

NEWS from



Holland Windmill Chorus
The Holland MI Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society



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BARBERSHOP MUSIC CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED FOR TEN LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLERS

APRIL 13, 2009 -- Holland Windmill Chorus has pledged up to ten scholarships for local high-school-age singers to attend the three-day Rockin' Barbershop Camp scheduled for August 27-29, 2009, on the campus of Interlochen Center for the Arts near Traverse City. Information and scholarship application forms have been made available from choral directors at seven area high schools in Hamilton, Holland, Saugatuck and Zeeland. Applications will be accepted by HWC through Monday, May 4, or until ten qualified applications are received.

The 2009 camp promises participants three days (two overnights) of an educational, fun-filled, "a capella" singing experience for young singers, both male and female, coached by seasoned vocal instructors and enlivened by instructive performances of top competitive quartets. The program includes a "crash course" in the intricacies of four-part barbershop-style harmony, instruction and practice in singing technique and stage presence, the stimulation of new friendships forged with others sharing the same musical interests from across the state, and culminates in a major finale performance on Saturday night (August 29).

"Many of our Windmill Chorus members were introduced to singing close, a capella harmony in high school", says HWC President Jay Bylsma. "We've enjoyed it and the good fellowship that has come with it ever since. By providing these scholarships, we're hoping to open up that same opportunity to more of the young people in our area."

The 2009 camp is hosted by the Pioneer District of the Barbershop Harmony Society -- which comprises 29 chapters in Michigan and Windsor, Ontario -- aided by grants from Harmony Foundation International, a nonprofit philanthropic partner of the Barbershop Harmony Society, and Young Singers Foundation, a Tulsa, OK based organization founded by Sweet Adelines Int'l, the worldwide organization of women barbershop singers. Minimized by the financial support from these groups, the cost of attending Rockin' Barbershop Camp is only \$140 per camper, covering tuition, room and board.

Holland Windmill Chorus, our area's chapter of the international Barbershop Harmony Society, is a not-for-profit, volunteer-based organization with membership open to all men who enjoy singing four-part harmony. Founded in 1945, HWC performs barbershop concerts at Christmastime, during Holland's Tulip Time Festival and for a variety of other public and private events throughout the year. In its regional competition at Battle Creek last fall, the group won that event's "most improved chorus" award.

For more information about the scholarship offering, contact Jay Bylsma by phone at 616.399.5721 or e-mail jbylsma@jbylsma.com. Details about the Rockin' Barbershop Music Camp are available at www.RockinBarbershop.org, and details about the Interlochen Center are available at www.Interlochen.org.

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