

# Young Voices of Austin

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



## Spring Highlights

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to each of you for the support you have offered us throughout 2019-2020. Your support allows us the resilience to look ahead to 2020-2021 with excitement. We know that we will arrive at the other side of this pandemic with a more compassionate country and world. Gratitude is our vocabulary word as an organization as we bring our season to a close two months ahead of schedule.

We have received an abundance of help and support throughout the year, such as our surprise donors during Amplify Austin. We were thankful for the friendly faces of our fellow Austinites while our choristers performed at Cafe Beignet in New Orleans and especially to everyone who joined us for our Music & Moonlight celebration. If you were able to attend the event, you had the opportunity to see our thirty-five baskets at the silent auction. These baskets were made possible with the support of dozens of local community businesses. We had over one hundred donors and we could not be more appreciative for every single one.

We hope that everyone is safe and remains healthy both physically and mentally. We will see everyone on the other side of this crisis. And together we will be stronger and wiser.

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# Chorister Spotlight: Charlotte Humphrey, Vox Prima

Young Voices of Austin is dedicated to expressing and celebrating our diverse group of choristers. We believe that our choristers bring beauty and uniqueness by sharing their backgrounds. To highlight our emphasis on diversity, this spring, I had the pleasure of interviewing one of our youngest choristers, Charlotte Humphrey. She is a kind and gentle person with a strong stage presence. Charlotte is excited to tell her side of the story as a member of Vox Prima!

-Jae Oh



## Charlotte's YVA Experience

- How has YVA helped you become a leader of your community? It makes me feel proud to sing for people.
- What would you say to someone who is interested in joining YVA? We have a lot of fun and people are interested in helping you everyday!
- What advice would you give to the younger Choristers? To practice as much as possible.
- What do you want to see more of in YVA? I want to see more slime making.
- What was your favorite song to sing at YVA? Christmas Time Is Here!
- The best thing about YVA? I think the best thing about YVA is the fun time you get to have while singing and doing crafts.
- Would you mind sharing with us some of your favorite YVA Memories? My favorite thing we did was when we made slime and my favorite memory was when I walked onto the stage for my solo.
- From any of our group (Prima, Medius, and Dominus) is there someone that you are thankful for? I'm thankful for everyone, but I'm close to Ceci so I think I'm thankful for Ceci!
- What is your vision for YVA? I want Young Voices of Austin to have their own building someday.

## Charlotte's Self

- What do you want to be when you grow up? What's your career goal? I want to be a singer
- What is your spirit animal, why? Cat, Because they are cuddly and wise but sometimes sneaky.
- What have you learned here that you'll take with you forever? The feeling of singing a solo.
- What is your dream vacation? Paris, France with my family
- What are you most thankful for? Parents
- What are your best qualities? My singing, my voice.
- What was your favorite book to read as a child? Recently, I have been reading "Little House on the Prairie" It is a good book.



# Music & Moonlight at Mercury Hall

Our second fundraising event was a success thanks to the many people involved. Mercury Hall set the magnificent scene for our YVA choristers and their guests on a beautiful Thursday in February. Parents and community supporters who attended were eager to see the many silent auction baskets and the goodies they had in store.

We are so thankful for our amazing YVA Executive Director, Diana Greenfield. Her heartfelt welcome and introduction kicked this off on the right foot and her leadership made our event truly memorable and a complete success. The YVA Choristers had the special honor of performing selections from their This Is Us repertoire for parents and guests.

We are grateful to Robert Greenfield, husband of our Executive Director and long time supporter, for taking the lead on the Paddles Up portion of our event. We were overwhelmed with the generous donors in the audience and felt truly fortunate to be surrounded by our community.

Special thanks to the ASK Foundation, Richard's Rainwater and TC4 Catering for so generously sponsoring our cocktail hour. We were delighted and so grateful to have our friends Bakery Lorraine, Upper Crust and La Patisserie brighten the event even more with their delicious baked goods. Thank you to Tyeschea West for her brilliant work in documenting our second fundraising event with her amazing photos. We had over 60 donors who made our silent auction a great success. And to each of you we say, thanks a million!



# Spring Music Retreat

The Spring Music Retreat came and went. Everyone arrived ready for a day of choreography and singing with family. Choristers spent the day solidifying their repertoire. It is always a great experience for our choristers when they are able to interact and collaborate with peers from all divisions. The choristers' time with Carolina (choreographer) was met with enthusiasm and hard work as they continue to step outside their comfort zone to add more magic their performances.

Elda and Jae are delighted to spend this quality time with our choristers to guide them through focused cultivation and refining of their skills as choristers, performers and musicians.



# Enrichment and Tutoring

Enrichment time at YVA is a special time! Our Choristers' imaginations bloom by focusing on team-building exercises and creative thinking! This spring, our choristers had a variety of fun activities prepared by Diana. Vox Prima had a wonderful time creating self-portraits and making slime, while Vox Medius was figuring out codes for their science escape room. Vox Dominus was given the special task of learning about New Orleans before their trip. All divisions were inspired to create decorations for our Music & Moonlight celebration. Vox Prima created beautiful windmills, Vox Medius assembled Barack Obama's Lego portrait, and Vox Dominus painted birdhouse centerpieces to contribute a touch of beauty to our fundraising event.



# Vox Dominus in New Orleans

Every year, our Executive Director, Diana has a special mission to provide above and beyond experiences for our oldest group, Vox Dominus. This year, members of Vox Dominus were treated with a wonderful adventure to the Big Easy! With help from Elda and Jae, Young Voices of Austin traveled to the city of Jazz for a special tour at world-renowned gallery by artist BMike, called Studio Be and to perform at the famous, Musical Legends Park! Our performance was made possible by our friends at Cafe Beignet, not to mention after our performance they brought delicious hot beignets for us to enjoy. Towards the end of our trip, we dived into the great Audubon Aquarium to surround ourselves with the amazing aquatic life of the Mississippi River. Inspired by the beauty and the history that the city offered, YVA crew and Vox Dominus were transformed by this fantastic trip.

Bottom Right Photo Credit: Rachel Salin Moe (Vox Dominus)





# SPRING 2020



**Spring Concert**  
Sunday, May 3, 2020  
4 PM (CANCELED)

**Auditions for 2020-21**  
TBD

**YOUNG VOICES OF AUSTIN**  
PRESENTS  
**THIS IS US**  
**SPRING 2020**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup> @ 4:00PM**  
**AUSTIN CENTRAL LIBRARY**  
710 W. CESAR CHAVEZ ST.  
STARRING VOX PRIMA • VOX MEDIUS • VOX DOMINUS • VOX ELECTUS

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