PYC PATHWAY SCHOLARSHIP

Pittsburgh Youth Chorus is the region’s premier choral education organization, providing professional level choral education and performance opportunities to a diverse group of children since 1983, so that they might realize their innate artistic potential and share their talents with their families and communities.

At Pittsburgh Youth Chorus (PYC) we firmly believe in the transformative power that comes from lifting one’s voice in song, and we further believe that music is a gift to be enjoyed and experienced by all. As an organization dedicated to serving Pittsburgh’s talented young singers, we are committed to increasing economic, racial, social and cultural equity and inclusion in our choirs.

To advance this goal, we are proud to introduce The PYC Pathway. The PYC Pathway Scholarship will provide full scholarships for up to ten children who reside within and attend a Pittsburgh Public School.

While PYC has always welcomed students of diverse backgrounds, through The PYC Pathway, we will open our doors wide and remove the economic barriers that prevent children from participating in our choral education program.

The PYC Pathway will provide tuition support for the following programs:

- Neighborhood Training Choirs for children in first through third grade;
- Performance choirs for singers in grade three and above. Placement auditions determine whether a child is accepted into the entry-level Troubadours, intermediate Talisman or the advanced Bel Canto Singers;
- A one-week Summer Singers Day Camp for children ages 7-10; and,
- A residency summer camp for children who have been accepted into either the Talisman or Bel Canto Singers

Depending upon a singer’s choral placement, The PYC Pathway provides tuition assistance valued at $360 to $1600 annually.

Pittsburgh Youth Chorus expects to award $10,000 per year in assistance to students who are accepted into The PYC Pathway program.
THE PYC PATHWAY

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

Students interested in applying to The PYC Pathway must meet the following requirements:

1. Students must reside and attend a school within the Pittsburgh Public School District system.

2. Students must have good academic standing (a minimum C average) and show a keen interest in music and singing.

3. Students in grade three and above who are interested in joining a performance choir must audition for placement at one of PYC’s regularly scheduled auditions. Audition dates are posted on the PYC website. Auditions are not required for the Neighborhood Training Choir program (grades 1-3) or for the Summer Singers Day Camp (ages 7-10).

4. Students accepted into the entry-level Troubadours are expected to attend Summer Singers Day Camp. Students accepted into Talisman or Bel Canto Singers are required to attend the summer Choral Arts Music Program.

5. Students must provide a written letter of recommendation from their school music teacher detailing their music aptitude and ability to meet the demands of PYC’s rigorous choral training program.

6. Students (and their parents/guardians) must commit to the entire academic year of PYC membership and must fully participate in all rehearsals and performances to the best of their ability.

7. Parents must complete The PYC Pathway Application and provide a copy of one or more of the following documents to verify financial need: Section 8 Housing, CHIP, WIC, Foster Care, SNAP (food stamps) from PA, Medical Assistance from PA, Cash Assistance from PA, Assistance from LIHEAP 1 or 2, Refugee/Immigrant Assistance or Participant in Homeless/Domestic Violence program/s, or an SAT fee waiver.
THE PYC PATHWAY APPLICATION

Student Name: _________________________________________________________

Grade in September: ______________________________ Birthdate:____/____/____

School: _______________________________________________________________

Home Address: _______________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Name(s): ______________________________________________

Primary Phone: __________________________ Other Phone: __________________

Primary email: _________________________________________________________

Please detail any past and current music instruction:

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Please list any additional extra-curricular activities in which this student is involved:

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Please tell us why you believe your child would benefit from the PYC PATHWAY. You
may continue on the back of this page if more space is needed.

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
Date: ____/____/____

Dear ________________________________,

My child, ________________________________ is auditioning for acceptance into Pittsburgh Youth Chorus and is applying for consideration of The PYC PATHWAY, a program that will provide free tuition to PYC for one year.

A requirement of this program is that my child’s music teacher must submit a written letter of recommendation on his/her behalf. Can we count on you to do this?

You may mail or email a letter on my child’s behalf to:

The PYC Pathway
Pittsburgh Youth Chorus
212 Ninth Street, STE 601
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
edwina@pittsburghyouthchorus.org

Sincerely,