

NEWS from



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



12330 James St, Suite H100 / PO Box 1403, Holland, MI 49422

Media Information Contacts:

Jay Bylsma / HWC
616.638.6344
jbylsma@jbylsma.com

John Peters
269.857.2967
jppubrel@aol.com

Elizabeth Kidd / CFHZ
616.396.6590
elizabeth@cfhz.org

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT TO SUPPORT WESTSHORE TALENT SEARCH SCHOOL AWARDS

JAN. 15, 2013 -- Holland Windmill Chorus (HWC), our area's chapter of the international Barbershop Harmony Society, has received a grant from The Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area's Youth Advisory Committee, specifically designated to support monetary awards for local school Music Departments whose students win top honors in HWC's second WestShore Talent Search program this coming spring. Funding for this grant is being provided from the W.K. Kellogg Youth Fund within the Community Foundation.

The first WestShoreTalent Search program was introduced in early 2012 through local high-school music faculties across the broader Holland/Zeeland area, initiated and sponsored by HWC with the support of various local businesses. Last June, thirteen contestants selected through May auditions competed in a public performance at Holland's Beechwood Church. Holland High School's Graeme Richmond and Jenelle Archer, from West Ottawa High School, claimed first-place and runner-up honors, respectively, sharing that contest's \$750 prize.

According to HWC President Jay Bylsma, "programs presented by area high schools show that our community has some truly outstanding student talent, but it's usually showcased only to parents and supporters of individual schools. For that reason, our Chorus decided to create a Talent Search that would give our aspiring local performers a broader community audience. This year, the Community Foundation grant will strengthen our program by making possible a tangible benefit to the school departments that nurture these young artists."

The Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area (CFHZ) was established in 1951 to connect community needs with the people and resources who can best meet them. The Foundation represents more than 400 funds donated by a diverse group of individuals, businesses and organizations. Its grants are focused on capital projects and new, creative endeavors, with special interest in education, arts and culture, health, social services, the environment, recreation, community development and the needs of the youth and elderly in our community. For more information about CFHZ, visit www.cfhz.org or contact Elizabeth Kidd, Director of Grantmaking, by phone at 616.396.6590 or e-mail elizabeth@cfhz.org.

Holland Windmill Chorus is a volunteer-based organization with membership open to all men who enjoy singing a cappella four-part harmony. Founded here in 1945, HWC hosts barbershop-music concerts during Holland's Tulip Time Festival, offers singing valentines and performs for a variety of other public and private events throughout the year. For more information about Holland Windmill Chorus, contact chapter president Jay Bylsma by phone at 616.638.6344 (Holland) or vice-president/chapter development Art Lane at 269.857.2781 (Saugatuck).

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