individuals and institutions who advanced CCC's Raising Voices Campaign, a three-year, \$12 million comprehensive fundraising initiative to elevate the voices of Chicago's youth.

\$500,000 & ABOVE

Bob & Rose Fealy The Hatherly Family Steven & Priscilla Kersten David & Leslv Koo The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust North Avenue Day Nursery

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Chicago Children's Choir gratefully recognizes the following institutions that made gifts in support of CCC's mission from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

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\$50.000 - \$99.999 Paul M. Angell Family Foundation The Crown Family Lloyd A. Fry Foundation Lyon Family Foundation John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Polk Bros. Foundation Target

\$25,000 - \$49,999 City of Chicago Department of

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Illinois Arts Council Agency The Negaunee Foundation The Service Club of Chicago The Smart Family Foundation of Illinois \$10,000 - \$14,999

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INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Chicago Children's Choir gratefully recognizes the following individuals who made gifts in support of CCC's mission, excluding contributions made in support of CCC's Red Jacket Optional gala, from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

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Chicago Children's Choir is grateful to the many individuals, families, corporations, foundations and cultural partners who contributed to the fundraising efforts of the October 20, 2017 Red Jacket Optional gala.

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