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Nonprofit portrait provided by The Community Foundation Serving Richmond & Central Virginia

One Voice Chorus, Inc.



General Information

Contact Information

Nonprofit

Address

Phone

Web Site

Facebook

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One Voice Chorus, Inc.

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Studio 52

Richmond, VA 23224

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At A Glance

Year of Incorporation

2004

Organization's type of tax exempt status

Public Supported Charity

Name of supporting organization

One Voice Chorus, Inc.

Statements & Search Criteria

Mission

The mission of One Voice is to perform excellent choral music for the community and provide artistic and educational resources to promote the work of racial reconciliation. Through our music, membership and outreach programs, One Voice works toward positive, healing relationships between Americans of African and of European descent. Our vision is to be recognized as a model of the enriching power of choral music to bring together people historically separated by racial tensions. The broad cultural and community need addressed in our mission is recovery from the wounds of racism in a city long plagued by separation, enmity and mistrust. Incorporated in April 2004 as an independent non-profit organization, more than 100 One Voice singers now come from all parts of Richmond. Accepted without audition and without the application of any kind of quota, members of One Voice echo the racial balance of metropolitan Richmond. Since 2004, One Voice has performed for diverse audiences of more than 38,000 people.

Background

One Voice was born out of a dream for a racially diverse chorus that would use music to help bridge the historical divide between Americans of African and European descent. Founded in 2002 and incorporated in 2004, One Voice has become well-known for its diverse membership and musical excellence. Through our music and our strong sense of community, we have successfully brought together Richmonders from all walks of life in shared experiences of great music. We understand that the deeply rooted issues that continue to divide us are too large and complex to be solved simply by singing in a choir, but we believe that as we come together with mutual respect and common interests, we make a valuable contribution to the work of racial healing and reconciliation.

The primary goals of One Voice are:

- To represent the best of grassroots, non-auditioned community music
- To create racial harmony at a personal level through shared experiences of great choral music
- To perform a varied repertoire of classical choral works, traditional spirituals and choral jazz
- To embrace the widest possible range of talents and abilities
- To attract diverse populations to both chorus and audiences

We celebrate significant achievements:

- Since 2004, over 650 people from throughout metropolitan Richmond have sung with One Voice in 39 major concerts and more than 90 community events for diverse audiences of over 40,000.
- Singers, audiences, guest artists and orchestra echo the racial diversity of the Richmond Region.
- Annual concerts featuring traditional spirituals, choral classics and choral jazz are performed in diverse venues.
- Classical oratorios with full orchestra and professional soloists have included Handel's Messiah, Mendelssohn's Elijah, Beethoven's Choral Fantasy featuring nationally acclaimed pianist Awadagin Pratt, Vaughan Williams' Dona Nobis Pacem, Mozart's Requiem, and Dett's The Ordering of Moses - the first full-scale oratorio composed by an African American.
- In July, 2008 we performed a full concert of jazz favorites at the Smithsonian American Art Museum for a standing-room-only audience.
- In December 2011, we joined the Richmond Symphony Orchestra and Chorus for the highest selling annual holiday pops concert in their history. One Voice Artistic Director Glen McCune conducted his own composition, *Who Is This Child?*, with the symphony and combined choirs.
- In February 2015, We joined the Richmond Symphony Orchestra and Chorus for An Evening with Duke Ellington.
- Pre-concert conversations designed to facilitate dialogue about opportunities to promote racial harmony in Richmond are offered in conjunction with major concerts.
- Our small ensemble performs at numerous community events throughout the year.

Impact

2015-2016 accomplishments: (1) the chorus grew from an average of 100 participants for three major concerts for audiences that were likewise diverse to nearly 150 year on year. (2) The One Voice Ensemble - an auditioned group from within the large chorus - brought the music and message of One Voice to numerous community events, including participation in Historic Bruton Parish Candlelight Concert Series, Richmond Symphony's East End and Jackson Ward Festivals, as well as outreach to private and public ceremonies and events (3) Pre-concert conversations facilitated dialogue among audience members about opportunities for racial healing in Richmond and beyond at record levels, averaging 30 participants for each of the three concerts in 2015-2016 season. (4) New leadership has brought the Chorus to greater performance levels and financial stability than ever before.

Needs

(1) Increased cultivation of community partnerships and outreach opportunities. (2) Sufficient funding for long-range program planning, particularly for major works with orchestra and guest artists. (3) Expanded staff leadership to pursue opportunities for resource development, audience development and community outreach. (4) Increased participation of African Americans in the chorus.

CEO/Executive Director Statement

One Voice Chorus is unique. It is a group of people from diverse racial, ethnic, political, social, economic and religious backgrounds who come together to create beauty through musical expression in order to demonstrate that together, we can create positive outcomes, no matter what outward differences there may be between us. At One Voice Chorus, we demonstrate that diversity creates power. We teach that people can gain insight into one another's experiences by working together to achieve something beautiful. We show the Richmond area that, black or white, we are One.

Board Chair Statement

One Voice Chorus' past successes have been significant - that this community-based, no-audition chorus continues to draw audiences of over 600 after 14 years speaks volumes about the quality of the musical offering we bring to Richmond. Over 750 people have sung with One Voice over the past 13 years, and countless meaningful friendships have been forged between people of African and European descent, who may otherwise have never met. The challenges are, especially in this time of transition from a founding Artistic Director and Managing Director to new leadership in the organization, raising enough capital to meet the demands of a budget over \$100,000. Although our Managing Director and Artistic Director and Financial Coordinator are paid far less than industry standard; salaries, as in all organizations, consume a considerable part of our income. Most of our salaried staff pour much of their salaries back into the organization to help cover administrative expenses and expenses related to performing three concerts per year in March, June, and December. The rewards of promoting and demonstrating the value of genuine diversity are many. Our outreach programs, which also accrue costs, are a fun way for people of all ages, from schoolchildren to corporate audiences, to see and feel the power of our mission. Please help us to continue this important work. My grandchildren deserve to live in a world where the color of one's skin is the last characteristic to be evaluated and judged.

Areas Of Service

Areas Served**Areas**

In a specific U.S. city, cities, state(s) and/or region.

Metro Richmond

Tri-cities Region

Richmond, VA and surrounding area

Service Categories

Music

Intergroup/Race Relations

Programs

Programs

Major Choral Concerts

Description

Major choral concerts for the public are performed by the full chorus of more than 150 singers. The beauty and power of diversity is demonstrated not only in our membership, but also in our repertoire. Three major concerts each year feature traditional Spirituals, classical choral works, and jazz - with occasional forays into popular music and Broadway show tunes. Guest artists provide inspiration for the chorus and excitement for the audience. Major works with orchestra and professional soloists are presented as funding allows.

Concert costs vary depending on the venue and guest artists. Major works with full orchestra and soloists in a public venue have cost as much as \$53,000, while a concert with piano accompaniment in a donated venue typically has a budget of about \$20,000, which includes pro rata staff costs, music purchase, program printing and modest marketing expense.

Budget

\$0.00

Strategy

Yes

Community Performances

Description

Community Performances are provided primarily by the One Voice Ensemble, a small group (30 - 40 singers) auditioned from within the larger chorus. The group provides music for events sponsored by various business and community organizations. Frequently, performance hosts want to feature a racially diverse performing group because of the nature of the event or the mission of the organization.

Costs for community performances vary depending on the need to purchase music and the number of rehearsals required. Minimum expense for a short program with piano accompaniment is about \$200. Revenue from performance fees offsets direct costs and supports the operating budget.

Budget

\$0.00

Long term Success

Education Outreach

Description

In addition to its musical performances, One Voice offers educational experiences in both areas of our mission. As a true community chorus that welcomes anyone who wants to sing, One Voice is devoted to music education in a very broad sense. We have singers of every skill level - from "recreational" singers who can't read music to graduates of conservatories. Weekly rehearsals provide the primary educational opportunity, but we also offer more intensive choral workshops in the summer.

Pre-concert conversations before major concerts engage audience members in discussions focused on racial healing. The conversations are led by an experienced facilitator who maintains a comfortable, non-threatening environment. Chorus conversations are also held periodically to explore themes that are present in our music or in current events.

Budget

\$0.00

Board & Governance

Board Chair

Board Chair	Alma Hughes
Company Affiliation	Regions Financial Corporation
Term	Aug 2016 to July 2019
Email	alma@onevoicechorus.org

Board Members

Name	Affiliation	Status
Nadia Anderson	Virginia Grace Event Management	NonVoting
Sybil Bowman	Altria	Voting
Mary Brown	Richmond Region Tourism	NonVoting
Alma Hughes	Regions Bank	Voting
Ron Johnson	Anthem, Inc.	Voting
Kim Kacani	HH Hunt	Voting
John Linstrom	Behavioral Health Authority	Voting
Stan Orchowski	Justice Research and Statistics Association	Voting
Arnold Woodruff	Richmond Behavioral Health Authority	Voting

Board Demographics - Ethnicity

African American/Black	5
Asian American/Pacific Islander	0
Caucasian	6
Hispanic/Latino	0
Native American/American Indian	0

Board Demographics - Gender

Male	5
Female	6
Unspecified	0

Governance

Board Term Lengths	3
Board Term Limits	2
Board Meeting Attendance %	75
Written Board Selection Criteria?	No
Written Conflict of Interest Policy?	No

Percentage Making Monetary Contributions	100
Percentage Making In-Kind Contributions	100
Number of Full Board Meetings Annually	4

Standing Committees

Executive

Comments

Management

Executive Director/CEO

Executive Director	Mrs. Sonia R Elliott
Term Start	June 2015
Email	sonia@onevoicechorus.org

Sonia has been a member of the Chorus since 2008 and is pleased to step into a leadership role. She holds a Business Administration degree from Averett University. Sonia's years of experience as a Paralegal and Office Manager allow her to bring a unique point of view to the overall structure and work flow of the organization, looking for areas to optimize efficiency.

Co-CEO

Co-CEO	Mr. Lynn Gary Atkins Jr.
Term Start	Apr 2013
Email	lynn@onevoicechorus.org

Lynn Gary Atkins is the new Artistic Director (Conductor) for One Voice Chorus and is responsible for its artistic endeavors. Lynn holds a Doctorate in Musical Arts from James Madison University and has spent the past nine years teaching, leading and conducting chorale music in schools and churches. He comes to One Voice Chorus from the Shenandoah school district, where he was the Director of Choral Studies, and as Church Music Director.

Former CEOs

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>
Ms. Melissa Dunn	Apr 2013 - Mar 0
Mr. Glen McCune	Apr 2004 - Mar 0

Staff

Full Time Staff	1
Part Time Staff	0
Volunteers	11
Contractors	3
Retention Rate	100

Plans

Organization has a Fundraising Plan?	Under Development
Organization has a Strategic Plan?	Under Development
Management Succession Plan?	No

Organization Policy and Procedures	No
Nondiscrimination Policy	No
Whistleblower Policy	No
Document Destruction Policy	No
Directors and Officers Insurance Policy	Yes

Collaborations

Hope in the Cities, Petersburg Symphony, Richmond Symphony, Library of Virginia, Westminster Canterbury, University of Richmond, Virginia State University, Petersburg, Library, SoundWorks, American Guild of Organists

Affiliations

Affiliation	Year
ConnectRichmond	2011

Financials

Fiscal Year

	Aug
Fiscal Year	2017
Projected Revenue	\$128,780.00
Projected Expenses	\$108,635.00
Endowment Value	0
Spending Policy	N/A
Percentage (if selected)	0%

Form 990s

Form 990-EZ
Form 990-EZ
Form 990-EZ
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Form 990
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Detailed Financials

Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Total Revenue	\$86,518	\$119,224	\$128,012
Total Expenses	\$115,686	\$111,942	\$105,795

Revenue Sources

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Foundation and Corporation Contributions	--	--	--
Government Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal	--	--	--
State	--	--	--
Local	--	--	--
Unspecified	--	--	--
Individual Contributions	\$44,443	\$48,154	\$64,473
Indirect Public Support	--	--	--
Earned Revenue	\$42,075	\$71,070	\$63,539
Investment Income, Net of Losses	--	--	--
Membership Dues	--	--	--
Special Events	--	--	--
Revenue In-Kind	--	--	--
Other	--	--	--

Expense Allocation

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Program Expense	\$91,556	\$106,611	\$58,993
Administration Expense	\$23,866	\$4,422	\$43,753
Fundraising Expense	\$264	\$909	\$3,049
Payments to Affiliates	--	--	--
Total Revenue/Total Expenses	0.75	1.07	1.21
Program Expense/Total Expenses	79%	95%	56%
Fundraising Expense/Contributed Revenue	1%	2%	5%

Assets and Liabilities

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Total Assets	\$8,067	\$37,235	\$38,087
Current Assets	\$8,067	\$37,235	\$38,087
Long-Term Liabilities	\$0	\$0	--
Current Liabilities	\$0	\$0	\$1,877
Total Net Assets	\$8,067	\$37,235	\$36,210

Short Term Solvency

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Current Ratio: Current Assets/Current Liabilities	--	--	20.29

Long Term Solvency

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Long-Term Liabilities/Total Assets	0%	0%	0%

Top Funding Sources

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Top Funding Source & Dollar Amount	--	--	--
Second Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	--	--	--
Third Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	--	--	--

Capital Campaign

Currently in a Capital Campaign?	No
Goal	0

State Charitable Solicitations Permit

Permit?	Yes Nov 2016
Registration	Yes Nov 2016

Comments

Foundation Comments

- Form 990 prepared by CFO Professional Services, P.C.
- Financial statements prepared internally by the organization
- Financial information provided by the Form 990



The Community Foundation Serving Richmond & Central Virginia
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