

Good Morning. I'm Tom Berkey of the Alexandria Harmonizers. In the time I have, I would like to read a statement that describes a few of the many ways your financial support pays huge dividends in promoting the name of "Alexandria" locally, nationally, and globally. Our performances also bring visitors to the city who wouldn't otherwise come here.

The Alexandria Harmonizers are a chorus of 200 men who sing barbershop harmony and a capella music. We've been associated with the City of Alexandria since 1948.

At the local level, the Alexandria Harmonizers have annually presented spring, fall, and Christmas shows that are eagerly anticipated throughout the community. We provide free public concerts at Fort Ward Park, and Market Square year after year. We have an annual Christmas Carol Walk through downtown streets and restaurants much to the delight of surprised diners. We sing for patients at Alexandria Hospital and the residents at Goodwin House retirement community. For the past 4 years, we've sponsored a Youth Harmony festival for young men and women in grades 8-12 that, this year, has grown to 80 students from throughout the metro area. It was held last Saturday at Durant Center.

At the regional level, the Harmonizers have been invited to perform at the White House, Wolftrap, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Kennedy Center Honors. Last Saturday, we marched in the Cherry Blossom Parade, and were one of the few groups invited to perform in front of the ABC Channel 7 cameras and televised throughout the metro area. (see it on the Internet at Harmonizer's "Face Book" ([www.facebook.com/harmonizers](http://www.facebook.com/harmonizers) )

Nationally, The Harmonizers are recognized as one of the premier choruses in the Barbershop Harmony Society. Our name is legend among the 800 chapters in the US, Canada, Western Europe, New Zealand, and Australia. We've won 4 first place gold medals in International Competition. We're working on doing it again this year when we compete at Kansas City.

Globally, we carry the name of Alexandria to Japan as we perform this May 2011 at Carnegie Hall in New York as the featured chorus at the United States/Japan Chorus Festival. In 2012, we'll travel to China and perform at several venues in Beijing. During our caroling walk in the city this past December we were videotaped by a Russian TV crew, and that clip was telecast to 250 MILLION homes in Russia and the world. (see it on the Internet at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBm\\_erpm0yY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBm_erpm0yY) )

We could not do all of this without your continued generous financial support. Thank you. This concludes my prepared remarks.