



# 2019

## ANNUAL IMPACT

R E P O R T



# FUNDRAISING CONCERTS:

## PRAISE CELEBRATION 2019



AUDIENCE TOTAL **1022**

TOTAL TICKET SALES **11,657**

UNDERWRITER TOTAL **\$91,500**

GUEST PARTICIPANTS **116**

## END SEASON CONCERT 2019



AUDIENCE TOTAL **1036**

TOTAL TICKET SALES **12,023**

UNDERWRITER TOTAL **\$76,500**

GUEST PARTICIPANTS **156**



# STUDENT THANK YOU!

Dear Donors,

My name is Kierra Pinkston and I've been a very proud member of the Voices of Unity for 3 1/2 years now. I just want to say thank you so much for donating, supporting, and believing in our organization. UNITY has opened many doors and has given me opportunities that I thought were impossible. Before joining Unity, I was in a dark place. I didn't know what I wanted to do or be in life. Not knowing who or where to turn to. To be honest, I felt lost.

But by being in this organization, it has really opened up my eyes and has given me a new perspective in life. I gained a second family who I love unconditionally. They accepted and loved me, even with my flaws and all. They supported my dreams and goals and helped me deal and grow from my past. Whenever I made a mistake, they never judged me. I thank God for them everyday. I also thank God for Mr. White. Not only have I gained a life coach and a mentor but also gained a father figure.

Every weekend, I always look forward to Mr. White's life lessons. Taking in and using the tools that he gives us to use in everyday situations and help us prepare for our future and adult life. I will forever cherish and value everything that this organization has done and instilled in me. I don't know where I would be if it wasn't for UNITY. UNITY has shaped and developed me into a leader that I've always secretly wanted to be. Again, I just wanted to say thank you. Without your financial support and Mr. White's vision, I wouldn't be the young woman that I am today.

Kierra Pinkston  
Proud Member of Unity Performing Arts Foundation



# MEET THE BOARD

## 2019 BOARD MEMBERS



**MARSHALL WHITE**  
Unity Performing Arts  
Foundation  
Founder/CEO



**ALAN RIEBE**  
UNITY Board Chairman  
Retired, WANE TV



**JIM MARKITON**  
Honorary Board Member  
Retired, JD Products



**JORDAN APPLGATE**  
Sweetwater Sound  
Director of Recruitment



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**MARC SILVER**



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**PHIL TERRILL**

## WORDS FROM BOARD CHAIR

My name is Alan Riebe, former Vice-President of WANE-TV. Before I retired I had the pleasure of assisting with fundraising efforts for Voices of Unity trips to China and Italy. Recently, I joined the Unity Board and in January of 2020, I assumed the role of Board Chairman.

I believe in Unity Performing Arts Foundation's mission of empowerment and excellence and look forward to working with our energized board members. Our board looks forward to the exciting opportunities ahead as we work with Marshall White and his talented staff in building a strong future for the Unity Performing Arts Foundation.



**Alan Riebe - UNITY Board Chair**

# WORDS FROM THE CEO

To all of the donors and volunteers, thank you for investing your interest, attention and commitment into Unity Performing Art Foundation in 2019. Without your support, our work would be tough to execute effectively. We're blessed with people who believe in the mission and proud to talk about UNITY to those that they come in contact with.

During our 19th year and 18th season journey, we made some steps toward securing our future as an institution of development using the arts as a reliable platform. We hired our first Director of Programs and Education and we are looking forward to utilizing his skills and talents while broadening UNITY's mission and vision. We embarked on our second strategic planning project since the organization began. True North Strategic Advisors of Fort Wayne, led by Chris Goeglein has been instrumental in mapping out the next 3 to 5 years of direction, sustainability, and success. I'm delighted with the progress and the engagement of our staff and board in getting this plan for our future laid out. This plan will take support from our entire membership to implement with the goal for positive and productive results.

Our students have achieved some impressive accomplishments in the 2018-2019 season. Two high school seniors both graduated from high school with excellent academic accomplishments. One received a full ride to Huntington University, and one received several significant scholarships to attend Manchester University. That's exciting! It's very fulfilling to see in living color the UNITY Edge activated in the lives of these young people. The young people who stay with UNITY from childhood throughout high school graduation, all go on to do something productive and impactful on life's journey.

As we approach our 20th year, the pride of success rises and becomes so real to me as the founder. I'm humbled and very grateful to have been allowed to make a significant difference in the lives of so many young people in our country and abroad. I encourage you to join us as we prepare to celebrate (in 2020-2021) our 20th anniversary season. Join one of our anniversary community committees and help us plan a grand celebration for our world champion young people. UNITY has grown to become a monument of pride for the community as a whole, and we look forward to taking the organization to even higher heights in the years to come.

Thank You and May God Bless You,

*Marshall White*



**Marshall White - Founder/ CEO**  
Unity Performing Arts Foundation



# MEET THE STAFF

## 2019 STAFF MEMBERS



**MARSHALL WHITE**  
 Founder & CEO  
 mwhite@upaf.com



**NIYOKI CHAPMAN**  
 Operations  
 Manager/Donor  
 Relations Manager  
 nchapman@upaf.com



**HELGA PORTELA**  
 PFW Office Manager/  
 Financial Assistant  
 hportela@upaf.com



**ANDRE L. BEASLEY**  
 Director of Programs  
 & Education



**LEE POWERS**  
 Graphic Designer/  
 Multimedia Coordinator



**DAVID ALVAREZ**  
 Student Life Membership  
 Coordinator  
*Unity Alumni*



**RICHARD REPROGLE**  
 Service/Transportation  
 Coordinator



**VENESSA DRENNEN**  
 Grant/Operations  
 Assistant



**ANNETTE CLEM**  
 Office Assistant



**WINDY COBB-JOHNSON**  
 Office/Volunteer  
 Coordinator



**MATTE RICHARDSON**  
 Director's Assistant  
*Unity Alumni*



**JACQUELINE BARROS**  
 Office/Program Assistant  
 jbarros@upaf.com



**KATRINA GRANT**  
 Student Intern



**KIERRA PINKSTON**  
 Student Intern  
 kpinkston@upaf.com  
*Unity Alumni*



JARON SIMS



ASPEN HILL



NICOLE KING



CALVIN BARNETT



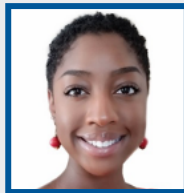
EVELYN FRIERSON



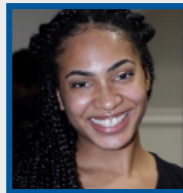
CATHI SCHENKEL



DEBRA YODER



AARYN EADY



CAMILLE KING



ANGELINA BOUGOU



LEBO MALATSE

# PERSONNEL INFORMATION

New Hires: **10** Total Employees & Staff Contractors: **26**

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## Support and Revenue

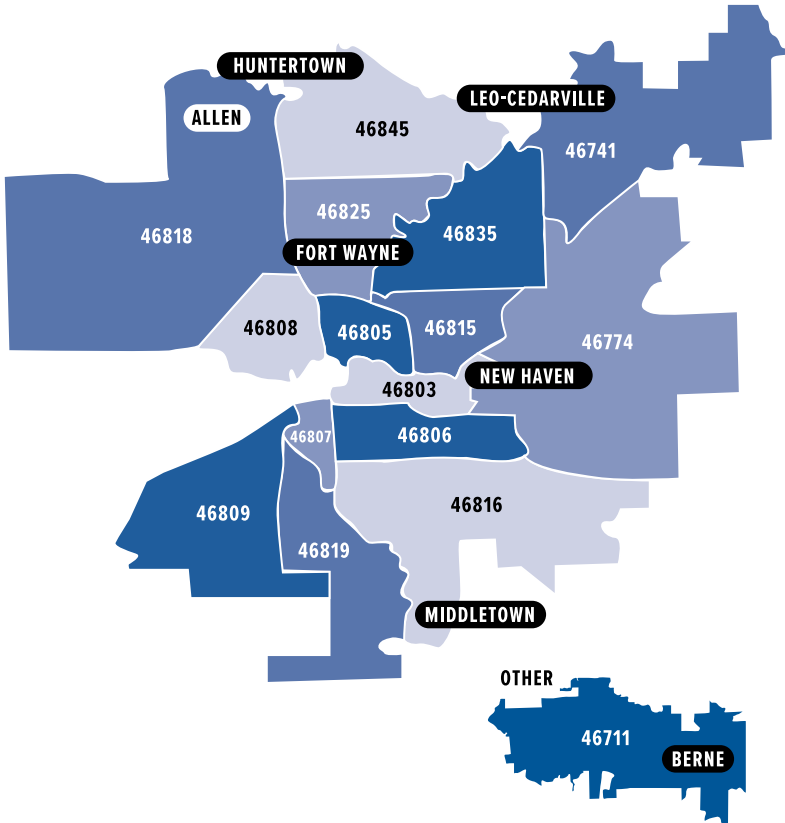
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUES</b>	<b>WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS</b>	<b>WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS</b>	<b>2019 TOTAL</b>
Grants and Contributions	\$351,443	\$1,038,152	\$1,389,595
In-Kind Contributions	\$8,371	-	\$8,371
Activity Fees	\$4,913	-	\$4,913
Concert Revenue	\$18,528	-	\$18,528
Ticket Sales	-	-	-
Product Sales	\$975.00	-	\$975.00
Investment Income	\$35.00	-	\$35.00
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>\$384,265</b>	<b>\$1,038,152</b>	<b>1,422,417</b>
<b>Net Assets Released From Restrictions</b>	<b>\$399,395</b>	<b>\$399,395</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue and Net Assets Released From Restrictions</b>	<b>\$783,660</b>	<b>\$638,757</b>	<b>\$1,422,417</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program	\$532,110	-	\$532,110
Management and General	\$229,652	-	\$229,652
Fund Raising	\$78,070	-	\$78,070
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$839,832</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$839,832</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$56,172</b>	<b>\$638,757</b>	<b>\$582,585</b>
<b>Net Assets - Beginning of Year</b>	<b>\$395,786</b>	<b>\$373,860</b>	<b>\$769,646</b>
<b>Net Assets - End of Year</b>	<b>\$339,614</b>	<b>\$1,012,617</b>	<b>\$1,352,231</b>

**BECAUSE OF YOUR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION, YOU MADE A TREMENDOUS IMPACT!  
THANK YOU!**

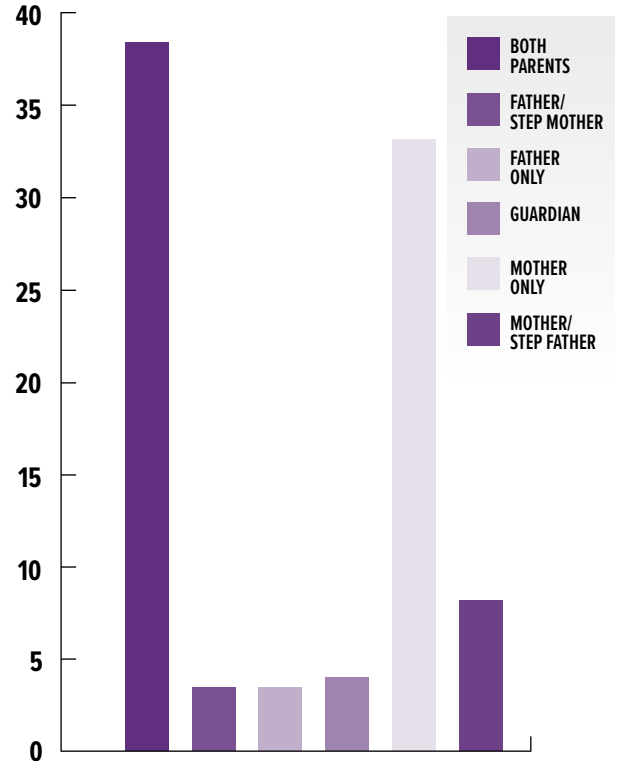
# 2019 STATISTICS

NEW STUDENTS: **42**      TOTAL STUDENTS: **95**

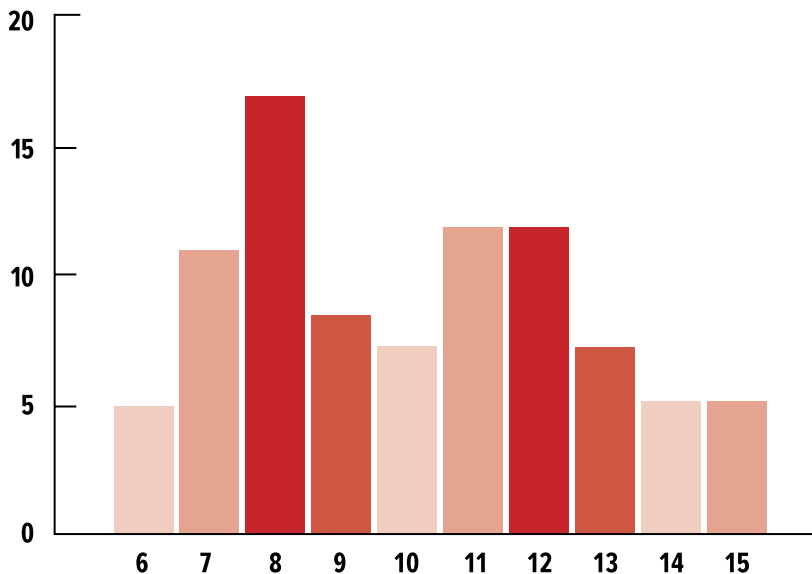
CURRENT STUDENTS ZIP CODES: 19



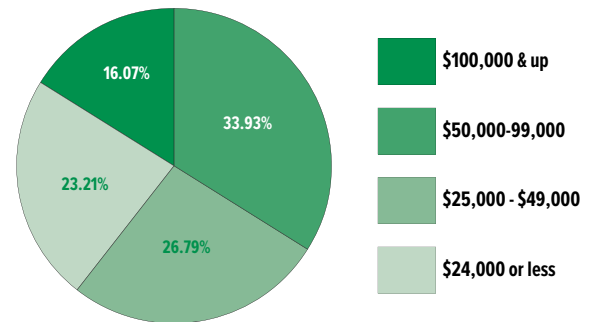
## PARENTAL & GUARDIAN STATISTICS



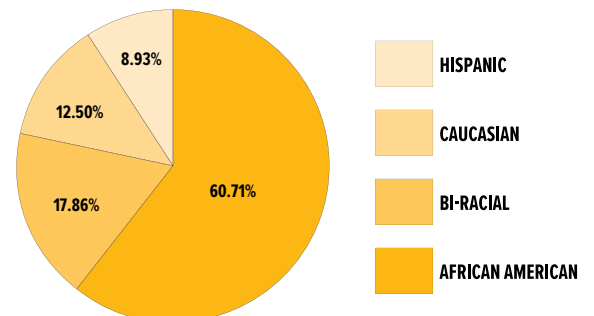
## REGISTRATION AGE



## FAMILY INCOME STATISTICS



## RACE STATISTICS



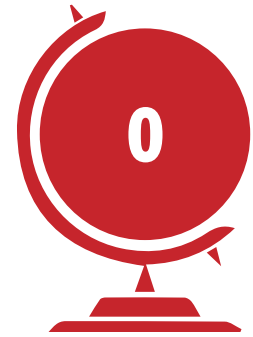
# HIGH SCHOOL & ALUMNI INFORMATION



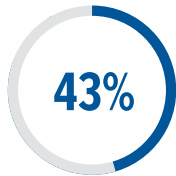
Alumni who attended college in Indiana



Alumni who attended college out of State



Alumni who studied/travelled internationally



43% of VOU students have been retained in the program for one year or more



2019 High School senior graduates who are pursuing higher education



2019 High School seniors who entered the workforce

## 2019 TOTAL ALUMNI INFORMATION

654

Alumni

44

Students who attended college

59

Students Graduated

16

Grad School

3

Doctorate

## HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR GRADUATES



**ANI KING**

Graduate of Bishop Luers  
Voices of Unity Youth Choir 2011-2019



**CYDNEY BRIDGES**

Graduate of Carroll High School  
Voices of Unity Youth Choir 2008-2019

## OTHER 2019 GRADUATES

JAREEM BAILEY  
MYK'ANGEL GASTON  
CAMERON MITCHELL  
RYAN SLATTER

SZARITA COMER  
DARYUS HILLIARD  
KAMILA OJURI

MARIAH CRAIG  
MARY MATATA  
CHEYENNE POINDEXTER

XAVIER CROXTON  
JANIESHA MENSON  
JAYCIANNA RUSSELL

# GIBSON FAMILY TESTIMONIAL

## ELIJAH, JEREMIAH & GENY GIBSON

UNITY has been such a blessing to our family. My children are more confident speaking one on one, as well as in front of a small group. They are also more attentive to other people's differences and circumstances. The UNITY staff is a great source of support and inspiration. It still amazes me how with so many choir members they can make each person feel important. We look forward to many more years to come.

### How long have you been in the choir?

**Elijah and Jeremiah:** 4 years

**GeNy:** 8 months

### How do you like the Voices of Unity?

**Elijah:** I really like the environment and the people.

**Jeremiah:** The people and I like singing.

**GeNy:** It makes me more serious about life.

### What is the biggest lesson you've learned?

**Elijah:** To show gratitude.

**Jeremiah:** To use my gifts to the fullest.

**GeNy:** To be mature and to care about others more.

### Do you feel like UNITY is a supportive environment with a good support system?

**Elijah:** Yes, because both the adults and my peers show interests in what I'm doing and are willing to help make me better.

**Jeremiah:** Yes, because it's a healthy environment with people caring about people.

**GeNy:** Yes, because Mr. White always says encouraging things.





# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

I joined the Voices of Unity at the age of 8 years old in 2008 because “I couldn’t sing but wanted to sing.” I have been in the choir for 11 years. My biggest change has been my discipline and my professionalism. I mean coming into the choir as an 8 year old girl, I couldn’t sit still, I didn’t know how to present myself in front of people and I could not define discipline but now I can sit here and talk to anyone, be in front of a crowd and present a cohesive message and do it with confidence and I really think that UNITY has taught me that. IT has been a huge change in me from the 8 year old girl that joined the choir back in 2008.

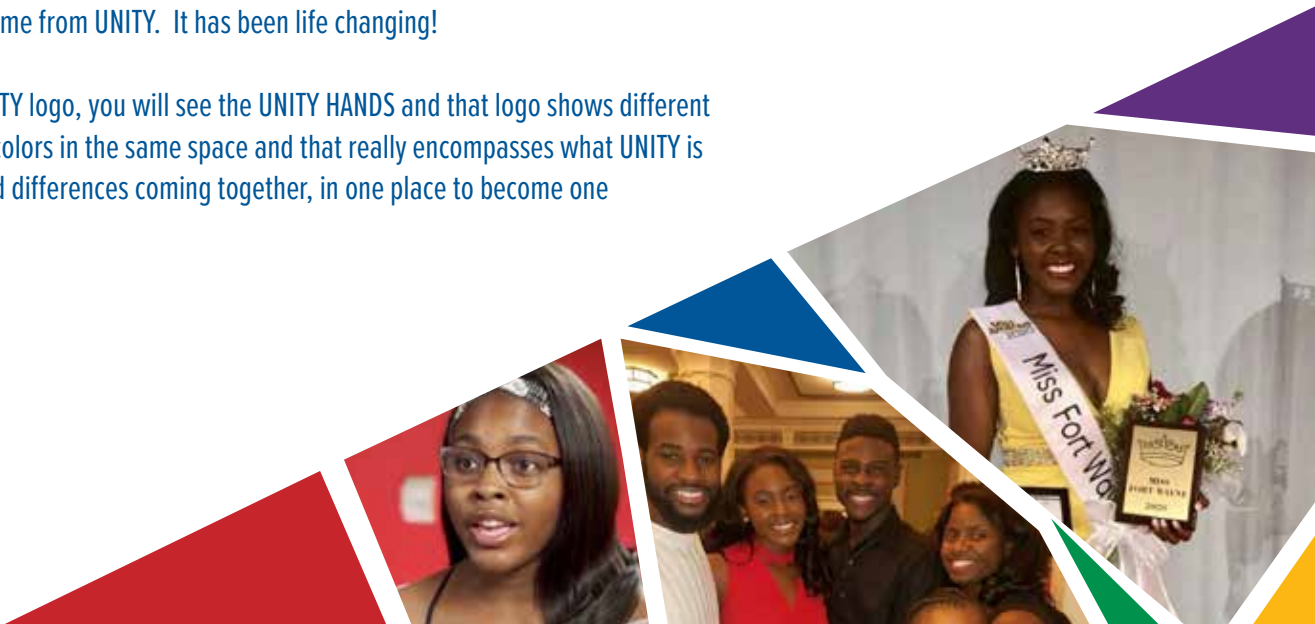
Currently I am the reigning Miss Fort Wayne 2020. I was crowned in October of 2019 and I plan to participate in the Miss Indiana Pageant in July. Pageant participation has been a major part of my increased level of self-confidence. It is my goal to encourage more young ladies to consider participating in pageants.




**Cydney Bridges**  
UNITY Alumna, 2008-2018

But looking back, UNITY has changed my life so much because I truly believe that I wouldn’t be where I am and do what I have done if it wasn’t for the training and experience that the organization has afforded me. I had no clue, before we went to China and competed in the World Choir Games, the impact that UNITY was going to have on my life. I have seen so many areas of the World, trained at the highest levels, sweated for hours sometimes while practicing over and over again just one line to make sure that it was perfect. Those rehearsals taught me so much professionalism and what can happen if you work hard. A lot of my work ethic has come from UNITY. It has been life changing!

If you look at the UNITY logo, you will see the UNITY HANDS and that logo shows different hands and different colors in the same space and that really encompasses what UNITY is with the diversity and differences coming together, in one place to become one and that’s UNITY!





# PROGRAM TESTIMONIALS

## CREATIVE WRITING & ORATORY

Hi my name is Jaedan Early I am 14 years old. I am currently homeschooled. I love Boy Scouts and I hope to become an Eagle Scout one day. Some of my favorite foods are tacos, pizza, and fried chicken. When I was around 12 years my mom enrolled me in the Expression class at UPAF. I learned descriptive, persuasive, narrative, technical, and poetic writing styles. I met a lot of cool people like Mr. Chad and Mr. Richard. My vocabulary skills have continued to increase.

I had a lot of fun going to class every Thursday night. I would strongly recommend a lot of other people attend these classes. I have also learned various leadership skills. Attending these classes has helped me become a better writer overall. During the creative writing class, I have met Ms. Indiana and Ms. Fort Wayne. It really has been a life-changing experience overall.

– Jaedan Early

Hi my name is Jaylin Early and I am 14 years old. I am homeschooled. My hobbies are drawing, Boy Scouts, and reading. I am thankful for Oratory class because it teaches me life lessons and how to speak better. Mr. Rick and Mrs. Sonja are two great teachers. The two of them have helped me work on my voice being monotone. The teachers at UNITY are such great teachers and they truly want to help kids do better in life. I feel like I can speak better than I did when I first went to class. I am doing a public speaking merit badge in boy scouts. This class has prepared me for the merit badge. While doing this class I have become a better speaker, and I don't think I will ever regret coming to class on Wednesdays.

The relationship I have with Mr. Richard is one that will last a lifetime. Mr. White said, "I was created to do something special." Mr. White's favorite quote is "Excellence and nothing less." I would recommend this class to anyone who would like to join this class. Thank you Unity Performing Arts, for making me a better person.

– Jaylin Early



ORATORY  
PROGRAM PREPARATORY COURSE





# PROGRAM TESTIMONIAL

## DANCE PROGRAM

My name is Johelga Portela. I am 10 years old. I am in 5th grade at Croninger Elementary. I have always loved to dance and have been dancing since I was 3 years old. Since I loved to dance, my Mom enrolled me in the UNITY dance program. We begin each class by learning the basic techniques and ballet positions, then when we all are comfortable, we start learning the meanings of dance moves in ballet. When we are about halfway through the classes, we start learning choreography to perform. You can express yourself, you can be yourself without anybody judging you, and everybody is nice. I, personally, feel like they find the instructors who are the best of the best.

After being in the Unity Dance Program, I have developed my dancing skills in ways that no one else has taught me. I have gotten good enough to make my own dance to perform and am winning Reflections awards for it! That's right! I got enough courage, believed in myself and I decided to perform for Reflections at my school. My first time doing it, I made it to the State competition and earned 2nd place. I thought I could do better than 2nd Place. That was the moment I said, "I'm going to try harder, and work harder." So, I tried harder and worked harder and I moved on to State competition again and received first place and moved on to Nationals. When I got this news, I was jumping up and down screaming and going crazy! I am proud of myself and I know I owe it all to the dance instructors that have helped me along the way and especially the Unity Dance program that helped me improve my technique. Thank you to Unity Performing Arts Foundation, I don't know if I could have ever made it that far without you!

– Johelga Portela





# DONOR SPOTLIGHT

“One of the reasons we sponsor the Unity Choir is that they are not just about bringing fine arts to the community, which we so desperately need, but they also recognize that these young people are leaders today and will be the leaders in the future. They work with the youth to teach them the foundations of culture, character, transparency, integrity, and leadership skills that our young people may not be learning anywhere else.”

## About Brotherhood Mutual:

Brotherhood Mutual serves America’s churches and related ministries with quality property and liability, commercial auto, workers’ compensation, and foreign travel insurance, as well as payroll and risk management services, custom-designed to help churches and related ministries do their work safely and effectively.



**Mark Robison - Chairman & President**  
Brotherhood Mutual

# DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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# PARENT TESTIMONIALS



## GAVIN BERKEY - UNITY FATHER

Unity Performing Arts Foundation is one of the best leadership development opportunities for young people I have ever encountered based in a local community yet with a vision to replicate nationally. We are so thankful our daughter is finally engaging with their World Champion Youth Choir!

UNITY shows some impressive results for alumni of their programs. That is why we support them and have our daughter enrolled in the choir.

Coach David, I'll need you to share with me what you said to Sandra during your time at the Zoo (and TEACH ME HOW you said it)! When I got home late last night she met me at the door, gave me a big hug, and said, "We've got work to do tomorrow!" She had ALL of her homework pages, planner, and computer laying out on the dining room table and told me she doesn't want to be the only one with bad grades anymore and is tired of hearing all the praise go to her sister because of her A+'s.

Friends, this is one of the benefits of having your kids participate in the Unity Performing Arts programs. All I did was mention to David that Sandra lost her phone privileges because she had over 7,500 texts in 30 days (on a flip phone) when I dropped her off for a fun day at the Zoo she was invited to. When I got home, she was totally motivated to do whatever it takes to improve her situation! Thank you Coach David Alvarez! Bravo!

Between 2007-2008, I invested about \$10,000 to attend multiple live weekend business training events to develop skills and a mindset that have completely changed my life, personally and professionally. Right now, youth in Fort Wayne have a similar training and equipping opportunity available for virtually no cost other than time and effort.

I am witnessing the fruit of the investment Marshall White and his crew are making to raise up the next generation of leaders through the UNITY Performing Arts Foundation. If you have a child who isn't maximizing his or her potential, I cannot recommend highly enough that you schedule a visit to one of the UNITY classes now! Seriously, one family drives up from Zanesville every weekend so their child can learn and grow. How serious are you about your child's future? Performing arts is the vehicle, but the core of these programs is biblical leadership development!



## NAOMI KING - UNITY MOTHER

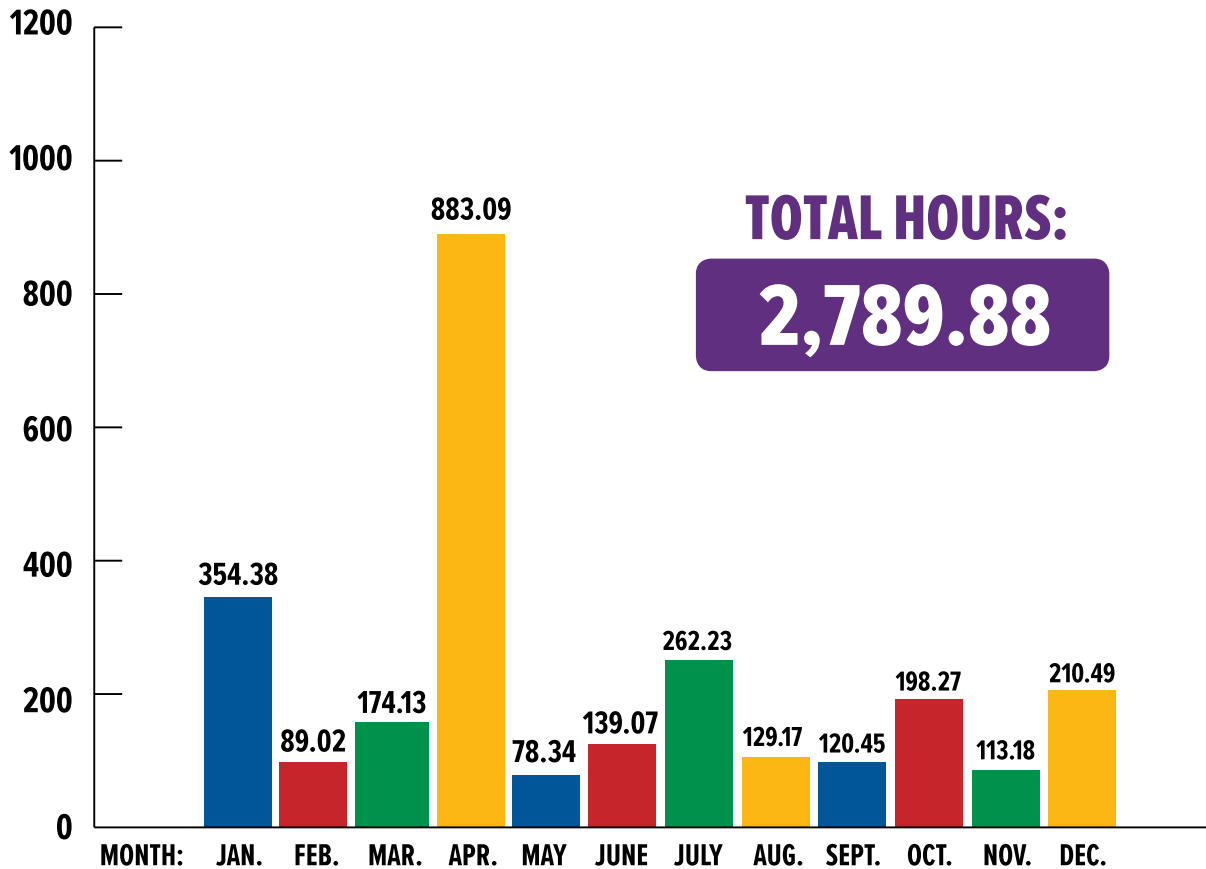
The impact UPAF has had on my family is remarkable. All of my children have had the opportunity to take music and dance lessons, empowerment/life skills sessions, creative writing and oratory classes and we have even traveled abroad with the Voices of Unity Youth Choir.

Along with an emphasis on academics and responsibility in the home, these opportunities have led to the development of well rounded individuals. Having valued such lessons, they are successfully obtaining their academic and career goals by being committed and resourceful.

UPAF provides a diverse environment where children are encouraged to be the best they can be. They are given tools that will guide them towards having a positive role in their community.



# VOLUNTEER HOURS



## VOLUNTEER TESTIMONIAL

I have been volunteering with UNITY, specifically the Voices of Unity Youth Choir, for a little longer than three years. I got involved because youth participation in the arts is something that I have always supported and I am a firm believer that it helps kids grow up to become well-rounded adults. I've gotten to see that demonstrated time and again within UNITY from students who barely said two words when I first met them and seeing them grow into not only being soloists during concerts but also young leaders worthy of running for public office someday.

I remember a student asking me at one of the first rehearsals I volunteered for if I had any kids in the choir and I told him that I didn't have any kids yet but when I had one old enough to enroll, I'd definitely be putting them into UNITY because I thought it was an awesome group. I still plan on doing that because I want to do as much for my child (or children) to expose them to as many positive opportunities that'll put them on the road for excellence. As a community volunteer, it means a lot to see the students in the programs develop and to be there as support during their journeys. It's a positive way to give back to my community that I believe will leave a lasting impact.



**Hannah Starrick**

## UNITY'S IMPACT

Offers **Young People**  
**Opportunities** that create  
**Possibilities** that *Inspire*  
**Dreaming** that *builds*  
**Hope** that gives a *reason to*  
**Live** so you can *connect to your*  
**Purpose-** and *Have Impact* in your life.



Join the journey today and realize your potential.  
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