

State of Maryland

2007 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
1795	SB172		HB1411	Maryland State Boychoir Facility
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
McFadden				Harrison
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)				5. Requested Amount
Baltimore City				\$1,500,000
6. Purpose of Bill				
Grant to the Board of Directors of The Maryland State Boychoir, Inc. for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, and capital equipping of The Maryland State Boychoir musical education and modern arts facility.				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
Grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act.				
8. Special Provisions				
Requiring the grantee to grant and convey a certain easement to the Maryland Historical Trust.				
9. Contact Name and Title			Contact Phone	Email Address
Stephen A. Holmes			410-419-2726	sholme3@yahoo.com

10. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)

Founded in 1987 by current Artistic Director Frank Cimino with just 14 boys, The Maryland State Boychoir's (MSB) mission to foster the boychoir tradition by offering talented boys opportunities to sing and build self-esteem, self discipline and character still continues today with over 140 young men, ranging in age from seven to eighteen. The boys are as diverse culturally as they are geographically. They reflect a wide range of backgrounds, ethnicities, and races. The boys come from nine Maryland counties, Baltimore City, and Washington DC.

The MSB dedicates itself to providing talented boys with:

- A musical education in the tradition of the great European choir schools - Through a series of graded tests, choristers in the MSB progress in theory and vocal training through the stages of Junior Choirboy and Senior Choirboy to Full Chorister.
- Opportunities to perform professionally - Choristers are given ample opportunities to perform in the Boychoir with over 60 performances each year throughout Maryland, in surrounding states, and on tours that have taken them throughout Europe, Canada, and to thirty different states across the US
- A chance to grow socially - Choristers not only work hard at learning and performing, but they also bond together into a network of friendship.

The MSB currently has five choirs. In addition to training in ensemble singing, each boy in The Maryland State Boychoir program is offered private voice lessons and theory instruction as well as social opportunities in which to build camaraderie. The MSB also offers several special venues for boys to grow and develop as choristers, musicians, performers, and individuals. These opportunities, which positively change their lives, include:

- Camps – Camps strive to expose boys to new and different activities, to build self-esteem, to help develop social skills, and to foster independence.
- Tours - Each year, the Concert, Tour, and Changed Voice Choirs undertake separate regional, national, or international tours to perform, build relationships with other choirs, and strengthen as a community.
- Baltimore Boychoir Festival – This event was created to strengthen boys' choral skills, celebrate their art, deepen their sense of community, feature some of American's most outstanding boychoirs, and showcase the great city of Baltimore.
- Goodwill Ambassador Program - This program teaches choristers and patrons about diversity and the power music has to overcome differences through visiting schools, retirement communities, and areas of special public interest of different socioeconomic levels.

The MSB is committed to accepting any qualified applicant for membership, regardless of his family's financial means. Therefore a scholarship program was created to allow families with limited incomes to participate in the choir. Currently 33% of our choristers, most of whom reside in Baltimore City and Baltimore County, receive some sort of financial assistance to participate

11. Description and Purpose of Project (3000 characters maximum)

The Maryland State Boychoir seeks to renovate its recently purchased property, Saint Matthew Church, a structure located at 3400 Norman Avenue (also listed as 2320 Mayfield Avenue in some documentation) in Baltimore City’s Mayfield community, which will become the home of The Maryland State Boychoir as well as a modern arts facility for all arts disciplines.

The Boychoir plans to do renovations on the education building but has no current plans for the worship building except to utilize the sanctuary as a performance space.

The project for which the Boychoir is requesting funds, capital support for the renovation of the education building of Saint Matthew Church, will make a difference in the lives of so many people, including:

- The Maryland State Boychoir institution by providing a permanent home to house both offices and rehearsal space and by solidifying the foundation for future generations.
- The choristers by providing them a permanent home with the necessary amenities for musical education as they are trained in the 1,500 year-old boychoir tradition.
- MSB patrons by offering them an accessible and modern center to experience the arts.
- The arts community of Baltimore by providing office, studio, rehearsal, and performance spaces for small arts organizations.
- The Mayfield Community by revitalizing a 77 year old building, which is in need of renovation, by creating an artistic center in their community, and by bringing additional involvement and interest to the community.

The first concern for the Boychoir is how to restore and refurbish the education building which dates back to 1928. The challenge that lies ahead is restoring existing areas of the campus while creatively developing numerous unused spaces. Plans for several small studios for private music lessons, the construction of a large rehearsal hall, designing a catering kitchen and reception hall, and making the entire building handicap accessible are now underway.

The MSB arts facility plan goes far beyond creating a permanent home for the Boychoir. Establishing this venerable building as a home for arts from throughout the State of Maryland is the next phase in the project. The MSB envisions a place where arts organizations can find a welcoming and affordable venue for rehearsing and performing.

Besides creating a gathering place for arts, the MSB has committed itself to forming a partnership with the Mayfield Community – the community in which the building resides. In part this will be accomplished through the continuation of an existing preschool program and day care center in the new building. The Mayfield Day Care Center and Preschool have operated out of Saint Matthew Church for a number of years and many Mayfield Community residents and surrounding neighborhoods rely on this local service. The Boychoir is committed to continuing these partnership and forging a deeper relationship with Mayfield and their surrounding communities.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 11 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 12 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	\$650,000
Design	\$247,000
Construction	\$3,323,000
Equipment	

Total		\$4,220,000	
13. Proposed Funding Sources – (List all funding sources and amounts.)			
Source		Amount	
Historic Preservation Tax Credit		\$400,000	
Anonymous Donation		\$1,000,000	
Individual Donations		\$1,120,000	
Foundations		\$200,000	
Bond Bill		\$1,500,000	
Total		\$4,220,000	
14. Project Schedule			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
2005	2006	5/1/2007	4/30/2008
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised as of January 2007		16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete
\$1,100,000		200+	200+
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
The Maryland State Boychoir 8925 Old Harford Road Baltimore, MD 21234		3400 Norman Avenue Baltimore, MD 21213	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located			District 45
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check one)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	None	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:			
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			

Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
6	6	\$541,732	\$600,000
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond issuance purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			no
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			yes
D. If property is owned by grantee and any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
Mayfield Day Care and Preschool	annual	\$3,000/month	
Figs and Fennel Catering	annual	\$75/per use	
E. If property is leased by grantee – Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	39,160		
Space to Be Renovated GSF	39,790		
New GSF	39,790		
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion			1928
28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)			
<p>After all the preceding facts and financial figures, let me say that the most important aspect contained herein is that of VISION. This entire project started with little more than a vision - a vision for The Maryland State Boychoir (Maryland's premiere boychoir program) - a vision for opening a Baltimore City Historic Landmark to the entire metropolitan arts community - a vision to preserve vital needs for Preschool and Day Care in the historic Mayfield community - a vision to restore and preserve one of Baltimore's architectural gems. Without full funding for this 2007 Bond Bill, these visions cannot come to fruition. We implore you to understand, feel and see how \$1,500,000 from the State of Maryland will empower our work and be of benefit to the entire community. All too often, old buildings are neglected, even demolished, to make way for a new structure. Join us in insuring that this will not happen 3400 Norman Avenue. We thank you!</p>			

