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Our 50th Season

Congratulations to the Minnesota Boychoir as it celebrates 50 years of nurturing the lives of young men through the art of choral music. Special greetings to your Music Director, Mark Johnson, (my good friend and former student) who is entering his 20th year with the Minnesota Boychoir. Under his visionary leadership, the Minnesota Boychoir has continued to grow in membership and has achieved new levels of artistic excellence. It has become one of the Twin Cities noted choral ensembles and has been increasingly recognized for its musical artistry as it has expanded its concertizing at the national and international levels. You have been wonderful "singing ambassadors" for the state of Minnesota and continued success as you begin your next fifty years!!

Dr. Anton Armstrong, Conductor, The St. Olaf Choir

My friendship with the Minnesota Boychoir dates back to the 1970s with Paul Pfeiffer and Bill Bailey. I was already at Plymouth Congregational Church and Bill and Marge were members there and through them I met Paul. It was wonderful to see the Boychoir grow both in quality and numbers and it has been marvelous to watch the continued growth under Mark Johnson's leadership. VocalEssence has been pleased to invite the Minnesota Boychoir to perform with us on several occasions - most notably the William Bolcom Festival at Orchestra Hall and at the National Convention of the American Guild of Organists at the St. Paul Cathedral in 2008. Congratulations on a stellar 50 years of singing and I wish you many, many more years of success as you inspire young boys, their parents and all of your listeners!

Philip Brunelle, Artistic Director and Founder, VocalEssence

"When planning for the National Lutheran Choir's performance of the monumental St. Matthew Passion by J. S. Bach, the opening movement calls for "Treble Choir" (which in Bach's time was the Boy Choir). There was no doubt in my mind who to call: Mark Johnson and the Minnesota Boychoir. First off, because of their pure tone which I knew would cut over the top of the double orchestra, and double choir, and I also knew they would not be daunted by being spread out in surround sound in the balcony of St. Olaf Catholic Church. Secondly, because I knew there would be absolutely no worries - they would come fully prepared, and behave and perform in the highest professional way. They were absolutely superb and it was an astounding experience - with a completely sold-out house. We're proud of them, and were deeply honored to have their partnership in this memorable performance."

Dr. David Cherwien, Organist and Conductor, National Lutheran Choir and Mount Olive Lutheran Church

"On the occasion of its 50th anniversary season, I commend the Minnesota Boychoir under the artistic leadership of Mark Johnson, for always achieving artistic excellence and being an integral part of the Twin Cities music community. The Boychoir provides the Orchestra the opportunity to plan and program repertoire that includes young voices and always join us well prepared and well connected to the Orchestra. Bravo Minnesota Boychoir!"

Osmo Vänskä, Director, Minnesota Orchestra