

### ***What People Say about the Northwest Boychoir & Vocalpoint! Seattle...***

“From both an audience and a reviewer’s point of view, the Northwest Boychoir were the stars of this part of the evening. That these young boys were able to master the difficult dissonances and numerous high notes required in the score, not to mention prolonged singing and Sprechstimme in the always-difficult French language, was an astonishing accomplishment.” (Messiaen’s *Trois petites liturgies de la Présence Divine* with Seattle Symphony)

**- Erica Miner, Bachtrack (January 2017)**

"The Northwest Boychoir sang with miraculously pure intonation and impressive diction." (Messiaen’s *Trois petites liturgies de la Présence Divine* with Seattle Symphony)

**- Thomas May, Seattle Times (January 2017)**

"The Northwest Choirs (Northwest Boychoir & Vocalpoint! Seattle) is one of the true musical treasures of our region. Regarded as one of the top youth arts organizations in the nation, I feel fortunate to have such a wonderful resource within our community. I urge you to support this project (Building for Today & Tomorrow)."

**- Ludovic Morlot, Music Director, Seattle Symphony June 2016**

"I'm excited to perform Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* with boy choir and male choir (as opposed to regular mixed choir) and to collaborate with Joe Crnko yet again. We're so spoiled in Seattle to have the wonderful Northwest Boychoir, and of course the men of the Seattle Symphony Chorale."

**- Ludovic Morlot, Music Director, Seattle Symphony June 2016**

“The Boychoir, directed for the past 30 years by Joseph Crnko, has become a beloved Northwest fixture, partly through its many annual performances of the Christmas ‘Festival of Lessons and Carols’ (an observance patterned on the tradition begun by Clebury's King's College Choir). On Friday evening, the Boychoir responded to Clebury's baton with singing of exceptional clarity and balance, imposing unity, precise diction and a soaring lyricism that equaled the boys on the other side of the Atlantic.”

**- Melinda Bargreen, Seattle Times, March 2016**

"As a conductor, I feel so fortunate that we have such an ensemble right here in Seattle. Northwest Boychoir was such a joy to collaborate with during our performances of Britten’s 'War Requiem', and I look forward to working with them again and again."

**- Ludovic Morlot, Music Director, Seattle Symphony**

I was delighted to work again with the Northwest Boychoir during my recent visit to Seattle. Impressive were the thoroughness of the musical preparation they had received from Joseph Crnko, their disciplined demeanour on and off stage, and the dedication and enthusiasm with which they approached their work.

**- Dr Stephen Clebury, Director of Music - King's College, Cambridge**

“Working with the Northwest Boychoir was a great experience. When those boys were added in that night – it just changed the entire piece for me. I was in awe of their sound. Clearly, for me, this score would have not been as strong without them.”

**- Michael Giacchino, Composer - *UP, The Incredibles, Medal of Honor***

"It has been a great pleasure during my years as music director of the Seattle Symphony to often work with the Northwest Boychoir. They are a superb ensemble; wonderfully trained by their extremely gifted music director, Joseph Crnko. I actually go out of my way to try to find works that incorporate a boys choir so that I can work with these talented young men and they always have all of my support."

**- Gerard Schwarz, Conductor Laureate, Seattle Symphony,  
Music Director of the Eastern Music Festival**

“For many music lovers, it wouldn’t be Christmas without the (Northwest Boychoir) 90-minute traditional English program (traditional in Seattle, too).”

**- Classical KING FM 98.1**

**“13 Seattle concerts you should attend at least once“**

“While we’re on the subject of the holidays, let’s all admit that nothing says “Christmas” quite like the angelic voices of children. That’s why the Northwest Boychoir’s annual Festival of Lessons and Carols is a Northwest holiday staple. The 90-voice choir performs its traditional carols, interspersed with readings and a sing-a-long, all around the Puget Sound region in sold-out halls. There’s nothing jollier than a concert the whole family can enjoy, from grandparents to in-laws to little ones. “

**- Classical KING FM 98.1 – A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**

"What really made Thursday’s performance of the Orff was the excellence of the chorus, prepared to the hilt by Joseph Crnko, and featuring not only the Seattle Symphony Chorale but also the Northwest Boychoir. This combined group sang with tremendous energy, focus, and accuracy."

**- Melinda Bargreen, Seattle Times**

"These are excellent choirs. They sing with vitality and expression, with words so clear you can hear every one. Solo singers sing with ease, not sounding nervous. Pitch sense is also excellent."

**- Philippa Kiraly, City Arts**

The Boychoir is a great ambassador for music in Seattle. The quality of the singing is up to the standards of the best English cathedral choirs, not a random observation as the tone is very similar: clear and pure. For the first half, the boys sang, unaccompanied, Mozart’s “Laudate Dominum” and Durufle’s very tricky “Tota pulchra es” with absolute perfect pitch sense.

**- Philippa Kiraly, The SunBreak**

"It’s a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit, not only hearing the boys sing their hearts out, but for us in the audience to sing lustily also, making a truly joyful noise and leaving exhilarated."

**- Philippa Kiraly, City Arts**

"Crnko has been conductor of The Northwest Boychoir for a quarter-century, and perhaps it's his great care not to overstrain young voices - while at the same time eliciting beautiful singing from them - that has brought such success to the Symphony Chorale."

**- Philippa Kiraly, Seattle Times**

"And amazingly gifted teen quartet Vocalpoint show skill and effortlessly blend their voices on 'Angel Eyes' and 'Walking My Baby Back Home.' " (Music of the Mad Men Era - Seattle Symphony Pops)

**- TalkinBroadway.com**

"I was so incredibly thrilled to work with the fine young gentlemen of Vocalpoint in my recent concerts with the Seattle Symphony. When I first met and heard them, I was blown away by the fact that these guys were still in High School! They have a musicality, sense of pitch, and professionalism the belies their years. I'll happily work with them again...anytime and anywhere."

**- Steven Reineke, Music Director, The New York Pops**

"The boys...sing with such suave enthusiasm, capturing the spirit and sensibility of the music, they deserve the spotlight on themselves, and the applause too.

**- R.M. Campbell, Seattle Post-Intelligencer**

"Before intermission we also heard an entertaining sequence of Yiddish and Hebrew songs arranged by Viktor Ullmann, and lustily delivered by Joseph Crnko's Northwest Boychoir."

**- Bernard Jacobson, Seen and Heard International**

“The Northwest Boychoir has affected my life an incredible amount, not only because of its world-class musicality, but also because of the amazing friendships I have made and the life morals I have learned from my teachers and mentors at choir.”

**- Northwest Boychoir Member, at age 13**