

Below you will find two different personal letters that we have used to send with a tax credit form. We have bolded the portion that anyone can use. Make the letter work for you! The first example is from my son as he was entering his senior year (4th year in the program). The next example is from my daughter as she was entering her freshman year (1st year in the program). Feel free to take any portion of these examples to make your own!

I highly recommend adding some pictures – who doesn't like that! Over the years, we have sent out many tax credit letters and then thank you notes. Through the years with the donations of tax credits, we have not paid for any participation fees, tours or tax credit eligible fields totaling over \$13,000. This can work.

Our families that are on the financial aid plans have been successful in getting at least one tax credit as well! Try it – it doesn't take much money (some stamps and colored printing) and not a lot of time!

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me. President@HorizonChoirs.com

Chelly Maniuszko



2013 Broadway Under the Stars Production

July 21, 2014

Dear Family and Friends,

Thank you so much for all of your love and emotional and financial support over the last 3 years that I have been a member of the choir department at Horizon HS. Horizon's choir program continues to be the largest in student enrollment in the state of Arizona. As I begin my final year at Horizon HS, as a senior, and as a member of two of Horizon's advanced ensembles, "Step on Stage" and "Towne Criers," I have been fortunate through the financial support of family and friends to experience 4 wonderful choir tours over the last 3 years. As I have shared with you and some of you may know from personally witnessing Horizon's choir program through your attendance at its annual Broadway Under the Stars production and its other concerts, Horizon's concert and show choirs provide me and my fellow members a healthy mix of competition and pure enjoyment of sharing our gifts and talents of music and showmanship with others through unique experiences. It is with mixed emotions I embark on my final year in Horizon's choir program. One, I feel so fortunate of the phenomenal experiences I have had and venues in which to share my love of music and the excellent friendships I have made, but on the other hand I have gained life lessons through the program. I am excited to leave my mark in the wonderful program for those that will follow and make a difference in the world as I move on at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

The memorable experiences I have had with the choir program over the last three years:

- 2012 Hawaii Tour and singing "I'll Be Seeing You" to Pearl Harbor survivors at the Pearl Harbor exhibit and performing our tour set to active military and veterans at the Hale Koa Hotel on Waikiki Beach
- 2013 Los Angeles Tour where my advanced traditional choir (Towne Criers) won 1st Place Grand Champions and my advanced show choir (Step on Stage) won 2nd Runner Up securing a spot in the 2013 FAME National Show Choir Competition in Chicago
- 2013 Chicago National Show Choir Competition where we performed amongst 18 other top show choirs in the nation. Although, my show choir did not place in the top six at the National Show Choir competition, we were honored to have been recognized in the top 18 show choirs in the nation, make a name for the state of Arizona and Horizon HS for the knockout performance we delivered, and become the 1st high school choir in the State of Arizona to have received such distinction
- 2014 New York Tour where we sang impromptu at the 9/11 Memorial singing "Kyrle" surrounding the Survivor tree. In addition, we had the opportunity to perform at 2 beautiful cathedrals: St. John the Divine and St Paul the Apostle, participate in a benefit concert at the historic St George Theatre in Staten Island with proceeds benefitting victims of Hurricane Sandy, and brave the early March cold in New York City and perform our show choir set on the Intrepid Sea and Air Museum.

This year, I am President of Step on Stage and for the third year Bass section leader for Towne Criers. These leadership opportunities are extra opportunities for me to give back to the choir program that has given so much to me already. This school year, I have an awesome and exciting opportunity to return to Los Angeles in March 2015. The tour and where we will be performing are still being finalized, but I know that we will have the opportunity to do an exchange program with the top high school show choir in the country located in Burbank, CA, John Burroughs High School. Horizon choir has competed with them in 2013 during our competition that year, so it will be a wonderful experience to make a connection with them during our exchange.

I am looking forward to the year ahead with Horizon choir and our impending Los Angeles tour. As you can imagine, this trip will be expensive considering I am responsible for transportation, lodging, meals, and my share of the cost of workshops, etc. I am trying to raise a total of \$1500 to pay for this trip.

Due to the budget crisis here in Arizona, and especially in our district, our choir program receives no funding from the school. This means that in order to purchase costumes, music, t-shirts, props, pay for accompanists and guest clinicians etc. the program relies on the financial contributions from each individual choir student. These costs can add up and in order to participate in all of the choir events, and help our choir program stay at such a high level of quality, I need to reach my financial commitment as a student. I am writing to you to ask for your financial assistance with my overall choir fees. I would very much appreciate your support with this musical enrichment opportunity. If you are able to donate towards the fees I must pay to be involved in choir, you can make a check payable to "Horizon High School" and mail it to me in the envelope I have provided.

Our choir will be hard at work preparing our music and performances so that we can be the best representatives of Horizon High School throughout the year. I appreciate your positive thoughts for us as we prepare and work. Thank you for considering helping me to participate in this wonderful program. Your support and encouragement mean more than you know. If you have questions about the program you can contact me or my choir director at Horizon High School.

Sincerely,

Dean Maniuszko

10720 East Clinton Street.

Scottsdale, AZ. 85259

(602) 625-7297



2014 NYC tour



5th Grade Sing America Sing



2014 Musical Theater Singing Competition



Mar '15 Anaheim Phantom Medley

August 26, 2015

Dear Family and Friends,

Thank you for your support over the last few years from emotional support encouraging me in pursuit of my passion of singing and dabbling in the past couple of years in acting. From a few years ago in 5th grade, performing a solo depicting Abraham Lincoln in Sing America Sing at Sonoran Sky Elementary School to just recent of last year in various opportunities performing solo or in a small group at Desert Shadows Middle School and touring in Anaheim, CA in which I earned Outstanding Performer in my middle school musical theater group, Bravo, in our performance of a medley from The Phantom.

Recently beginning my freshman year at Horizon High School, it is with honor that I have been placed in the high school's top concert choir. Horizon's choir program continues to be the largest in student enrollment in the state of Arizona. I am filled with mixed emotions; one saddened that I don't have the opportunity to share the stage at the school with my brother, Dean, while on the other hand beyond excited to create my own memories and experiences. As Dean put it, Horizon High School's choir program has defined his high school experience, which I am ecstatic to begin making memories and defining my own high school experience. As you may know from my brother's involvement in choir and some of you may know from personally witnessing Horizon's choir program through your attendance at its annual Broadway Under the Stars production and its other concerts, Horizon's concert and show choirs will provide me and my fellow members a healthy mix of competition and pure enjoyment of sharing our gifts and talents of music and showmanship with others through unique experiences. I am looking forward to the phenomenal experiences I will encounter and venues we will visit as a choir in which I will have the opportunity to share my love of music and the lasting friendships I will make, but on the other hand and more importantly the life lessons I will learn through the program.

This school year, I have an awesome and exciting opportunity to travel to San Francisco in February 2016. The tour and where we will be performing are still being finalized, but, as traditionally is done, we will have the opportunity to do an exchange program with a choir program in a surrounding area of the city.

I am looking forward to the year ahead with Horizon choir and our impending San Francisco tour. As you can imagine, this trip will be expensive considering I am responsible for transportation, lodging, meals, and my share of the cost of workshops, etc. I am trying to raise a total of \$2,000 to pay for this trip.

Due to the budget crisis here in Arizona, and especially in our district, our choir program receives no funding from the school. This means that in order to purchase costumes, music, t-shirts, props, pay for accompanists and guest clinicians etc. the program relies on the financial contributions from each individual choir student. These costs can add up and in order to participate in all of the choir events, and help our choir program stay at such a high level of quality, I need to reach my financial commitment as a student. I am writing to you to ask for your financial assistance with my overall choir fees. I would very much appreciate your support with this musical enrichment opportunity. If you are able to donate towards the fees I must pay to be involved in choir, you can make a check payable to "Horizon High School" and mail it to me in the envelope I have provided. Another option to contribute is by credit card. If you would like to contribute by credit card, e-mail my mom at chellymaniuszko2@gmail.com and she can send directions under separate cover to you.

Our choir will be hard at work preparing our music and performances so that we can be the best representatives of Horizon High School throughout the year. I appreciate your positive thoughts for us as we prepare and work. Thank you for considering helping me to participate in this wonderful program. Your support and encouragement mean more than you know. If you have questions about the program you can contact me or my choir director at Horizon High School.

Sincerely,

Kate Maniuszko

10720 East Clinton Street.

Scottsdale, AZ. 85259

(480) 282-2758



Mar '15 Outstanding Performer Award in Anaheim, CA



May' 15 Beauty & the Beast Performance