

# North Central ACDA

Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin

## Boychoirs across the Division

compiled by André-Louis Heywood, R&S Chair for Boychoir

The idea of a boychoir can sometimes seem anachronistic. Perhaps our thoughts of “boychoir” stir us to envision the Vienna Choirboys in the time of Schubert, or the early Catholic monastery schools, or the old Anglican tradition of boys in collared robes that we see at royal ceremonies across the pond.

The American boychoir tradition builds on this historical context as well as provides a unique take on what boys can offer to the choral community. American boychoirs tend to pursue a wider range of repertoire which both embraces the rich historical traditions and explores new horizons of music-making. This tradition is alive and well in the North Central Division through the following ensembles:

### **Appleton Boychoir** (Appleton, WI)

Kevin Meidl, director

For more than three decades the Appleton Boychoir has given musical training to thousands of boys, taking them all over the world and sending them on their way with a life-long love of singing. There are five ensembles with boys in grades 2-8. The choir promotes music literacy through education in theory and reading skills, and the boys serve as cultural ambassadors from the Fox Valley.

[www.appletonboychoir.com](http://www.appletonboychoir.com) • (920) 955-2224

### **Bemidji BoyChoir** (Bemidji, MN)

Chris Fettig, director

The Bemidji BoyChoir is now in its 8th season. They are a community organization committed to encouraging the art of singing as an acceptable and beneficial activity for the young men in the area. Open to boys in grades 4 through 8, the choir rehearses once weekly.

[www.bemidjishowchoirs.org/BoyChoir/Home/](http://www.bemidjishowchoirs.org/BoyChoir/Home/)  
• (218) 444-1600 ex. 3358

### **Central Minnesota Boy's Choir** (Staples, MN)

Mary Moen, director

The Central Minnesota Boys' Choir was founded in 1999 to provide an opportunity for young boys to participate in a group that is challenging, enriching and rewarding, as well as to provide an opportunity to socialize with others who share the same musical values. It is the goal of the Choir to develop musical interest, leadership skills and talent among boys in Central Minnesota.

[www.centralmnboyschoir.com](http://www.centralmnboyschoir.com) • (218) 894-3576

### **Green Bay Boychoir** (Green Bay, WI)

Randall Meder, director

Founded in 1980, the Green Bay Boy Choir has grown to include boys ages 7-18 in four levels of vocal experience and ability. Classical music literature forms the foundation for choir instruction. Repertoire includes contemporary, folk, ethnic, sacred, and secular music. Through music activities and community involvement, the Choirs help to foster the personal and social growth of its members and promote their sense of self-esteem, accomplishment and pride.

[www.gbchoirs.org](http://www.gbchoirs.org) • (920) 321-0541

### **La Crosse Boychoir** (La Crosse, WI)

Judy Stafslie, director

Founded in 1974, the La Crosse BoyChoir offers an active point of entrance into musical and vocal training for boys ages 7-14 in the Seven Rivers region. The three ensembles rehearse once weekly and perform at several concerts each year with touring every two years.

[www.lacrosseboychoir.org](http://www.lacrosseboychoir.org) • (608) 780-8169

### **Land of Lakes Choirboys** (Elk River, MN)

Francis Stockwell, director

Now in its fourth decade, the Land of Lakes Choirboys includes more than 100 boys in six groups, including an alumni choir. As the choir has traveled through all contiguous states, Hawaii, Europe, Scandinavia, Australia and New Zealand, so its reputation has grown to receive international acclaim.

[www2.lolcb.org](http://www2.lolcb.org) • (763) 213-8105

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**Lincoln Boys Choir** (Lincoln, NE)

Kevin Scheele & Judy Welch, directors

Re-established in 2002, the Lincoln Boys Choir serves 120 boys ages 7-17 in three choirs which promote healthy, lifetime singing skills through musical performance. The choirs engage in approximately 20 performances each year as well as travel experiences that enrich the lives of the performers and audiences.

[www.lincolnboyschoir.org](http://www.lincolnboyschoir.org) • (402) 202-0565

**Madison Boychoir** (Madison, WI)

Michael Ross, Randy Swiggum & Margaret Jenks, directors

Now part of the Madison Youth Choirs program, the Madison Boychoir has five ensembles for boys ages 7-18. The single-gender environment provides singers with an opportunity to take musical risks in a supportive environment. They can focus on specialized literature, targeted skill development, and developing strong friendships.

[www.madisonyouthchoirs.org](http://www.madisonyouthchoirs.org) • (608) 238-7464

**Metropolitan Boys Choir** (Minneapolis, MN)

Bea Hasselman, director

The Metropolitan Boys Choir is an organization of young men from the twelve-county metropolitan area surrounding Minneapolis and Saint Paul, Minnesota.

The boys range in age from five to fifteen. Founded in 1971 by Music Director Bea Hasselmann, the choir regularly appears in concert halls, churches, convention centers, and senior-care centers, throughout the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.

[www.mbchoir.com](http://www.mbchoir.com) • (612) 827-6501

**Minnesota Boychoir** (Saint Paul, MN)

Mark Johnson, director

Founded in 1962, the Minnesota Boychoir challenges boys and young men from many backgrounds to the highest standards of choral music, nurtures the development of exceptional character, and inspires and benefits the community.

The choir is dedicated to musical excellence, discipline, teamwork, and leadership preparation.

[www.boychoir.org](http://www.boychoir.org) • (777) 832-4487

**Red River Boychoir** (Fargo, ND)

Keith Wander, director

Founded in 1983, RRBC seeks to provide opportunities for boys ages 8-15 to achieve artistic excellence through the performance of contemporary and classical choral literature.

[www.redriverboychoir.org](http://www.redriverboychoir.org)

**Singing Boys of Sioux Falls** (Sioux Falls, SD)

Kyle Eastman, director

Comprised of four choirs, this group serves boys from first grade and up with a curriculum that includes vocal production, music literacy, independent singing, foreign language pronunciation, and performance etiquette. The choir has two major concerts each year in addition to regular performances for churches and community functions.

[www.singingboysofsiouxfalls.org](http://www.singingboysofsiouxfalls.org) • (605) 338-9478

**The St. John's Boys' Choir** (Collegeville, MN)

André-Louis Heywood, director

Founded in 1981 by the monastic community of Saint John's Abbey, SJBC serves approximately 90 boys in the Central Minnesota region between the ages of 8 and 14. The choir seeks to blend the church and concert traditions while providing a unique educational experience with an emphasis in vocal music as well as the socializing experience of shared enterprise, fellowship, cultural awareness, and touring.

[www.sjbchoir.org](http://www.sjbchoir.org) • (320) 363-2558