## **Comparing Tuition Rates Across the Country**

The Kalamazoo Children's Chorus charges tuition to cover a portion of the actual cost of the program, like performance and rehearsal space rentals. So how does KCC compare to other children's choirs? Some choirs use sliding scales based on income (Chicago and Young People's Choir of NYC are examples). KCC is low end compared to other children's choirs with set fees. KCC tuition amounts to about \$12.50 a rehearsal and performance.

With help from the least expensive choir in the nation, the Children's Chorus of Springfield (MA), KCC compared tuition rates around the country in 2015. While most choirs offer scholarships, sibling discounts and/or financial aid, some have extra fees that aren't applied to tuition. All choirs we contacted charged extra for uniforms and concert tickets. Only one (Piedmont East Bay) included travel expenses in the cost of tuition. In the sampling below, the range indicated is tuition rates for the youngest choirs to the most advanced choirs:

Battle Creek Boy Choir & Battle Creek Girls Choir: \$350 - \$450

Bellvue Girl Choir (WA): \$600 - \$1250, processing fee \$25 - \$75, audition

fee \$75 - \$156

**Boston City Singers:** \$400 - \$800

Children's Chorus of Springfield (MA): \$160 (lowest in survey)

Cincinnati Children's Chorus: \$535 - \$845 Columbus Children's Choir: \$350 - \$625

Connecticut Children's Chorus: \$450 - \$675, plus \$25 for audition fee Indianapolis Children's Choir: \$310 - \$498, plus \$60 registration fee

Kalamazoo Children's Chorus: \$395 - \$445

Los Angeles Children's Chorus: \$340 - \$2,370, plus \$50 registration fee

Miami Children's Chorus: \$400 - \$700

**Pheonix Children's Chorus:** \$400 - \$560, plus \$160 for choral camp (required), 25 hours of parent volunteer service, minimum purchase of 6 tickets/concert series, \$40 auction donation and mandatory participation in the walkathon.

**Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir (CA):** \$259 - \$6,475 (The equivalent to KCC Prep Choir level is \$1,360. Tuition for advanced choirs include fall retreat and either a domestic or international tour.)

St. Louis Children's Choir: \$515 - \$970