



Threshold Choir

2013 Annual Report

It Was a Very Good Year For The Threshold Choir!

Here is what we have accomplished this past year in our 5 strategic goal areas.

GROWING LEADERS AND SINGERS

- 28 new choirs were formed in 2013 for an active total of 113.
- We have expanded to four English speaking countries: USA, Canada, Australia and Great Britain.
- We can now share chapter-developed resources on the website.
- In 2013 there were eight Threshold Choir regional gatherings, in addition to the All-Choir Gathering.
- We clarified that local chapters could determine their gender composition.

REPERTOIRE

- We obtained written permission to share 40 songs in print format.
- 100 new songs have been collected.

COMMUNICATIONS

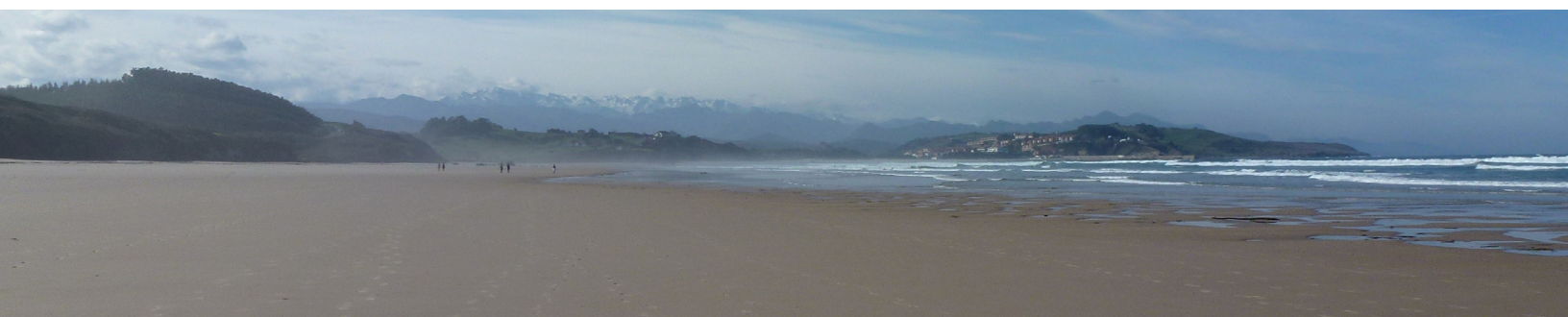
- We are now communicating directly to members via an e-newsletter.
- We have social media presence on Facebook and LinkedIn.
- Prepared: Press Kit – first draft, quotes and testimonies collected.
- Good PR this year – Huffington Post, NPR, Planetree Conference, NY'er of the week (Sue Ribaud)

FUNDRAISING

- We are getting more diversified funding, beyond singer memberships:
 - a. Local Chapter Fundraising: Davis Choir demonstrated leave-behind packet benefits; the Pike's Peak Chapter co-hosted a fundraiser with their local hospice yielding \$2000.
 - b. We have received more in donor directed grants: Louise Hay Foundation, Google, and several community foundations.
 - c. We are seeing increases in employer matching funds.
 - d. We received a \$10,000 grant from The Lia Fund to provide leadership training.
- We had our first "lifetime membership."
- The year-end letter raised \$10,000 over last year for a total of more than \$14,000.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- PERSONNEL: All employees now have health insurance.
- WEBSITE: Provides links to more resources, updates, local chapter pages, and online event registrations.
- DOCUMENTATION: We are starting to understand the many steps Ellen and Cathy do for the website.
- MONEY in the bank at the end of the year.



From Kate Munger - Creative Director and Founder



This has been a rich and growing year for the Threshold Choir. In addition to welcoming new members, writing new songs, hosting two Bay Area leadership workshops, creating 3 community singing rituals to address grief after tragedies of violence and adding a variety of skills and processes to the way we serve the community, we added 28 new choirs to our map and to our community.

I gave presentations on singing at bedsides with the Sonoma County Foster Parent Consortium, Chorus America, Women's Voices for (a) Change, Turtle Dove Singing Week, the San Francisco Palliative Care Nurses Consortium, Unitarian Churches in San Francisco and Palo Alto CA and Alamosa CO and probably the most concentrated and most far reaching, at the Planetree International Convention in Montreal. For two days Ellen Rose and Sue Ribaud and I sang for conference attendees who are devoted to Patient Centered Hospital Care and our presentation was especially well attended and well received. (planetree.org)

We added a new Southeastern Region to our coverage of the United States and they hosted their first Regional Gathering in November. One event really stands out for me: singing at two bedsides with the woman whose voice got me started singing 55 years ago...Ronnie Gilbert.

This January, I announced my retirement at the end of 2014 from the active participation in the running of the Threshold Choir. I will enjoy this last year and will create a Leadership Training Program for 15 - 20 members to become the next circle of leadership of the Threshold choir and will shepherd the recording of our next CD.

Thanks to all of you who hold this work close to your heart and who support it so generously.

Blessings, Kate

Comments From Families

"Your voices were those of the angels my father had by his side as he left this life and went to the next. You helped him experience complete peace in his last moments . . ."

"Your gift of song touches the soul, bringing hope and joy . . ."

"I cannot express sufficiently how much your beautiful women's voices meant to my father. He did tell me that he loved it when you sang for him. So did I, the few times I was lucky enough to be there . . . Thank you again for the very important and healing work that you great women do



A Note from the Outgoing Board Chair, Kay Caldwell

2013 was a busy year for Threshold Choir International. The Board of Directors, our founder, Kate Munger, and our Executive Director, Heidi Dressler have all worked to continue the growth and sustainability of our beloved organization. Ellen Rose has been a big part of the work. We have aided and supported the birth of new choirs all over the country and world. We have worked to create systems to make participation easier and more constructive. Our organization is more solid and respected every year.

I am proud to have been a part of this growth and change. I step down as Board Chair after two years of service and gladly turn over the reins to our capable new Co-Chairs, Cesca Wright and Susan Randazzo. I will continue to serve on the Board for a while.

Threshold Choir is indeed an organization to be proud of, from its first inception through the vision of Kate, to the loving force it has grown into today.



A Message from the Executive Director, Heidi Dressler

It was another remarkable year for Threshold Choir, with over 20 new choirs, continued transitions and refinements to our governance and administrative functions, and continued exposure to the world community.

As we grow and evolve, our main organizational focus continues to be finding more ways to support and be of service to local chapters. With increased attention being given to regional gatherings as a way to create a greater sense of community, we will be focusing on this even more in the years ahead.

Our board continues to do the heavy lifting and believe me, they are asked to do a lot. If you get a chance to thank them, please do. They work extremely hard on behalf of Threshold Choir's mission, to make sure we are solvent and sustainable. I appreciate them every day and am grateful for the opportunity to work with them and with our members.

We continue to move forward, sharing our mission and our commitment to excellence with like-minded singers. We have much to be grateful for.

"The nature of illness often entails discomfort and disability. People who are seriously ill may experience life as constrained, gray, monotonous, and devoid of joy. Threshold Choirs offer their voices to uplift — to lift up — people feeling the weight of illness and the burden of difficult transitions. Music is a gift of beauty that complements medicine and en-souls human caring."

— Ira Byock, M.D., palliative care physician

Author of *Dying Well* and *The Best Care Possible*. www.TheBestCarePossible.org

January - December 2013

Profit & Loss

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
405 · Membership Dues Income	41,195.00
420 · Leave Behind Donations	210.00
425 · Interest Earned	3.10
Workshop & Gathering Income	
430 · Workshop Income	1,125.00
435 · National Gathering Income	52,225.00
440 · Regional Gathering Income	11,532.25
Total Workshop & Gathering Income	64,882.25
Donation Income	
450 · Donations - Memorials	437.48
455 · Donations - General	55,731.70
460 · Donations - Pass Thru to indivi	490.04
465 · Donations - Restricted	1,000.00
Total Donation Income	57,659.22
Product Sales	
480 · Songbook Sales	7,299.28
482 · CD Sales	4,097.00
490 · Sales Tax Paid	-931.00
Total Product Sales	10,465.28
Total Income	174,414.85
Cost of Goods Sold	
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold	685.80
Total COGS	685.80
Gross Profit	173,729.05
Expense	
ADMINISTRATION	
505 · Wages & Salaries	53,000.16
510 · Worker's Comp	1,548.55
515 · Payroll Taxes	4,824.50
520 · Accounting	4,130.00
525 · Bank & Paypal Fees	3,090.01
527 · Paypal Fees	1,268.98
530 · Board Meeting Expense	15,557.25
535 · Consultants	3,648.25
540 · Dues & Subscriptions	125.00
550 · Insurance	481.00
555 · Licenses & Fees	50.00
565 · Office Expense	2,862.50
570 · Postage & Shipping	2,152.71
575 · Printing	525.39
580 · Rent	1,000.00
585 · Telephone & Internet	1,877.16
Total ADMINISTRATION	96,141.46
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
615 · Donation Expense	412.07
630 · Printing	256.89
635 · Promotion & Outreach	712.35
640 · Travel	4,493.28
645 · Songbook Production Exp	3,826.21
650 · Supplies & Materials	93.39
665 · Website & Communication	1,180.00
Workshop/Gathering Expense	
670 · Regional Gathering Travel Exp	20.08
675 · Facility Fees	46,697.57
680 · Food/Catering	1,281.71
685 · Speaker & Supplies	2,395.92
Total Workshop/Gathering Expense	50,395.28
Total PROGRAM EXPENSES	61,369.47
Total Expense	157,510.93
Net Ordinary Income	16,218.12
Net Income	16,218.12

Our Board of Directors

Ray Caldwell, Board Chair

Santa Rosa, CA

Francesca Wright, Vice Chair

Davis, CA

Susan Randazzo, Secretary

Groton, MA

Kelsey Ramage, Treasurer

Santa Cruz, CA

Susan Graves

New York, NY

Leeann Enright

Prospect Heights, IL

Karen Friis

Sutter Creek, CA

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We are shaped by our thoughts; we become what we think. When the mind is pure, joy follows like a shadow that never leaves.

- Buddha