

Carrie Tennant is one of if not the most well-known choral directors in Vancouver. She is the person who has received the “National Award for Innovation” and her choral series. The one who led her choir to the World Symposium of Choral Music in Istanbul. She is a highly respected and influential figure in the choral community. Carrie’s impact through the Vancouver Youth Choir (VYC) has enhanced community well-being, created positive social connections, and provided a unique experience through her dedicated directing and influence in the choral arts. She has opened a safe space where musicians and music enthusiasts alike can share their sound.

It’s important to have a space to develop talent in a creative and supportive community. Carrie has provided that place for all those who call the VYC groups their choir. It’s a welcoming and open community that promotes diversity, and their wide variety of music choices reflect that. Together, VYC helps within itself to lend a hand to those in struggle among its rows, with Carrie Tennant at the head. It’s as one said; “She helped us show with our bodies how being connected to community is a way to overcome struggle, and how having your own personal strength and resilience is important.” Just seeing the togetherness of this lovely group makes me wish that I was a part of the choir. Carrie is truly a positive influence on those around her and a genius at making a choir sound and work together as best they can.

Choir doesn’t always have to be a serious workspace. It can also be a space for forging strong bonds and friendships with those around you. After all, a choir in harmony can sing a great harmony. Carrie’s leadership has aligned the choir and made them more together than ever, with many in the choral community knowing her well and being connected to her through some group or friend. The praise VYC and Carrie received after the Istanbul experience was all about how “connected the choir was to each other and to Carrie, and how connected they felt as an audience member to the experience emotionally as well.” The Vancouver music scene is a close-knit society that reflects the notable Disney song line “It’s a small, small world.”

A choir can be a wonderful experience, and Carrie Tennant has truly gone above and beyond to prove that. It’s just as others said to her, “We heard from people just how different our program was from those of the other choirs.” The VYC is a unique experience that makes it possible to practice choir at a young age (5-24). With multiple branches that cover all young age ranges, from VYC Tiny (Kindergarten-Grade 3) to the illustrious Vancouver Youth Choir (15-24). There’s even a newer choir for newcomers to Canada which allows anyone ages 14-22 who was born outside of Canada to sing together, with any level of English accepted and no prior choral experience needed. With 7 ensembles in total, this communal bond is a wonderful thing that opens doors to many in search of pursuing the vocal arts.

One of the members of VYC shares the sentiment of my words with this quote; “In a world of growing disconnect, this choir has been our home and held our hearts. Through this choir, we’ve met some of the best people we know, cultivated friendships that have lasted for years, and ultimately found our family and a place to belong.” Carrie’s achievements and impact on the local community around her are nothing to scoff at. She has been recognized for her effect and accomplishments along with her spectacular leadership and effective directing of the Vancouver Youth Choir. With so many things under her belt and a successful and talented community built around her, it’s no wonder many people look up to her. Her innovative approach to choir makes her a pillar in the choir communities all around Canada. Without a doubt, she is an excellent role model and stands out as a notable person who thinks differently.

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Brainstorming and Outline

What is my goal? What is my attitude? What are my reader's expectations?

Thesis: Carrie Tennant's impact through the Vancouver Youth Choir has enhanced community well-being, created positive social connections, and promoted development through her dedicated directing and influence in the choral arts.

Carrie Tennant is an inspiring music director that has founded the most notable choir in Vancouver. She's also received the "National Award for Innovation" and her own choral series. VYC has been featured in the World Symposium of Choral Music, and has twice been awarded first in the National Choral competition

- Hook, background, thesis, lead into...
- Community Wellbeing: "She helped us show with our bodies how being connected to community is a way to overcome struggle, and how having your own personal strength and resilience is important."
- Positive Social Connections: "It's a celebration of this village of singing and joy and connection that we have created, not just between the singers but between the singers and audience as well." "The other comment that we kept getting was how connected the choir was to each other and to me, and how connected they felt as an audience member to the experience emotionally as well."
- Unique Experience: "We heard from people just how different our program was from those of the other choirs."
- Thoughts about achievements, summary, closing thoughts, final quote
"I believe that group singing is very important. It's absolutely the most human of musical forms."? "These are the best choirs in the world, and for us to watch those choirs live was amazing. Their programs, their precision and level of artistry, are incredible. It was a profound experience."