The American Boychoir has long been recognized as one of the finest musical ensembles in the country. Under the leadership of Fernando Malvar-Ruiz, Litton-Lodal Music Director, the American Boychoir has dazzled audiences with its unique blend of musical sophistication, spirited presentation, and ensemble virtuosity. The Boychoir performs regularly with world-class orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, The Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and is often featured with such illustrious conductors as James Levine, Charles Dutoit, and Alan Gilbert. The American Boychoir is frequently invited to join internationally renowned artists on stage, and the list of collaborators reflects the extraordinary range of the ensemble: from great classical artists such as Jessye Norman and Frederica von Stade to jazz legend Wynton Marsalis and pop icons Beyoncé and Sir Paul McCartney. The choir’s young soloists are also in high demand and have joined forces with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra, and Spoleto Festival USA, to name a few. As an icon of American musical excellence, the Boychoir has been invited to sing for every sitting U.S. President since John F. Kennedy. Touring frequently at home and abroad as preeminent ambassadors, the American Boychoir spreads messages of beauty and hope through outstanding musical achievement.

Boys in fourth through eighth grades, reflecting the ethnic, religious and cultural diversity of the United States, come from across the country and around the world to pursue a rigorous musical and academic curriculum at the American Boychoir School in Princeton, New Jersey. While keeping up with their academic demands, the boys balance schoolwork with an intense national and international touring schedule. In addition to the almost 100 solo concerts, the 2014-2015 season includes two engagements with the Philadelphia Orchestra, a month-long performance exhibit at the Gladstone Gallery in New York City called *Fault Lines*, a performance at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, four national tours and the release of a feature film called *Boychoir* starring Dustin Hoffman and Kathy Bates. The legacy of the American Boychoir is preserved through an extensive recording catalog, which boasts over 45 commercial recordings and the launch of its own label, Albemarle Records.
Founded as the Columbus (Ohio) Boychoir in 1937 by Herbert Huffman, the choir moved to Princeton in 1950 to gain proximity to the major orchestras and fledgling television networks of the east coast and was later renamed the American Boychoir to reflect the wide ethnic, religious, and cultural diversity of its choristers. Today, the campus of the American Boychoir School features generous classroom and rehearsal spaces, a dormitory, a gymnasium and stage, outdoor recreation areas, and a stunning English Gothic chapel where the choir regularly performs.

Building on the many successes of the past and looking forward to an exciting future, the American Boychoir provides an opportunity for any boy to achieve extraordinary levels of performance and excellence through its still lofty and unwavering mission: to build character, to provide exceptional musical training, to make this training the motivation for educational attainment, and to enrich the cultural life of the nation.
Fernando Malvar-Ruiz, Litton-Lodal Music Director of the American Boychoir, began his musical studies at the age of ten in his native Spain. His undergraduate degrees in piano performance and music theory are from the Reál Conservatorio Superior de Música in Madrid, and he has also completed his Kodály certification in Kécskemet, Hungary, where he was awarded the prestigious Sharoltta Kodály scholarship. He also holds a master’s degree in Choral Conducting from Ohio State University and has completed all coursework toward a doctoral degree in musical arts from the University of Illinois.

Widely sought after internationally as a guest conductor, lecturer, and clinician, Malvar-Ruiz is recognized as an expert in the adolescent male evolving voice. Mr. Malvar-Ruiz joined the American Boychoir School as Assistant Music Director in 2000 and was appointed to the position of Litton-Lodal Music Director in 2004. Each year, he leads the American Boychoir in over one hundred performances and on tour throughout the United States and the world. During his tenure, the American Boychoir has performed for major national and international events including the 9/11 Memorial Service (broadcast worldwide live on CNN), the Academy Awards, the YouthAIDS Benefit Gala and the US Open Tennis Tournament, among others. The American Boychoir, under Mr. Malvar’s leadership, was chosen to perform at the 2009 ACDA National Convention in Oklahoma, as well the 2010 Kodály National Conference in Dallas, Texas.

In 2014, the American Boychoir made its feature film debut in Boychoir starring Dustin Hoffman, Kathy Bates, Josh Lucas and newcomer Garrett Wareing. Members of the American Boychoir are prominently featured in the film, and Mr. Malvar-Ruiz appears as Maestro Molina, in addition to his roles as Music Director, Choirmaster and Arranger for the film.

Mr. Malvar-Ruiz served as Artistic Director and Guest Conductor for the 2005 World Children’s Choir Festival in Hong Kong. He has conducted honor choirs at American Choral Director’s Association national and regional conventions and at the Organization of American Kodály Educators national conventions. For 11 summers, he instructed the summer master’s program in Kodály at Capital University, and in 2007–2012, he served on the faculty at the Academia Internacional de Verano de Dirección Coral y Pedagogía Musical in Las Palmas, Spain.
Starlight

Stars have been the subject of curiosity, fascination, wonderment and superstition for as long as human consciousness has existed. They have inspired countless examples of artistic expression in all disciplines including, of course, music.

Stars, and starlight, are also the inspiration for this program. In addition to a few settings which evoke celestial bodies, including some true classics, we also explore some less direct relationships with the subject. There is, for example, a starry night in a South American rainforest suddenly interrupted by a thunderstorm. There is also the more prosaic —though no less musically interesting— concept of movie stardom, which the choristers were able to experience themselves through their participation in the filming of the movie Boychoir, directed by François Girard and starring Dustin Hoffman.

We thank you for your patronage and sincerely hope that this program replicates a little of the sense of curiosity, fascination, and wonderment of stargazing on a clear night.

Sincerely,

Fernando Malvar-Ruiz
Litton-Lodal Music Director
American Boychoir
Fred Meads is enjoying his sixth year on the staff of the American Boychoir School, where he serves as the Director of Vocal Studies. His duties include teaching private voice lessons to all boys in the school, leading ear-training classes and conducting daily rehearsals of the Training Choir. During the summer, he serves as Music Director for Camp Albemarle, the summer music camp at ABS, and music assistant for the American Boychoir Experience, an auditioned camp for boys interested in attending the year-round school.

Mr. Meads has been director of choirs in public and private schools, churches and at the collegiate level in several states. From 1999–2009, he was Artistic Director of the Fort Wayne Children’s Choir, where he led the group on national and international tours and commissioned works from diverse and renowned composers. Mr. Meads has been the guest director for honor choirs in New Jersey, New York, Virginia, Nebraska and Pennsylvania. In 2014 he conducted the ACDA Northwest Region Children’s Honor Choir in Seattle, WA and in 2011, he conducted the OAKE National Children’s Honor Choir in Phoenix, AZ. He has presented workshops for conferences of the Indiana Music Educators Association, American Choral Directors Association, Organization of American Kodaly Educators, for music educators at Westminster Choir College and traveled to Hong Kong to present workshops for local music teachers and directors. Mr. Meads has served on the boards of the Indiana Choral Directors Association and the New Jersey Choral Directors Association as a Repertoire and Standards Chair.

Mr. Meads received the Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Ithaca College, NY and the Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He completed his Kodály training at Capital University in Columbus, OH where he was the recipient of several scholarships. He was selected as a participant in master classes for Chorus America and the Toronto Children’s Chorus and was a recipient of the Excellence in Arts Award by Arts United in Fort Wayne, IN.
The American Boychoir School offers rolling admissions throughout the year. Auditions for interested boys in grades three through seven will be held immediately following the concert. Please meet at the piano.
Ave Maris Stella

Ave maris stella, Dei mater alma, atque semper Virgo, felix caeli porta.

Hail, Star of the sea, great mother of God and always a Virgin, Joyous gate of Heaven.

Sumens illud Ave Gabrieliis ore, funda nos in pace, mutans Hevae nomen.

By welcoming that ‘Hail’ from Gabriel’s mouth, grant us peace, changing Eve’s fame.

Solve vincla reis, profer lumen caecis: mala nostra pelle, bona cuncta posce.

Undo wicked people’s bad deeds, give light to the blind, drive away our pains, give us every good.

Monstra te esse matrem: sumat per te preces, qui pro nobis natus, tulit eses tuus.

Show thyself to be a mother, let this prayer be welcomed through thee by He who was born for us and made Himself thy son.

Virgo singularis, inter omnes mittis, nos culpis solutos, mites fac et castos.

Holiest virgin unique, among the humblest, forgive our trespasses, and make us humble and chaste.

Vitam praesta puram, Iter paratum: ut videntes Iesum, semper collaetemur.

Give us a pure life, guard our paths, let us see Jesus, always joyful.

Sit laus Deo Patri, Summo Christo decus, Spiritui Sancto, tribus honor unus.

All praise be to God the Father, to the highest Christ, the Lord, and to the Holy Ghost, only honor to the Trinity.

Amen.

Amen.

from Frostiana: Seven Country Songs

VII. *Choose Something Like a Star

Randall Thompson (1899–1984)

The audience is respectfully reminded that recording, videotaping, or photographing this concert, in whole or in part, without permission from the American Boychoir, is strictly prohibited.
from Christus, Op. 97

I. Recitative
II. Say, where is he born
III. There shall a star from Jacob come forth

from Mass in G Major, BWV 236

Domine Deus

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Thou who takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayers.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.
Thou who sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

From Jesu, der du meine Seele, BWV 78

Wir eilen mit schwachen, doch emsigen Schritten

Wir eilen mit schwachen, doch emsigen Schritten, O Jesu, o Meister, zu helfen zu dir.
We hasten with weak, yet eager steps, O Jesus, o Master, to You for help.
Du suchest die Kranken und Irrenden treulich. Ach höre, wie wir die Stimmen erheben, um Hülfe zu bitten!
You faithfully seek the ill and erring. Ah, hear, how we lift up our voices to beg for help!
Es sei uns dein gnädiges Antlitz erfreulich!
Let Your gracious countenance be joyful to us!

La Lluvia

(The Rain)

*Tres Cantos Nativos dos Indios Krao

(Three Native Songs of the Kraó Indians)

from Missa

Lux Aeterna

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine: Cum sanctis tuis: quia pius es.
Light shine upon them, O Lord: With thy saints: for Thou are merciful.
Lux perpetua luceat eis. Requiem aeternam dona eis.
Perpetual light shine upon them. Grant them eternal rest.
Epitaph for Moonlight

R. Murray Schafer
(b. 1933)

*This Little Light of Mine

Andrew Davis, Violoncello

arr. Ken Berg
(b. 1955)

Elijah Rock

arr. Clifton Noble Jr.
(b. 1961)

MUSIC FROM THE FILM BOYCHOIR

*from A Ceremony of Carols, Op. 28
   4a. That youngè child
   4b. Balulalow
   5. As dew in Aprille
   6. This little Babe

Benjamin Britten
(1913–1976)

from Requiem, Op. 48
   IV. *Pie Jesu

Gabriel Faure
(1845–1924)
arr. Fernando Malvar-Ruiz
(b. 1968)

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem, sempiternam requiem.
Merciful Jesus, Lord, grant them rest, everlasting rest.

from Songs of Sanctuary
   I. *Adiemus

Karl Jenkins
(b. 1944)

from Messiah, HWV 56
   Amen
   Hallelujah

Georg Friderich Händel
(1685–1759)
arr. Fernando Malvar-Ruiz

* A recording of this piece is available on an American Boychoir CD.
   Please visit our sales table or see the back cover for purchase options.

Join our mailing list at
http://www.americanboychoir.org/mailinglist
**THE ST. OLAF CHOIR**
Anton Armstrong, Conductor
John Ferguson, Organ

The Lord’s Prayer                         Robert Stone (1516-1613)
I Will Not Leave You Comfortless          William Byrd (1543-1623)
How Fair the Church Shall Stand           F. Melius Christiansen (1871-1955)
Festival Alleluia                         Kenneth Jennings (b. 1925)

**COMBINED FINALE:**
Look To This Day                          Carolyn Jennings (b. 1936)

Anton Armstrong, Conductor
Philip Biedenbender ’16, Piano

**THE AMERICAN BOYCHOIR**
Fernando Malvar-Ruiz, Conductor

**THE ST. OLAF CHOIR**
Anton Armstrong, Conductor

**THE CONCERT CHOIR OF THE NORTHFIELD YOUTH CHOIRS**
Elizabeth Shepley, Conductor
In this upcoming independent film, Stet, a troubled and angry 11-year-old from the wrong side of the tracks, ends up at the American Boychoir School. Completely out of his element, he finds himself in a battle of wills with a demanding choir master who recognizes a unique talent in this young boy as he pushes him to find his creative heart and soul in music.

Boychoir stars Academy Award® winners Dustin Hoffman and Kathy Bates, including Eddie Izzard and Josh Lucas, and is directed by François Girard, visionary director of Cirque Du Soleil and Academy Award® winning film *The Red Violin*. Singers from the American Boychoir, one of the world’s most prestigious boy choirs, are featured in the film as actors, and provide the entire musical backdrop.

Critics from the Toronto Film Festival raved saying...

“Never missing a chance to show off his film’s lovely, often unexpectedly challenging choral arrangements, Girard lets the purity of the boys’ singing linger in the background, a beatific echo even in dialogue scenes.” [The Telegraph, September 6, 2014]

“But the best reason to see “Boychoir” is the chance to hear “Boychoir.” French-Canadian director Francois Girard is sharp enough to realize the value in packing in plenty angelic-voiced a cappella vocal arrangements that truly sound like heaven on earth.” [Roger Ebert.com, September 8, 2014]

Written by screenwriter Ben Ripley (*Source Code*), *Boychoir* is produced by Judy Cairo (*Crazy Heart*), Carol Baum (*The Good Girl*) and Jane Goldenring at Informant Media.

*Boychoir* discovers that there is brilliance in everyone if only you dare to dream.
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Mark M. Laseter is thrilled to join the American Boychoir this season. Recently graduating with a degree in Voice Performance from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ, he has been both accompanying and singing in the greater Princeton area for the past four years. While at Westminster, he had the pleasure of accompanying the majority of the college’s fine choirs and in the summer months, served as principal accompanist for their summer Vocal Institute. Mr. Laseter played for Princeton Pro Musica on their recent tour of Croatia and is honored to have collaborated with the Southern Division American Choral Director’s Association High School Honor Choir and several other honor choirs in Tennessee.

Stemming from his upbringing in the Chattanooga Boys Choir (based in Chattanooga, Tennessee), Mr. Laseter is most passionate about boychoirs and the unique learning environment they provide. He looks forward to the varied performance experiences he will have with the American Boychoir.
AMERICAN BOYCHOIR EDUCATION

The curriculum of the American Boychoir School is uniquely structured so that the boys gain their education not only in the classroom but also during their touring and musical experiences. Class sizes are kept small, providing individual attention that allows each student to be challenged. Whether visiting the Alamo or the Liberty Bell, the tour experience is integrated into our academic curriculum. The confidence and discipline that the boys learn from performing at a world-class level are reflected in the approach to their studies.

Graduates of the American Boychoir School typically continue their studies at many of the country’s finest public and private high schools, such as The Lawrenceville School (NJ), St. Paul’s School (NH), and Phillips Academy Andover (MA). Many have matriculated at prestigious universities like Princeton University, Harvard University, University of Chicago, and Cambridge University, pursuing diverse career paths in fields such as physics, economics, education, and even music.

AMERICAN BOYCHOIR COMMUNITY

Our community life program creates an environment for our students to discover themselves as individuals, while developing skills necessary to be well-rounded, global citizens. The students live in a cozy dormitory setting where they form friendships with boys from around the nation and the world. Our supportive residential staff help students adapt to their unique home away from home, creating a nurturing family atmosphere necessary for healthy growth and character development. In addition to sports, clubs, and games at school, free time and weekends seize upon the culturally rich offerings of the region, including first-class museums and events in Princeton, Philadelphia, and New York.
The American Boychoir Experience

June 28–July 4, 2015

The American Boychoir Experience is a day and boarding summer music camp for boys ages 9–12. This professional choral training allows boys to experience the life of an American Boychoir student. Campers learn and perfect repertoire with Music Director Fernando Malvar-Ruiz and improve their sight-reading and ear-training skills in daily music theory classes. The camp culminates in a performance on campus.

Camp Albemarle

July 5–July 18, 2015

Camp Albemarle is a day and boarding summer music camp for boys and girls ages 7–14. Camp Albemarle choruses have earned this acclaimed summer program a reputation as one of the nation’s finest. Led by Music Director Fred Meads, campers explore the fundamentals of healthy and artistic singing techniques and perform music of many different cultural traditions. Campers choose between participation in the Musicianship Training or Small Group Vocal Instruction classes.
**HOW TO DONATE**

*Let your voice be heard – join the song!*

Consider making a gift to the American Boychoir. By transforming your applause into a gift, you help provide this life-changing experience for each chorister.

The rich diversity that makes up the American Boychoir School comes from our devotion to recruit the best choristers from across the nation and the world regardless of their financial circumstance. With the ever-increasing cost of education, travel, and boarding, tuition covers only a small portion of the total cost to educate and musically train each chorister. The American Boychoir relies on the generosity of friends like you to sustain its mission by raising half of the cost per student.

Visit our secure website americanboychoir.org/donate or call the Development Office at 609-924-5858, extension 635.

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AUDITION

Find your voice! The American Boychoir welcomes boys from across the country and around the world who seek a unique education, who love singing, and who enjoy traveling. Our fully accredited school for grades four through eight emphasizes character development in conjunction with a rigorous academic program and intensive musical training. Through their concentrated effort in the classroom, in the rehearsal room, and on the concert stage, the boys learn self-discipline, teamwork, and dedication—key values that foster self-worth, community pride, and the confidence to face challenges.

You can audition

after a performance • in person at the school • on YouTube

Visit our website for more information.

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