MISSION & VISION
Boston City Singers provides the highest level of musical training and wide-ranging performance opportunities to young people, inspiring personal development, celebrating diversity and fostering goodwill. Our vision is to transform the lives of inner city young people one voice at a time, inspiring and developing each heart to live with compassion in a world of differences.

Photo Credits:
©GretjenHelene.com
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©Sing a Mile High International Choral Festival
©Boston City Singers
A MESSAGE FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS CO-CHAIRS
KIMBERLY O’LOUGHLIN AND JOCELYN HEYWOOD

It is our pleasure to present to you the Boston City Singers 2016 Annual Report. This year, our 21st, was filled with financial success, wonderful artistic collaborations and membership growth. In addition to our OperaKids program that is open to all ages, we now have six program levels at four sites.

Fundraising efforts continue to be most rewarding. Our donors understand the vital need for arts programming, particularly those serving children in our most vulnerable communities. We consider our government, foundation and individual contributors as partners in our efforts to offer the highest quality programming. They have witnessed the impact that our programs have made in the lives of our singers when we expect the best from each and every member, and they deliver without waiver. Our singers create a community interwoven in their expression and common purpose.

At Boston City Singers, we are fortunate to have the most dedicated leadership and staff. Jane Money, our Founding Artistic Director, continues to amaze us with her vision, insightfulness and dedication. Over the past six years, Managing Director Melissa J. Graham has built a remarkable operation, instrumental in allowing for the financial and programmatic growth we have seen. Our staff are exceptional and demonstrate their devotion weekly. Teaching Fellows from Longy School of Music at Bard College, New England Conservatory, Simmons College and The Boston Conservatory at Berklee bring depth and breadth to our members. We are proud of our artistic collaborations, outlined in this report.

Our Tour Choir is preparing for a 3-week residency in South Africa this summer where they will perform with the Cape Town Youth Choir, Cape Town Male Voice Choir, University of the Western Cape, and Center for the Performing Arts, and visit numerous primary and secondary schools. Additionally, they will have workshops on traditional folk music, and perform at several social service agencies.

As we embark on our 22nd year, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest, generosity and support. We are successful because we have so many individuals, corporations and foundations who have invested in our singers and their families. You have helped us to bring hope, song and joy to our neighborhoods while preparing our members to be educated, successful and giving members of society.
At Boston City Singers, the flow of music (and dance and joy and laughter) never ends. We have programs for all who have a song in their heart.

• **Kodály Singing Classes** (ages 4 – Kindergarten) Through singing, dancing, creative movement and the playing of percussion instruments, children develop rhythmic skills, practice part singing and gain performance experience. **Dorchester, Jamaica Plain and Cambridge**

• **Melody Makers** (grades 1 – 2) Singers gain more performance experience, learn music in two / three parts in two or three languages with more complex rhythms and melodies. **Dorchester and Cambridge**

• **Neighborhood Training Choruses** (grades 3 – 5) All singers, learn to read and play complex rhythmic patterns, work with composers, learn music in three parts in two or three languages, and perform at local events and concerts. **Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Weymouth and Cambridge**

• **Cantare** (grades 6 – 9) Members receive weekly intensive classes in music literacy and age-appropriate vocal coaching in collaboration with The Boston Conservatory and the Longy School of Music. They prepare music in 3 – 4 parts, in multiple languages, and appear at regional events, festivals and concerts. **Dorchester and Cambridge**

• **BCS Fellas** (grades 8 – 12) An advanced group for young men with changed voices typically aged 14–18. Members gain advanced skills and experience in preparation for college auditions, attend festivals and workshops, and perform regionally. **Dorchester**

• **Tour Choir** (grades 6 – 12) Represents Boston City Singers at major national conferences, local events, concerts and collaborations, and travels both domestically and internationally. **Dorchester**

In addition to regular rehearsals, vocal and music literacy instruction, middle and high school members participate in:

1. World Rhythm Ensemble (studying the complex rhythms of Latin America and West Africa)

2. Movement classes (specializing in American Step and South African music)

3. Contemporary improvisation (including spoken word and jazz)

**ARTS FOR ALL**

“To stop the flow of music would be like the stopping of time itself, incredible and inconceivable.”

— Aaron Copeland
Carlos Piedad, an 8-year member of Boston City Singers, was named a 2016 Posse Scholar. He attends Union College in Schenectady, New York on a full-tuition, four-year scholarship. Carlos, whose family resides in Boston’s Jamaica Plain neighborhood, is a graduate of the Concord Carlisle Regional High School which he attended as part of the Metco Program. Carlos has the honor of being Boston City Singers’ 3rd Posse Scholar.

“If it wasn’t for Jane Money and Boston City Singers, I would never have had the opportunity to be nominated.” At the time of the public announcement Carlos said. “Jane believed that I had the right skill set and drive to be successful. To help me through the rigorous application and interview process, she introduced me to past Boston City Singers’ Posse Scholars. The selection process began in my junior year. Less than 1% become Posse Scholars and with direction from Boston City Singers, I am one of them!”

Although he has yet to decide on a concentration of study, Carlos is interested in engineering and environmental sciences. Union College also has extensive music offerings that allow students to participate regardless of their major. He is truly thankful that he already had friends on campus when he arrived for Freshmen Orientation thanks to his “posse.”

Founded in 1989, the Posse Foundation awards full-tuition, four-year merit scholarships to high school seniors from diverse backgrounds who demonstrate exceptional leadership and academic potential. Prospective Posse Scholars are nominated by select high school affiliates, including Boston City Singers. “Posse Scholars persist and graduate at a rate of 90% and make a visible difference on campus and throughout their professional careers,” reported the Foundation.
IMPACT
Boston City Singers instills in each singer, no matter their circumstance, the belief that they can succeed with dedication and hard work. As part of their journey, singers build their musical skills, learn fiscal responsibility and social etiquette, build leadership skills, compassion and empathy, and begin to understand their place in society.

VISION
Boston City Singers is the reason I believed in myself enough to pursue my passion.

STABILITY
Boston City Singers has always been there for me - from teaching me how to sing, developing my leadership skills, and helping me to perfect my college essay.

RESPECT
Boston City Singers showed me how to respect myself to achieve my full potential, teaching me about cultures beside my own, and finally, to feel like I had a second family when mine was in the middle of falling apart.

OPPORTUNITY
As I grew up, Boston City Singers grew up with me. It became part of my identity. What I am most thankful for from Boston City Singers is the many diverse opportunities to sing that this amazing organization gave me, from Sanders Theater to communities in South Africa.

KNOWLEDGE
I have learned that all forms of music can evoke different emotions in not only the musicians, but also in the listeners.

COMPASSION
Being a Boston City Singer made me feel like I possess a musical strength, which is only reinforced by our conductor’s constant reminder that everyone is important.

JOY
I would not be the world traveler that I am right now without Boston City Singers. Not only did Boston City Singers show me how to be an open and learning musician, but also a citizen of the world, able to make relationships with every note we sang.

DRIVE
Mentoring younger singers has taught me how important it is to use the leadership skills we have been taught at Boston City Singers.
By invitation, Boston City Singers was the only youth chorus invited to perform at the Chorus Pro Musica and the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) conventions. We were invited to perform with Boston Camerata in Nueva España the New England Philharmonic, Monadnock Chorus for the “Christmas In Our Town” concert and with Coro Allegro.

Celebrity Series of Boston invited the Tour Choir to participate in the Soweto Gospel Choir Workshop and perform with the Boston Public Quartet and the Guy Mendilow Ensemble’s “Three Sides to Every Story” at Benjamin Franklin Institute and the USS Constitution Museum. These performances are part of their Neighborhood Concert Series.

In the 2015-2016 Season, Boston City Singers continued our commitment to serving under-served communities in an array of Community Concerts.

- Dimock Community Health Center's Road to Wellness 5K
- All Creatures Great and Small Concert in Dorchester
- Winter and Spring Stars Concerts (7) Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Cambridge and Weymouth
- Brothers, Sing On!
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
- Massachusetts Fallen Heroes Tribute Concert on Memorial Day

The season concluded with our Cantare division’s participation in the Sing a Mile High International Children’s Choral Festival.

Boston City Singers became a three-time finalist (2014 – 2016) for the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards which honors the top 35 music and youth development non-profit organizations in the United States.
Educational and Professional Achievements

✦ 100% of our graduates have been admitted to 4-year colleges, including Harvard (5), conservatories (Juilliard, New England Conservatory, Berklee, Hartt, Marymount Manhattan), and service academies (West Point, United States Air Force Academy).
✦ 96% have graduated from college within 4 years.
✦ Our Graduate Class of 2016 won over $300,000 in tuition scholarships with the support of our staff.
✦ 4 alumni are Posse Scholars, 12 have achieved Finalist status.
✦ 1 alumnae won a Passion for Action scholarship to Wheelock College ($80,000).
✦ 1 alumnae, a medical student, recently won a prestigious Joseph Collins Foundation award ($45,000) for her youth development work with the Tour Choir
✦ 250 + alumni are community activists, teachers and social workers, artists and actors, medical professionals, musicians and engineers. Many continue their involvement with us, serving on our Boards of Directors and Advisors, as mentors supporting the college application processes, and working as program administrators.
ARTISTIC

Jane E. Money, Founding Artistic Director
Wendy Silverberg, Director, Early Childhood Education, Cambridge Children's Chorus, OperaKids
Josh DeWitte, Director, Cantare (Dorchester & Cambridge)
Daniel Ryan, Director, BCS Fellas
Kimani Lumsden, Director, World Rhythm Ensemble
Timothy Whipple, Director, Vocal Coaching

Collaborative Pianist:
Tal Zilber
Matt Holehan
Eileen Huang
Ruth Ross

ADMINISTRATIVE

Melissa J. Graham, Managing Director
Melanie Bacaling, Administrative Assistant and Tour Choir Manager
Elizabeth Stefan, Manager, Training Chorus (Dorchester and Jamaica Plain)
Debbie Slade, Manager, Cambridge Children’s Chorus
Joe Penella, Bookkeeper

MENTORS
Evie Hartenstein, Raavi Malik,
Stencia Bastien, Natalie Santil,
Rosalind DeLaura, Isabel Nichols,
Jemima Verdier, Jillian Lee

TEACHING FELLOWS
Sara Eastman, Emily DeAngelis
DONORS

The generosity of the following foundations, corporations, government agencies and individuals allows Boston City Singers to positively impact the individual growth and maturity of 500 young people annually.

FOUNDATIONS
Amazon Smile Foundation
Amelia Peabody Foundation
Barr Foundation
Bloomberg Family Foundation
Blue Hills Bank Charitable Foundation
BoltBus, a division of Greyhound
Boston Foundation, The
Boston State Community Trust Foundation
Louis D. Brown Peace Institute
Cambridge Community Foundation
Friends for Children
Japan Foundation Center
Kelly Family Foundation
Klarman Family Foundation
Linde Family Foundation
Ludcke Foundation
Massachusetts Cultural Council
Popplestone Foundation
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Foundation
Sacajawea Charitable Foundation
William E. Schrafft Charitable Trust
State Street Foundation
Student and Youth Travel Foundation
John H. and H. Naomi Tomfohrde Foundation

CORPORATIONS
American Choral Directors Association
Blasi’s Cafe
EdVestors, Inc.
Embroidery Plus
Goulston & Storrs PC
Granite Telecommunications
Lukas Community Center
Mourad Enterprises
Quinn & Morris
Rendon Group
State Street Bank
Tevnan & Tevnan

Government Grants
Boston Cultural Council
Cambridge Cultural Council
Massachusetts Cultural Council

INDIVIDUALS
Rachel Adler-Golden
Margaret Admirand
Anonymous
Ann Austin
Mr. and Mrs. Baez
C.J. and R. Beach
Judith Beckham
Jill and Eric Berg
Mark and Amy Berinato
Kenneth Blumberg and Sarah Weinstein
Betty B. Blume
John and Rebecca Boylan
Erin Callanan
Catherine Campbell
Dorothy Carroll
Arvind Chaudry
Roger Christian
Bronia M. Clifton and Jason E. Burns
Gabrielle Cobbs
Glady and Daniel Cofrin-Logan
Cecil and Clemency Coggins
Jane Connelly
Marian Cross
Iva P. DaSilva
Suellen Davidson
James Delaney
Richard Delaura and Marcia Hannon
Mary DeLaura
Caroline Destefano
Hermina Dixey
Susan Dominick
Patricia Dottin-Taytor
William Dowd
Christopher and Gretchen Duffy
Elizabeth Higgins
Chloe Falivene
Donna Ferullo
John Finley, IV
Harry Foster and Sarah Stahl
Emmanuel Franjul
Jennifer Fries
Christine Fry
Wen Fu Shih
William and Karen Gaylord
Barry Golden
Elizabeth Gonsalves
DONORS, CONTINUED

Terri and Gene Gorman
Kenneth Gould
Melissa and Stephen Graham
William Gregor
Karen Gutfreund
Elizabeth Harrison
Patricia Hertz
Sofia Hertz
Jocelyn Heywood
Kirsten Hickey
David Hodgkins and Sheil Kibbe
Karen Hogle
Paul Holtzman and Carol Steiker
Mary Elizabeth Howard
Ellen Homez and Genevieve Humez-Rousseau
Evelynne and Joseph Joseph
Karen Kaufman
William and Elizabeth Kearns
Courtney Keegan
Prabal and Rinchen Lama
Patricia Lautner and Javier Piedad
Peter Lautner
Amy Levitan
Grace Lindsay
Philip Lindsay
Mark Lippolt
Christopher and Andrea MacIsaac
Norma and Allan Macvarish
Deborah Malone
Julia Mannetta
Carol Martan
Jacques Mauche
Thomas Morris
Sean and Josephine Mullan
Calvin Neztsosie
Tim Nichols and Elizabeth Gonsalves
Gerald O’Doherty and Cecelia Nunez
Diedre O’Donnell-Griswold
Margaret O’Hara
Joseph and Kimberly O’Loughlin
Priscilla Paquette
Victoria Perez
John Peterson and Sally Stone-Peterson
Joyce Philippi
Carmen Piedad
Francesco and Ellen Poles
Karen Quigley and Russel Hensel
Kimberly Ralston
Judith Raup
Mark and Tracy Redmond
Lee Ridgway
Jeffrey and Jennifer Robinson
Lee Robinson
Sean E. and Ruth Rogers
Mehmet Rona, Sr.
Ben Salm
Jordan Shenefield
Suzanne Smore
Lynne Spencer
Joia and Laura Spooner-Fleming
Andrew Spooner
Daniel and Judith Steiker
Eric H. Stein and Carolyn Stafford
Nancy Stockford and Mark R. Huston
Lissa Story
Sarah Stowell
Jane Taylor
Megan J. Thomas
Sarah Tipton
Linus and Margaret Travers
Christine and David Tryba-Cofrin
Peter and Paula Tyack
Lisa Ulrich and Seth Berman
Sara and Alan Walsh
Michael Whouley
Stacey-Ann Wisdom
Jennifer Wood

GO WEST SINGERS!

Boston City Singers’ Cantare was invited to participate in the Sing A Mile High International Children’s Choral Festival in Denver, CO.
# Financials

## Boston City Singers

**Statement of Financial Position**

*For the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2016, 2015, 2014*

### Assets

**Current Assets:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$210,208</td>
<td>$115,281</td>
<td>$189,438</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition Receivable</td>
<td>2,610</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>5,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>212,818</strong></td>
<td><strong>115,981</strong></td>
<td><strong>195,228</strong></td>
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</table>

**Property and Equipment:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>$15,212</td>
<td>$15,212</td>
<td>$15,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Property and Equipment</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,212</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,212</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,212</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less - Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>(9,512)</td>
<td>(7,742)</td>
<td>(5,972)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Property and Equipment</strong></td>
<td>$5,700</td>
<td>$7,470</td>
<td>$9,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$218,518</strong></td>
<td><strong>$123,452</strong></td>
<td><strong>$204,468</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

**Liabilities:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$1,783</td>
<td>$2,591</td>
<td>$2,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,783</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,591</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,522</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Assets:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>216,735</td>
<td>120,860</td>
<td>201,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$216,735</strong></td>
<td><strong>$120,860</strong></td>
<td><strong>$201,946</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$218,518</strong></td>
<td><strong>$123,451</strong></td>
<td><strong>$204,468</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*International World Voices Tour Year*
# BOSTON CITY SINGERS
## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
*For the years ended August 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014*

## REVENUES & SUPPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$355,999</td>
<td>$274,184</td>
<td>$268,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants - Massachusetts</td>
<td>30,336</td>
<td>9,069</td>
<td>3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>62,061</td>
<td>58,889</td>
<td>19,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>1,568</td>
<td>2,946</td>
<td>22,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>160,163</td>
<td>107,383</td>
<td>152,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less - Tuition Assistance</td>
<td>(42,018)</td>
<td>(40,645)</td>
<td>(49,769)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Tour Fees</td>
<td>48,178</td>
<td>154,610</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less - Tuition Assistance</td>
<td>(12,645)</td>
<td>(36,968)</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Contracts</td>
<td>4,700</td>
<td>2,790</td>
<td>11,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ticket Sales</td>
<td>4,577</td>
<td>7,434</td>
<td>7,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Fees</td>
<td>4,874</td>
<td>2,502</td>
<td>12,831</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uniform Fees</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>2,600</td>
<td>2,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD/Photobook and Advertising Sales</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>2,846</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets Released from Restrictions:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expiration of Time Restrictions</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>1,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Unrestricted Revenues and Support</td>
<td>618,062</td>
<td>544,846</td>
<td>455,423</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Temporarily Restricted Revenues and Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expiration of Time Restrictions</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Temporarily Restricted Revenues and Support</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>(1,204)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Revenues and Support:</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues and Support</td>
<td>618,062</td>
<td>544,846</td>
<td>454,219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXPENSES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Expenses</td>
<td>384,815</td>
<td>430,273</td>
<td>265,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>134,797</td>
<td>195,529</td>
<td>150,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>2,575</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>10,490</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Expenses                | 522,187 | 625,932 | 426,371 |

### Change in Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change in Net Assets:</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, Beginning of Year (September 1)</td>
<td>$95,875</td>
<td>$(81,086)</td>
<td>$27,848</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets, End of the Year (August 31)</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$216,735</td>
<td>$120,860</td>
<td>$201,946</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* International Tour Year (Costa Rica)
Like a Bird.

Like a bird I soar
High in the sky
Beating wings the notes of my song
I feel free
I am safe
I sing my heart
Careless
I express myself through song
My feelings come alive
I am home

I am but a sound among many
My twittering joined by others

I am wrapped up in emotion
I am song
Singing is I

— Elisabeth, age 11
Boston City Singers Cantare Member and Aspiring Poet