

## From our Artistic Director William R. Adams

"Of course I like boys ... it's just the individual ones that get to me!" Reportedly so said Mark Twain about one of our nation's greatest assets – our boys! We take a more proactive approach in our thinking, *"making a difference ... one boy at a time."* For you see, this organization from its very beginning has been about, because of and for each individual boy ... as a unique, gifted child first, then as a collective chorister in our choirs. It has been my privilege over the years to watch each one of our singers grow from a small, unsure choirboy into a confident, mature young man. And no matter what chosen field they end up pursuing ... that assurance and confidence never leaves them.

Now, as one of the largest boychoir programs in the world, boys of all ages, sizes, faiths and desires continue to have a safe place to come and share in a group experience that engages their hearts as well as their minds.

I believe Father Edward J. Flanagan, who founded Father Flanagan's Boy's Home on December 10, 1917 sums it up best, our feelings about all this: *"There are really no bad boys ... there are only bad environments, bad training, bad thinking and bad examples. Our young boys are our nation's greatest wealth ... and no boy wants to be bad – give them a chance with positive examples and they will give a good account of themselves."* We couldn't agree more!



**The Fort Bend Boys Choir of Texas is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) tax exempt organization. Any monetary gifts and donations are tax-deductible. Visit our website for details about charitable giving through Paypal and other methods.**

## What People Are Saying ...

"The Fort Bend Boys Choir has come and gone, but not without leaving a lasting effect ... the group was a model of good behavior and graciousness, besides singing well and showing gratitude in the hospitality we gave them."

— Jansen Art Center, Lynden, Washington

"The boys sang the War Requiem beautiful and perhaps more importantly for the young performers, with almost aggressive assurance."

— Houston Chronicle

"Your performance was superb! ... What a treat to have such beautiful voices from Texas at the inauguration."

— First Lady Barbara Bush

" ... probably one of the finest American choirs we have heard [at the Salzburg Dome] with precise singing and perfect intonation."

— Salzburger Nachrichten

"Outstanding singing ... one of the best boychoirs I have worked with."

— Robert Shaw, Conductor (1916-1999)

## What Choirboys Are Saying ...

"I love the Fort Bend Boys Choir very much. I look forward to going to practice every week. I learn about music, and about what it means to be a person of Character and how important this is when I grow up. I learned to be on time - never to be late. I learned to respect other people. I learned to be kind to others. "

"The Fort Bend Boys Choir is a place where I can really be myself and that's pretty cool!"

**For auditions, general information, concert schedules and booking requests, contact us at:**

P.O. Box 2042 ♪ Stafford, TX 77497-2042

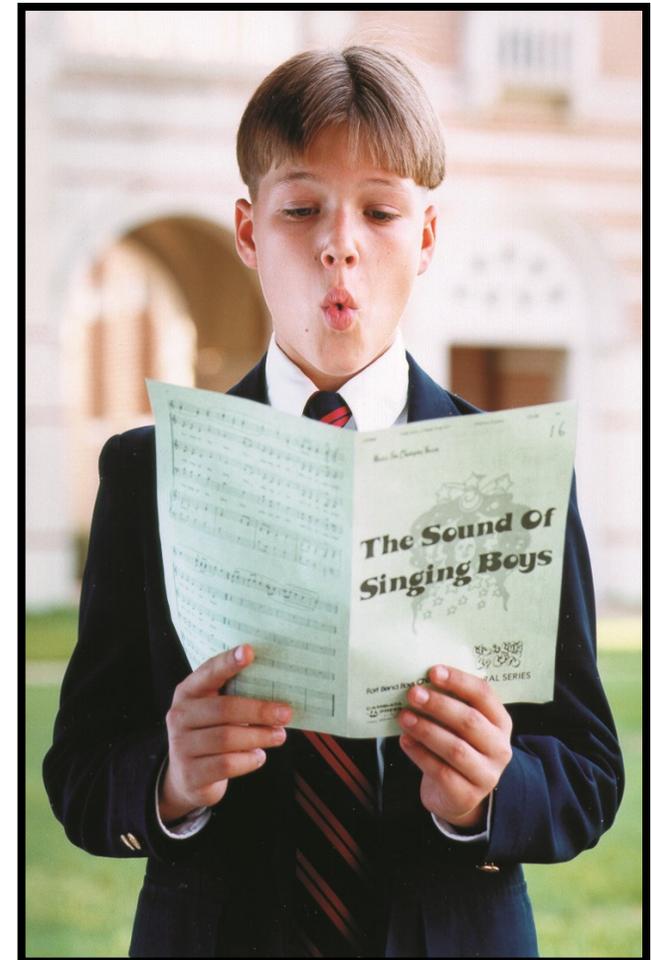
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**It is the mission of the Fort Bend Boys Choir of Texas to provide the skills and training essential for lifelong learning through the ancient boychoir tradition. We will create a supportive, positive environment that develops discipline, self-esteem and maturity which aids in the transformation of young boys into young men. In order that this mission be realized, our music programs will include parent and community involvement, high expectations, a strong commitment to excellence and quality instruction for all choristers.**



## About Us

*The organization was created to give boys with special music abilities an opportunity to perform challenging choral literature from classical to contemporary music. Through hard work and dedication, the boys combine the freshness and enthusiasm of childhood with artistic maturity.*

Founded in 1982 by current Artistic Director William R. Adams, with 45 initial members in one choir, the organization today has over 150 boys in four performing ensembles. Choirboys are ages 8-14 with unchanged voices that through their own merits by audition make up the Training, Town and Tour Choirs. In addition to these treble choirs, there is an eight-week music enrichment program offered twice a year called Music Magic, open to all six and seven year old boys that love music and singing.

It is important to note that In the choir's history, no boy has ever been turned away for financial reasons. The overall goal has always been about shaping young boys' lives through the medium of music. Through musical excellence, these boys become tomorrow's leaders and outstanding citizens. They learn the value of good work ethics, self-discipline, responsibility, etiquette and teamwork. For other children, they are models of purposeful work and high achievement. For adults, they are reminders of inspirational human possibilities.



## Auditions

Boys ages 8–13 with unchanged voices are invited to audition to be a part of one of America's largest and most prestigious choir organizations. Eligible boys will join over 30 years of music excellence, travel locally, nationally and internationally on tour, learn multi-cultural music and establish lifetime friendships.

We guarantee every member a world-class music education and one of the most significant experiences of his life. Schedule an audition now—prior musical experience is not necessary! The only requirement to audition for placement into the Fort Bend Boys Choir is that boys must be 8 years old or in the 3rd grade with an unchanged voice. Visit our website or contact the choir office to schedule an audition.

## Performance Highlights

- ♪ Symphony Orchestra works
  - Britten, *War Requiem*
  - Mahler, *Third Symphony*
  - Mahler, *Eighth Symphony*
  - Orff, *Carmina Burana*
  - Berlioz, *Faust*
  - Bernstein, *Kaddish Symphony*
  - Adams, *Transmigration of Souls*
- ♪ 1992 "Addy" Award Winner for television commercial excellence
- ♪ 2001 Performance at the White House for the National Christmas Tree Lighting
- ♪ 2002 Nominee for National News Emmy Award
- ♪ 2002 National Geographic Documentary recorded in the newly restored Sistine Chapel and sang at High Mass in St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City
- ♪ Performed for three U.S. Presidents and with famous entertainers like the Gatlin Brothers and Tony Award Winner Audra McDonald
- ♪ Performed for the US premiere of the Academy-Award nominated foreign film "Les Choristes," a Miramax film about a boys choir in France
- ♪ Recording artist of nine self-released CDs as well as a collaborator with the Texas State Men's Choir and other artists to professionally record a CD for Universal Sony Entertainment

## Hire the Choir

The Fort Bend Boys Choir of Texas is in high demand for weddings, concert series, community and private events, retirement communities, fundraisers and high profile performances such as conventions, commercials, symphony orchestra collaborations and television appearances. Visit our website for details about hiring one of our three treble choirs for your event.

