



Cincinnati Youth Choir
BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS, ONE VOICE AT A TIME

Contact: Heather Vest
Executive Director
(513) 570-1385

For Immediate Release:

Cincinnati Youth Choir: Winner of the American Prize, 2024



CINCINNATI, OH (October 22, 2024) - The Cincinnati Youth Choir (CYC) has been awarded the 2024 American Prize in the Youth Choir Division, marking their second win in this prestigious national competition. This achievement recognizes CYC's exceptional artistry and dedication to choral excellence.

The American Prize, a comprehensive series of national competitions in the performing arts, evaluates ensembles across multiple categories including choral performance, conducting, composition, and opera. Participants undergo rigorous evaluation, submitting 25 minutes of both audio and video performances for consideration by the competition's distinguished panel of judges. The winning performances, recorded between 2020 and 2023, showcase the choir's resilience and artistic growth during challenging times.

"It is a great honor to have our incredible program recognized in this way," said Robyn Lana, Founding Artistic Director of Cincinnati Youth Choir, who conducted all submitted performances from CYC's premiere ensemble,

Bel Canto. "Having the artistry of our youth representing the outstanding Cincinnati choral community is very exciting." Under Lana's direction, both CYC and the Miami University Choraliers achieved notable success in the competition, with the Choraliers earning third place in the collegiate division.

Cincinnati Youth Choir has maintained a perfect record with The American Prize, winning both times they have applied - first in 2015 and again in 2024. "Congratulations to the Cincinnati Youth Choir on winning the 2024 American Prize in Choral Performance in the Youth Choir division," said CYC Board President David Sherrard. "This second national recognition in our program's 32-year history reflects CYC's continued dedication to artistic excellence and outstanding performance."

"This national recognition underscores the collaborative spirit that defines Cincinnati Youth Choir," said Heather Vest, Executive Director of Cincinnati Youth Choir. "From our talented young singers, to our devoted families, to our exceptional artistic staff - this achievement belongs to our entire CYC community. Receiving The American Prize for the second time affirms what we see in our rehearsal halls every week: young people achieving extraordinary artistic heights while building character and confidence through choral music."

The Cincinnati Youth Choir, Ensemble-in-Residence at the University of Cincinnati

College-Conservatory of Music, is a nationally celebrated, award-winning choral organization in its 32nd season. Each year, hundreds of Greater Cincinnati youth in grades one through twelve grow in choral artistry in this educationally based organization. CYC's Bel Canto Choir has been a featured ensemble in China, Japan, Italy, England, Wales, Ireland, Austria, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Canada, Costa Rica, and across the United States. CYC choirs have had the distinct honor to perform in some of the world's best concert venues such as Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, The Forbidden City Concert Hall, St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City and the World Expo in Milan, Italy. CYC has performed with the Cincinnati's Symphony, Pops, Opera, and May Festival while regularly collaborating with CCM's ensembles and operas. CYC has commissioned over 80 works for treble voices.

For more information about the Cincinnati Youth Choir, please visit www.cincinnatichoir.org

Cincinnati Youth Choir also thanks the following for their support of our programs:



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