

**Julie Weller, Choir Director
North Medford High School
1900 N. Keene Way Dr. Medford, OR 97504
541-842-5324**

June 10, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

This year the North Medford High School Choir Department has benefited greatly by our partnership with the Rogue Valley Harmonizers. We appreciate the many ways in which this organization has supported us.

The Harmonizers provided clinicians and coaches to work directly with our students. This is valuable since students can learn new techniques and new ways to approach musical challenges. As a director, I can also learn from the coaches and clinicians. These individuals also have assisted by running smaller, sectional rehearsals, instructing large groups, and supervising and chaperoning class activities.

Additionally, the Harmonizers co-hosted a Men's Choir festival with North Medford High School in April. Over 100 young men from all over Southern Oregon attended this festival and had the chance to sing in a large male-only choral ensemble. The Harmonizers suggested and funded our clinician, Dr. Zachary Durlam, Professor of Choral Activities at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Durlam had an entertaining and effective way of working with our choral students. We learned a lot from him. The Harmonizers were also able to introduce barbershop harmony to this group by teaching us some tags. This entire festival was made possible by financial and organizational support from the Harmonizers. It was a very meaningful experience for us.

Finally, the Harmonizers provided a significant donation that helped our Concert Choir attend the OSAA State Choir Championships in May. Without this donation, our 60-voice Concert Choir would not have been able to make this trip. Singing on the George Fox University stage at the State Festival was a life-changing experience for many students. On this trip we also had the opportunity to attend a sight-reading workshop and hear the top high school choirs in our state. It was amazing, and we are so grateful for the donation that made it possible.

The success of our partnership was strong this year. Hundreds of students benefited from the great service that the Harmonizers provided in guidance and financial support to our program.

Yours truly,

Julie Weller