



Loving Presence

Celeyce Matthews - Certified Hospice and Palliative Nursing Assistant at Zen Hospice Project

Sometimes I am lucky to have a nursing shift at Zen Hospice Project's Guest House on a day when the Threshold Choir is there to sing their tender, soothing songs to people in their last weeks and days of life. The choir's lovely, ethereal voices gently meander through the elegant rooms of the whole house creating a palpable sense of peace and beauty as I give care to our residents and their families. Tears often fill my eyes as I stand in a doorway of a resident's room listening and observing as the choir serenades the person in the bed, moved by the loving voices. Their quiet singing seems to cradle us all, imbuing graceful acceptance of the grief of dying with loving presence. Love, loss



and grief are some of the many emotions involved in the dying process. The Threshold Choir's singing allows us all, the ill and their families and the caregiving staff alike, to tenderly touch on those feelings that need to be felt and released for real peace and healing to happen. Residents, their loved ones, and staff at the Zen Hospice Project Guest's House all have expressed great gratitude for the Threshold Choir's gracious and healing voices. Thank you for

singing us all through these profound human transitions.

From our Board Members

Katharine Rose Kirner - Board Chair

When I awoke 24 hours after a grueling brain tumor surgery, I felt I had crossed over and then back again. And, I awoke with a mission: To live a meaningful life going forward. Seventeen years ago, the Threshold Choir was born, a year before my surgery,

and it took me a decade to find my way here. It has now been six extraordinary years of connecting singing with service, service with heart and heart with what has purpose and meaning.

I spend much of my life within the domain of Death and Dying. I serve as a Zen Hospice volunteer; I manage hospice volunteers in my work; I participate in the stewardship of both my local chapter and the larger Threshold Choir; and, I sing for those at the Thresholds of Life. I am deeply rooted in the uncertainty of life itself. Singing at the bedside has gently allowed me, not only to be of service, but to also look behind the veil of what protects or defends our vulnerable selves, and to bear witness to another's life well-lived. When I sing at these thresholds, I lean in and am present with the intimacy of dying. This intimacy harbors a deep element of self-reflection and gives me a glimpse of our true nature. This kind of reflection is not a protocol singers follow, but simply what occurs in the unfolding of a Threshold Singer's inner landscape of peace, compassion and trust. Singing for those at the thresholds of life touches the core of my being with a fullness of purpose and meaning. And, I am changed because of it – every time.

Nancy Roberts-Brown, Vice-Chair

In November 2014, when I heard Kate Munger being interviewed on NPR at the time of her retirement, I knew immediately that I wanted to be a part of the Threshold Choir. It represented just the right combination of my interests in hospice and in singing. I immediately joined Seattle Threshold Singers, and haven't looked back. When I was invited to serve on the board, I was pleased to do that, as well, as it allowed me to bring some of my more left-brain skills to this beautiful organization. I am currently the board's Vice President and a member of the Development Committee.

Board membership has been, and remains, an honor to serve the choir in this way. I look forward with great anticipation to all we can accomplish together as this amazing and unique organization expands to bring comfort through song to more and more people at the thresholds of their lives.

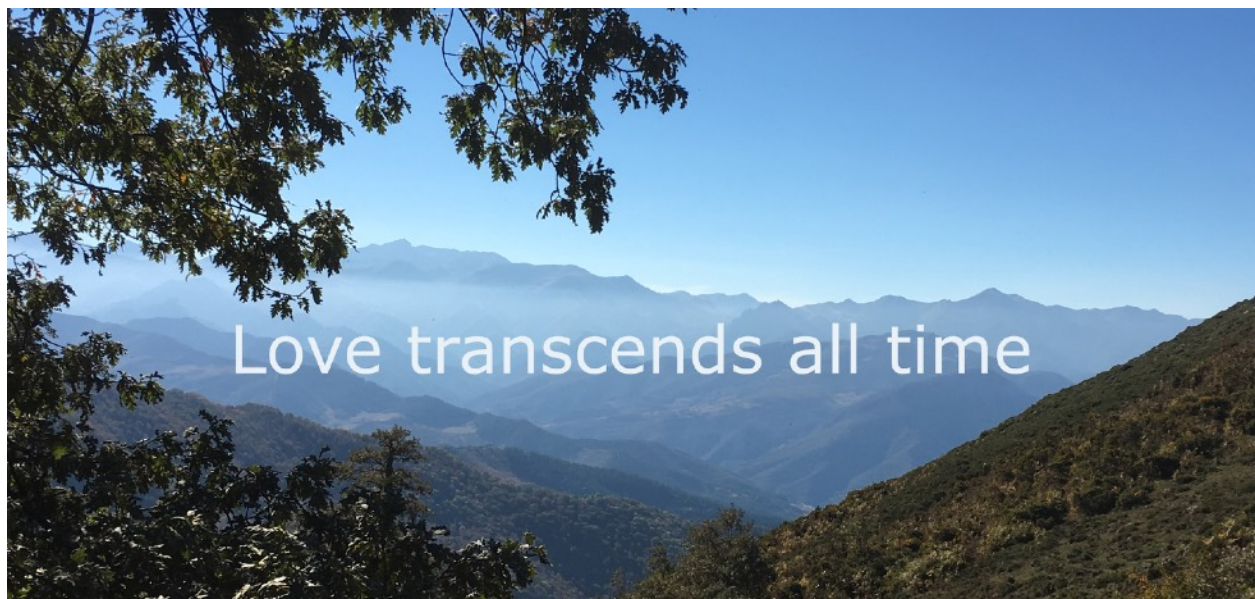


Cherry Tinker - Secretary

When I retired for the third time in 2013, I did not see that some of my most gratifying fundraising and non-profit management experiences were ahead of me. At my first all choir gathering in 2015, six months after becoming director of Evergreen Threshold Singers in Kirkland, WA, I was fortunate to meet ED Heidi Dressler and several board members. They believed that I could contribute to their strategic priorities - growing the fundraising program and incorporating non-profit management best practices in a board-led organization. Because of the remarkable volunteers who have served and are serving on the board, we are making measureable progress on both fronts, while responding to extraordinary growth in chapter and member numbers. My fellow members inspire me, the work nourishes my soul, and I have bountiful learning opportunities. TCI remains my passion, from the bedside to the board room.

Linda Jones - Treasurer

I am honored to serve on the board of directors for Threshold Choir International. I first became involved with Threshold Choir when I joined the Ann Arbor chapter. I moved into a leadership role there when the director took a sabbatical for health reasons. When my husband and I moved to Grand Rapids to be near our grandchildren, I started a chapter here. I have completed my first year of service to the board and have really enjoyed getting to know our board members and grow together in leadership and discernment. I have taken on the role of treasurer from Leann Enright after she moved off the board. I am also the liaison for the Repertoire committee. We are working on refining the process to submit songs for our repertoire. I have also represented the board at the Midwest Regional Gathering in Yellow Springs and have reached out to Threshold chapters as I travel around the country and across the globe. I look forward to my time on the board and to meeting many of our members in the next year at our All Choir Gathering and regional gatherings. With love in song.



Lana Noel - Board Member

There once was a time I didn't know what hospice was. That changed when a loved one received palliative healthcare during his dying process. When I first observed the compassionate caring of the hospice team, I never thought that I myself would be sitting at hospice bedsides offering songs of comfort to patients and their families. Now, four years later, I have found my way to co-leading a Threshold Choir chapter and to serving on the international organization's board. What I really couldn't imagine is how much Threshold would change my life.

Perhaps it is the volunteer aspect to what we do. People come to this work in an attitude of giving, to offer their energy, their time and love. Yet, maybe the actual singing at the bedside is the change agent - music winding its way through us and out into the room, providing calm and grace for the listener. Or it could be the witnessing of death repeatedly every week for years. The observation of people's unique dying process and the ways families cope truly is a master teacher. The giving, the singing, the listening, the stillness - each of these lends its way to our growth. We become more careful listeners and sing from a deeper place. We remain truer to ourselves and others and consciously impact the world in humble yet profound ways.



A Letter from our Executive Director

Dear Friends of the Threshold Choir,

It has been a memorable year in the growth of the Threshold Choir. We can now include over 2100 members in nearly 200 chapters around the world as part of this incredible mission: *Singing for those at the thresholds of life.*

We enjoyed many successes in 2017. Our All-Choir Gathering in Portland, Oregon brought nearly 300 of us to teach, to learn and to sing together. It was spectacular! We began a collection of data related to bedside sings, with just over 100 of our chapters reporting an average of more than 2000 sings per month. Incredible! The long-awaited reworking of our website was started and will start to roll out in early 2018. Wonderful!

Our Board of Directors - Katharine Kirner, Chair; Nancy Roberts-Brown, Vice-Chair; Cherry Tinker, Secretary; Leeann Enright, Treasurer; and members Lana Noel and Linda Jones - did the usual stellar job of decision-making and providing leadership. They worked tirelessly to make sure our task forces stayed on track, our finances remained secure, and the sustainability of the Threshold Choir was ensured. They are the hardest working board I have worked with in 40 years of non-profit management and they teach me something new every day.

As we say farewell to 2017, we must include a special thanks to our fabulous Leeann Enright. Leeann has served the Threshold Choir with leadership on the Board for many years and has helped us through many of the early challenges. We are deeply grateful for her contribution to our history and will miss her insights and guidance.

We appreciate the commitment and passion that every Threshold Choir member brings to support our vision: *A world where all at life's thresholds may be honored with compassion shared through song.* Thank you for all you give, for your service to our mission, and your kindness and compassion. Our clients, their families and their caregivers appreciate you.

Looking forward to everyone reaching their greatest good in 2018!
With gratitude,
Heidi Dressler
Executive Director

So Many Angels*

2017 was an extraordinary year for philanthropy to Threshold Choir. Thank you to each of you who supported the organization with your membership renewals, memorial gifts

and year-end gifts. This year's Annual Report acknowledges the major donors to the TCI with a list of those who have given \$200 or more. Having so many individuals and organizations on our list is an honor and a responsibility. We strive to continue earning your trust as a non-profit worthy of your giving.

Joan Ackerman	Marilyn Herczog	Leah Potts Fisher	Betsy Templeton
Marilyn Asmuth	Kate Kirner	Sue Ribaud	Cherry Tinker
Karen Belford	Morgan Kirtland	Melanie Rios	Yukari Vincent
Marcia Bernstein	Carolyn Knapp	Nancy Roberts-Brown	Karlette Warner
Sylvia Boorstein	Kristin Lykins	Peggy Rogers	Franny Whitlock
Kathleen Caldwell	Carol Lynn	Gail Rothenberg	Beth Whitney-Temple
Catherine Cammann	Karen McGuire	Sally Rothstein	Thomas Whitrock
Kris Darling	Kathleen Mahoney	Susan Runyon	
Phyllis Davis	Kay McCormack	Yolanda	The Trustmark
Carolyn Dickerson	Linda McCue	Sanchez-Peterson	Foundation
Leeann Enright	Barbara Monsler	John Schembri	Whatcom Community
Molly Forde	Barb Nicholson	Susan	Foundation
Julie Gannam	Bonnie Nixon	Randazzo Schulman	Connor Foundation
Annie Garretson	Lana Noel	Kate Schuyler	Levi Strauss
Eileen Goldman	Janice Ogar	Cynthia Smith	Foundation
Linda J. Griffin	Dottie Pendleton	Sandra Soule	Hospice by the Bay
Diane Head	Sudie Pollock	Vanora St Clair	Blue Shield

*This list reflects total giving for the 2017 calendar year. Please contact us with corrections and additions.



Balance Sheet

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

103 · Exchange Bank #5844 Open 08/17	152,257.89
104 · Exchange Bank Savings	1,000.04
105 · Wells Fargo Checking *0045 (QB)	20,457.49
116 · Paypal	12,668.77

Total Checking/Savings 186,384.19

Total Current Assets 186,384.19

Fixed Assets

130 · Office Equipment 2,631.55

Total Fixed Assets 2,631.55

TOTAL ASSETS 189,015.74

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

200 · Accounts Payable 1,065.00

Total Accounts Payable 1,065.00

Other Current Liabilities

240 · FICA/MC Liability 1,078.64

242 · Federal Inc Tax Withheld 972.00

246 · State Income Tax Withheld 317.28

248 · SDI Liability 63.45

Total Other Current Liabilities 2,431.37

Total Current Liabilities 3,496.37

Total Liabilities 3,496.37

Equity

300 · Fund Balance 58,104.54

310 · Retained Earnings 112,228.01

Net Income 15,186.82

Total Equity 185,519.37

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 189,015.74



Profit and Loss

Ordinary Income/Expense					
Income					
PROGRAM					
International Gathering Income					
404 • ACG	135,364.00				
Total International Gathering Income	135,364.00				
Regional Gathering Income					
410 • Colorado	1,300.00				
414 • Mid-Atlantic	4,046.00				
422 • Northwest Gathering/PNW	100.00				
424 • NYC	3,050.00				
428 • SERG	10,215.00				
430 • Singing By The Sea	335.00				
432 • Southwest Gathering	4,390.00				
Total Regional Gathering Income	23,436.00				
Product Sales					
482 • CD Sales	6,639.00				
474 • Sales Tax Paid	-1,378.00				
480 • Songbook Sales	9,394.00				
Total Product Sales	14,655.00				
Total PROGRAM	173,455.00				
FUNDRAISING					
405 • Membership Income	77,983.76				
487 • Interest Earned	9.74				
Donation Income					
455 • Donations - General	26,256.86				
456 • Donations - Year End	20,642.20				
494 • Donations - Pass Thru to indivi	1,000.00				
Total Donation Income	47,899.06				
Total FUNDRAISING	125,892.56				
Total Income	299,347.56				
Gross Profit	299,347.56				
Expense					
ADMINISTRATIVE					
505 • Wages & Salaries	24,087.50				
507 • Payroll Taxes	2,031.82				
508 • Worker's Comp	636.39				
512 • Accounting	4,281.50				
513 • Bank Fees	5,559.42				
515 • Board Retreat	8,680.28				
520 • Consultants- Office	10,376.25				
540 • Dues & Subscriptions	1,330.00				
550 • Insurance	11,925.00				
555 • Licenses & Fees	100.00				
565 • Storage	420.00				
567 • Office Supplies	6,346.37				
568 • Computer/Website	5,534.99				
580 • Rent	1,053.00				
585 • Telephone & Internet	1,283.88				
587 • Travel	2,788.26				
589 • Website & Communication	27,416.25				
Total ADMINISTRATIVE	113,850.91				
PROGRAM EXP.					
605 • Program Wages	6,110.00				
607 • Program PR Taxes		467.33			
617 • Consultants- Program		1,500.00			
620 • Education & Conferences		300.00			
625 • Supplies & Materials		152.08			
628 • Volunteer Recognition		1,078.11			
International Gathering Expense					
629 • ACG- Consultants		10,250.00			
641 • ACG General Expenses		4,824.76			
630 • Internat'l ACG Travel Exp		3,677.34			
631 • Current Year Facility		79,432.95			
632 • Next Year Facility		462.52			
Total International Gathering Expense		98,647.57			
Regional Gathering Expense					
642 • Colorado- Stipend		400.00			
643 • Colorado- Other		587.59			
644 • Mid-Atlantic- Stipend		1,050.00			
645 • Mid-Atlantic- Other		2,918.99			
659 • Midwest- Other		787.85			
646 • New England- Stipend		300.00			
647 • New England- Other		756.23			
653 • Norcal Comp- Other		200.00			
656 • NW PNW- Stipend		300.00			
657 • NW PNW- Other		1,012.59			
660 • NYC- Stipend		1,300.00			
661 • NYC- Other		1,835.95			
664 • Santa Barbara- Stipend		600.00			
668 • SERG- Stipend		1,276.41			
669 • SERG- Other		10,181.80			
Total Regional Gathering Expense		23,507.41			
Product Expenses					
684 • Printing		5,500.69			
686 • Postage & Shipping		5,575.26			
Total Product Expenses		11,075.95			
Total PROGRAM EXP.		142,838.45			
FUNDRAISING EXP.					
702 • Chapter Grants Out		180.00			
705 • Fundraising Wages		24,440.00			
707 • Fundraising PR Taxes		1,869.62			
715 • Bank & Paypal Fees		33.25			
720 • Promotion & Outreach		863.51			
722 • Restricted Gifts Expense		85.00			
Total FUNDRAISING EXP.		27,471.38			
Total Expense		284,160.74			
Net Ordinary Income		15,186.82			
Net Income		15,186.82			



Chapters

Chapter Choir Name	Chapter Location	Chapter Choir Name	Chapter Location
"Your Song" Santa Fe	Santa Fe, New Mexico	Detroit Area TS	Sterling Heights, Michigan
Abington TS	Glenview, Illinois	DFW TC	Dallas, Texas
Adelaide Threshold Singers	Adelaide, South Australia	Diablo Valley TS	Walnut Creek, California
Agate Pass TC	Bainbridge, Washington	Eugene TS	Eugene, Oregon
Albuquerque TC	Albuquerque, New Mexico	Evergreen TS	Kirkland, Washington
Alpine Voices TC	Canmore, Alberta	Family Hospice Threshold Singers	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Anacortes Threshold Singers	Anacortes, Washington	Flagstaff TC	Flagstaff, Arizona
Arcata TC	Arcata, California	Florida SunCoast TC	Sarasota, Florida
Aromas TC	Aromas, California	Gold Country TC	Grass Valley, California
Asheville Threshold Choir	Asheville, North Carolina	Grace Note Singers	Providence, Rhode Island
Austin TC	Austin, Texas	Grand Rapids TC	Grand Rapids, Michigan
Bakersfield TC	Bakersfield, California	Grand Valley TS	Grand Junction, Colorado
Bellingham TS	Bellingham, Washington	Grant County TS	Marion, Indiana
Berkshire TC	Great Barrington, Massachusetts	Great Lakes Erie TC	Erie, Pennsylvania
Bloomington TC	Bloomington, Indiana	Greater Hartford TC	West Simsbury, Connecticut
Blue Ridge TC	Harrisonburg, Virginia	Harmony Chorus	Glenwood Springs, Colorado
Boulder Threshold Singers	Boulder, Colorado	Healing Moon TS	Napa, California
Bowen TS	Bowen Island, British Columbia	Heart and Soul TS	Denver, Colorado
Brandywine Valley Threshold Singers	Wilmington, Delaware	Heart of Georgia TS	Macon, Georgia
Bridge to Peace TC	Calgary, Alberta	Heart of London TS	London, London
Brisbane TC	Brisbane, Queensland	Heart of the Valley TS	Corvallis, Oregon
Cadence Singers	Auckland, Auckland	Heart Song Threshold Singing	Sussex, Wisconsin
Central Baptist Village TS	Norridge, Illinois	Hearts, Hands & Voices TC	Akron, Ohio
Central Sierra TS	Sonora, California	HeartSongs TC of Stanwood	Stanwood, Washington
Charlottesville TC	Charlottesville, Virginia	Hospicare TC	Ithaca, New York
Chilkat Valley TC	Haines, Alaska	Hospice of Northwest Ohio TC	Toledo, Ohio
Circle of Hearts TC	North Fork, California	Hospice of SLO County TS	San Luis Obispo, California
Circle Singers	Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin	Indianapolis TS	Indianapolis, Indiana
Clallam County TC	Port Angeles, Washington	Jennings Threshold Choir	Garfield Heights, Ohio
Coastside TC	Montara, California	Kishwaukee Threshold Singers	Sycamore, Illinois
Columbus TC	Columbus, Ohio	Lehigh Valley TC	Whitehall, Pennsylvania
Comox Valley TC	Courtenay, British Columbia	Liminal: A Threshold Choir	Truro, Cornwall
Concordia	Lakeville, Massachusetts	Long Bay TS	Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
Crossing Over Men's TC	Bowen Island, British Columbia	Lovely Loon TC	Grand Rapids, Minnesota
Davis TC	Davis, California	Lower Columbia TC	Longview, Washington
		Marin TC	San Rafael, California
		Martha's Vineyard TC	Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts
		Meadow Vista TS	Meadow Vista, California

Chapter Choir Name	Chapter Location
Melbourne TC	Melbourne, Victoria
Menomonie TS	Menomonie, Wisconsin
Merrimack Valley Hospice TC	Andover, Massachusetts
Mile High TS	Denver, Colorado
Montgomery Hospice TC	Rockville, Maryland
Moon Over Mountains TC	Boulder, Colorado
Moray TC	Forres, Moray
Na Mea Mele La'i	Kailua (O'ahu), Hawaii
Napa Valley TC	Napa, California
Nashville TC	Nashville, Tennessee
New Chapter (Amsterdam, NL)	Amsterdam, Noord Holland
New Chapter (Athens GA)	Athens, Georgia
New Chapter (Bangor, Wales)	Bangor, Gwynedd
New Chapter (Bergen aan Zee, NL)	Bergen aan Zee, Noord Holland
New Chapter (Butte MT)	Butte, Montana
New Chapter (Cameron Park CA)	Cameron Park, California
New Chapter (Central Coast NSW, Australia)	Central Coast, New South Wales
New Chapter (Columbia SC)	Columbia, South Carolina
New Chapter (Crested Butte CO)	Crested Butte, Colorado
New Chapter (Forest Row, UK)	Forest Row, East Sussex
New Chapter (Hastings UK)	Hastings, East Sussex
New Chapter (Hebden Bridge UK)	Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire
New Chapter (Hood River OR)	Hood River, Oregon
New Chapter (Kalamazoo MI)	Kalamazoo, Michigan
New Chapter (Kamloops BC)	Kamloops, British Columbia
New Chapter (Lebanon OH)	Lebanon, Ohio
New Chapter (London ONT, Canada)	London, Ontario
New Chapter (Marquette MI)	Marquette, Michigan
New Chapter (Nelson BC)	Nelson, British Columbia
New Chapter (Owen Sound ONT)	Owen Sound, Ontario
New Chapter (Paonia CO)	Paonia, Colorado
New Chapter (Penguin TAS, OZ)	Penguin, Tasmania
New Chapter (Reading PA)	Reading, Pennsylvania
New Chapter (Reno NV)	Reno, Nevada
New Chapter (Riverside CA)	Riverside, California

Chapter Choir Name	Chapter Location
New Chapter (Salt Lake City UT)	Salt Lake City, Utah
New Chapter (Salt Spring Island)	Salt Spring Island, British Columbia
New Chapter (San Antonio TX)	San Antonio, Texas
New Chapter (Thousand Oaks CA)	Thousand Oaks, California
New Chapter (Victoria BC)	Victoria, British Columbia
New Chapter (Water Mill NY)	Water Mill, New York
New Chapter (Whippany NJ)	Whippany, New Jersey
Northbay TC	Kensington, California
Northern Door TS	Sister Bay, Wisconsin
Ogden Threshold Singers	Ogden, Utah
Orange County TC	Westminster, California
Palm Beach County North TC	Palm Beach Gardens, Florida
Pathways Comfort Singers	Chesterfield, Missouri
Peninsula TC	Palo Alto, California
Philadelphia TS	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Phoenix West TC	Phoenix, Arizona
Pikes Peak TS	Colorado Springs, Colorado
Pittsburgh Men's TS	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Pittsburgh TC	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Placerville TC	Placerville, California
Port Townsend TC	Port Townsend, Washington
Portland TC	Portland, Oregon
PREParatory Chapter	
Rainbow TS	Mt. Prospect, Illinois
Reflections TS of Christchurch	Christchurch, Canterbury
Ridgway TC	Ridgway, Colorado
Sacramento TC	Sacramento, California
Salem TS	Salem, Oregon
San Diego TC	San Diego, California
San Francisco TC	San Francisco, California
Sandpoint Threshold Choir	Sandpoint, Idaho
Santa Barbara TC	Santa Barbara, California
Santa Cruz TS	Santa Cruz, California
Saskatoon TS	Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
Seasons of Life TS	Denver, Colorado
Seattle TS	Seattle, Washington
Shenandoah Valley TS	Stephens City, Virginia

Chapter Choir Name	Chapter Location	Chapter Choir Name	Chapter Location
Sonoma County TC	Santa Rosa, California	TS of the East Bay	Oakland, California
South Bay TC	San Jose, California	TS of the Lowcountry	Beaufort, South Carolina
South Lakes TC	Kendal, Cumbria	TS of Washington DC	Washington, District Of Columbia
South Sound TS	Tacoma, Washington	TS of Wheaton	Wheaton, Illinois
St. Helena's TS	Burr Ridge, Illinois	TS of Yellow Springs	Yellow Springs, Ohio
Sunflower TC	Lawrence, Kansas	TS Southern Oregon	Medford/Ashland, Oregon
Sunshine Coast TC	Sechelt, British Columbia	Tucson TC	Tucson, Arizona
Sydney TC	Sydney, New South Wales	Valley of the Moon TC	Glen Ellen/Sonoma, California
Tallahassee Area TC	Tallahassee, Florida	Vancouver TC	Vancouver, British Columbia
Taos TC	Taos, New Mexico	Vashon TC	Vashon, Washington
TC At Large		Victor Valley TS	Victorville, California
TC Cleveland	Cleveland, Ohio	Voices of Love TC	Dunwoody, Georgia
TC of Leesburg	Leesburg, Florida	Voices of the Sierra TC	Oakhurst, California
TC of Miami University	Oxford, Ohio	Westside TC	Santa Monica, California
TC of New York City	New York City, New York	Whidbey Island TS	Coupeville, Washington
TC of Pacific Grove	Pacific Grove, California	Women with Wings	Bellingham, Washington
TC of Rochester	Rochester, New York		
TC of the Hudson Valley	Garrison, New York		
TC of the Palouse	Pullman, Washington		
TC of West Wales	Blaenwaun, Carmarthenshire		
The Villages Threshold Choir	The Villages, Florida		
Threshold Choir Cambodia			
Threshold Choir Nola	New Orleans, Louisiana		
Threshold Singers North Shore	Swampscott, Massachusetts		
Threshold Singers Oz-Wash	Grafton, Wisconsin		
Traverse City TC	Traverse City, Michigan		
Triad Threshold Singers	Winston-Salem, North Carolina		
Triangle TS	Chapel Hill/Durham, North Carolina		
TS of Ann Arbor	Ann Arbor, Michigan		
TS of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio		
TS of Hendricks County	, Indiana		
TS of Indian Hill Music	Littleton, Massachusetts		
TS of Madison	Madison, Wisconsin		
TS of North San Diego County	Carlsbad, California		
TS of Richmond, Indiana	Richmond, Indiana		
TS of Sedona	Sedona, Arizona		
TS of the Chippewa Valley	Eau Claire, Wisconsin		

