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August 3, 2022

Dear YCT Families,

We hope you had a wonderful and rejuvenating summer of activities, fun, restoration, and travel. We are so excited to start the 2022-2023 YCT season with two amazing performance opportunities! YCT students will be performing in September at Wilmette's 150th Anniversary Celebration and at a private gig – Rush University Medical Center's Fall Benefit. As we rebuild YCT after the pandemic, we will continue in our mission to bring performance opportunities to our students and enrich and excite them with high-quality musical experiences.

We are also thrilled to announce that Mr. Andy Wallace will be assuming the role of Artistic Director, leading all Sunday and Monday classes for the year. Mr. Wallace has been an integral member of our leadership since joining us last year, and we are so excited to have him step into this role. Mr. Wallace isn't new to the music scene (even though he just joined the YCT team last year!), and he comes with over 20 years of music teaching and performing experience. And his teaching influence has traveled across the globe – with students currently on Broadway and national tours, and one student, JORDY, who opened on the main stage at Lollapalooza 2022!

Of course, Mrs. Branahl isn't going anywhere! She will be directing YCT's competitive a cappella ensemble, IMPACT, and serving as YCT's President. This structure will allow her to focus her leadership to support the organization in new ways, such as securing additional corporate sponsorship performances, alumni relations, foundation work, and continuing to develop grants and other fundraising opportunities. Mr. Hammond and Mr. G will be continuing in their roles of Operations Manager and Accompanist. Along with these changes, we are also welcoming back our March concert for our Cambiata and Chamber Choir singers, and all students will once again have the opportunity to participate in our recital series.

So, how can YCT families help kick off the year with enthusiasm and momentum? First, make sure your kiddos are all registered and signed up for class. Second, spread the word about YCT to your family and friends – we know we are shoring up a fabulous year of performances, and we can't wait to see our ensemble numbers back in full force.

Finally, thank you to all the families that have supported our organization throughout the years. *The only constant in our lives is change*, and YCT is no different. But with such a long-standing history of making music and unforgettable memories, we know YCT will embrace all those changes and thrive!

Get the word out about YCT because this 38th season is going to be amazing!

Sincerely,

Amy J. Branahl
President

Andrew M. Wallace
Artistic Director

Daniel Hammond
Operations Manager