



## The Phoenix Boys Choir

Founded in 1947, the Phoenix Boys Choir has programs featuring training in voice, music theory, and performance for boys age 7 to 14. The Phoenix Boys Choir, through educating boys in the art of singing and performing the finest music in the boy choir tradition, develops character, discipline, leadership, global awareness, and a strong commitment to excellence, thereby contributing to the greater Phoenix musical life and enhancing Arizona's cultural reputation nationally and internationally. The Phoenix Boys Choir guarantees every member a world-class music education and one of the most significant experiences of his life. Currently, there are approximately 150 young boys and men participating.

Each year, the Phoenix Boys Choir offers a full season of concert performances offering a wide repertoire from classical to popular selections. In its sixty years of history, the choir has frequently collaborated with other cultural arts organizations such as the Arizona Opera, the Phoenix Symphony, the Bach Choir and Orpheus Male Chorus. Beginning with the Training Choir, boys can progress to Cadet, Town and Tour choirs, and upon graduation, participate in the Master's Choir. When the boys reach the performance levels of Town and Tour Choir, they have the opportunity to travel nationally and internationally. They record CDs, participate in music festivals, sing with other professional groups and even host touring choirs. Members of the Phoenix Boys Choir have performed for four United States Presidents and with name entertainers such as Doc Severinsen, Stevie Wonder, and Keith Lockhart conducting the Boston Pops Orchestra.

The artistic staff of the Phoenix Boys Choir shares more than 150 years of music education experience. Artistic Director, Georg Stangelberger, boasts over twenty years experience of conducting and formerly served as Deputy Artistic Director for the esteemed Vienna Boys Choir in Austria. The Tour Choir, the most experienced and prestigious choir, has performed across the country and around the world including Germany, Switzerland and Austria where they sang side-by-side with the Vienna Choir Boys in the famous Court Chapel.

In 2003, as part of its commitment to outreach and diversity, the Phoenix Boys Choir began a Neighborhood Training Choir Program. The program was created to bring the Phoenix Boys Choir into the neighborhoods where boys live and go to school. This expansion made the Phoenix Boys Choir available to all boys, regardless of where they live or their families' financial situation. There are currently neighborhood training choirs in Scottsdale, Peoria, Tempe, Paradise Valley and at the Missouri choir building location.





## Accomplishments of the Phoenix Boys Choir

One of the most prestigious awards bestowed upon the Phoenix Boys Choir was received in the summer of 2007 during the European concert tour in July. The Choir participated in the Summa Cum Laude International Youth Music Festival at the renowned Musikverein concert hall in Vienna in which the Phoenix Boys Choir won first place.

The Choir won a 2000 Grammy Award for Best Choral Performance for its recording of Penderecki's "Credo" with the Oregon Bach Festival Orchestra and Chorus conducted by Helmuth Rilling. "Credo" is one of eight compact discs featuring the Choir, the most recent being *Joy To The World*.

The Phoenix Boys Choir was invited by the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) to perform at their conference in New York City and sing at Carnegie Hall. Our boys have sung with the ACDA honor choirs in Chicago, Honolulu and Los Angeles in recent years. The Tour Choir was most recently invited to sing at the ACDA 2010 conference in Tucson, Arizona.

Tour Choirs have sung in major venues in Europe, historical cathedrals around the world, and named "Cultural Ambassadors" to the European Union.

In December of 2002, we were named an Honorary Phoenix Point of Pride by the Honorable Skip Rimza, Mayor of Phoenix. The Phoenix Boys Choir shares this honor only with the Phoenix Suns and the Arizona Diamondbacks.

The Choir has performed with the Phoenix Symphony, Arizona Opera, Phoenix Chorale, Orpheus Chorus, collaborated with St. Mary's Food Bank, The Salvation Army, at conventions, weddings and sports venues such as Chase Field and US Airways Center. The Choir has sung the National Anthem for the Phoenix Suns, Arizona Diamondbacks and the Phoenix Coyotes.

The Phoenix Boys Choir made a special appearance on the "Tutenstein" float in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 2005, performing an original work by a former choir boy and composer, Lance Horne, entitled "*The Pharaoh Strut*".

Last year, the choirs appeared in more than 100 performances in Arizona and across in the Midwest United States in front of approximately 50,000 people, impacted 5,400 youth and collaborated with 164 schools. The Tour Choir most recently toured to Japan in the summer of 2009 and Canada in the summer of 2010.

