



39th SEASON

CONCERT-ONLY RESIDENCY PACKAGE

FEBRUARY - JUNE 2022

FOR CHORAL ENSEMBLES
for all Carnegie Hall concerts in 2022

\$949 PER PERSON

(travel & hotel accommodations not included)

**MIDAMERICA PRODUCTIONS
PROFESSIONALLY PRODUCES AND PRESENTS YOUR CONCERT**

Concert-Only Residency Package includes post-concert celebration cruise aboard Spirit Cruises to and around the Statue of Liberty, and much more

MidAmerica Productions & MidAm International
Peter Tiboris, General Music Director

We're back...
in

2022

February - July • Season 39

CARNEGIE HALL

**London • Paris • Vienna • Salzburg • Lisbon • Porto
Florence • Verona • Venice • Lake Garda • Athens • Syros
and now**

HONOLULU

May 10-15, 2022

For 2022 worldwide concert information,
contact Eric Spiegel, Director of Program Development,
at (212) 239-0205 ext. 2 or espiegel@midamerica-music.com.

MIDAMERICA PRODUCTIONS & MIDAM INTERNATIONAL OF NYC
Peter Tiboris, General Music Director

John Rutter celebrates his 32nd year in 2022 on the MidAmerica and MidAm International series. Since that first concert in spring of 1988, he has made 130 concert appearances. Maestro Rutter is a celebrated conductor and composer, and we have been honored by his appearances.

Mr. Rutter writes:

“Some of the most inspiring moments in my lifetime as a conductor have been in Carnegie Hall, directing a MidAmerica chorus and orchestra. The contribution of Peter Tiboris and his marvelous team to the musical life of America has been incalculable. His company was the first, and is still the best, in the field. We have all been raised up by the music that he has encouraged us to make.

All best,

John Rutter



**“The facts are, nothing is missing...
the music making is world-class;
the venues are wonderful;
the audience is at capacity and enthusiastic;
and the convergence of all these factors is without
peer in the world of choral music making.”**

Tim Sharp

*Conductor, Tulsa Chorale
Former ACDA Executive Director*



Conductors Reflect on the MidAmerica Experience

"I cannot say enough positive things about the experience. From the onset, I knew it was going to be something special. I think the folks at MidAmerica have 'got it down' and would recommend them to any and all..."

- Paul John Stanbery, Music Director and Conductor, Butler Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus, Hamilton, Ohio



"There aren't words to express how thankful I am for you and your excellent program... You are truly making a difference and enriching many, many lives!"

- D. Brent Ballweg, Conference Liaison, American Choral Directors Association



"I've worked with several other organizations in the past through similar concert experiences, both as a singer and as a conductor, and afterwards walked away feeling like I was just a number on a spreadsheet. That was never the case for us at any time during our residency..."

- David Macbeth, Artistic Director of Voice, Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania



"Words are not enough to express my appreciation to you and your amazing staff for the wonderful and magical experience we all had during our Carnegie Hall residency..."

I am looking forward to more collaboration with MAP in the future."

- Eliezer Yanson, Jr., Director of Choral Activities, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama

Join us for our 39th season in 2022
www.midamerica-music.com
www.petertiboris.com



Our History from 1983 to Today

1,676 Concerts Worldwide

1,048 Concerts in New York

590 Concerts in Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall

384 Concerts in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

188 Concerts and Operas at the Festival of the Aegean (Syros, Greece)

80 Concerts in Paris, Vienna, Salzburg, Florence, Verona, Lisbon & Porto

94 World Premieres, **21** US Premieres, **105** NY Premieres

Artist Summary

3,727 Choral Ensembles

889 Guest Conductors

520 Youth, Collegiate Orchestras, & Wind Ensembles

For further information:

Call Eric Spiegel, Director of Program Development, at espiegel@midamerica-music.com or 212.239.0205 ext. 2.
www.midamerica-music.com - www.petertiboris.com



Peter Tiboris conducts Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92 with the New England Symphonic Ensemble at Carnegie Hall, New York City



Performers take the stage in Carnegie Hall



Peter Tiboris conducts Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64 with the New England Symphonic Ensemble



Choristers sing *Mass of the Children* at Carnegie Hall under the direction of Maestro John Rutter

MIDAMERICA PRODUCTIONS

2022 "CONCERT-ONLY PACKAGE" PARTICULARS FOR ALL CHORAL ENSEMBLES

CARNEGIE HALL, NEW YORK CITY – 39TH SEASON
\$949 per person

Our \$949 per person performance fee includes:

1. **COMPLETE AND PROFESSIONAL ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION of your performance** in New York City, including: venue, conductor, soloists, orchestra engagement and management; labor and personnel at the hall, including ushers, stage crew, house managers, etc.; official "Playbill" preparation and printing; publicity and audience development (flyers, posters, press releases, etc.); schedules; protocols; rehearsal site and accompanist arrangements; backstage management; security passes; and day-to-day concert- and residency-related matters in the months leading up to your performance. In addition, MidAmerica provides assistance with pre-concert preparation (rehearsal notes, pre-concert recording evaluations, and on-site conductor visits for select programs). During the five-day residency itself, **MidAmerica staff are personally on-site to manage all concert-related activities.** Soloists are contracted and provided for all concerts by MAP and MIDAM International. These soloists are engaged from the following managements and more: ICM, UZAN, PINNACLE, WOLFE, SUNE, PARNASSUS, and TACT, in order to ensure top international quality. Artists appear on MAP and MIDAM International concerts under exclusive representation with the management agencies listed above.
2. **An exclusive POST-CONCERT CELEBRATION RECEPTION CRUISE** on-board the "Spirit of New York" or "Spirit of New Jersey" (or similar). All concert-only package performers and non-performers are treated to a two-hour sail featuring a spectacular view of the Statue of Liberty and the Manhattan skyline, with a buffet dinner, music, and dancing. Two drink tickets will also be provided; extra drinks can be purchased on board. *(MidAmerica can also provide post-concert round-trip bus transportation from Carnegie Hall to Chelsea Piers and back to the residency hotel upon your request for an additional \$39 per person. The reason that this is not included is because some ensembles bring their own buses from their home locations to NYC or choose to take taxis or subways.)* [A limited number of guests may also be accommodated for an additional \$149 per person – please contact the MidAmerica production office for details regarding additional cruise tickets and their availability for non-residency guests.] Cruise guests must be 21 years of age or older to consume alcoholic beverages and this is strictly enforced by the cruise line.
3. **ONE FREE CONCERT-ONLY PACKAGE** is provided for every thirty (30) paying performer registrants. (See pages 14-15).
4. **Each Concert-Only Residency Package participant will receive an 8 ½ x 11" REPLICA OF THE GIANT MARQUEE POSTER** which announces your concert at Carnegie Hall.
5. **TWO (2) COMPLIMENTARY CONCERT TICKETS** (Parquet seating) for each director with a minimum of 30 registered performers, for their personal use (\$300 value.)
6. **MACY'S DISCOUNT COUPON** – provided to each performance package participant, with each coupon redeemable at MACY'S NYC (34th Street and Broadway), the world's LARGEST department store.

SPECIAL OFFER for your affiliated NON-PERFORMERS

(Chaperones, family, friends and colleagues)

\$499 per person

The Non-Performer Package includes:

- 1) Attendance at all rehearsals – including the closed Dress Rehearsal in Carnegie Hall
- 2) One concert ticket (\$150 value – Parquet/Main level) to your performance
- 3) Posters and Macy's Discounts as described above
- 4) An admission ticket for the post-concert celebration reception cruise as described above (including dinner and two drink tickets)

Please note that the above non-performer rate is only available to persons affiliated with ensembles who opt for the \$949 concert-only package. This special \$499 non-performer's rate is not applicable when the performing groups take the \$1499 package.

If you are Guest Conducting and your appearance is predicated on a minimum registration (for example, 75 singers) please note that non-performers (\$499 package participants) do NOT count towards the minimum required for the concert ----in this case, 75. In determining if registering ensembles qualify for complimentary packages or a group credit, registrants taking the \$499 non-performer package are not counted.



Conductor and Composer Michael Glasgow performing in Carnegie Hall

AN AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDING OF YOUR CONCERT IN CARNEGIE HALL:

A one-microphone archival recording (compact disc) can be made on your behalf by MAP through Carnegie Hall's production department. The cost for the audio recording is \$3450 (which is not part of this package). Before this can be done, a contract must be signed by your organization with the Carnegie Hall Corporation, Inc. A video recording (DVD) of your performance, at \$4990 for a one-camera, one-microphone archival recording, is not part of the residency package as well. Here, too, a waiver must be signed by your organization with the Carnegie Hall Corporation, Inc.

The cost of either or both recordings may be split evenly among participating ensembles by those who wish to purchase either recording, to be paid on your final invoice.

Both the audio archival recording and archival video recording are not of commercial quality.

The archival recordings are managed and produced by the Carnegie Hall Corporation, Inc. and not MidAmerica Productions, Inc. These recordings cannot be broadcast or duplicated.

CONCERT TICKETS:

Discounted top-priced tickets for each of our 2022, 39th season concerts at Carnegie Hall will be available approximately 90 to 120 days prior to the concert date through our box office representatives. Contact Molly Waymire at PipTix at molly.waymire@piptix.com or 917-513-3080. Beginning two calendar months prior to the concert, full-price tickets will be available through Carnegie Hall at www.carnegiehall.org or CarnegieCharge at 212-247-7800.

2022 ticket prices:

Parquet, 1st and 2nd Tiers, and Dress Circle are \$50-\$150

For further information, contact Ms. Molly Waymire at Piptix at molly.waymire@piptix.com, 917-513-3080 or info@piptix.com.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. At the time of the initial deposit, ensembles will inform MidAmerica whether they elect the “Full Residency” (\$1549 package) or “Concert-Only” (\$949 package). These two package options are on a “whole-group” basis, meaning that all participants in the ensemble must choose to take either the Full Residency package, OR the Concert-Only package. There can be no changing between “Full Residency” and “Concert-Only” status after initial registration, nor individual exceptions within groups. Affiliated non-performers and chaperones who plan to officially register as such with their group must take the same package option as their ensemble.
2. MidAmerica Productions only registers groups of **10 participants or more** (any combination of performers and non-performers). Individual registrations are not accepted.
3. **DO NOT** purchase any air tickets without getting a “go ahead” from MidAmerica productions.
4. MidAmerica encourages participants to take advantage of New York’s unparalleled cultural life. However, until you have received the confirmed rehearsal schedule from MidAmerica Productions, please do not book non-refundable tickets for any activities (shows, tours, etc.). MidAmerica cannot be responsible for schedule conflicts or losses which may arise from pre-booking such tickets. Generally, evenings are free during the residency; these are the best time to book Broadway show tickets, except on the concert day. You are welcome to contact Lina DiCarlo at Twin Travel Concepts (lina@twintravelconcepts.com / 917-865-3277) for Broadway show tickets and other entertainments. Ms. DiCarlo has offered this service to our incoming ensembles for over 25 years.
5. Ensembles must submit their travel and lodging particulars to MidAmerica 90 days in advance of their performance. This information should include your group’s travel specifics (dates and times, and lodging information.)



The Concert-Only Residency Package Price quoted is fixed and firm.

Only three conditions can affect this package price:

- When unexpected and additional taxes are added to the program.
- When a group does not adhere to the payment deadlines (late penalties can be assessed);
- Force majeure.

MidAmerica Productions Inc. and MidAm International, Inc. shall not be liable to any individual registrant or group for any injuries, losses, or expenses suffered or incurred by any individual registrant or group arising out of or relating to your purchase of this package. All registrants and groups shall maintain appropriate and adequate general liability insurance coverage and any workmen’s compensation insurance required by applicable state law.

PLEASE DIRECT ALL INQUIRIES REGARDING THE CONCERT RESIDENCY LAND AND AIR PACKAGE TO MIDAMERICA PRODUCTIONS, Ms. Joyce Howard-Brazel, Director of Account Operations, at jhoward@midamerica-music.com / (212) 239-0205 x1.

GENERAL RESIDENCY SCHEDULE

The following is a summary of a typical New York residency with MidAmerica Productions.

DAY 1:

Arrival in NYC.

DAY 2:

One chorus rehearsal with piano accompaniment in the morning or afternoon. The evening is free.

DAY 3:

One chorus rehearsal with piano accompaniment in the morning or afternoon. The evening is free.

DAY 4:

Final dress rehearsal in Carnegie Hall; concert; and post-concert cruise around the Statue of Liberty and lower Manhattan with music, dancing, dinner, and two drinks provided*.

DAY 5:

Hotel check-out and departure

CONCERT DRESS: THAT WHICH YOU WEAR IN YOUR HOME LOCATION

THIS IS A SAMPLE ITINERARY. SPECIFIC EVENT TIMES DURING YOUR RESIDENCY WILL BE ANNOUNCED 90-100 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL.

**Transportation to and from the Spirit Cruise is not included.*

❧ WINTER/SPRING 2022 DEPOSITS and PAYMENT SCHEDULE ❧

If your concert is in:	1st Deposit \$300 per person is due: (nonrefundable)	2nd Deposit \$200 per person is due: (nonrefundable)	3rd Deposit \$200 per person is due: (nonrefundable)	Group Hotel information is due:	Final Payment and security lists** due (nonrefundable).
FEBRUARY & MARCH	July 1, 2021	Sep 15, 2021	Oct 15, 2021	Jan. 15, 2022	Jan. 15, 2022
APRIL	Oct. 1, 2021	Dec. 1, 2021	Jan. 15, 2022	Jan. 15, 2022	Mar. 1, 2022
MAY & JUNE	Oct. 1, 2021	Dec. 1, 2021	Jan. 15, 2022	Feb. 15, 2022	April 15, 2022

*Non-performers should remit an initial \$300 per person deposit; the remainder will be billed on the final invoice.

FOR ALL DEPOSITS: Make checks payable to **MidAmerica Productions, Inc.** and send via Federal Express/Express Mail (regular mail is not recommended) to:

MidAmerica Productions- 265 Sunrise Highway Suite 1-183• Rockville Centre, NY 11570

PLEASE, ONLY ONE COMBINED CHECK PER GROUP REGISTRATION (NOT INDIVIDUAL CHECKS).

For information on **wire transfers**, please contact **Joyce Howard-Brazel, VP & Director of Account Operations** at 212-239-0205, Ext. 1.

IMPORTANT: *The first deposit must be accompanied by the Concert Registration Form and the type of package indicated at that time. Any and all initial monies received will be confirmed by Joyce Howard to the client group no later than 48 hours after being received, along with a reminder regarding the next deposit date.*

****SECURITY LIST:** This is an alphabetical list, for Carnegie Hall, of **all residency package participants (performers and non-performers)**. There is no admittance to Carnegie Hall backstage for anyone NOT on the security list, which is limited to **package participants only**. Names must be in alphabetical order with last name then first name.

Please E-mail all lists by the requested due date to: **Joyce Howard-Brazel, VP & Director of Account Operations, MidAmerica Productions** at jhoward@midamerica-music.com.

*** **DEPOSIT SCHEDULES ARE FIRM.** MidAmerica Productions retains the right to cancel groups if deposit schedule is not met.

ALL DEPOSITS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE WHEN PAID IF THE ENSEMBLE WITHDRAWS DURING THE PAYMENT PROCESS. In addition, should an individual cancel their participation, deposits are non-transferable to the group's unpaid balance (substitutions for canceled persons are permissible). Trip cancellation insurance, therefore, is strongly encouraged and recommended. You are welcome to visit www.travelexinsurance.com or call 1-800-228-9792 to inquire about trip cancellation insurance. Please use **Location Code 32-6180** when requesting a Travelex insurance quote. MidAmerica Productions, Inc. does not endorse or recommend any travel insurance company who might provide such insurance to the ensemble, including www.travelexinsurance.com. Please investigate thoroughly through your preferred insurance carrier prior to your initial deposit.

If Carnegie Hall is unavailable for your performance due to "acts of God" (force majeure), MidAmerica Productions, Inc., reserves the right to move this concert to another concert location within New York City, or if such move is not practicable for reasons beyond the control of MAP then MAP shall be relieved from such obligation. Acts of God (force majeure) shall include any unexpected act or circumstance that prevents or impedes MAP from performing one or more of its contractual obligations if such impediment to MAP's performance is beyond MAP's reasonable control and the effects of such impediment cannot reasonably have been avoided or overcome by MAP. For purposes of this provision, acts of God shall include, but are not limited to: a) war (whether declared or not), hostilities, act of foreign enemies, b) civil war, riot, rebellion and revolution, act of terrorism, sabotage or piracy; c) currency and trade restriction, embargo, sanction; d) act of authority whether lawful or unlawful, compliance with any law or governmental order, expropriation, seizure of works, requisition, nationalization; e) plague, epidemic (including continuation of COVID-19 pandemic into or beyond 2022), natural disaster or extreme natural event; f) explosion, fire, destruction of equipment, prolonged breakdown of transport, telecommunication, information system or energy; g) and general labor disturbance.

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, without regard to the conflicts of law principles thereof. The parties consent to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts within the County and State of New York with respect to any dispute arising out of this agreement.

**INITIAL PAYMENT DEADLINES, COMPLIMENTARY PACKAGES
AND EARLY REGISTRATION CREDITS & COMPLIMENTARY PACKAGES
FOR CARNEGIE HALL 2022**

For Concerts in February and March 2022:

The initial per-person deadline for registering ensembles is July 1, 2021. A complimentary land package is provided for every multiple of 30 persons who register (30 registrations then #31 is free; registrations of 32 to 61 then #62 is free; registrations 63 to 92 then #93 is free, etc.). The initial payment for the Concert-Only Residency Package is \$300 per person. See page 13 for subsequent deposit dates.

If an ensemble registers on or before the early registration deadline of April 1, 2021, a single credit (applied to the group's final invoice) of \$500 in addition to a bonus complimentary land package is awarded for every multiple of 30 persons who register. See the table on page 15 for details.

For Concerts in April, May, and June 2022:

The initial per-person deadline for registering ensembles is October 1, 2021. A complimentary land package is provided for every multiple of 30 persons who register (30 registrations then #31 is free; registrations of 32 to 61 then #62 is free; registrations 63 to 92 then #93 is free, etc.). The initial payment for the Concert-Only Residency Package is \$300 per person. See page 13 for subsequent deposit dates.

If an ensemble registers on or before the early registration deadline of June 1, 2021, a single credit (applied to the group's final invoice) of \$500 in addition to a bonus complimentary land package is awarded for every multiple of 30 persons who register. See the table on page 15 for details.

NOTE:

If the Chorus Director is a main "Guest Conductor," conducting 75 voices comprised of several choirs, his/her complimentary package does not count in the above calculation because the Guest Conductor has special status and is compensated separately from his/her choir.

The number of participants is the tally of performers taking the \$949 Concert-Only Residency Package. Concert-Only Residency Package non-performers at the \$499 do not count towards complimentary land packages or group credits.

REGULAR REGISTRATION COMPLIMENTARY PACKAGES

For all participants registering on or before July 1, 2021 (for concerts in February and March 2022) OR on or before October 1, 2021 (for concerts in April, May, and June 2022	<u>... each group receives:</u>
For 30 registrants...	1 complimentary bonus package
For 60 registrants...	2 complimentary bonus packages
For 90 registrants...	3 complimentary bonus packages
For 120 registrants...	4 complimentary bonus packages
For 150 registrants...	5 complimentary bonus packages

EARLY REGISTRATION CREDITS & COMPLIMENTARY PACKAGES

For participants registering <u>EARLY</u>, on or before April 1, 2021 (for concerts in February and March 2022) OR on or before June 1, 2020 (for concerts in April, May, and June 2022)...	<u>... each group receives an additional:</u>
For 30 registrants...	\$500 group credit and 1 additional bonus package
For 60 registrants...	\$1,000 group credit and 2 additional bonus packages
For 90 registrants...	\$1,500 group credit and 3 additional bonus packages
For 120 registrants...	\$2,000 group credit and 4 additional bonus packages
For 150 registrants...	\$2,500 group credit and 5 additional bonus packages

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

For Choral Ensembles

Many questions may be answered by a thorough reading of our Concert-Only Residency Package (\$949).
However, additional questions are addressed below:

1. How are ensembles selected for and invited to participate in this concert series, both here and abroad?

Each and every ensemble has been specifically recommended or referred to us by music directors in the profession or by one of the more than 800 guest conductors who have appeared on our series since 1984. Additionally, ensembles can also be accepted after submitting an audition CD, video, or YouTube link to the Music Director.

2. For choral concerts, is it required that music be prepared prior to arrival in New York?

Yes. Choruses or chorus members who are not prepared may not be allowed to rehearse or perform in the concert.

3. How are soloists selected?

Soloists are auditioned in New York City by Vocal Division Director Eilana Lappalainen some 6-8 months prior to the concert through major NYC management companies such as Uzan, Pinnacle, Wolfe and ICM. All soloists engaged have worldwide performance careers. No soloists can appear in MidAmerica's concerts unless they are represented by these managements.

4. What orchestras are used for your concerts?

During the past 37 years, we have engaged the American Symphony Orchestra, the Manhattan Philharmonic, the Brooklyn Philharmonic and the New England Symphonic Ensemble. The New England Symphonic Ensemble has appeared more than 400 times on the MidAmerica series.

5. How many rehearsals will be scheduled during the 5-day/4 night residency?

In every case, there are two, 3 to 3.5-hour chorus rehearsals with piano, and a dress rehearsal in Carnegie Hall (this rehearsal being with all soloists and orchestra). Additionally, and at the discretion of the guest conductor, additional sectional rehearsals can be occasionally scheduled. There is also one orchestra rehearsal with the Guest Conductor and soloists during the residency.

6. When will we know the schedule for our residency in New York?

Schedules are published 2-3 months in advance of your concert date. Typically, however, on the first, second and third nights of your residency you are free to do as you wish.

7. What size audience can we expect at our concert?

Audiences are large and enthusiastic. MidAmerica Productions has a comprehensive public relations and audience development division, led by Molly Waymire, Director of Audience Development for MidAmerica Productions for 28 years.

8. How are the concerts advertised?

Concerts are promoted extensively through local press and electronic social media, along with hundreds of public and private business sources in the New York and tri-state area as well as a mailing list of 25,000 names.

9. How are tickets obtained for the concerts?

Participating ensembles will be sent specific information and ticket order forms approximately 90 days prior to their concerts. Tickets may be purchased through Molly Waymire, Director of Audience Development, at molly.waymire@piptix.com or at 917-513-3080. They are also available for purchase at Carnegie Hall's Box Office as well as www.carnegiehall.org. Tickets range from \$50 to \$150.

10. May friends and family also attend the post-concert dinner cruise?

Yes. When space remains on the ship, additional tickets may be purchased by friends and family. Tickets are available starting 60 days prior to the concert. Please contact Norman Dunfee, Production Manager, at ndunfee@midamerica-music.com for ordering information.

11. If we wish to arrange for additional tours, Broadway shows, etc., outside the package, how can we do this?

You may arrange these on your own, or use a locally based company that specializes in such services. Also, an excellent source of local information is www.nycvisit.com (the official website of the New York Convention and Visitors Bureau).

Our recommended, NYC-based associate is Lina DiCarlo at Twin Travel Concepts. She can be reached at lina@twintravelconcepts.com or at 917-865-3277 for Broadway show tickets and other entertainments.

For Broadway ticket information only, you may also call the toll-free "Broadway Line" at 1-800-BROADWAY or log on to www.nycvisit.com for links to theaters and other venues.

Important Funding Information For Ensembles Seeking Financial Assistance

Given your desire to perform in the most important concert hall in the world, one of the hurdles for most ensembles is the issue of fundraising. We often get asked for advice, so, in this regard, we are offering the information below to those who wish to gain some added direction and ideas.

In order to make a Carnegie Hall concert appearance a reality for you and your performers, we would like to share with you some of the most successful fundraising projects that participants have found effective. This might be a useful starting point for you to find your own successful path to make this undertaking a reality.

First Step: Determine how much money you actually need to raise. If you ask the participants how much as an individual they are willing to commit towards the total cost of the trip, you can then determine how much is left to fundraise. Typically, some individuals can write a check for the entire amount, some will need some form of assistance, and a few may be unable to make any financial contribution.

In meeting with their ensembles, directors often ask for volunteers who would be willing to organize the fund raising projects, collect the money, send payments, etc. Having just a couple of very supportive individuals who volunteer to “take charge” can yield amazing results.

Here are some popular fund raising ideas, submitted to us by directors who have come on our series, which we are pleased to pass on to you:

**** Hold a Raffle:** “We held a raffle for a trip to New York for two people (MidAmerica Land Package + transportation) to go with the group to New York and participate in the ‘behind-the-scenes’ preparation for a Carnegie Hall concert; including rehearsals, a performance ticket, post-concert cruise, etc. We sold the tickets for \$5: \$2 per ticket went towards the cost of the two MidAmerica packages, and \$3 went into the individual's account (who sold the ticket). We set a minimum of 1,200, enough to pay for the two trips, and a maximum of 1,400 tickets... to keep the odds at a minimum. When we reached 1,400 we held the drawing. There was great interest and excitement to have another raffle, but by the time of the drawing, we no longer needed the funds because all of our money had been raised. I have shared this with other directors and several of them have sold the tickets for \$10, with a higher percentage going towards the individual. It's up to you.” (Please check with your local officials regarding applicable laws in your state governing raffles.)

**** Write Letters:** Some directors have suggested that their participants, including students and many adults, write letters (handwritten and personalized) to their grandparents, aunts and uncles, close family friends, god- parents, etc., telling them they had opened a savings account called the “Carnegie Hall” account and were requesting a donation rather than any gifts for such occasions as birthdays, Christmas, Hanukkah, Valentine’s Day, etc. There have been many occasions of students’ grandparents writing a check for the entire amount and also ultimately travelling to New York to attend the concert.

In addition to an appeal to family members, individual performers have found success in writing letters to and making personal appearances at their churches, church choirs, church social organizations, civic organizations, neighborhood businesses (especially the ones frequented by themselves, e.g., grocery stores, dry cleaners, service stations, etc.), requesting donations ranging from \$25-\$150 and up.

**** Unusual Business Endorsements:** As an example, one past choral participant owned a car wash business and offered to donate one day's profit if the choir members would promote and pre-sell the tickets. The group sent out notices to the media because they thought this was a great idea and something very unusual, which led to a story by the local paper on the owner and the ensemble’s trip to New York to sing in Carnegie Hall. At the end of the story they included information on how the general public could find out more about the ensemble and make a contribution. This prompted several non-affiliated people to send in checks; the newspaper made a contribution as well. The business owner and ensemble also benefitted from the publicity. Additionally, other participants were inspired to be creative and explore

what other unusual means could be used to raise funds, with some eventually incorporating their own work or business to fundraise.

Another example: Several singers who were in retail sales offered to pay a “finder’s fee” into the Carnegie Hall fund for any referrals generated from within the group. This led to many people referring new business to insurance agents, real estate agents, department store clerks, dry-cleaners, etc.

**** "Change" for the Better:** Take an empty bottle-water jug (the big 5-gallon size used in offices), and put a sign on it letting people know you’re raising money in order to perform in New York City. Have it available for people to drop in their loose change and watch it grow. It’s really amazing how quickly change adds up.

**** "Not Your Ordinary Dinner Party":** In one group, several individuals sent out invitations to their friends and neighbors inviting them to a "Not Your Ordinary Dinner Party". Each host offered a unique and special cuisine offering. In the invitation, it was announced that the hosts were raising funds for themselves to go to New York to sing in the world-famous hall, and asked that each of their guests that evening make a donation toward the trip in the amount the guest would have normally spent if they had gone out for a nice dinner and an evening on the town. For some of the hosts, this brought in some significant funds. A few friends and neighbors who couldn’t attend even sent money anyway because they thought it was for such a worthy cause.

**** A Rummage Sale on a Grand Scale:** Everyone is familiar with rummage sales. A combined, multi- participant yard/garage sale can accomplish several simultaneous goals: to get people working together on a fun project for the common cause; to clean out garages, attics, storage rooms, etc.; and, of course, to raise money.

**** Unsolicited Donations:** “Angels” and anonymous donors sometimes emerge after a group receives some publicity about their plans to perform at prestigious Carnegie Hall.

We hope these ideas inspire you. You may decide to pick two or three group fundraising events that would earn big money, be unusual, get media and community attention, and benefit all who participate. You might discover that some people are very motivated to raise quite a bit in one fundraiser, while someone else might be excited about a different event and raise their money by that means.

It’s hard work, but it can be fun, especially if the goal is to not leave behind anyone who truly wants to go and who works hard to make that happen.

We still receive calls and emails from participants who came to Carnegie Hall through MidAmerica over the past 37 years; in fact, **we now have many directors bringing groups who came themselves as students and who now want to introduce a new generation to the incomparable experience of performing in the world’s most storied concert hall.** They stress repeatedly what a difference performing in Carnegie Hall has made in their lives. This is why we do what we do. We hope that you and your musicians will have that experience.

In the words of one past participant, “In the end, not one individual who truly desired and worked to go to New York was denied the opportunity. For everyone, it was an experience of a lifetime, and for many, it was a life-changing event.”

In addition to the above ideas, here are a few helpful fundraising web sites:

<http://www.fundraisersuperstore.com/>
<https://doublethedonation.com/fundraising-ideas-for-schools/#dorm>
<http://www.easy-fundraising-ideas.com/programs/school-fundraising-ideas/>
<http://www.signupgenius.com/school/school-fundraising-ideas.cfm>
<http://www.better-fundraising-ideas.com/school-fundraising.html>
<http://www.school-fundraisers.com/>
<http://www.abcfundraising.com/fundraising/church-fundraiser.htm>

Please let us know if we can help or support you in any way.