

# cantabile

GIRLS' CHOIR PROGRAM

## our mission

The mission of the choir program is to provide a rich and varied choral experience for talented young women that will challenge, edify, and entertain the choir and its audiences, and provide opportunities to grow not only musically, but socially and academically as well, through the study and performance of quality choral literature.

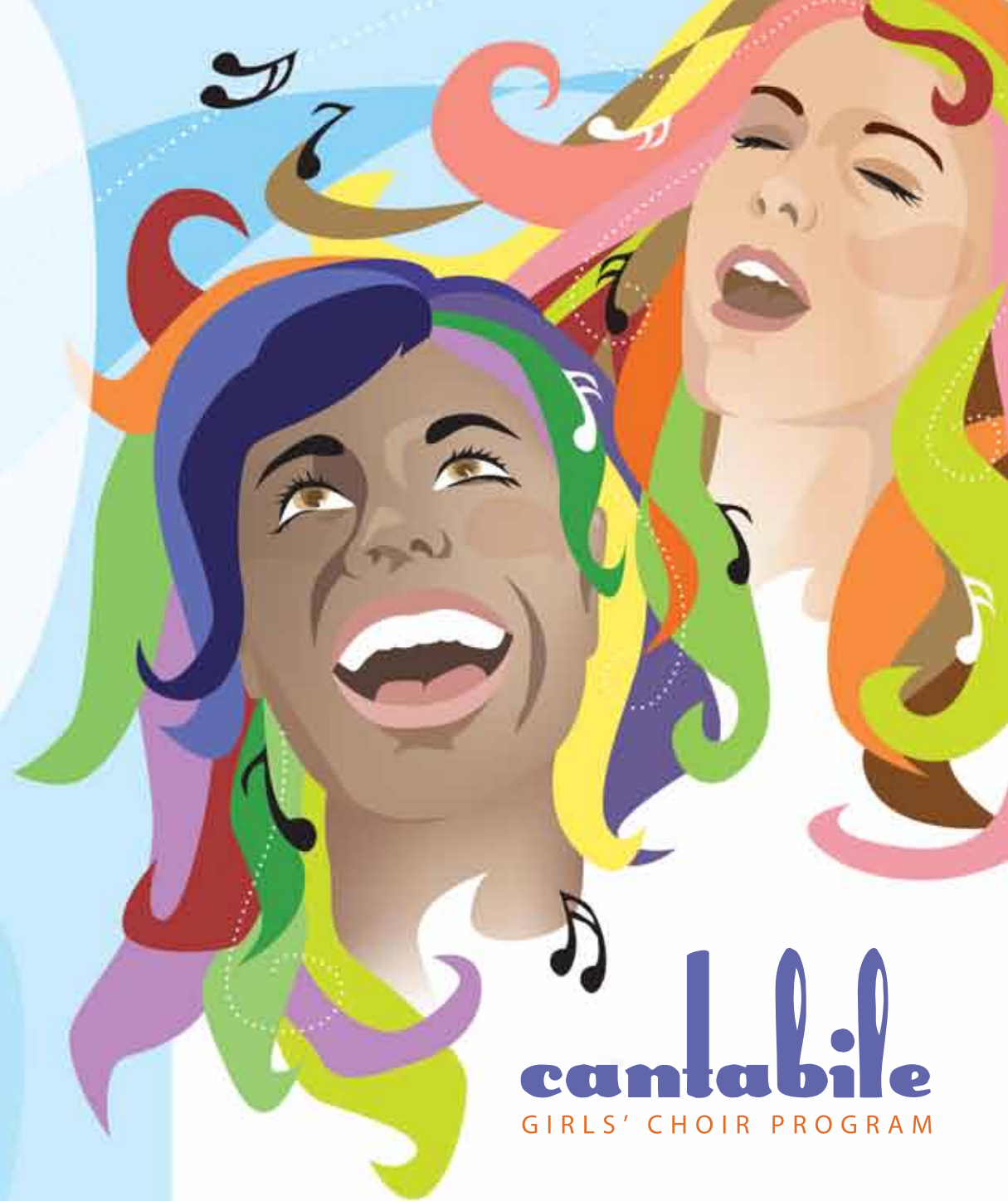
## Goals

- Participants will grow musically through vocal development and study of music theory.
- Participants will pass through vocal change with confidence and understanding.
- Participants will grow socially through peer interaction, touring and concerts.
- Faculty will grow through peer interaction, professional association, and study.
- St. Cloud State music majors will have on-site access to a laboratory choral setting.
- St. Cloud State and the Music Department will enjoy enhanced community exposure.



ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

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[www.stcloudstat.edu/music/cantabile.asp](http://www.stcloudstat.edu/music/cantabile.asp)



**cantabile**  
GIRLS' CHOIR PROGRAM

An auditioned girls' choir program sponsored by the Preparatory Program  
of the St. Cloud State Music Department.

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

The Cantabile Girls Choir Program, which is sponsored by the St. Cloud State Music Department Preparatory Program, offers two choral opportunities for young girls in Central Minnesota. The Choristers choir is for girls in grades 4-6 and Cantabile is for girls in grades 6-9.



kän-tä-bē-lā worthy to be sung, in an easy, flowing manner

### Meeting times and location

From September through May, the Cantabile Choristers Choir, grades 4-6, rehearses one hour per week and the Cantabile Choir, grades 6-9, rehearses two hours per week. In addition to weekly rehearsals, the choirs have a monthly workshop.

The choirs have access to St. Cloud State University facilities. Rehearsals are held in the Choir Room at the Performing Arts Center on campus.

### Schedule

An orientation for members is held in late August with rehearsals beginning on Mondays in September. The choir participates in community events, collaborates with other area choirs, and performs independently throughout the school year. Cantabile has enjoyed performances at such events as the Women's Showcase, Hymnfest, KidSing, St. Cloud State Celebrations Concerts, Minnesota Center Chorale, and the Great River Chorale concerts. The choir annually collaborates in a major Her Story-Her Song concert with the St. Cloud State University Women's Choir and music faculty. Cantabile sponsors an annual choral festival in February that draws outstanding youth choirs and clinicians from throughout Upper Midwest. The choir closes each season with a spring tour.

### Repertoire

The choir performs music ranging from unison to four-part songs from all historical periods and genres. Outstanding literature covers many languages, cultures, and styles and is designed to challenge and inspire choir members and audiences alike.

### Cost

Students pay a very reasonable tuition fee, wardrobe fee, and registration fee. Grants and donations supplement these fees to assure that the choir experience is accessible to all students.

### University Intern Program

Cantabile's sponsorship from the University allows the ensemble to utilize music majors for instructional support, instrumental accompaniment, and assistance at concerts. This exchange provides university students with valuable experiences and Cantabile students with great role models.

### Commitment

In order for the choir to perform at the highest level possible, each member is asked to make a serious commitment to the program. With rehearsals only once each week, absences are expected to be kept to a minimum.

### Auditions

Auditions for Cantabile are held each year in late May or early June.

During each ten minute audition, the singer will be asked to echo-clap and sing short phrases. Each person will also be asked to sing a series of vocalises to determine range, and will be asked to sing a song of choice without accompaniment. This can be as simple as "Mary Had a Little Lamb," "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star," or a favorite hymn. Please check our website for additional information on audition dates.

### Questions?

Call the Cantabile Office at 320.308.3836 or visit our website at [www.stcloudstate.edu/music/cantabile.asp](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/music/cantabile.asp)

### Cantabile has a highly qualified staff

**SARAH LUDWIG COHEN** is the artistic director of Cantabile and a graduate of the University of St. Thomas with a BA degree in Vocal Music Education. She currently directs the 6, 7, 8 choirs and teaches 6th grade general music at Central Middle School in White Bear Lake. In addition to her work with Cantabile, she is working on a Masters in Music Education at St. Thomas. She has found her niche in directing middle school changing-voice children and loves working with the girls in Cantabile. When she is not teaching, she enjoys her free time with her husband at their home in Minneapolis.

**BETSY EICKHOFF**, director of Cantabile Choristers, is a graduate of the College of St. Benedict with degrees in choral and instrumental education and vocal performance. After teaching at St. John's Preparatory School and CSB/SJU, she began graduate work in music education with an emphasis in conducting at the University of Minnesota. Betsy worked with the St. John's Boys' Choir for ten years directing the Junior Varsity Choir. A busy mother of four, Betsy loves to spend time with her family, cooking, reading and staying fit.

**ANN OLEKSOWICZ** is accompanist for the for the Cantabile Girls' Choir. She brings a wealth of choral experience having served as accompanist for the St. John's Boys' Choirs, Apollo High School Choirs, the St. Cloud State Concert and Chamber Choirs, and for students and faculty at the three area colleges. In addition to being in demand as an accompanist, Ms. Oleksowicz teaches piano for the St. Cloud State Music Department Preparatory Program and is organist at First Presbyterian Church in St. Cloud

**MARY JO BOT** is the director of the St. Cloud State Music Department's Preparatory Program of which Cantabile is a part and is in charge of the college intern program, as well as finances. She is a graduate of St. Cloud State University with a BS degree in Vocal Music Education and MS in Conducting and Literature. Currently, she conducts the St. Cloud State Women's Choir. She is proud to be associated with Cantabile, which provides girls with many exciting opportunities to learn, grow, and mature as individuals and as musicians.

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Please trim & return

- I would like more information about the choir.
  - I would like to schedule an audition time for my child.
- Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Current school: \_\_\_\_\_
- Grade: \_\_\_\_\_
- I would like to contribute to Cantabile. Enclosed is a check made payable to the SCSU Foundation/Cantabile for \$\_\_\_\_\_.
  - I would like Cantabile to perform for an event.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
Cantabile Choirs, St. Cloud State University Music Department, 720 Fourth Ave. S., St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498.