



The Continuo Arts Foundation is committed to making a difference in the lives of individuals, communities and cultures through music. Supporting music education and musicians, Continuo Arts offers New Jersey's most comprehensive Intergenerational Choral Program inclusive of children through adult, senior citizens to professionals. The Continuo Arts Foundation is known for providing all-encompassing and unforgettable local, national and international musical experiences in concerts, classes, workshops and throughout the education spectrum; leading to a life-long love and support of the arts. Working in partnership with members, patrons, corporate and private sponsors, the Continuo Arts Foundation makes possible the education, performance and composition of music in ways which might otherwise be considered too unique or too expensive to be ordinarily undertaken; giving precedence to considerations of quality over those of quantity; to artistic rather than to economic values and to opportunity over expediency. A 501 (c) 3 charitable organization, more information can be found at [www.continuoarts.com](http://www.continuoarts.com).

### **The Vision**

The Continuo Arts Foundation believes that exposure to the arts is essential to understanding our culture and heritage. We believe that music is of primary importance to the survival of civilization, to the health of society and to insuring the highest quality of life. The experience of music allows us to participate in the universal creative process, open hearts and minds, awaken feelings and bring delight and joy. We strive to understand and to promote music across the life span to all generations and around the world.

We believe that intergenerational musical experiences provide an important opportunity to become stronger individuals; to become more unified as a community by experiencing different cultures and backgrounds through music and in the process, make the communities we belong to stronger.

We are committed to innovative music education, exposure, enrichment and programming which engages the young and the old, the sophisticated and the first-time performer or listener, as well as those interested in understanding diverse cultures and genres.

### **The Mission**

The Continuo Arts Foundation mission is to further musical education, performance, composition, exposure and appreciation from generation to generation.

### **History**

The Continuo Arts Foundation was founded in 2007 and since that time, our commitment to procreate the arts through education, opportunity, performance, composition, and appreciation has grown to a global level.

## Historic Timeline

### 2007

- Continuo Arts Foundation Incorporated

### 2008

- Inaugural Concert; Festival Pro Musica E Arte Sacre – Rome & Vatican City
  - World Premiere “Requiem for My Mother” – Stephen Edwards, Composer
  - Symphonic Chorus with Continuo Arts Chorus in collaboration with four additional National organizations
  - Continuo Arts Orchestra with City of Prague Philharmonic
  - Executive Director Candace Wicke, first woman & second American to receive conducting invitation shared with Rilling, Eschebach, Kramer and more
  - Televised broadcast throughout Europe
  - Continuo Arts filmed for feature documentary

### 2009

- Intergenerational Choral Programs Launched
  - Children’s Chorus, Youth Chorus, Adult Chorus
- Carnegie Hall “Christmas Time in the City” Concert Presentation
  - Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus & Orchestra
  - World Premiere of “A Carol Fantasy” by Stephen Edwards
- Initiated free Holiday and Spring concert series & community service performances

### 2010

- Carnegie Hall “Sounds of Music” Concert Presentation
  - Continuo Arts & National Youth Choirs with the Continuo Arts Orchestra
  - Premieres of “Hope” & “Sing A Song With Me” by Gary Fry
- Expanded free Holiday & Spring community outreach concerts and community service performances
- Summer Musical Theater Conservatory Founded
  - Three-week intensive program for children & youth
- Children’s Chorus featured as guest performers with Andre Rieu and the Johann Straus Orchestra in Boardwalk Hall, Atlantic City

### 2011

- Seniors Sing! an ensemble for those young-at-heart began, presented free of charge to area senior citizens
- Intergenerational choral ensembles expanded to include teen boys ensemble
- Collaboration with Union County for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary 9-11 Memorial Service with Continuo Arts Choruses performing
- Inaugural International Festival di Musica per Giovani Musicisiti
  - Continuo Arts Children & Youth Choruses combined with other local New Jersey ensembles perform with international choruses in Rome, Vatican City and Assisi, Italy
- Continue free Holiday & Spring Concert Series and outreach performances
- Summer Musical Theater Conservatory doubles in size

### 2012

- Intergenerational Choral Programs expand to include intermediate Teen Girls Ensemble
  - Performing membership exceeds 150
- Minuetto Music Festival launched

- The Milton Cross Young Artist Program & Showcase Concert
- The Emerging Artist Debut Concert
- The Festival Finale Concert with Symphonic Chorus & Orchestra
- The second International Festival di Musica per Giovani Musicisti
  - Expands to Australia & Prague
  - World Premiere of “Missa Brevis” by Stephen Edwards
  - Recording sessions at Smecky Studios in Prague
- International collaboration with the Turkish Government presenting concerts in Lincoln Center and the Music Center at Strathmore with the Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus & the Turksoy Orchestra
- Executive Director meets with Irish President & Prime Minister for cultural exchange festival planning
- Continue free Holiday & Spring Concert Series and outreach performances
- Summer Musical Theater Conservatory

## **2013**

- Launched the first Film Festival at the American Choral Directors Association National Convention presenting:
  - Requiem for My Mother-Featuring Continuo Arts Chorus & Orchestra
  - The Singing Revolution
  - A Shining Night; A Portrait of Composer Morten Lauridsen
- Minuetto Music Festival presents three concert series
  - Audience concert attendance doubles in size
- Continue free community concerts and outreach performances
- Summer Musical Theater Conservatory
- Presented the Australian New Castle Chamber Ensemble on the Festival Pro Musica E Arte Sacra in Rome, Assisi & Vatican City

## **2014**

- First Historic Concert inside the Sistine Chapel by a US organization
  - Featured in National Fox News Report
- Concert Tour of Ireland with Continuo Arts Choruses in collaboration with ensembles from across the United States
- Carnegie Hall performance of the Mozart Requiem in collaboration with Houghton College with Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus & Orchestra
- “The Wisdom of Broadway” Concert in collaboration with Central Presbyterian Church
  - Feature broadcast by HTTV
- Concert Series in collaboration with Crescent Choral Society with composer, conductor Marco Frisina
- Presented composer & conductor Mark Hayes and conductor Teresa Russell on the Festival Pro Musica E Arte Sacra in Vatican City, Rome.
- Continue free Holiday & Spring Concert Series and outreach performances
- Minuetto Music Festival presents three concert series in June
  - Live broadcast by HTTV
- Summer Musical Theater Conservatory

## **2015**

- The World Premiere of Disney’s “*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*” at Paper Mill Playhouse. Over 120 members performed during the 40 show run, with 32 singers a night
- Seniors Sing! performs for Union County’s final Sesquicentennial Civil War remembrance, culminating a three year series of events
- Continue free Holiday and Spring Concert Series & outreach performances
- Summer Musical Theater Conservatory

- Minuetto Music Festival, in collaboration with the Grand Summit Hotel, presents Martha Bartz & ACTE II in concert
  - Feature broadcast by HTTV
- The Hollywood Songbook
  - Two concert collaboration to launch local theater troupe

## **2016**

- Continuo Local Concert Series
- Minuetto Music Festival presents Sonaré
- Appearance on the Festival Pro Musica E Arte Sacra in Rome & Vatican City
  - Additional Festival artists include
    - The Vienna Philharmonic
    - Christoph Eschenbach
    - The Illumni Art Orchestra and Chorus
    - The Vienna Boys Choir
    - The Sistine Chapel Choir

## **2017**

- 10 Year Anniversary Season Celebration!

## **2018**

- The Inaugural Season of “The Premiere Project” in Rome, Italy
  - Featuring The World Premiere of “Gospel Mass” by Mark Hayes