

I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET MAINLINERS BARBERSHOP CHORUS

One page only. This page will be shared electronically with Grant Committee Members & Fund Advisors.

Note: If Philanthropy Network of Greater Philadelphia's Common Grant Application is used, the Community Foundation's Summary Sheet MUST accompany application.

To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit www.chescocf.org

Date

Contact Information

Organization Name: Mainliners Chorus

Address: 1120 Woodstock Lane, West Chester, PA 19382

Phone: 610-399-1251 cell 610-812-9453

Website: <https://www.mainliners.org/>

Year Incorporated: 1963

FEIN: 23-0629630

Executive Director Name: Donald Berlin

Executive Director E-mail: berlin5@comcast.net

Board of Directors Chair Name: Robert Rullo

Primary Contact Name: Robert Rullo

Primary Contact E-mail: surfnw@comcast.net

Has your nonprofit ever applied to the Community Foundation? Yes ___ No X Not Sure ___

Has your nonprofit ever received funding from the Community Foundation? Yes ___ No X Not Sure ___

___ Donor Advised Fund(s) ___ Fund for Chester County ___ Don't know/Not sure

Field/s of Interest:

X Arts, Culture & Humanities

___ Environment/Animal Welfare

X Education

___ Health

___ Human Services

___ Religion

Organization Information:

Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served):

All Specifics, Performances in West Chester, Exton, West Goshen, Pocopson, Lower Oxford, HoneyBrook, Caln, Malvern, Berwyn, Uchlan, West Brandywine, Elverson, Willistown, Elverson, Phoenixville, Birmingham, Downingtown, Kennett, East Goshen, Devon, Tredyffrin, West Nantmeal etc.

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served:

Chester County is our primary focus area with more than 80% of our performances occurring within this county. Estimated reach of shows performances 5,000 people, outreach events sing outs, and parades another 30,000 people for an estimate annual impact of people served of 35,000.

Mission:

The Mainliners Chorus, founded in 1963 in Bryn Mawr, is the area's premier men's a cappella chorus. We rehearse each Monday night at [St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Exton, PA.](#) We are a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization based in metropolitan Philadelphia dedicated to preserving this unique American musical style for generations to come. We work to encourage excellence in singing in the four part A cappella style. Youth education is a very important tenant of our craft as is the support of our local community through our outreach programs.

Proposal Summary: We are looking for grant assistance to help fund our expanded youth music education programs. Grant funding would also assist our efforts to expand our music and outreach programs to all people of Chester and its surrounding counties. The planned expansion would enable us to bring our music to individuals who may not have had the opportunity of exposure to this music genre. We are an organization who chapter is open to all people regardless of sex, race, religion, sexual orientation from ages 8 to 100.

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

Mission, Vision & Strategy Governance & Leadership Strategic Relationships
 Fundraising & Development Technology Other: _____

Annual Budget \$40,000 0 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff

90 % of budget for program expenses 10 # of Board Volunteers

3 % of budget for administrative expenses 15 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers

7 % of budget for fundraising expenses 16,000 # of Volunteer Hours (est.)

100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources:

1. Funding from proceeds of two annual shows at Knauer Center and Conestoga High School.
2. Funding from Singing Valentines performed all over Chester County and the Delaware Valley.
3. Funding from sing outs performed all over Chester County and the Delaware Valley at over 55 communities, parks, parades and organizations
4. Funding from donations from members such as donations for quartet sing outs throughout Chester County and beyond. Portions of membership fees go to funding of the Mainliners Chapter although the majority goes to fund our District and the Barbershop Harmony Society.
5. Funding from the families of deceased former members in the form of bequeathments.

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$500 to \$7,500

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

1. Organization's history, goals, key achievements and distinctiveness

The Bryn Mawr Mainliners Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society was founded in 1963 in Bryn Mawr Pa. We have subsequently moved to Exton, Pa and have been residents there for the last 6 years. Our letters of incorporation still recognize the Bryn Mawr titling for business purposes and financial reporting purposes.

Our primary goal is to ensure and expand four part harmony singing in Chester County and the Delaware Valley by exposing new groups of individuals to our music. In Barbershop Harmony competition we have been our Division Champion, District Champion, a multitude of times over our 56 years of existence, and have traveled to international competition on many occasions. We have entertained several hundreds of thousands of people during this period of time. We are involved in outreach programs that touch thousands of Chester County Residents such as St. Paul's Save the Earth program which benefits the Chester County Food Bank.

We have sponsored "Youth in Harmony" events at Downingtown East High School for the last 15 years. We have featured Youth choral groups from Conestoga, Downingtown, Great Valley and other high schools in our annual shows. We have also featured singing groups from West Chester University in these same shows.

2. Funding request

• Description of key initiatives

Our wish is to continue to sponsor "Youth in Harmony" events in Chester County. Our programs will provide professional training for young men and women choral art performers and their directors in the joys of singing four part A cappella harmony. Event costs will include transportation, lodging and fees for bringing World Class singing coaches to Chester County on an annual basis. Cost would also include the rental costs of performing facilities and payment of technical staff. Providing food and refreshment to the young campers will also be included in this program.

We will also be purchasing new uniforms for 2019. Any contribution made to this endeavor will help to offset the expected cost of \$8,000 for 50 new uniforms for chorus performances. Our current uniform has been in service since 2008 and has served us for more than 10 years. We also enlisted the aid of our younger members to choose a uniform that would be attractive to a younger demographic as part of our strategic/tactical plan

• Specific needs and issues to be addressed

We need to expand the base of our audiences and our chorus members to include a younger and more diverse set of people. Part of our effort to reach the African American community will be participating in the "Juneteenth", June 19, celebration at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Exton. Our hope is that as a result of our involvement in this charitable endeavor our chorus will be heard by other African-American organizations in the County allowing exposing our music to even more diverse audiences.

Also with our youth in harmony activities we are hoping to not only get young high schoolers involved in Barbershop Music but also their parents. The Barbershop Harmony Society has recently opened its doors to women being full members of our organization. It was not an edict from BHS but rather a suggestion and those decisions to move forward in this effort would be on a chapter by chapter basis. We have chosen to embrace this decision and our group now is not only a men only organization but open to all.

- **For capacity building grant proposals: N/A**
 - **How will this capacity building initiative impact your organization?**
 - **How will this impact be measured?**
 - **Include a description of the expected activities; timeline and costs to implement the initiative. If external consulting services are required, include the anticipated costs and expertise of the consultants to be hired. Include external consultant proposals if applicable.**
- **Why it is important to fund this now**

2. How impact and results will be demonstrated

If we are successful in our efforts the results will be demonstrated by improved chorus membership and increased participation by a younger demographic that will help to ensure the continuity of our art form. We will also see an increase in women as singers in our organization which will allow us to present to our audiences new musical pieces featuring soprano voices.

If successful we would also see an increase in minority audiences at our performances as well as a growth in minority membership as full time members of the Mainliners.