



Keystone State Boychoir

"Pennsylvania's Boychoir"

we are the BOYS...



...and we SING!

Keystone State Boychoir channels the unique energy of boys into joyful music-making of the highest level, creating unforgettable choral experiences for both performers and audiences.



In a *Philadelphia Inquirer* review of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, music critic David Patrick Stearns summed up the Boychoir in a word —
“excellent.”

Keystone State Boychoir (KSB), founded in 2001, has enjoyed unprecedented success during its eleven years and has become recognized as one of the finest community-based boychoir programs in the world. Under the direction of Music Director Joseph P. Fitzmartin and Associate Music Director Steven M. Fisher, KSB consists of more than 150 young men between the ages of eight and eighteen who sing an enthralling repertoire from the classical to the contemporary. Major choral works that KSB has performed include Bach's *St. Matthew's Passion*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Handel's *Messiah*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Britten's *St. Nicolas*, and the Fauré *Requiem*.

KSB has sung with the region's most distinguished ensembles, including the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Opera Company of Philadelphia, for which it serves as its official boychoir. KSB has appeared in the area's most prominent venues including the Perelman Theater and Verizon Hall in the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, the Academy of Music, and the Mann Music Center. The choir has performed by invitation at conferences of the American Choral Director's Association, the Australian Music Educators Society, and the International Society of Music Educators. In June of 2012, KSB made its Broadway debut on stage at the Shubert Theatre in a presentation of the musical *Oliver!* starring Brian Stokes Mitchell.

Internationally, KSB has performed in major concert halls, including the Manaus Opera House in Brazil, the Petronas Philharmonik Hall in Malaysia, and the Hanoi Opera House in Vietnam, as well as in venues throughout Canada, Brazil, Chile, South Africa, Japan, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia,

Australia, Monaco, France, Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Norway. Having sung in Antarctica, KSB is the only choir to have sung on all seven continents. In July of 2012, KSB made history again when it travelled above the Arctic Circle to Svalbard, Norway and sang in the northernmost church and northernmost theatre in the world.

The KSB experience centers on its truly joyful music-making. The vibrant sound of the choir is enhanced by its compelling stage presence. The music directors believe that today's choral music should be felt and seen, as well as heard, if the art form is to thrive. They have found that when the unique energy of boys is channeled into choral singing of the highest standard, the result is unforgettable performances for audiences and singers alike.

Keystone State Boychoir and its sister-choir, Pennsylvania Girlchoir, are member-choirs of Commonwealth Youthchoirs, founded by Joseph P. Fitzmartin and Steven M. Fisher. Under the leadership of Executive Director Susan S. Ashbaker, this non-profit organization is committed to providing superior choral music education and performance opportunities for young people from diverse economic, racial, and ethnic backgrounds. Anchored in deep caring and respect for each individual singer, our choral programs promote camaraderie and self-discipline and nurture leadership skills in the pursuit of artistic excellence that uplifts and inspires performers and audiences alike.

To learn more about the Keystone State Boychoir, visit: www.keystonestateboychoir.org