

Radiant & Rooted



TUCSON
GIRLS
CHORUS

COMMUNITY
IMPACT
REPORT

2024/25





DEAR TGC COMMUNITY,

When you dream that girls can do anything, you dream bright and bold. I have always believed in the innate power of the voice. At TGC, we don't just help girls *find* their voices -we've always known they had one. What we do is create the space for them to lift those voices and realize that what they have to say is worth hearing.

This past season, we manifested **RADIANCE** – a commitment to honoring every wondrous part of ourselves – while **ROOTING** in an ecosystem of

connection, care, and creativity. Some of last year's many highlights include strengthening our collaborations with valued community partners as well as launching our eastside pilot program.

For 40 years, girls at the TGC have been shaking up the world. We have grown into a thriving organization, deeply rooted in the desert, with a radiant light that reaches far beyond. We are proud to serve as a national model of innovative programming, inspiring others to create meaningful impact in their own communities.

As we continue to grow and celebrate our 40th anniversary **THIS** year, our mission remains rooted in harnessing the transformative power of music to create meaningful change in the world. We have seen this transformation firsthand, from our youngest Bees to our Alumnae, as they navigate a complex world with courage, creativity, and determination. These girls will one day take their place at boardroom tables, shaping the decisions that define our future. What a profound privilege it is to invest in them and witness their blossoming.

Thank you for your partnership and I hope we can celebrate 40 years of harmony with you!



Dr. Marcela Molina
Director, Tucson Girls Chorus



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Tucson Girls Chorus is to prepare a diverse group of young women to be confident leaders through participation in a well-constructed educational program that emphasizes music, performance, leadership training and community service.

2024-2025 SEASON

In our 2024/25 season - **RADIANT & ROOTED**, we embarked on a fearless journey of discovery and joy. We manifested **RADIANCE**: a commitment to honoring all the wondrous parts of ourselves without reservation or restraint.

And like the many varieties of trees who make our desert home habitable, we practiced **ROOTING** ourselves in the ecosystem of each other through connection, care, resilience, and creativity.

24-25 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

57%
**MEMBERSHIP
GROWTH**
since 2015



3,544
**STUDENTS
REACHED**
*across 38 zip
codes*



\$79,371
AWARDED
*in scholarships
& subsidized
programming*



40 YEARS of Tucson Girls Chorus

Tucson Girls Chorus
founded by Margie
Kersey with two
choirs



**TGC moves
to Mehl Park,**
*which has been
our home ever
since!*



**Founder Margie
Kersey retires,**
Dr. Lori Keyne
serves as
Interim Director

TGC launches the **Bumblebee Singers**
for singers in **grades K-1**, expanding
service to girls in grades K-12



1985

1990

1994

1995

2005

2006

2011

2012

2013



TGC has **five choirs:**
Jr/Sr Training Chorus,
Tucson Singers,
Sugar 'n Spice
Singers, Tucson Girls
Chorus



TGC travels on our
**first international
tour** to England,
Scotland, and Wales
Chorus



**Dr. Marcela Molina is
hired** as part-time Artistic
Director. In the same year,
Beth Walkup takes over
as Executive Director
for the TGC providing
valuable leadership and
strategic stabilization of
the organization



TGC opens our first
**Performing Arts
Summer Camp** to the
community (formerly
Oh My Glee!)



The Tucson Girls Chorus
launches our **Community
Engagement Program** to
expand geographic service
Tucson Girls Chorus

The Community Engagement
Program began with the
Engagement Choirs
Las Estrellas Choir
that did not otherwise
choral program.

TGC Music Educator Support Program starts, offering free of cost resources for music teachers, in-classroom support, and professional development events

TGC hosts our first **Treble Fest** for high school singers AND **Southern Arizona Children's Choral Festival** for singers in 3rd-6th grade with the Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus



TGC reaches long-term goal of serving **300 singers in weekly rehearsals!**

Expanding our Music Educator Support Program, TGC launches **Teacher Mentorship Program** to support choral education in Tucson

The TGC grows to **5 full-time staff members**, 4 of which are conductors

TGC opens **East Side location** (*another longtime dream!*) in partnership with the Vail school district, serving south Tucson, Vail, and Sahuarita

TGC Choirs perform at **Carnegie Hall** under the direction of Dr. Molina

TGC ENGAGEMENT CHOIRS

BUMBLEBEE SINGERS AT TGC!

SHINE! PERFORMING ARTS SUMMER CAMP

DR. MOLINA LEADS THE TUCSON GIRLS CHORUS

2014

2016

2018

2019

2023

2024

2025



chorus
community
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access to
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rs) in schools
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TGC launches **Short Season programming** to provide diverse options for singers, including those with disabilities.



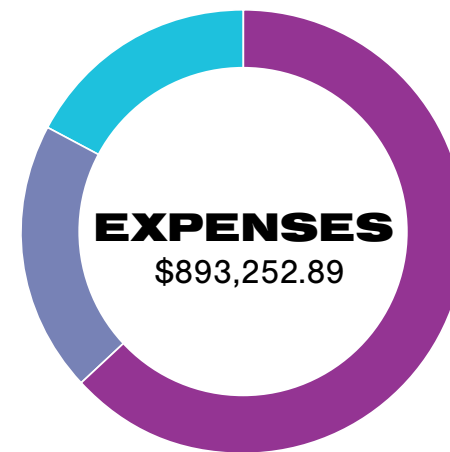
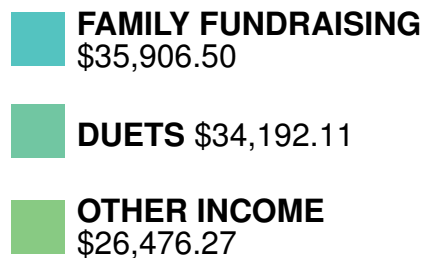
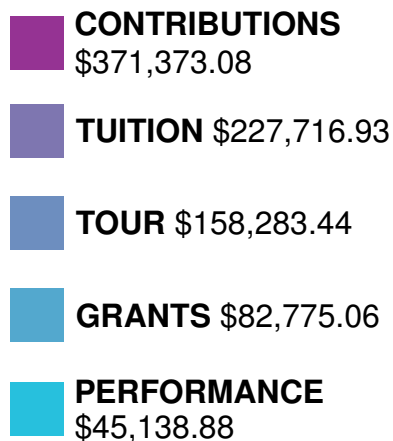
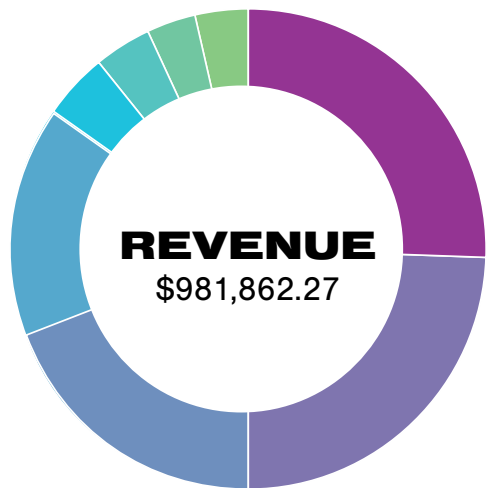
TGC opens our **Northwest location** to serve northwest Tucson, Oro Valley, and Marana



TGC offers our first Early Childhood Program **Tunes for Tots** serving babies and toddlers with their families

BY THE NUMBERS

The TGC's programming is funded by membership fees, administrative support, and ethical fundraising in both Central, East, and Northwest locations. Through multiple partnerships, the TGC's Engagement program extends the many benefits of singing to our broader community. We are committed to transparency and fiscal responsibility, and are grateful to the community's collaborations that help to ensure sustainable programming.





TGC REACHES DEEP

Our K-12 singers meet weekly at 3 locations and 6 partner schools to work together toward ***musical excellence and affirmation that their voice matters.***

We are so proud that ***96% of TGC parents report a noticeable increase in their singers of at least one mission-based characteristic:*** self-confidence, acceptance of others, responsibility, increased appreciation for music, and/or sense of belonging.

TGC REACHES WIDE

In order to ensure access to music education for all, ***TGC's Community Engagement and Music Educator Support Programs*** focus on removing barriers.

Through efforts aimed at increasing music teacher recruitment and retention, ***TGC serves 55 music educators and over 3,000 students*** per year across 38 zip codes.



THE TGC TEAM

A special thank you to the TGC staff who use their remarkable talents and skills to fuel our mission and inspire our girls!

ADMINISTRATIVE & ARTISTIC

- ♪ **MARCELA MOLINA, DMA** | Executive/Artistic Director
- ♪ **JESS EDELBROCK, MM** | Director of Operations, Associate Conductor
- ♪ **NICKY MANLOVE, MM** | Director of Community Engagement, Associate Conductor, Pianist
- ♪ **ALANAH DICKINSON, BM** | Education Initiatives Coordinator, Associate Conductor

ADMINISTRATIVE

- ♪ **ZOË BRADLEY** | Administrative Manager
- ♪ **LISA ROBINSON, CFRE** | Fundraising Consultant
- ♪ **ANNA MAIDEN** | HR Consultant

ARTISTIC

- ♪ **DANIELLE KING** | Associate Conductor
- ♪ **SIERRA NORRIS, PHD** | Associate Conductor
- ♪ **ALAINA WEGNER** | Associate Conductor, Choir Assistant
- ♪ **AYSEN IDIL MILLIOGULLARI** | Vocal Instructor, Choir Assistant
- ♪ **KATHRYN LIEPPMAN, MM** | Pianist
- ♪ **WOAN CHING LIM** | Pianist
- ♪ **ANKA MISCHER** | Pianist
- ♪ **DEBORAH OSBORN** | Pianist
- ♪ **ANNALUPE RODRIGUEZ** | Pianist
- ♪ **GABRIEL SCHIRN** | Pianist
- ♪ **INA SELVELIEVA, DMA** | Pianist
- ♪ **CHLOE BELL '21** | Choir Assistant
- ♪ **CHELSEA CANNON '21** | Choir Assistant
- ♪ **AUBRY WILKES** | Choir Assistant
- ♪ **ASHLEY KRAUT** | Movement Coach

SPECIAL THANKS

The TGC is governed by a dedicated group of volunteer board members. We thank them for their time and talents to help lead and set a strategic vision of growth for our girls!

2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- ♪ KAREN MOODY | President
- ♪ MELISSA SOLYN | Past President
- ♪ SCOTT MATLICK | President-Elect
- ♪ MONICA MEDLEN '15 | Treasurer
- ♪ MIKE SCIONTI | Secretary
- ♪ MATTHEW BELL | Member
- ♪ CATHLEEN LINN | Member
- ♪ HAILEY FINN '14 | Member
- ♪ LAUREN BENAVIDES DELASHAW | Member



A LIFETIME OF IMPACT



TGC alumna Alice Berry '15 at the Great Wall of China on tour with the Advanced Choir in 2015. How many have carried TGC's pink tour backpacks?!



On tour in 2013 to the Bay Area!

“The next time you are onstage with your fellow singers, take a moment to just feel what it is like to be so connected, in your voice and in your heart. That is the magic of singing at the TGC.”

I joined the Tucson Girls Chorus in 5th grade, not knowing that **TGC would become the defining experience of my adolescence.**

Over the 8 years that I moved up from the Hummingbirds Choir all the way to the Advanced Choir, **I not only grew as a musician but also as a leader**, a friend, and a confident young woman.

The music was challenging, but the beauty and sense of unity I felt singing with my choir will stay with me forever. **Through my experiences with TGC, I learned discipline, responsibility, and the power of teamwork.**

The TGC also gave me the world. I went on 6 tours, including 3 international ones. The Advanced Choir tour to China in my senior year sparked a love for the country that led me to study abroad and even live there later in life. **TGC gave me the courage** to face new experiences with curiosity and excitement.

Even now, years later, I carry the TGC with me, in my music, in my career in the nonprofit world, and in the **values of connection and service** that continue to shape who I am. The friendships, the lessons, and the magic of singing together remain a part of me, always.

Alice Berry
TGC Alumna 2007 - 2015



The Advanced Choir tour to Argentina in 2012!

Alice currently lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and works as a Major Gifts Officer at Temple's University's Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts.

TGC IN CONCERT



Stay connected for **even more events** throughout the season!



BEGINNING *embracing our origins*

SOUNDS OF WINTER 2025
December 14, 2025
Centennial Hall



DUETS!

FUNDRAISING GALA
March 29, 2026
Tucson Jewish Community Center



BOUNDLESS *embracing our future*

SOUNDS OF SPRING 2026
May 3, 2026
Centennial Hall



TUCSON
GIRLS
CHORUS

4020 E RIVER RD. TUCSON, AZ 85718
PHONE: 520-577-6064 | FAX: 520-577-1137

TUCSONGIRLSCHORUS.ORG