



President's Council Members Mac Gordon and Jean Bohatkiewicz are helping Sing Canada Harmony make a difference through their annual leadership gift. Mac and



Jean want to see more youth involved in not only singing Barbershop Harmony but organizing and leading other Canadian youth within the Barbershop Harmony Society, Harmony, Inc. and Sweet Adelines International.

They are helping Sing Canada Harmony build a better Canada through singing and invite all Barbershoppers, their families, friends and fans

VERNON SIMKINS REPORTS FROM HARMONY UNIVERSITY Mid-Week Excitement!

BARBERSHOP HARMONY IS DOING A WORLD OF GOOD ACROSS CANADA and WITH YOUR HELP [SING CANADA HARMONY](#) IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE in CANADIAN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

Hi Lyle,
Vernon's report follows this important message to all Canadians who believe in Barbershop Harmony and the "power of song".

Many men and women Barbershoppers who have retired or left the work force are discovering that it is possible to assign gifts to Sing Canada Harmony directly from their private sector pension income, just as they could from regular income while working.

Many employers provide as a benefit to their staffs (and in some cases their customers) the "Employer matching gift benefit". If you are or have been working for a company that makes "matching gifts" available, it is strongly recommended that you avail yourself of this benefit as a means of demonstrating to your employer, your family, friends and fellow Barbershoppers, your willingness to help build a better Canada through singing and charity.

Think of the universal value when you donate a gift to SING CANADA HARMONY through an employer matching gift benefit. Let's say that you donate \$25.00 per month. Through a matching gift program Sing Canada receives an annual gift from you and your employer of \$600.00.

- You would receive a tax deduction for your \$300.00 annual gift. You would become an "Ambassador of Song" at the highest level (MENTOR*); your name would appear on displays at International Conventions and in Sing Canada e'Newsletter and on the Sing Canada website so the Barbershop community could learn that you support Barbershop Harmony, vocal music education, youth, children and singing in Canadian Schools and Communities.
- Your employer benefits from knowing that you an employee understand the need to give back, the

to donate to the only national Canadian charity that supports vocal music in the communities and schools of Canada.

Please visit: [Sing Canada](#)
(Click here)



These highly respected and well known Music Educators: Jordan Travis (L), Director of the Cross Canada and O YA Choruses and Dan Austin (R) Asst Director O YA Chorus, have made Sing Canada Harmony their charity of choice. Jordan is a President's Council Member and Dan is a MENTOR (highest of 3 levels) Ambassador of Song. They both believe in the power of vocal music to change lives and they are sharing their leadership and learning facilitation talents with Barbershoppers and youth across Canada and in community and school singing groups. Jordan Travis produces BURLINGTON SINGS, an annual community song and music festival that brings together Barbershop Choruses with community and school choirs. Sing Canada Harmony thanks these leaders for the gift of their support and their contribution to Canadian children and youth as Music

need to support a worthy cause and that you are willing to support not only your community, but something you really believe in. Your employer also benefits from public recognition both locally and nationally.

- Barbershop benefits as more awareness of the Barbershop Harmony art form is spread through the company, the community and the nation.
- The three great singing organizations to which Barbershoppers belong benefit from having more financial support for training they conduct across Canada.
- Youth, children and adults who help them learn benefit through the support they receive.
- Your community, your schools, your province and Canada benefit from your generosity as you help to build a better Canada through singing.

What could be a better win-win-win-win-win-win situation? There is no greater way for you and your employer to demonstrate community involvement and support.

(* Monthly gifts for Ambassador of Song levels are:

Mentor – an advanced level of involvement:

Membership with a gift of \$50 or more per month; **Coach –**

a pledge of dedication: Membership with a gift of \$30-49 per month; **Sponsor – an advocate of harmony:**

Membership with a gift of \$10-\$29 per month; and,

Champions of Tomorrow – a quartet's active support of the future: Quartet's joint membership with a gift of \$40+ per month)

Together, we can change lives. We can inspire interest in young singers. We can turn interest into skill, skill into aspiration, aspiration into achievement. **Donors to Ambassadors of Song** can arrange for automatic monthly deductions at any level, starting at just \$10 per month. It's easy to begin investing in the future of barbershop—and surprisingly rewarding.

Recent Donations to SING CANADA HARMONY through employer plans

- *Toronto Police Services
- *Kraft Foods
- *TD Bank
- Telus

Sing Canada Harmony extends sincere thanks to these employers for making payroll deduction and matching gift programs available to Barbershoppers and others who are helping to build a better Canada through singing.

(* Employer plan gifts made through The UNITED WAY).

Educators, community
leaders, and model
Barbershoppers



Sometimes happiness can be receiving a Sing Canada Harmony Scholarship to attend Harmony University or participate in a learning program in vocal music at any University or College. In Land O' Lakes District Sherrie Bredesen smiles below as she receives a scholarship cheque from Sing Canada

Donors who recently made use of Employer Plans:

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

- Al and Beverley Verwey PC (ONT)
- Jonathan Foster and Joanne Fong PC (ONT)

AMBASSADOR OF SONG

- David Earle (AofS ONT)
- Alphonse Alain (AofS EVG)

Sing Canada Harmony thanks Al, Beverley, Jonathan, Joanne, David and Alphonse for their generosity and support for Sing Canada scholarship programs to help deserving Canadians today "so that someone will sing tomorrow". **YOU ARE AWESOME – THANKS!!!**

Enjoy the excitement and emotion as you read this report

of a young Barbershopper at Harmony University who lives to sing Barbershop and wants to tell all our readers about the fabulous learning experience he is enjoying through the sponsorship of individual, Quartet and Chapter donors to Sing Canada.

VERNON SIMKINS MID-WEEK REPORT from HARMONY UNIVERSITY

Hi Everyone: (and greetings from Sunny, warm, and sticky "St.Joe's" Missouri!)

The past little while has been amazing, that's for certain, with so much to see and do at Harmony U 2011, with 700+ others, both old and young, and from all over the world sharing the experience with me! So far, I've covered a lot of ground, with so much more yet to see and do.



- In Music Interpretation- we've been busy taking apart songs given to us and adding our own enhancement to them- bringing them to life in a way we never really considered. Today, we even watched in utter amazement, as our instructor (an arranger/vocal coach/International level quartet Lead singer, by the name of Brent Graham) coached a quartet in front of us, and turned the song they were singing from the arrangement they learned off the paper and learning



Sing Canada Harmony is the official charity of the **Barbershop Harmony Society** in Canada and, is endorsed and supported as a special charity by Canadian Members and Chapters of **Harmony, Inc.** and **Sweet Adelines International**. Our Board of Directors is comprised of Canadian women and men, from across Canada, who are committed to supporting vocal music in our schools and communities.

tracks into what can only be called a masterpiece of vocal artistry that sounded simply incredible. It was like watching a woodcarver at work- chipping away at the material until it was a work of art. This guy really knows his stuff!

- In Vocal Production, led by an amazingly talented Adam Scott, we've covered ground in improving proper singing form and technique, that has helped unlock ability in my voice I didn't know I had- so far, we've covered techniques for improving posture, maximizing resonance, fix vocal range difficulties, scooping, and other difficulties when starting a song on any given word- we've even learned how to all but eliminate the "break" in one's voice when moving from head voice to chest voice.
- In Effective Warm-ups for Quartets, led by Rick Spencer- I've learned tips, tricks, and exercises for warm-ups that eliminate most problems experienced by ensembles at a practice- such as blending, concentration, etc

Of course, this is but a small sample of what we've done so far in classes- and there's still more to come yet, with 3 more days left! in addition to all this, I've met, sung with, and even made friends with other singers attending- some coming from as far away as New Zealand and Norway! I've also met and sung with some of the Canadians that have been lucky enough to have attended with me- among them, several members belonging to choruses in Quebec, Manitoba, and BC! I've also met several O YA/Cross Canada Chorus members up here, enjoying the experience with us- including one very lucky quartet consisting of high school members- having an awesome time of their own with being coached in Quartet College.

In addition to all this stuff- there are also other events going on- tag singers consisting of random singers everywhere, every night after classes, inside buildings, dorm rooms, and outside, singing old tags, and learning new ones. groups forming together of members sharing stories, memorizing, and socializing. woodshedding groups. Choruses of "freshmen" forming to compete against one another in an friendly "initiation" contest held all in fun. An outdoor BBQ bash will be held tomorrow (Thursday) open to all. And, of course, the Saturday Night Concert (**which is available via webcast**) will close things off with stunning performances by the Next Generation Youth Chorus (all members under 26), Director's College Chorus, Honours Chorus, and finally, the 2010 International Quartet Champions- Stormfront!!

It's certainly been a week to remember- and it's only half over!! I wish you guys could be here right now to see it.

Cheers, Vernon

For more information, please visit our web site:

<http://www.SingCanadaHarmony.ca/> and please tell your families, friends, local music educators and audiences about us and that we are accepting applications for scholarships to help children, youth, men and women in any course, program, etc that focus on singing or singing/vocal music support. Also, please read and share our newsletter and our monthly bulletins

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