



leadership



Harmony through Harmony



Annual General Report

June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2012



music



justice

report by
Beth McLean Wiest
(Executive Director)

[www. harmonythroughharmony .com](http://www.harmonythroughharmony.com)



worldview

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Who is Harmony through Harmony?

How did we get here?

Harmony through Harmony (HtH) began as a pilot project October 6th, 2009. The first HtH Board of Directors meeting occurred on June 30th, 2010. Our founding directors continue to serve on the Board of HtH.

On October 25th, 2010, HtH was issued its Letters Patent to become incorporated as “a corporation without share capital under part 2 of the Canada Corporations Act”. We received our documentation in January 2011. The HtH Corporation Number from Corporations Canada is 787251-9. The Business Number from Canada Revenue Agency is BN 83555 8115 RC0001.

HtH has had two strategic planning workshops. The first was led by David Stiller October 9-10, 2009 just prior to the start of the Pilot Project. The results of this session were our Vision (p22) and Mission Statements (p4). The second workshop was led by Keith Weaver on April 10, 2011, and resulted in our sustainable organization diagram and 5 year goals (p22).

On May 30th, 2012, the HtH Board of Directors chose the HtH Fiscal Year to be June 1st to May 31st. This is the annual report for the year ending May 31st, 2012.

This is the first Annual Report for HtH.

HtH Board of Directors

Karin Lavoie: Office Manager at the Petroleum Institute for Continuing Education

Howard McLean: Business Entrepreneur

Beth McLean Wiest: Teacher, HtH Executive Director

Jack Mortensen: Minister; Director of Resource Development for Young Life of Canada.

Bruce White: Project Director, PCL Construction.

Joanne Wiens: Former School Principal. Choir director at Trinity Mennonite Church.

Sueanne Yee: Concert Pianist and Teacher.

Janet McLean (Board Secretary): Executive Assistant

HtH Staff

Torrance Airhart: Artistic Director (paid)

Beth McLean Wiest: Executive Director (volunteer)

Reid McLean Wiest: Arranger / Composer, Director (volunteer)

Ingrid Mosker: Accompanist (volunteer)

Becky Timmons: Vocal Coach, Director (volunteer)

Through **music** and the arts,
Harmony through Harmony seeks to build
community, expand **worldviews**, develop **leaders**
and fight for **justice**.

HtH has the following three objectives, according to our document with Corporations Canada:

Objective #1

To have a positive impact on the lives of young people through:

- Education and training in the performing arts;
- Learning together as a community about issues affecting the world today;
- The development of leadership skills; and
- The presentation of secular and religious musical concerts and tours.

To use the performing arts to inspire engagement in social change.

Objective #3 Through HtH's

presentation of musical concerts and tours, to collaborate with other organizations to raise awareness of the issues affecting the world today and to raise funds for those organizations seeking to address the possible solutions to those issues.

Objective #2

This report is a celebration of how these objectives are being met.

How has HtH had "a positive impact on the lives of young people"? (Objective #1)

Since October 2009, HtH has grown from six to twenty-one participants. The membership of the 2011-12 season was 12 female singers, 9 male singers and 5 leaders. This included 100% retention of our fifteen participants from the 2010-11 season with the addition of six new singers (3 male, 3 female). Since our inception, only two participants have left the community and both departures were due to health reasons.

HtH requires a high extra-curricular time commitment from its membership. In the regular season (October to May), there were 29 regular rehearsals, a Fall Retreat Weekend, three Team Presentation evenings, a conference weekend at Breakforth Canada in Edmonton, a conference in Calgary and two movie nights. Members of HtH performed at 17 events.



Regular rehearsals are spent in the following manner:

6:00 – 6:30 supper together to build community

6:30 – 8:00 music rehearsal- vocal skill development, choral ensemble music

8:00 – 8:45 discussion on world and social issues / leadership development

8:45 – 9:00 wrap-up

The evening ends with dessert where participants are encouraged to linger and visit.

Our mission statement reads: **Through music and the arts, HtH seeks to build community, expand worldviews, develop leaders and fight for justice.** We believe that the lives of our young people will be transformed positively when our mission statement is our compass. Throughout the report there are quotes from participants as the positive impact is best shared from the young people themselves.



I have found that there has been growth in my life. Definitely in musical growth but I think also with regards to spiritual there has been some moving in the right

directions. My biggest satisfaction in transformation however has to be integrating with the HtH community and finding a group of pretty like-minded individuals whom I can have great conversations and relationships with.

– Enoch Lin, year 1.

At HtH, we build community. We are intentional in how we accomplish this: we eat supper together weekly and use this time to debrief about life and connect; we rehearse and perform as both small and large ensembles; we expect each person to offer his/her strengths and talents to the operations of HtH; we encourage an attitude of ownership; we include volunteers when they seek involvement; we partner with organizations; we encourage participation in our “Learning and Serving” trip. Whenever we are together, we are learning how to build community. The following

paragraphs will outline in greater detail how time has been spent.

At HtH, we expand worldviews. This is primarily done through our weekly discussion times, our performances and trips.

The 2011-12 Fiscal Year began with focus on our first international trip- a “Learning and Serving” trip to South Africa.

The benefit of travel experiences is that you see the world through your passions and strengths. It is in being exposed to different cultures and places that we gradually discover our own passions. Through the lenses of our upbringing, past experiences, and gifts, new experiences teach us about ourselves, how we can glorify God and our role in his Kingdom here on earth. No two people experience the same travel experience. In this way, travel is an opportunity to discover our uniqueness and why God has us alive at this time. A Learning and Serving Team creates this opportunity in the safety and transforming power of community.

Because of Harmony through Harmony I feel that I understand the world better and I am better at educating people about the current issues that we as a society face today.

– Alyssa Bueckert, year 3.



The South Africa Trip had four key components: Build relationships, Learn, Serve, Explore Values / Deepen Faith. We spent one week in Johannesburg / Soweto and three weeks in Amanzimtoti / Bhukulwandle. Details on this trip can be found in the South Africa section under Objective 3.

Post-trip is when the real journey begins as one learns to integrate the lessons learned abroad and create a new normal. It is very important to be in a community during this time of processing. The personal growth that occurs in a different cultural context is significant.



My eyes have been opened in a very practical way. HtH has provided me with learning tools that aren't merely about raising awareness to an issue, but also raising awareness to the solution. When I read a sad story about trafficking, I do feel emotion, but I am ready to jump in and start understanding the precursors to each situation and try to understand all the links. Being a part of HtH with all the available information has helped me think more critically.

I also think that having my eyes opened to the pain and suffering of others has done two things that feed off each other. I become less self-absorbed because I recognize how incredibly blessed I am, and I want to research and understand issues that affect so many in the world.

HtH has showed me there is hope for every person, and that I can be a part of delivering it. I have taken this responsibility to heart, and it has kept me more focused on good and more careful about what I say, and what I don't say in all my conversations and acquaintances. There is always an explanation for something, and knowing more background helps me understand that life is difficult, and not clear-cut. – Sarah Vooy, year 2.

This year, discussion curriculum centered on the question "Why bother?" as it pertains to the fight for justice and current events related to sexual exploitation and human trafficking in particular. This question provided a framework for guest speakers and alternating weeks between a book study of *Too Small To Ignore* by Wess Stafford, (Part 2, Chapters 10-15) and a study of the verse "Love the Lord Your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. Love your neighbor as yourself." (Deut. 6: 4-5; Matt 22: 36-40, Mark 12:28-32, Luke 10:25-28) Two extended discussion times were presentations by Vladimir Ubeivolt from "Beginning of Life" in Moldova; Susan Brandt from "Street Level Counseling" in Calgary. Time was also spent discussing Team Presentations and preparing for concert presentations.

At HtH, we develop leaders. In addition to the weekly rehearsals, the group spent two weekends together: The Fall Retreat and Breakforth Canada. (Friday 6 – 11 pm, Saturday 8 a.m. – 10 pm, Sunday 8 a.m. - noon) These weekends provided the year's framework for leadership development and accountability. They were key times of stressing our mission and vision statements and as such accomplish our **Objective 1c. "The development of leadership skills"**. For HtH to multiply into more ensembles, it is crucial that there be participants who become leaders of those future ensembles. The consistent culture of HtH, requires a deep understanding and living out of our values, our purpose and our direction. In addition, it is our desire that the lives changed through HtH will create positive leadership ripples in any workplace, volunteer place or home where our people end up.

In 20-ish years of going to church, my faith, values, core beliefs, and my way of living have never been so challenged, deeply examined and questioned as since joining HtH. I have never done so much introspective thinking and evaluating before, and I am really beginning to develop a sense of myself in terms of living out my values and beliefs, and not just holding them inside. Living as Jesus lived is not a passive activity that is done every Sunday - it is something that happens every second. Although I have always known this, I feel that for the first time in my life I am truly beginning to try to live this way. I attribute this directly to HtH and to Beth, who has been extremely nurturing and considerate to me through this time of growth. – Laura King, year 1.



The Fall Retreat was structured to capture the four parts of our mission statement. This is a crucial time for new singers to get a big picture of our vision and to become integrated into the community. For all participants, the choice to structure our weekend around our mission reinforces why we do what we do. This weekend also kicks off our justice theme for the discussion curriculum and is an intense time of music rehearsing. This year, two

Leadership Initiatives were introduced at this retreat: Personal Growth Plans and Vocal Coaching.

At HtH, we believe that leadership is a journey requiring an attitude of life-long learning. The Personal Growth Plan is a means of holding one another accountable to this quest. Each participant is required to do the Strengthfinder 2.0 test to determine his/her five leadership strengths. The Personal Growth Plan includes self-assessment in how the participant is currently using those strengths and how to further develop them. The

I think that there has been some prominent



growth in my ability/desire to lead and be responsible for things (which is one of my leadership strengths), as well as in my desire to read and stimulate myself intellectually - particularly in the areas of theology and faith. These have come through book recommendations from the choir's leadership group, as well as the Strengthfinder 2.0's precision in analyzing some of my strengths. I have also grown musically since joining the choir, with an improved ability to read music, an increased vocal range (at least two semi-tones higher than before) and knowledge of vocal capabilities, and a newfound love for arranging music which

Personal Growth Plan was introduced by watching 15 minutes DVD of the first session of this year's Willow Creek Leadership Summit by Bill Hybels. He explains a tool for monitoring challenge. (Under Challenged, Appropriately challenged, Over Challenged) The "sweet zone" for growth is just above the line of "over challenged". Each participant then assessed their "challenge level" in the following areas of HtH: Vocal, Musicianship, Leadership, Faith, and Justice. The participants then met one on one with the Executive Director to determine where he/she sought growth in the

Vocal Coaching (Report from Becky Timmons)



Another new initiative this year was incorporating brief voice lessons for each of the vocalists of HtH. At the start of the year, I met with each of the singers for a brief 15-minute session. In the session I assessed

their vocal range and worked at some ear training exercises. Finally I had them sight read through a simple song based on scales. There were varying degrees of success with the sight-reading, but by the end each could sing the song without accompaniment. With each singer I was able to give each singer an idea of what area they could focus on, with some I was able to give them tangible next steps to improve their vocal quality, with others I tried to give them a broader understanding of what basic vocal technique is needed.

A challenge that I have come across is frequency. In private vocal instruction, where you will see the student at least once a week, constant instruction growth is measurable. Without frequent contact it is difficult to find measurable progress. Even with this drawback I believe that eventually we see an increase in musicality, vocal skill and confidence.

upcoming year. This was the base for their 2011-12 Personal Growth Plan. Over the course of the weekend, participants also began the process of choosing electives for Breakforth Canada in January. (see below for more on Breakforth).

Conferences are an important part of every leader's development because leaders must keep growing. "Leaders who don't grow plateau. When you plateau, you eventually go." – John C. Maxwell. In any profession, one is expected to continue to develop your competencies (skills), however, the choice to develop

character and capacity (how much of an ability you will have) is self-motivated.

Breakforth Canada is one of North America's largest Christian conferences and it occurs in Edmonton. This year's conference was January 27 – 29th, 2012. All HtH participants, leaders + all spouses or fiancés went- we were a group of 30! Accommodation, breakfast and bag lunches were provided through family and friends of HtH in Edmonton. The conference fee was donated to us through Centre Street Church. Participants absorbed the cost of gas and food. There was no cost for this weekend to HtH!

Each participant selected electives based on his/her interests and Personal Growth Plan. The breadth of sessions offers great opportunity for individual learning that can impact character, capacity and, in some cases, competencies. The group then reunited for the Keynote sessions and concerts.

The keynote sessions impacted the culture of HtH because we experienced them together. Attending anything together creates a common language- a common language builds community. Experiencing worship together builds community as does experiencing inspiration and challenge by world-renowned speakers and authors. Traveling outside of our city for a weekend together is a bonding experience. We extended the invitation to Breakforth to all the spouses and fiancés in HtH as we want spouses to be a part of our HtH community and we want to encourage healthy marriages.

participants sponsored Compassion children as a result of our time at Breakforth. It was an important means of underlining why at HtH we fight for justice.

Upon return, participants were asked to write about their experience. The following quotes from Ben and Alanna are taken from these writings. One could fill an entire report with quotes from each participant on Breakforth's impact in affirming the HtH experience. For those who traveled to South Africa, it was an excellent "next step" on how to live out faith and values. My plan moving forward is to make it an optional event on trip years and a mandatory group event on "follow-up" years post-trip.



The various speakers from Breakforth left me with the message that if my heart is all for Jesus, then I should want to always bring him into every aspect of my life (no matter how hard that is) and that I should live each day as if tomorrow it might all be over. If I am to live like that, then how can I not think about the spiritual at all times, since it could become infinitely more real to me just around the corner. At Breakforth I was challenged to start pursuing a relationship with God constantly, that he should be my focus in all things. Since Breakforth, I am now taking steps towards meeting with the Lord, not daily or hourly, but constantly. – Ben Roth, year 3.

worldview

At HtH we expand worldviews. We are a Christ motivated organization. Breakforth prays and carefully discerns who their lineup of speakers will be. The speakers come from a wide variety of denominations as do the people who attend Breakforth. It is important to be challenged on beliefs and traditions as well as to be introduced to resources (books, cds, podcasts, websites) which may further expand worldviews.

Breakforth is intentional in addressing Scripture and God's call to justice. There is a trade fair of organizations including many whose mission is to address injustice. Compassion Canada is a featured organization group promoting child sponsorship throughout the conference. It is one of the organizations HtH promotes in our awareness concerts. Four of our



The whole weekend, though thoroughly tiring, was refreshing. I love that I can talk to my fellow HTHers about the thoughts and ideas that were discussed at Breakforth. As a community, the weekend was an amazing opportunity to be challenged together by conference and to be able to come home and keep one another accountable to what we each learned. I know that our experience together at Breakforth strengthened the bonds of our community and caused us to think intentionally about our walk with Christ. I will remember singing the choruses and hymns, surrounded by my Harmony through Harmony family, listening only to the voices of thousands of believers being lifted to the heavens. – Alanna Watton, year 2.

In January, a new initiative began: The "HtH Kids" Pilot Project. This Pilot Project was for 10 weeks on Monday afternoons (4:00 – 5:30 p.m). Menno Simons Christian School (MSCS) graciously donated the rehearsal space allowing us to use its music room. The HtH Kids rehearsal was formatted after the HtH young adult rehearsal but in smaller amounts of time. Leadership was provided by five HtH young adult participants under the mentorship of Reid and Beth McLean Wiest. Eight children (three boys and five girls) took part. Six of these children attend MSCS, two are home-schooled. Rehearsal included snack, vocal training, choral rehearsal, discussion and prayer time. During the 10 weeks, the group learned four songs. Two of these songs were composed by Reid McLean Wiest for HtH Kids and were based on Scripture. HtH Kids joined HtH in its year-end awareness concert. The Kids performed their four songs. A highlight for both HtH Kids and HtH was performing one of the songs, "Friend of the Poor", together.

The pilot project HtH Kids has allowed for 5 HtH members (myself included) to take part in something completely unexpected: watching the growth and talent of young people under our leadership.
– Christina Pitre, year 3.



At HtH, we fight for justice. In our concerts we encourage our audiences to join the fight and A.C.T.- become Aware, Care, Tell. In January, it was time to take the next step in our **Objective 1b. "Learning together as a community about issues affecting the world today"**. Participants were placed in teams: Team Canada, Team Moldova and Team Cambodia. Each team was to create a three hour presentation addressing Issues + Solutions for How Are Children At Risk in that country. Each team could choose from the following to address: slavery, orphans, sexual exploitation, poverty, or abuse. Teams also needed to research Christian organizations making a difference in that country and choose one organization to promote to the rest of HtH. In all instances, teams needed to address Rescue, Rehabilitation, Prevention.

Each team found the research and presentation process to be an effective means of deepening their knowledge on the issues, the country and the complexities around solutions. Each created a multi-media presentation using powerpoint, YouTube, and audio files. The presentations were an effective and efficient means of educating the larger HtH community about each country.

justice

Team Canada was shocked to discover how prevalent the issue is in our own backyard. It opened their eyes to be less ignorant of the poverty here and its implications. The group presented statistics, history, and current realities. They chose to educate the rest of HtH about our Native Peoples, the horrors of abuse that occurred in residential schools and the continuing impact. Guest speaker Allan Peters from Streetlight, Youth For Christ finished the evening by sharing what is happening on the streets in Calgary and how this organization is responding. This was the first presentation and set the stage for the subsequent groups.

As HtH had a presentation about Moldova in the fall from Vlad Ubeivlc, Team Moldova was able to go into greater depth about Moldova's history and economics and its implications. Team Moldova was deeply disturbed by the current state of orphanages and prisons. HART (Humanitarian Aid Response Team) is an organization partnering with many churches and organizations in Eastern Europe. The timing of the Team Moldova presentation coincided with a visit to Calgary of the head of HART in the Ukraine, Kostya. Kostya and HART president Lloyd Cenaiko, came as guest speakers and provided clarity on the complexities of corruption in Eastern Europe.

Team Cambodia approached its presentation by highlighting the culture. Their three hours began with their team dressed in shirts dyed in the colours of the Cambodian flag and by feeding everyone a Cambodian meal to eat while watching a clip about Cambodia's history. This was an excellent way to create atmosphere and engage the imagination. Their presentation focused on international sex tourism and the abuse of children as a result. Laura Trabadello, a student who had recently returned from doing a service trip with her church to Cambodia, shared pictures and stories of her experience.

A conference on pornography, "Expose Calgary", provided awareness on the realities, dangers and trauma associated with pornography. Focus on this issue helped equip our community on how pornography is a link in the supply and demand chain of sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Expose Calgary had three different sessions: "Porn and Pastries" for women, "Porn and Pancakes" for men, and "Porn in the Pews" for leaders. The fee for this conference was paid by funds from the HtH Supplies Fee.

Two documentaries addressing sexual exploitation finished our year: MNBC documentary "Sex Slaves- Minh's Story & Motor City" and "Sex + Money: A National Search for Human Worth". As these documentaries were after our regular season had ended, attendance at these documentaries was poor. Those who attended will be discussion leaders in the fall when the documentaries are part of our 2012-13 justice curriculum.



There has been a HUGE transformation in my life since joining HtH. Not only am I more aware of the issue of human trafficking and other justice issues but also I have decided to go back to school, hopefully in 2013, to get my social work degree. I am a preschool teacher and thought that's what I would want to do for the rest of my life, wow was I wrong. Not only do I want to have my own pre-school but I want to have my own Not for profit or relief shelter for women and children who are trafficking in and through Canada.
- Stacey Lee, year 3.

How does HtH "use the performing arts to inspire engagement in social change"? (Objective #2)

The HtH awareness concert is a culmination of our year's journey together. Our repertoire is intentionally chosen for its lyrics. The lyrics contain messages of lament, of challenge, of hope. Through study and expression of the lyrics, participants experience mentally, emotionally, spiritually and physically connection to the content. Concerts are then formatted with the repertoire order as the base structure and an awareness message connecting the songs together. The process of creating an awareness concert, determining the message one wants to communicate, and delivering that message is transformational for the participant.

As our participants experience the process of using art to express a message, their passion for social change increases. Each participant is encouraged to engage in the concert creation process as a means of offering his/her talents to the fight for social change. Mini- teams are created for Production, Operations, Marketing, Communications/Presentation, Prayer, Events, Misc. Tasks.

The combination of information, music, expression and visual art is powerful. The journey of A.C.T.- become Aware, Care, Tell- is one experienced by each participant. It is from our personal journey that we have the authority and credibility to then challenge our

audiences to join the fight. As a result of our concerts this season, 10 people auditioned for the 2012-13 season, 76 books on topics related to injustice and social change were sold and 7 children were sponsored. In addition, over \$140,000 was raised for South Africa Projects and over \$61,000 raised for other organizations.

Fighting for justice is the foundational basis, in my opinion, of what HtH stands for. It is the reason we meet weekly, perform non-profit for organizational fundraisers, expand our worldviews and lean on each other. The issue is so huge and such a passionate topic among many of the HtH members that our involvement is our way of standing up. We all have other jobs, commitments and general "life" things that keep us busy, but when it comes down to raising awareness, funds, or support for an issue on our hearts, music is our art form and HtH is how we facilitate that into making a difference.
- Christina Pitre, year 3.



A key manner by which HtH accomplished Objective #2 is through awareness performances. This also encompasses [Object 1d. "The presentation of secular and religious musical concerts and tours."](#) In 2011-12, HtH participants performed at 17 events in Calgary and 14 performances in South Africa.

The music from the awareness concert continues to be performed in the following season. The awareness concert "Sing Out!" was first performed May 13th, 2011. The 14 participants who traveled to South Africa performed repertoire from "Sing Out!" for four schools,



I remember when I first joined during one of the first practices we were asked why we joined HtH. I remember everyone talking about how they wanted to teach people about all of these bad things happening around the world and about how it feels good to actually do something. Back then I just wanted to sing. I just wanted to be a part of a musical group and now 1 year later I realize what everyone was talking about that night. I no longer stay in HtH just because music is a fun thing to do (of course that still is 1 of the reasons why I stay). But I stay also because I realize that our cause is a cause worth fighting for and that people need to be informed of the injustices happening around the globe. My worldviews have been expanded to see bigger issues across the world and not just on things happening in Canada. – Jayson Langley, year 2.



New repertoire for the 2011-12 season began in October and was gradually introduced into performances. It has been performed in an additional six performances. These performances included caroling in the community, two collaboration concerts with schools, two fundraisers and one church service. These performances were for a total of nearly 1500 people.

This year's awareness concert was called "I Refuse... to turn my back, to make excuses, to stay unchanged". It was first performed on April 29th, 2012 for 450 people.



I feel HtH is doing an outstanding job in pursuing its mission. Looking back to the fall retreat, you had asked the group to rate our level of challenge in the areas of vocals, justice, musicianship, and faith. Being new to the group, I felt a little over-challenged in almost all of

those areas. Now, after about five months, I understand what Bill Hybels was talking about when he said that the most growth occurs in that "sweet spot" of being challenged slightly above what you normally face. This is because I have experienced tremendous growth in all of those areas (vocals, justice, musicianship, and faith) from being involved in HtH, from rehearsals to performances to group events (Breakforth) to justice projects and everything in between. My dream for HtH is that God would continue to use it for His purposes in influencing young leaders, impacting both participants and audiences to pursue justice through faith and action, with music as the medium.

– Jon Fish, year 1.

three churches, four community events and three nights of an international conference. Upon return to Calgary, "Sing Out!" was adapted for two full awareness presentations: November 4th at Renfrew Baptist Church and February 18th at Bow Valley Christian Church (see object #3). Repertoire from "Sing Out!" was performed at eight performances for a total of over 1300 people. These performances included five fundraisers, one school, one community collaborative university concert, and one church service.

music



How does HtH accomplish “Through HtH’s presentation of musical concerts and tours, to collaborate with other organizations to raise awareness of the issues affecting the world today and to raise funds for those organizations seeking to address the possible solutions to those issues”? (Objective #3)

Whenever HtH does an awareness concert, organizations that align with the issue we are addressing are invited to have booths in the foyer of that venue. At the end of our awareness concert we invite the audience to respond. We give the audience opportunity to learn about the organizations and take their brochures, to purchase products from them, to donate to them and to explore how they can get further involved. We also have a book table as reading increases awareness leading to further engagement.



This year the organizations we invited to our events all address the complexity of the issue of children caught in sexual exploitation and human trafficking:




In response to the Great Commission, Compassion Canada exists as an advocate for the children to release them from their spiritual, economic, social, and physical poverty and enable them to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults.



International Justice Mission Canada is a human rights organization that secures justice for victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other forms of violent oppression



Opportunity International is a non-profit microfinance organization dedicated to helping the working poor in over 27 developing countries. Founded in 1971, Opportunity International provides small loans and other services that enable entrepreneurs to start or expand a business, develop a steady income and provide for their families. By giving the entrepreneurial poor a “working” chance, with dignified solutions, Opportunity helps uplift entire communities through job creation. Motivated by the call of Jesus to serve the poor, Opportunity International serves people of all faiths and no faiths. 85% of Opportunities 1.2 Million Loan clients are women.

 The SA Foundation’s Global Wonders Jewelry is made by girls in Nepal who have been rescued from being trafficked and from sexual slavery.

Work of Your Hand International Development is a Christian faith-based organization that seeks to alleviate poverty in developing nations by working with the underprivileged and marginalized to help them regain, hope, dignity and self-worth, and a recognition that they are created in God’s image.

StreetLight is a mobile drop in centre for young people who are at risk of or live on the streets of Calgary. Staff and volunteers work to provide a safe environment for young people while building relationships and mentoring them individually. StreetLight also functions as a connection to resources in the community. Through our street ministry we work with many young people who are currently involved in the sex trade. StreetLight is a division of Youth Unlimited Calgary.

Response to HtH Awareness Concerts

(Nov 4) “Sing Out” @ Renfrew Baptist (250 people)

- Compassion Canada- 2 children,
- Global Wonders Jewelry - \$2,166.10,
- International Justice Mission- sales of books, shirts.
- Opportunity International- \$500 cash,
- Work of Your Hand- \$1,150.00
- Logos Bookstore- 13 adult books, 10 children’s books.

(Feb 18) “Sing Out” @ Bow Valley (75 people)

- Compassion Canada – 1 child sponsored
- Global Wonders Jewelry: \$287.97
- International Justice Mission: 6 books, one one-time donation
- Opportunity International: 1 trust bank info packet
- Streetlight (Youth for Christ): handed out 12 of 15 business cards, \$673 cash.
- Logos Bookstore – 11 books

(Apr 29) "I Refuse" @ Bethany Chapel (450 people)

- Compassion Canada – 4 children sponsored
- International Justice Mission: one \$20 donation
- Opportunity International: TBC
- Streetlight (Youth for Christ): TBC
- Work of Your Hand: \$974
- Logos Bookstore – 21 Books

- Hopeshares works in community development in Bhekulwandle, South Africa
- Sonshine Centre in a one-year residential facility with counseling and supportive services for women and children fleeing domestic violence.

In addition to our Awareness events, we collaborate with organizations in their fundraisers.

- Airdrie Foodbank collects and distributes food to those in need and educates the community on hunger related issues.
- Good Samaritans provides sewing and computer training for poor young women in Tuticorin, India.
- Homeless Awareness Calgary educates about the complexities of homelessness in order to inspire our communities to take action.

Dollars raised at events we were a part of:

(Oct 18) Raise Your Voice 2: for Homeless Awareness Calgary \$1000+

(Nov 11) Hopeshares: \$2,590.00

(Nov 19) Good Samaritans: \$22,200

(Dec 2) Singfest in Airdrie for Airdrie Foodbank: \$1200+

(Mar 29) Spring Bling for SAF: \$25,000+, 10 adult books, 5 children's books

(June 15) Voices for Hope: \$3500 for Sonshine Centre



Professional Development Report - Podium 2012 in Ottawa

Expanding Worldviews: I am very thankful that I was asked and able to go to Podium 2012 in Ottawa, Ontario. This conference was unlike anything I have ever experienced, and it certainly expanded my worldview about the choral community in Canada.

I was impressed by the sheer magnitude of the conference and the excellence that was demonstrated by the performing choirs, as well as the conductors and presenters. It also gave me the opportunity to meet a variety of conductors, professors, singers and composers. Talking to them helped broaden my ideas about what choral communities can look like (as the choirs of which I've been a part have been influenced by a Christian worldview).

Moreover, after seeing a variety of secular performances and hearing an eclectic mix of repertoire, it made me appreciate what we do at HtH so much more. Not only because we are using our music to connect our audiences to issues, but more importantly, that we use our music to spread God's love and to glorify Him. I was struck by what a difference having Christ at the centre of what you are doing gives it purpose, meaning and a depth that cannot exist apart from Him.

Building Community: This trip also provided me with an amazing opportunity to better connect with members of the HtH lead team. This year, I was asked to join the leadership team and in some ways, knew that there would be a little bit of a curve for myself and the two other members who are new to this cohort. HtH has been great about team building with the lead team, but I still hadn't had many one-on-one interactions with Torri or Becky. This trip allowed for us to get to know each other better, experience something unique together and to have fun exploring our nation's capital.

A highlight was definitely doing a tour of the centre block of Parliament and getting to sit in on the House of Commons in session, as well as experiencing the conference together. I left Ottawa feeling like I was more connected to the lead team and felt a deeper sense of community with these two great leaders of our group.

Developing leaders: The Podium conference also helped me develop as a leader through networking, being an HtH representative and learning more about social media within a choral context. Throughout the conference I would bring up HtH to the people I would meet. A very cool God thing was that we had so many extra programs from our concert that we were able to pass them out to people at the conference. I handed out eight of them and we'll see what God does with that.

In addition, I attended a session about social media for choirs. In my masters program I took a course on social media, as they are tools to communicate. This session, while it was taught more from a marketing perspective than a communications one, gave me more confidence in my understanding of these tools that will hopefully translate into possible social media strategies for our group in the future.

I want to personally thank Harmony through Harmony for giving me this opportunity. It was a wonderful learning experience and a trip I will cherish for years to come. - Katie Pearn, Year 3



SOUTH AFRICA



As 2011-12 included a tour, significant effort was given to fundraising. HtH made the unusual decision to raise double the cost of our trip in order to financially assist organizations working in South Africa. We were very fortunate to be an “agent” for Artumas Africa Foundation (AAF). HtH is extremely grateful to AAF’s president, Shauna Mason, for her belief in our organization, her administrative help and her generosity. Partnering with AAF also allowed for donors to give online through Canada Helps. Canada Helps saves administration time as they take care of the tax receipts on behalf of AAF.

The South Africa Trip had four key components: Build relationships, Learn, Serve, Explore Values / Deepen Faith. We spent one week in Johannesburg / Soweto and three weeks in Amanzimtoti / Bhukulwandle.

Pre-training included a Myers-Briggs workshop with Susan Brandt. This equipped each participant with greater self-awareness of one’s personality type as well as enabled the group to better understand and “see”

one another. She explained how the increased knowledge and understanding about one another could positively affect team dynamics, how to respect each other, how to communicate etc.

South Africa Trip:

July 26 – August 23, 2011

- 7 Pre-trip training rehearsals / learning
- 1 Send off concert
- 2 Movie nights
- 1 Workshop: Myers Briggs testing, team development
- 2 Post-trip meetings & meals
- 14 Performances (plus additional spontaneous performances in restaurants, on boats etc.)
- 1 Reporting Back event

Soweto: We were very fortunate to spend time with SMYLe (Soweto Marimba Youth League) and be hosted by their founder Michael Rea. Members of SMYLe invited us into their home and neighborhood, a privilege we wouldn't have had otherwise. An excursion to the Apartheid Museum opened our hearts to the history of the "rainbow nation". We spent an afternoon at an orphanage in Soweto- Orlando Children's Home. We joined SMYLe in two collaborative performances in Soweto: Forte High School and St. Luke's Anglican Church. This collaboration benefited both groups- SMYLe was encouraged by how our group affirmed them and HtH was inspired by their dedication, determination and

Each one of the kids remarked about how amazing HtH's singing was, about how amazing each voice was, and about how the singing of one person was never as powerful as when everyone sang together. Although not one of the kids could define 'harmony' at the beginning of our session, each of the kids (although mostly the older kids) now has a concrete practical understanding of what 'harmony' truly means, and how the harmony of a few can create harmony within many.

Once again, thank you...to YOU and your entire team...for taking the time to interact with SMYLe... to be their audience...to be their teachers...to be their musical peers...and to be an example for them to follow in future.

- Michael Rea, SMYLe Program Director

joyful performing.

Amanzimtoti / Bhukulwandle township: We were hosted by Dan and Kerry Wiens. The majority of our time was spent at Seed of Hope (SOH) Community Development in

Bhekulwandle. We stayed in Amanzimtoti. The contrast economically between locations, although only a 10 minute drive apart, is striking.

As part of our pre-training, SOH required that we do a book study of When Helping Hurts by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert. This was an excellent resource and aligned with the HtH philosophy around philanthropy and poverty alleviation. It stressed the importance of building relationships above all else and empowering people to own their problems and find solutions. A highlight of our time at SOH was HtH taking out all the Seed of Hope staff and key volunteers one at a time or in small groups for a special tea. The focus of the time together was to ask the SOH person questions, encourage and affirm, empower and learn from them. These teas were very powerful for them and for us. It is challenging for a North American, to spend an hour or two focused on someone else and not a two-way conversation. In addition, many of HtH formed significant bonds with the children who would come for the after-school programs.

HtH was divided into four teams of four participants. Each team was responsible for providing leadership in the planning and execution of their project and then include the rest of HtH in its final execution. These projects were done with excellence. Watching the focus and passion that our team approached the projects demonstrated that excellence is our core value not just musical or performance excellence.

Prince Mshiyeni Hospital Project: This team worked with the local hospital administration to determine how to give a face-lift to the Sexual Trauma Wards (adult and children). Their job was then determining a budget, finding the resources, planning the work bee for the group and finally orchestrating cleaning walls, repainting the hallway and entryway and the purchase of air conditioners.



Africa Cares for Life Conference: This team was given the challenge of helping to create an atmosphere of celebration for the 150+ delegates coming from all over Africa, planning and providing music for each of the evenings and participating in the running of the event. Princess Auto Ltd. In Calgary gave us 200 palm sized LED flashlights at cost. (\$1.75 / \$3.99) as gifts for the delegates. Our presentations each evening wrapped up the day's events. The message we shared affirmed the work of the delegates and built relationships. Result: many invitations for HtH to travel to other nations.



Community Talent Show: Working with all the community of Seed of Hope to find and encourage talent, this team developed and put on a Friday afternoon "Bhekulwandle's Got Talent" talent show. The community includes Simunye children (Elementary), Jr high and Sr High, leadership students and the staff. After two hours of entertainment and celebration, each participant received a certificate of recognition. The room was decorated in a "star" theme, Video, photos, sound recording captured the event and refreshments were provided at the end. Photo album left for Seed of Hope for the children. Finding a way to celebrate the talent and make each participant feel special was a great way to build community.



Progressive Concert: Planning repertoire suitable to perform on a journey through the community of Bhekulwandle was this team's task. The team connected with the Seed of Hope Staff and congregation at Oasis church for ideas for house stops and to learn information about the community to share with the rest of HtH. They then determined the map route for the concert. Powerful moments included a performance at a soccer game, a performance for a dying woman (she died 6 days later before we left), and performances in homes where we were the first white people to have ever stepped in the home.



Harmony through Harmony was here with us for 3 weeks and were involved in a variety of projects and concerts. My favorite moments with this talented group of musicians were the

impromptu concerts that they gave. One of the ladies in our sewing group had a mom who was very sick.

We knew that there was not much that we could do to help her. At her age, and stage of illness, she was not likely to recover from so many bad infections. One morning, the choir decided to take their gift of singing to her home. They stood outside her window and let beautiful choral melodies fill the air and drift into her room. It was a sacred moment as some of God's peace saturated the air that we were standing in. We could hear the bedridden woman sing along and softly say "God Bless You." We prayed a blessing on her.

We received news only a few days after that she had passed away. We cannot always stop a person's suffering in this world, but we can be sojourners in that suffering. Through the gift of music they brought hope – and showed a willingness to be present in the suffering of another human being.

- Dan Wiens, Centre Manager, Seed of Hope



The group attended church services at Adam's Mission Church and Life Church and led the worship at Oasis Church service.

Our donations of items were greatly appreciated. School supplies, backpacks, Canada souvenirs were donated to SMYLE. Multiple suitcases of baby and young children's clothing were given to Seed of Hope as well as 20 new yoga mats and 30+ resistance bands for their exercise program. A suitcase of baby's clothing was given to delegates from Uganda at the Africa Cares for Life conference. Post-trip, HtH has given Seed of Hope \$14,500, 10% of our total raised. These funds were given to offset their operation costs. The team has proposed that the remaining funds be split between Africa Cares for Life, Orlando Children's Home, Hopeshares and SMYLE.

In addition, each HtH Participant (2 at a time) joined a SOH staff person in a home visit to an HIV+ / AIDS patient or someone needing prayer and encouragement, Sarah Vooys taught jewelry making to the sewing ladies, we provided sewing business for the SOH by ordering all sorts of clothes to be made, all participated in the afterschool programs of Simunye / tutoring / Live Out Loud (Leadership), we planned a youth night for 3 churches, the men did manual work pounding / breaking up concrete to make room for another garden, we did a performance at Mbangbangwe High School and Amanzimtoti Primary School.

South Africa is an excellent country for HtH to travel to as a first international experience for the majority of participants. The culture of music allowed us to frequently have spontaneous performances and to build relationships easily. The participants all had powerful individual as well as group experiences. There was no division with the team, no illness beyond the odd sore throat, no crime, no injury. Our mission was met to build community, expand worldviews, develop leaders and promote justice.





We came to South Africa to build relationships, to learn, to explore values and beliefs and to serve. It never ceased to amaze me how easy it was to build relationships when we extended our music and offered to come together in song. For me, it was a spiritual moment, a reverent moment, each time.

We often began our cross-cultural connections with singing "Siyahamba" or "We Are Marching in the Light of God"- the Freedom March song for South Africa.

For me, singing this song is neat because children and youth have no memory of apartheid as they were born after apartheid was officially ended (1990) and most after Nelson Mandela was elected (1994). BUT, the adults around remember. And their expressions show they have many stories to tell. It feels somewhat like we are reminding the learners of their history and validating the past for the adults.

The other great thing about Siyahamba is that it gets people moving and smiling. It is a song of hope a song that captures the 7 words of The Freedom Charter: Freedom, Respect, Responsibility, Diversity, Democracy, Equality and Reconciliation. Being in South Africa showed us that it takes such courage to fight for each of those words.

Imagine two generations of choirs enjoying one another's music and performing for one another. Imagine the delight of the Zulu children in a primarily white African school being invited up to help teach their peers their music. This was our experience at Amanzimtoti Elementary School. A celebration of Freedom.

Imagine a school where class is over at 1:30 pm on Fridays and the whole school stays on until 3:30 pm. Why? To hear a performance of a group with many of

their peers (SMYLe) and international visitors. This was our experience at Forte High School in Dobsonville in Soweto. A celebration of Respect.

Imagine being a principal at a high school deciding that you will teach your students that even though they come from poverty, they have hope. Imagine deciding the first step is to improve the posture of your students so that they learn to walk tall and proud. This is the experience of principal Mpume Myeza worked during her first three years at Mbangbangwe High School in Bhekulwandle. A celebration of Responsibility.

Imagine being in a church where the worship leader asks the congregation to turn to "page 45 for Zulu, page 32 for Tswana, page 26 for Sutu (sotho) and page 19 for English." And then having everyone sing the same song in his own language. This was our experience at St. Luke's Anglican church in Soweto. A celebration of Diversity.

Imagine a congregation with an economic mix of wealthy and poor. Some have had to find 7 rand, a dollar, to take the taxi into church while others in that same church own multiple cars. Now imagine hearing a sermon on our responsibility as Christians to care for the widows, the orphans, the poor and the oppressed...A sermon like that takes on a whole new meaning when the person sitting beside you is on the opposite side of the economic spectrum from you. This was our experience at Oasis Church and our privilege to provide the worship music and musical response to the sermon. A celebration of Equality in God's eyes.

Finally, imagine joining hands with people of different race and different economics and singing in both their language and ours. Imagine how powerful this is for everyone when during apartheid this same activity would have been unheard of. This was our experience in almost every church and school we were able to go to. A celebration of Democracy and Reconciliation.



We have much to learn from our South African friends- black and white. It was an immense privilege to be invited into their schools, their churches and even their homes. As international visitors we are really clueless to the complexities that make up this fascinating "rainbow" nation. But God used our voices to bring His light more into all of our lives.

- Beth McLean Wiest



We put together a talent show for the kids at Seed of Hope, to celebrate their God-given gifts. We called it Bhekulwandle's Got Talent, and invited parents and people in the community. We made marketing materials, auditioned kids, (aside: which was more of a "Hey, you showed up. You're in!"

kinda process), bought refreshments, decorated, and documented the event.

We were unsure what sort of turnout to expect, but our staff partners at Seed of Hope, Musa and Karen helped us to promote the show, and got the kids to bring their parents. Musa helped us to keep the show flowing smoothly. Karen had suggested we ask Musa to MC for us, and he proved himself up to the task. As an MC he was friendly and energetic, and kept the kids focused, to some degree.

It was an incredible experience to be in one big classroom with colourful walls and a big crack in the floor, packed with kids, parents and staff at Seed of Hope. We had some 15-plus acts, featuring everything from skits to dance numbers to intense gospel songs, to a Filipino rapper.

It's hard to describe the wild feeling in the room when the Zulu kicks started. The kids would raise their foot up, sometimes head-high, and forcefully bring it down to the ground, striking the ground percussively and creating a loud and impressive rhythm.

This is one of the key dance moves in the Zulu culture, which is very musically, rhythmically, and dancingly expressive. At one point in one sequence of Zulu kicks some girls were doing, someone grabbed a djembe and started playing along, and a number of the kids jumped out of their seats and started to rhythmically beat their chairs, one little dude did it with a stick, and his intensity and rhythm were startling coming from an 8-year old.

The kids at Seed of Hope sang beautifully and it was a gift to celebrate their gifts, and join them in a praise party. HtH finished the show with a cover of "Siyahamba", one of our most rousing numbers, and we were soundly drowned out by the kids singing along. It was great! The spirit the kids and adults had in cheering on a heartfelt performance was startling, the applause I was witness to in South Africa was livelier than that of a Justin Bieber concert (and probably better deserved). Their generosity of spirit and the presence of the Holy Spirit refreshed all involved with the talent show. - Peter Vooyo, Year 3



I was adopted at birth and I also used to volunteer at the Calgary Pregnancy Care Center. I met my birth mom a year ago and I am working to develop a stronger relationship with her and her family. The day we arrived on site I felt this unexplainable need to share a bit of my adoption story with the

delegates at the Africa Cares For Life conference. This idea frightened me as I don't do public speaking that often and I would be speaking in front of people from all over Africa. I ended my short speech by saying, "When she gave me up for adoption, she didn't know what would happen. But God did. God knew that one day, 19 years later, I would be in Africa to tell you that the work you do matters. Because of the work you do, I am alive." I didn't get through it without crying and I cried through the rest of our set, as did others in our group.

The response of the delegates to my story was amazing; I was approached by many people who all told me how much they were encouraged by my sharing. One lady in particular touched my heart. Her name is Happy and she is a pastor's daughter from Ghana. She gave me a huge hug and then said "I would like to bless you with my necklace". She reached around her neck and took off her gold-chained necklace and clasped it around my neck. I was at a complete loss for words.

The symbol imbedded on the necklace is an Adinkra symbol from Ghana meaning "except for God." To this day I cannot believe how much encouragement my story provided the delegates of Africa Cares for Life, however it is because of God that I had a story to share and through Him alone. Beth said from the start that she had no idea why we ended up at an international conference for pregnancy centres but that God must have something big planned because of it. He did. After that first day I told her, "I know why God arranged for us to be here. It was for me. He wanted me to tell my story."

- Alyssa Bueckert, Year 3



SA Financial Summary

(through Artumas Africa Foundation)

REVENUE

HtH Fundraiser	\$9,940
Seed of Hope (SA Project)	\$11,190
HtH (SA Project)	\$6,860
Where Most Needed	\$80,632
Individual Donations	\$37,387

Total Revenue **\$146,009**

EXPENSES

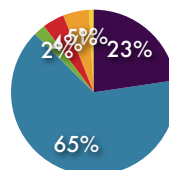
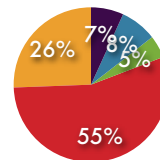
Food	\$6,591
Transport (Land)	\$7,707
Transport (Air)	\$43,306
Accommodation	\$11,305
Learning/Tourism	\$1,848
Promotion	\$3,331
Fundraising	\$4,021
Banking / Office expenses	\$720

Total Expenses **\$78,829**

Net Funds Available for Giving in SA **\$67,180**

Donation to Seed of Hope **\$24,500**

Net Funds Remaining to Donate **\$42,680**



● Banking/Office Exp



I was working on drawing puzzle pieces on the wall when I noticed a small girl and an adult woman waiting just down the hall from me. I didn't think much of it. A little while later, I heard a child screaming and crying in one of the back rooms. A couple members of our group commented on it, and we didn't really pay too much attention

because we were working as hard and as fast as we could to complete the room on time. As the screaming continued, I tried to block it out as I drew my puzzle pieces.

Then it hit me...We were working on the waiting room of the children's Sexual Trauma Ward. My heart sunk as I began to think of why this child may have been there in the first place. Just then the crying stopped. A few moments later, I saw the little girl who had been waiting down the hall come out of the back room with the adult woman and a nurse. She was holding a sucker.

I started to piece the scenario together...This child was probably there because she had suffered some sort of sexual assault, abuse or rape. She had likely just finished being examined by the nurse for her injuries. My heart felt like it had been ripped into a million pieces. This little girl couldn't have been more than 5 or 6 years old. Who could have done something so terrible to this child? Even if that wasn't why she was there, I thought about the room we were painting and some of the information we had learned. 150 children, just like this child, come to the Sexual Trauma Ward each and every month. That's approximately 5 children per day.

The little girl that I saw was too small, too innocent, and too precious to be used and abused by someone else. No child should EVER have to endure that kind of



Artistic Director Report



Torrance Airhart

This report signifies the conclusion of my first season as contracted artistic director for HtH. It is a pleasure to share with you some of my thoughts and perspectives on the past 12 months.

First I would be remiss if I didn't affirm first and foremost that I view HtH as God's project, His idea, carried out and supervised by us. It's a blessing and a privilege to be a part of this project alongside Beth, Reid and Becky.

"The refusal to be committed and the attitude of indifference can in fact never be neutral." ~J. B. Phillips

HtH is a very committed and passionate community of "doers". In fact, some would say that most of us are probably "over-committed" by nature. That said, it's a completely unique and organic environment where we are all pushed into the over-extended level on a regular basis, and excellence in all things is the normative goal.

Musically this group is one of the most satisfying experiences in my life. The ability of this group to learn material quickly and spend most of their rehearsal time refining is the cornerstone of our musical excellence – very few community groups can share that trait. The fact that out of 17 gigs this year, there were very few times that we had the full group – and yet quality performances were delivered each time also speaks volumes to the musical skill and flexibility of our singers.

Beth and I have reached a more refined balance in our audition/evaluation process. Although we have turned many auditionees away in the last year, we are very confident in the musical abilities and character of each young person that we now invite into the group. By holding our standards very high we will secure the future value of excellence in this group for years to come.

Musically speaking this group will always be somewhat diverse – reflecting the style of repertoire that Reid provides through his arrangements and my own artistic leanings. I believe this diversity should be looked at as a strength, which allows us to speak to more people.

The inclusion of professional musicians in our spring show reflects my passion for always putting the absolute best product on stage, as well as my efforts to further integrate HtH into the professional Canadian musical community. I would like to see HtH continue to become a group which becomes

respected as a "top shelf" choral group in AB/Canada, and which isn't afraid to take musical risks and perform repertoire which most community groups would be afraid to tackle. Tackling works such as what I have planned for next year, with diverse instrumentation, and of highly respected composers with challenging difficulty will eventually expand our audience base and will gain us access to stages and platforms outside of the "church" community. Further to this, another unexplored investment would be to begin to commission works from Canadian/American composers. This would be a dream for the next couple of years.

One of the biggest steps in HtH's development will be the expanding/multiplying of groups that we will embark on next year. Nothing is ever terribly predictable or stable in this organization (something that works against my grain), and once again we will be in a fluid situation while we work out how best to maximize our strengths and deliver a top shelf product musically. I do know that my passion is conducting and that activity is critical to my overall happiness and life satisfaction, so one of my priorities is to still stay in the podium as much as possible.

One of my other passions in life is mentoring, and it was a joy to initiate the conducting mentorship program in the winter semester. Katie Krell and John Vooys participated this past year. As with many pilot projects, we ran out of time during the first run – not getting as much accomplished as I'd hoped. But what we did accomplish was fruitful and bears tweaking and launching again next year.

Leadership as a team has been a stretch and a growing process – and I salute Beth's patience with me on this. I like immediate decisions with very little discussion and I often see consultation and dialogue as inefficient. But I can honestly say that I deeply love and respect Beth, Becky, Reid – and many other members of the HtH team, and I can appreciate the growth I see in my own life as being a part of this process. We are "iron sharpening iron" and I am grateful for their influence in my life.

"All great Christians have been wounded souls" ~ A. W. Tozer

leadership



God is the great Artist;
and in His image, we are also creative.
God is the great Redeemer;
and He invites us to be His agents of change in the world.
Through artistic expression in community, we discover how each person
can participate in His redemptive plan for the world.

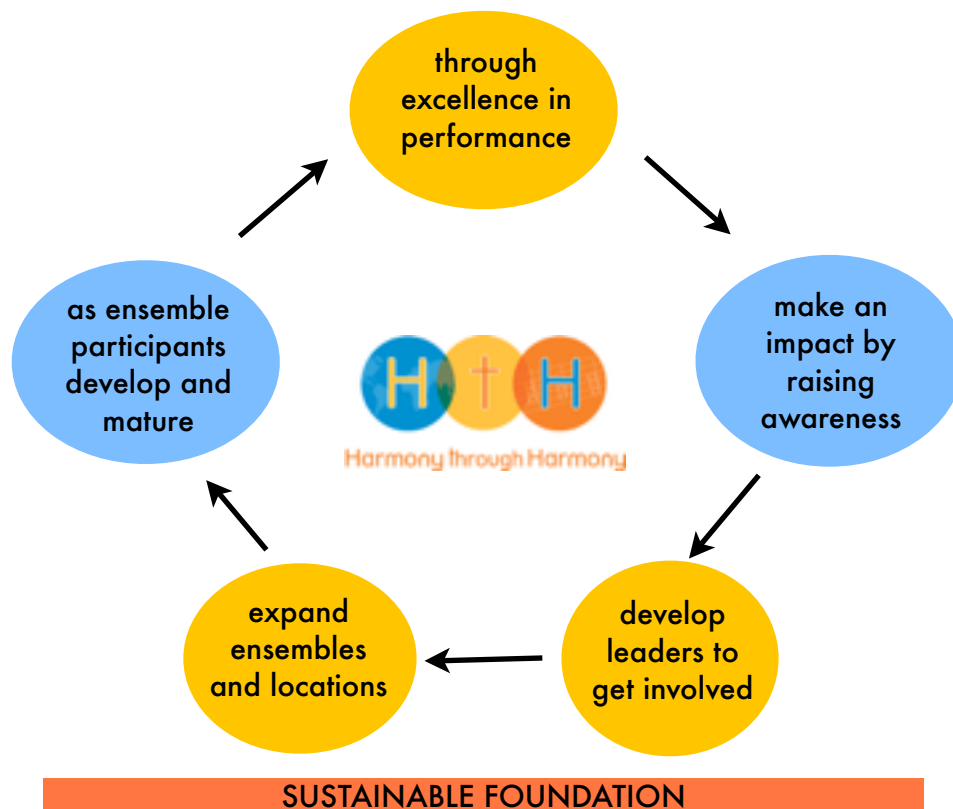
Harmony with God.
Harmony with each other.
Harmony within.

What's Next for HtH?

On April 10th, 2011, the HtH Board did a Strategic Planning workshop with Keith Weaver.

The following four goals were determined as a result:

- Become a Sustainable Organization
- Develop the HtH Brand
- Develop close partnership with specific NGOs
- Reproduce 2 HtH groups, 1 international



MULTIPLICATION: The SECOND Ensemble



To “be agents of change in the world”, there needs to be ensembles going out into the world. To experience “artistic expression in community”, one needs to experience community. To “discover how each person can participate in His redemptive plan for the world”, the community needs to be intimate enough for the individual to have opportunities to be stretched and challenged. To these ends, HtH seeks to be a multiplying entity where ensembles birth other ensembles and leaders have places to lead.

In 2012-13, we are going to take a step into the unknown and have a **Lead Team** and two **Ensembles**.

The **Lead Team** will be led by the Executive and Artistic Directors. The **Lead Team** will include the Directors of the **Ensembles**. The **Lead Team** will be then split between the **Ensembles**. The purpose of The **Lead Team** is to ensure consistent musical quality standards in the **Ensembles**, facilitate frequent communication between the leaders, provide leadership skill development, care and nurture the leaders, and ensure that the Leadership also experiences the mission of HtH. The **Lead Team** will rehearse bi-weekly on Fridays.

Each **Ensemble** will have a Director, returning participants and new participants. The returning participants will assist in providing leadership to the ensemble. Some of the returning participants will have specific roles within the ensemble. The Director is the final authority in each ensemble and “champions” that ensemble. **Ensembles** will rehearse on Tuesdays. One Tuesday a month, the entire HtH community will unite for rehearsal together. This rehearsal will be led by the Executive and Artistic Directors.

Harmony through Harmony **Ensembles** are empowered by learning and performing the same repertoire. Unified repertoire allows freedom to focus on excellence and caring. Repertoire will include music from the previous season and new music for the current season. Unified repertoire is simpler and it facilitates cross-over rehearsals between ensembles, greater performance opportunities, greater impact possibilities, greater collaboration. There is no need to clutter the organization’s focus with the creative and administrative energy that would be required in order for ensembles to each have their own repertoire. **Ensembles** will unite periodically to do sectionals, monthly rehearsals, and combined concerts. This approach should enable HtH to increase the number of performances. Performances may be designated to a specific ensemble and may be created by mixing ensembles based on availability of singers and quality vocal balance.