



▲ **Community Profile:**
Radio Arte in Pilsen

▲ **In-School Program:**
Nathan S. Davis

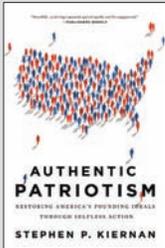
▲ **Neighborhood Choirs**
tour CO and MN

Choir Named "Authentic Patriot" in New Book

"Heartfelt ... a stirring argument against apathy and for engagement"—*Publishers Weekly*

"A good-hearted and hardheaded appeal."—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Authentic Patriotism is the story of those people whom you have never heard of, but who are most responsible for the greatness of America."—Howard Dean



On May 11, St. Martin's Press released *Authentic Patriotism: Restoring America's Founding Ideals Through Selfless Action*, a book by Stephen P. Kiernan that chronicles the people and organizations facing and solving the nation's toughest problems. It profiles 60 such patriots, seven in detail, who began without "money, fame or power" but who nonetheless made a visible, measurable difference.

We are thrilled to let you know that the author selected Chicago Children's Choir as one of the seven profiled in detail—as the organization in the nation most effectively addressing race relations. This is an honor for the Choir and a resounding testament to Rev. Christopher Moore's founding vision and the incredible dedication of the countless singers, parents, volunteers, supporters and staff who have worked to sustain and build Moore's dream throughout the Choir's 54 year history.

(see inside for more)

David Hiller and the McCormick Foundation to be Honored by Chicago Children's Choir

Chicago Children's Choir will be honoring David D. Hiller, president and chief executive officer of the McCormick Foundation, for the Foundation's unending commitment to supporting, sustaining and strengthening the Choir's mission, at the *2010 Red Jacket Optional* benefit on October 15 at The Standard Club. For more than 20 years, the McCormick Foundation has supported the Chicago Children's Choir's efforts to shape the future by impacting the lives of children and youth through musical excellence.

"For over half a century, Chicago Children's Choir has created opportunity and learning through the gift of music," said David Hiller. "This is an outstanding organization that has had a profound impact on our city for many decades and has been a role model for both excellence and inclusiveness. The people of the McCormick Foundation are deeply honored by and grateful for this recognition."

(continued inside)



The Concert Choir sings a tribute at Martin Luther King's assassination site during the 2007 Freedom Tour, funded by the McCormick Foundation.

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PHOTO BY KENNY KIM

Since 2006, the McCormick Foundation has provided more than \$220,000 in support of Chicago Children's Choir programs and special initiatives, while Hiller personally has been a leading funder and advocate of the Choir. Achievements made possible by the support of the McCormick Foundation include the Choir's 50th Anniversary Freedom Tour of the southern United States as well as the *Songs on the Road to Freedom* CD recording and Emmy Award-winning documentary, all reflecting on the Choir's roots in the Civil Rights Movement. Most recently, the Foundation supported the Choir's New Repertoire Project expressly designed to build on the Choir's long tradition of advancing the ideals of a free, democratic society by bringing together the music and experiences of diverse cultures to break down barriers of race, religion and economic condition.

The McCormick Foundation is a nonprofit organization committed to strengthening our free, democratic society by investing in children, communities and country. David D. Hiller began serving as the president and chief executive officer of the McCormick Foundation in July 2009. Hiller is the past president, publisher, and chief executive officer of the *Los Angeles Times*, where he served from October 2006 to July 2008. Previously, he was president, publisher, and chief executive officer of the Chicago Tribune Company, and with the Chicago law firm of Sidley & Austin.



During the past three years, the Pilsen/Little Village Neighborhood Choir has grown to become an integral part of its local community. This thriving neighborhood, southwest of the loop, is the home of numerous influential arts and community-building organizations. Recently, the Choir had the opportunity to sit down with an incredible organization making a difference in the Pilsen/Little Village community, a National Museum of Mexican Art initiative called Radio Arte.

Offering comprehensive bilingual one-year media training to more than 100 students each year, Radio Arte builds the community through promoting socially conscious journalism. Jorge Valdivia is the General Manager of Radio Arte, 90.5 WRTE-FM, and described the Radio Arte impact. Production topics range from local, national and world news, to tackling LGBT issues and immigration challenges. Through these productions, members of the community are provided a forum to discuss any issues they feel are relevant, approaching the issues that young, local Latino's are forced to deal with daily. As a fellow member of the arts community in Pilsen/Little Village, Chicago Children's Choir is proud to recognize Radio Arte's important work.



In-School Program: Nathan S. Davis

Out of the Choir's 46 In-School Programs, eight new schools signed on for a Choir this year. Our newest school, Nathan S. Davis Elementary, located in the Brighton Park Neighborhood on the southwest side of Chicago, is thriving under the direction of Conductor, Dan Keown.

In November, Principal Dr. Santos Gomez was introduced to the Choir through the Chicago Arts Learning Initiative (CALI). CALI is a community-wide, collaborative effort to ensure equitable and sustainable access to arts learning for all Chicago Public School students. The Choir later presented a proposal for a Choir to Dr. Gomez and the Davis Local School Council to an enthusiastic response. By February, the program at Nathan S. Davis gave its first performance as part of the Black History Month Concert Series, presented by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

Recently, Dr. Gomez wrote, "Chicago Children's Choir is a high quality program that not only promotes music in Chicago, but also unites teachers, students and parents together to share and enjoy music. Music is a tool that can be used to unite the diverse cultures in our city so they can learn about one another." The Choir is excited and eager to continue this wonderful partnership with Nathan S. Davis Elementary.

PHOTO BY STEVE KAGAN



Neighborhood Choirs tour CO and MN

Singers from the Neighborhood Choir Program recently toured Denver, CO and Minneapolis, MN. To view more photos, please visit CCChoir.org/about/gallery.



Chicago Children's Choir Welcomes New Board Member

At the Choir's Board Meeting in March, the Board of Directors welcomed new member Brian D. Vandenberg. Brian joined Allscripts as Vice President and General Counsel in January 2004 and is responsible for all legal affairs of the company. Prior to joining Allscripts in 2004, he was General Counsel and Sr. Vice President - Corporate Development at uBid, Inc., a leading online auction technology company. He holds a J.D. degree from DePaul University College of Law, and a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin - LaCrosse. On behalf of the Board, staff, and singers of Chicago Children's Choir, we are thrilled to have Brian join our team!

Authentic Patriotism (cont.)

The book is available to order via Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble and other retail outlets. In the meantime, we wanted to share with you an excerpt from a letter of support that the author wrote for the Choir. While it is not a direct quote from the book, it exemplifies Kiernan's inspiration in selecting Chicago Children's Choir as an Authentic Patriot ...

"Here is why I devoted a long chapter entirely to the Chicago Children's Choir:

First, it creates opportunities for children of all races and backgrounds to move beyond the damage racism inflicts on all sides.

Second, it is based in education and the highest standards of professionalism and conduct, so it serves as a societal example.

Third, the choir is economically cost-effective, providing arts education to thousands of students and lessons for audiences in mutual respect and the value of working toward a common purpose.

Fourth, it has encouraged and enabled other communities to follow its lead, with similar choirs now singing in Detroit and Boston.

Fifth, the choir creates spontaneous and diverse communities at its performances, thereby fostering audiences who reflect the choir's mission and values (and symbolize the America we all might hope for).

Finally, the choir accomplishes all of these things through joy: uplifting music, energetic children and inspiring repertoire.

I encourage you to see this choir perform. You will laugh, you will weep, you will feel a stirring in your soul. And yes, you may just sing along." —Stephen P. Kiernan

About the Author

Stephen P. Kiernan is the author of *Last Rights* (St. Martin's Press, 2006). His numerous awards include the Gerald Loeb Award for Financial Journalism, the Associated Press Managing Editors' Freedom of Information Award, and the George Polk Award. He lives in Charlotte, Vermont.

Order *Authentic Patriotism* today!

The hardcover edition of the book is available now from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Borders, St. Martin's Press and many independent bookstores throughout the nation. For more information, visit StephenPKiernan.com/authentic-patriotism.



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Upcoming Events

Men's Festival: Brothers Sing On!

Saturday, May 22, 7:30pm | Portage Theater, 4050 N. Milwaukee Avenue

Tickets: Adults \$10, Children \$5 (available at the door)

This yearly festival features the male singers from the Concert Choir Men's Chorus, DiMension, and members of visiting High School choirs. This year, the festival features songs from Broadway musicals, with special guests Kye Brackett and Tim Shew!

Chicago Children's Choir presented at Ravinia

Friday, June 4, 7:30pm | Ravinia Festival, 200 Ravinia Park Road Highland Park, IL

Tickets: Lawn \$10, Pavilion \$45/\$10 (available through www.ravinia.org)

Under Artistic Director Josephine Lee, the Emmy Award-winning Concert Choir is presented as part of the renowned Ravinia Festival. Experience incredible breadth of repertoire, including Fauré's Requiem; world music; plus a Michael Jackson Medley and a commissioned work from a young Choir-alum composer!

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These are but a few of our upcoming events open to the public. For more information visit www.ccchoir.org or call 312-849-8300. If you receive duplicate mailings, or wish to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Rachel Trudel at rtrudel@ccchoir.org or 312-849-8300 ext. 23.

Target Community Concert Series – Free!

Beverly

Thursday, June 10, 8:00pm

Location TBA

PRESENTED BY 

SAVE THE DATES!

Red Jacket Optional – Fall Benefit Dinner and Celebration

Friday, October 15 at The Standard Club
Honoring David Hiller and the McCormick Foundation

Songs of the Season – Concert Choir

Sunday, December 12 at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance