



About the Ambassadors of Harmony

The Ambassadors of Harmony have spent more than 60 years proving that great music can do more than entertain—it can inspire, connect, and change lives.

Founded in 1963 as the **Daniel Boone Chorus** in St. Charles, Missouri, the organization began with a simple goal: bring men together through the joy of singing. In its early years, rehearsals often included fewer than 30 singers, and the chorus found modest success in local and district competitions. Everything changed in 1981 when renowned arranger, educator, and musical visionary **Dr. David Wright** joined as director. His commitment to musical excellence transformed the culture of the chorus, introducing auditions, raising performance standards, and challenging members to think beyond simply singing songs—to creating meaningful musical art.

Under Wright's leadership, the chorus captured its first Central States District Championship in 1988 and made its international debut the following year. In 1991, the organization adopted the name **Ambassadors of Harmony**, reflecting a vision that reached far beyond St. Charles and positioned the chorus as an artistic ambassador for the region.

That vision continued to flourish under **Dr. Jim Henry**, whose philosophy forever shaped the identity of the chorus. Rather than chasing medals, Henry challenged every singer to pursue artistry first. His belief that "it's the journey, not the destination" became the foundation of the Ambassadors' culture—a culture built on excellence, humility, service, and the power of music to touch the human soul.

The results have been extraordinary.

Today, the Ambassadors of Harmony stand among the most accomplished choruses in the history of the **Barbershop Harmony Society**. The chorus has earned **six International Chorus Championships**, winning gold medals in **2004, 2009, 2012, 2016, 2023, and 2026**. Their performances have set scoring records, inspired generations of singers, and become benchmarks of excellence within the a cappella world.

One of the defining moments in the chorus' history came in **2009**, when their unforgettable performance of "**Seventy-Six Trombones**" helped earn a record-breaking international score. That performance remains one of the most celebrated in barbershop history and continues to be viewed by audiences around the world.

The latest chapter was written in **July 2026**, when the Ambassadors returned to the international stage in **St. Louis, Missouri**, performing before a hometown audience during the Barbershop Harmony Society International Convention. In one of the closest contests in Society history, the chorus earned its **sixth International Gold Medal** with a score of **2,307 points**

(**96.13%**), winning by a single point and further cementing its place among the greatest choruses ever to take the stage.

Throughout its history, the Ambassadors have performed across North America and Europe, appearing in England, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, Ireland, and beyond. They've appeared with The Muny, produced award-winning recordings, entertained thousands through their beloved annual Christmas concerts, and consistently represented the St. Louis region with distinction.

Just as important as the accolades is the organization's commitment to education and community. Through the **HarmonySTL Foundation**, the Ambassadors invest in the next generation of singers through programs including **Acappellooza Summer**, **Acappellooza Fall**, youth outreach initiatives, scholarships, and music education opportunities that introduce hundreds of young people to the life-changing experience of singing together.

The Ambassadors have also become known for their unique blend of artistry and entertainment. Their repertoire spans Broadway, jazz, patriotic music, sacred works, pop classics, holiday favorites, and original arrangements, all delivered with the precision, emotion, and storytelling that have become hallmarks of the organization.

As the chorus enters a new chapter, leadership has also evolved. Following decades of extraordinary musical leadership from Dr. Jim Henry and years of collaborative direction, **Jonny Moroni** became the **sole Musical Director in 2026**, carrying forward the artistic vision established by his predecessors while leading the chorus into its next generation of excellence. A longtime member of the Ambassadors, International Quartet Champion with Vocal Spectrum, respected educator, arranger, and conductor, Moroni has helped shape many of the chorus' championship performances and now guides its continued pursuit of innovation, artistry, and musical impact.

Today, more than 100 men from every walk of life gather each week with one shared purpose: to create music that moves people. While international championships are an important part of the chorus' story, they are not its defining purpose. The Ambassadors of Harmony continue to believe that the greatest achievement is creating performances that inspire audiences, strengthen communities, build lifelong friendships, and remind people of the extraordinary power of the human voice.

The pursuit of excellence continues—one rehearsal, one performance, and one unforgettable moment of harmony at a time.