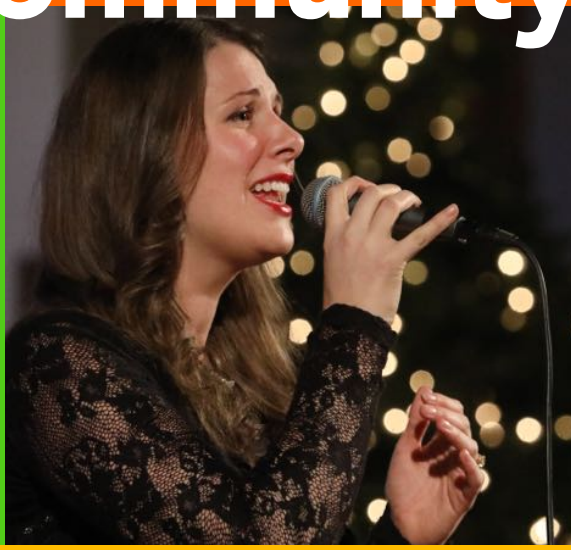


leadership

community



singing



Harmony through Harmony

Annual General Report



justice

2017-2018



worldview



CONTENTS

Mission & Vision	2
Executive Director Summary	3
Objective #1 – Positive Impact on Young People	6
Objective #2 – Engaging in Social Change	15
Objective #3 – Raising Awareness & Funds	17
Creative Director Report	24
Production Report	28
Communications Report	30
Ensemble 4007 Report	33
Ensemble Arbour Lake Report	36
Ensemble Dalhousie Report	38
Internship Report	40
Ukraine Trip Report	43
What's Next for HtH?	47
Acknowledgements	49



MISSION

Harmony through Harmony is a network of singing ensembles that exists to **build community**, where we **expand worldviews**, in order to **develop leaders**, who will **impact culture**, through the **fight for justice**.

VISION

Thriving communities worldwide where people are attending to their God-given **identity** and **purpose**.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUMMARY

Beth McLean Wiest



grin on my face. As I review the 9th season of HtH, once again I marvel at the privilege it is to lead this community and to serve alongside an amazingly generous team of leaders.

Our 2017-18 season began with a bang – we did a repeat of the 2017 spring concert as a fundraiser for the Ukraine Learning & Serving Trip team. August saw our first trip with H.A.R.T. to Ukraine. This was the first HtH Learning and Serving trip where I did not travel with the team. It was ably led by Christina Pitre and Sarah Vooyo. Christina began in HtH in 2009, Sarah in 2010. The team of eight people pulled together to raise funds and prepare in 3 short months. (See [Ukraine Report](#)) Our hope was for a second team to go to Ukraine in summer 2018, however, there was not sufficient participant availability.

Summer 2017 was also our first summer of internships. Four individuals applied their expertise to specific key areas: Sarah Vooyo brought her philosophical expertise to analyse HtH activities and structure, Kelly Guenter shared her financial expertise, Katie Pearn proposed strategies through her communications expertise, and Christina Pitre led the Learning and Serving trip to Ukraine applying her cross-cultural expertise. Sarah worked in partnership with the University of Calgary Graduate Studies Internship Program. (See [Internship Report](#)) HtH gained valuable input and momentum. Katie and Kelly continued to provide leadership throughout the year. (See [Communications Report and Financial Summary](#))



In 2017-18 we hoped to see ensembles formed around three different time commitments. This happened, but only partially as expected. God's plans are always better, as is His timing. We did not have a "touring ensemble". I thought we would *gradually* move toward having **three phases of HtH**. Phase #1: Learning / character development, Phase #2: Serving / competency development, Phase #3: Reproducing leadership. This year ended up being a defining year with three ensembles each clearly in phase #1, #2 and #3. There was nothing *gradual* at all!



We embarked on a pilot project of an ensemble to accommodate young families. We initially called it "HtH 2.0" or "HtH Lite" as we tried to define it. In the end, Ensemble Arbour Lake became a peer-led group, facilitated by Becky Timmons and Katie Pearn. This ensemble was eager to take their justice learning to a new depth and to serve as models for the younger ensembles. (See [Ensemble Arbour Lake Report](#))

Our second group, Ensemble 4007 was led by John Vooyo, music director, and Kelly Guenter, ensemble leader. This was the first year of ensemble leadership for them both, and they did



an outstanding job. John began with HtH in 2010 and Kelly began with HtH in 2012. This ensemble consisted of our youngest participants, and was encountering sexual exploitation as a justice issue for the first time. (See Ensemble 4007 report) The third group, Ensemble Dalhousie, was led by my husband Reid and me. This was the first time we have led an ensemble together since 2010-11. Ensemble Dalhousie was focused more on leadership and serving than on justice. (See Ensemble Dalhousie report) I am very excited to continue structuring ensembles around these phases.

Back in 2016-17, we did an extensive strategic planning process resulting in a revision of our direction statements. There was very little change from our original mission statement and no change in our official objectives. As in previous Annual Reports, this report is written around our "official objects", how we are incorporated with Corporations Canada and the Not for Profit Act.

We have chosen to create our annual reports as a combination of factual information and testimonials from our community. We hope this makes it readable and usable as a historical document. The testimonials are found in the coloured sections, the factual documents with white background.

HtH Vision: As a result of HtH, we dream that one day there will be... [Thriving communities worldwide where people are attending to their God-given identity and purpose.](#)

HtH Mission: HtH is a network of singing ensembles **that exists to** build community where we expand worldviews in order to develop leaders who will impact culture through the fight for justice.

HtH Core Values: Humility, Courage, Compassion, Commitment, Effort, Growth

HtH Core Activities: Gathering Together, Eating Together, Singing Together, Performing Together, Learning Together, Serving Together, Praying Together and Traveling Together.

Theme for 2017-18: Thematically we focused on the first two words of our vision statement: **"Thriving communities" worldwide where people are attending to their God-given identity and purpose.** What does it mean to thrive? What makes a community?



This year was the first of our five-year cycle. Our five-year goal is: **By Fall 2021, HtH will have a minimum of one ensemble in another city in Alberta, in another province and in another country.** We were delighted that three of our newcomers this year are from other cities in Alberta! In order to multiply and “birth” ensembles in other locations, ensembles in Calgary need to be thriving first. To that end, we approached the 2017-18 season with the thesis statement “We were made to thrive”.

Throughout the report you will find stories reflecting where we were successful and where we failed at this. Highlights include four weekends: a Fall Workshop weekend at Pioneer Lodge in Sundre, AB, a Board of Directors / Leadership Team workshop at King’s Fold in November, a Spiritual Retreat weekend at King’s Fold in February and our first Seek Justice Summit. Lowlights include not meeting our recruitment target, limited church performances, and no recording or travel.

In spring of 2017, we entered into a Charity-Agency agreement with Alberta Gospel Outreach (AGO) as one of their projects! Donations to HtH can now be made through AGO and our donors can receive a tax-deductible receipt! This is a huge gift to us and we are honored to help AGO accomplish its purposes. As hoped, our donations increased this year. The Charity-Agency agreement has opened many donor doors for us with very little effort! It is also helping us to discover which of our activities could be part of our own application for charitable status, should we choose to go down that road in the future. The best way to donate to HtH is online through www.atbcares.com/donate, search for Alberta Gospel Outreach, and indicate in the comments field that the funds are intended for HtH. We will be doing our next fundraiser event on November 10, 2018.

*The Most High God is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and sets over them anyone he wishes. **Daniel 4:17***

I am so humbled to lead this community. As you read the reports and testimonials, it is my prayer God is glorified and that you join me in giving Him thanks and praise and honor for the work done this year.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.
Ephesians 3: 20-21. ●●●



Objective #1

To have a positive impact on the lives of young people through:

- a. Education and training in the performing arts;
- b. Learning together as a community about issues affecting the world today;
- c. The development of leadership skills; and
- d. The presentation of secular and religious musical concerts and tours.

Objective #2

To use the performing arts to inspire engagement in social change.

Objective #3

Through HtH's presentation of musical concerts and tours, to collaborate with other organizations to raise awareness of the issues affecting the world today and to raise funds for those organizations seeking to address the possible solutions to those issues.

How has HtH had a 'positive impact on the lives of young people'? (Objective #1)

The HtH network has a positive impact on the lives of young people because... we seek to build thriving communities.

"Togetherness" is at the centre of our core activities; each of our core activities ends with the word "together". We are intentional in planning how doing activities together can build community internally and externally.

We **gather together** weekly from October to May with a break over Christmas. Once a month, our gatherings are of the network for a "combined rehearsal". Ensemble and Combined gatherings build community by bringing people of shared interests together.

In the 2017-18 season, there were three HtH ensembles. We referred to these as Ensemble 4007, Ensemble Dalhousie and Ensemble Arbour Lake based on their rehearsal locations. The participants in the three ensembles were in different phases of life: Ensemble 4007 was a gathering of participants in undergrad degrees or 24 years old and under. Ensemble Dalhousie gathered participants age 25 and older and predominantly in careers. The Ensemble Arbour Lake gathering was predominantly participants with young families or individuals needing flexibility in rehearsal attendance. The Ensembles were intimate but vocally unbalanced.



Demographics in HtH	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Ensemble(s)	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	2	3
Leaders	4	3	4	4	6	9	7	9	6
Participants	9	15	21	29	32	40	43	15	24
Female singers	6	9	12	17	19	25	26	7	18
Male singers	3	6	9	12	13	15	17	8	12
New singers	all	6	6	8	10	9	11	8	8
New female singers	all	3	3	5	5	4	6	4	7
New male singers	all	3	3	3	5	5	5	4	1
Singers not returning from previous season	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5	2	8	26	4
Retention rate from previous season	n/a	100%	100%	100%	93%	93%	80%	40%	83%

We are thankful that, once again, this year we were able to gather in a regular host home for rehearsals. Having a permanent base for ensemble rehearsals creates a sense of security that increases connection and vulnerability between participants. Ensemble Arbour Lake met in the home of Becky & Barron Timmons. This is the fourth season we have had an ensemble gathering in their home. Ensemble 4007 met in the guesthouse of Howard & Janet McLean. This is the ninth season we have had an ensemble gathering there. We are very grateful for the hospitality and generosity of the Timmons and McLean families. Ensemble Dalhousie met in the home of Reid and Beth McLean Wiest for the first time.

This year our combined rehearsals met at different venues. We are very thankful for the generosity of Heritage Christian Academy, Rundle College Elementary School, and Renfrew Baptist Church for the free use of their facilities this year.



We had 4 people who did not return to HtH this year from the 2016-17 season, two moved away to British Columbia for graduate school. We had 8 people return to HtH after a year or more sabbatical. It was wonderful to have this group back and their enthusiasm was caught by our newcomers. HtH welcomed 8 newcomers to HtH this fall, one female withdrew in November due to work conflicts.

We have seen a recurring pattern in our participants aged 18-21 as they transition from high school to university: getting overwhelmed quickly and often giving up in the name of "balance". This year we gathered them together. All newcomers in this age range in Ensemble 4007 completed

the year. We will continue for another year with gathering people of similar life stage even if the ensemble is unbalanced vocally.

HtH requires a high extra-curricular time commitment from its membership. In the regular season (October to May), there were 26 regular rehearsals, a fall weekend workshop at Pioneer Lodge and a spring retreat at King's Fold Retreat Centre. Members of Ensemble Arbour Lake attended Saturday at Pioneer Lodge.

Regular rehearsals for Ensemble 4007 are spent in the following manner:

- 6:00 – 6:30 pm supper together
- 6:30 – 8:00 pm music rehearsal

- 8:00 – 8:45 pm curriculum teaching & discussion
- 8:45 – 9:00 pm wrap-up & prayer

Ensemble Dalhousie follows the same format but begins at 6:15 pm and ends at 9:15 pm. Ensemble Arbour Lake has a shorter evening to accommodate young families. Their rehearsal begins at 7:30 pm. All ensembles end the evening with dessert encouraging participants to linger and visit.

A crucial part of our rehearsal is **eating together**. While mealtime serves a practical function of feeding the community, we use mealtime to debrief about life and connect. Dinner serves as a transition from the day's activities to rehearsal. Eating together is an equalizer – there is no talent, no position, no marital or parental status, no number of years in HtH required.

The food served is the only food option. Eating together provides an opportunity to practice courtesy and hospitality – saying grace, determining who will be served first, evaluating how much food is there to share amongst those present, trying foods one has never had before, expressing gratitude to the cooks, waiting until everyone is served before having seconds, assisting in clean up after the meal.

In this way, mealtime is also an opportunity to prepare for travel and social eating experiences outside of the community. By ending rehearsal with dessert, there is opportunity at the end of rehearsal to visit further, continue discussion from curriculum, and pray together. Frequently during dessert and the time that follows, the leadership team provides pastoral care or mentoring to participants.

Over the course of the year, each ensemble took on finding cooks to provide meals. Each ensemble approached this differently. In Ensemble 4007, Caleb Vooys was the Meal Coordinator for a second year. In Ensemble Arbour Lake, they took turns providing the dessert. In Ensemble Dalhousie, Trent McDowell set up a Google Doc as the Meal Coordinator and the Ensemble was responsible for filling the document.

Ensemble 4007 had meals provided by: Rick Erlendson, Joseph & Aryen Gorospe, Kelly & Darrell Guenter, Janet & Howard McLean, Karen Schouten, Sandy Stokes, Corrine Vooys.

Ensemble Dalhousie had meals provided by: Lorraine Chay, Rick Erlendson, Janet & Howard McLean, Beth & Reid McLean Wiest, The Metz family, Karla Patzer, the Redecopp family, Sandy Stokes, Alanna Waines, Bev & Peter Rogers.

As our name suggests, **singing together** and **performing together** is core to how we build community. All ensembles in the network are empowered by learning and performing the same repertoire. This allows freedom to focus on competence, rather than clutter the organization's focus with the creative and administrative energy required for each ensemble to each have its own repertoire. Unified repertoire builds community as each ensemble



works as a team to ensure they meet the collective standard. It facilitates crossover rehearsals, greater performance opportunities, greater impact possibilities, greater collaboration. By learning the same repertoire, we are able to rehearse and perform as both small and large ensembles.

We actively look for ways to develop a common language as a means to build community. To this end, all participants are required to read the HtH Handbook, attend the Workshop Weekend, be up to date with Planning Centre Online, read internal newsletters and books we choose, and participate in discussions. We intentionally and frequently refer to our vision and mission statements and our core values.

After three years of having the Workshop Weekend in January, we moved the weekend back to the fall as a newcomer retention strategy. The feedback from our newcomers was that this weekend was key to building trust, beginning friendships and feeling a part of the community.

The Fall Workshop Weekend took place at Pioneer Lodge in Sundre, Alberta. The weekend cost \$130 / person. The day rate was \$60/person. The Fall Workshop Weekend is an intensive time of music learning, discussion around our vision statement and getting to know one another. It is structured to build community between the new and returning singers and to cast vision for the year. The wonderful weather allowed for some of the discussion to occur during an afternoon walk outside – a highlight for many.

As part of the commitment to HtH, we expect returning participants to offer their strengths and talents to the community, whether it is to the ensemble or to the organizational operations of HtH. We believe this encourages an attitude of ownership, and that working alongside one another builds community. This is also part of our plan for developing leaders covered later in the report.

In addition to our efforts to build community internally, we seek to build community **externally** whenever possible through our performances, the organizations we support, the speakers we learn from, and the experiences we share outside of regular rehearsals. We are also gradually expanding our circle of volunteers.

We are very grateful for the following volunteers for their generosity this year: Cam Pearn for being our webmaster; Phil Calvert, Howard McLean, and Cliff Wiebe for their connections; Rick Erlendson for photography, Garth Stanley for photography and video; Thane McLean Wiest for running power point; Janet McLean, and Faith McLean Wiest for ushering.

In February, we had a second weekend together, this time at King's Fold Retreat Centre. King's Fold gave us a reduced rate for the weekend in appreciation for our participation in their 40th anniversary celebration later in the spring. This weekend was formatted more as a retreat than as a workshop. The focus was on the HtH Mission statement. We have never done a second weekend away. Interestingly, those available were all first and second year participants. This weekend served as an excellent time of connection for them to one another and to Reid and Beth McLean Wiest as founders.



Having the retreat in October was very helpful. I feel that without it, I wouldn't have gained a strong sense of community in the first semester. Time devoted of more than 2 hours. It's almost like the water evaporates before the next drop.

The rate of evaporation makes it tough for there to be anything to show for it. The retreat is a solid dump. I am knowing people, being more comfortable being myself. The fight to get people to show up for retreats and for the community to be ready for the retreats is huge. The sense of anticipation and investment from the individual. When it feels like the organization is reciprocating that back, it is a very effective thing. Communities thrive when they know why we are meeting. Alan Hirsch "Communitas" – community on mission. The retreat stood out because my ensemble didn't feel like we landed as a community for the entire semester. That sense of disconnect where everyone is running their own race, it wasn't a tag team race. That disconnection made it hard to thrive. We were almost a beta group that didn't decide it was a beta group. It had that feel in my mind. It worked against thriving. In the second semester we started to settle in and begin to know who our people were.

Trent McDowell –Year 2



How has HtH been “learning together as a community about issues affecting the world today”? (Object 1b)

The HtH network has been learning together as a community about issues affecting the world today this year through packing shoe boxes for H.A.R.T., a book study of *Overrated* by Eugene Cho, performances in fundraising events for H.A.R.T., The Good Samaritans, C.H.I.L.L. and HopeShares, hosting our first conference: Seek Justice Summit, and for a team of eight, through a Learning and Serving Trip to Ukraine in August 2017.

Our goals of Learning and Serving trips are to build relationship with one another and with Christian organizations fighting injustice, to explore our values, to learn and to serve. This was the second year we went as a community to the H.A.R.T. (Humanitarian Aid Relief Teams) office to pack shoeboxes, one of the ministry tools HART uses to reach and bless children in Ukraine. This was the first event combining newcomers and returning singers of the season. This was not ideal. We approached this outing as a “local learning and serving trip” as well as an opportunity for the HtH Ukraine Team to share about their trip. (See Ukraine 2017 Report). Packing shoeboxes successfully introduced our newcomers to our connection to HART and provided connection immediately to the injustice we fight. We ended up packing 26 boxes, donating over \$500! The HtH Ukraine Team shared briefly on experiences that profoundly touched them. Kostya Voloshyn, HART’s Director in Eastern Europe, spoke about Ukraine and human trafficking. Lloyd Cenaiko, Founder and CEO, spoke about HART generally.

Ensemble leaders were given authority to choose the book selection for their ensemble. Remarkably, all ended up choosing the same book! *Overrated: Are We More in Love with the Idea of Changing the World than Actually Changing the World?* by Eugene Cho was received, as expected, with mixed reviews. Beth provided ensembles with an outline of questions for discussion. The questions connected the book to the HtH



directional statements and the justice journey HtH has been on to date. The book served its purpose well: to generate discussion!

HtH performed as part of four fundraising events for charities doing outreach to vulnerable people, two performances in the fall and two in the spring. These were excellent opportunities for learning. November 3, 2017 HtH performed in the **H.A.R.T.** fall fundraiser. Here performers continued learning about Ukraine and Eastern Europe and deepened their understanding of how shoeboxes open doors for relationship and proclamation of the gospel.

December 2, 2017 HtH performed for the 9th year at the annual **Good Samaritans** Bake Auction. This bake auction raises funds for sewing machines for graduates of a two-year skills program for vulnerable young women in Tuticorin, India.

December 6, 2017 HtH performed in the lobby as part of "Change Her Legacy" prior to the concert featuring Steve Bell and Malcolm Guite. This event raised funds for **Next Step Ministries** and **Oxford House**.

April 7, 2018 HtH was grateful to again be invited to perform at a fundraiser for **Seed of Hope / Hopeshares**, "Ithemba". In 2011, HtH went to South Africa and spent three weeks learning and serving with Seed of Hope. The fundraiser event served as an opportunity to share with our newcomers about HtH history, rekindle passion for Seed of Hope for the 2011 travelers who remain in HtH and sow seeds of hope for a return trip to South Africa in the near future.

April 13, 2018, HtH performed in **C.H.I.L.L.** (Christ Heals In Low Lights) fundraiser event, "Brighten". Prior to this event, C.H.I.L.L.'s program director came and shared at a combined rehearsal. Through these HtH learned about their ministry to girls and women being exploited in Calgary and their prevention work. Following all the above performances, we took time to discuss the work of each organization, to evaluate and discuss the performance and the perceived impact the performance had on the audience.



March 16-17, 2018, HtH hosted our first conference, "Seek Justice Summit". The intent was to serve agencies and churches fighting sexual exploitation. While it did that, it also was an excellent learning opportunity for the HtH community. (See "Seek Justice Summit" Report).

Likely the most significant step we made in our justice learning journey this year was to approach our discussion curriculum in ensembles using the IJM justice phases of: Encounter, Explore and Engage.

We approached Ensemble 4007 as a community in the **Encounter** phase. This phase is when individuals first "encounter" an injustice. It is marked by high enthusiasm to "do something" about the problem, high emotion, high passion but zero or very little experience or knowledge. This group is great at creating awareness and mobilizing people for the cause. Their passion is contagious.

We approached Ensemble Dalhousie as being in the **Explore** phase. In this phase, the individual/group is no longer shocked by the injustice, desires to learn more, and recognizes that it is a complex issue with no simple solutions. During this phase, the problem is no longer just "out there". It involves also looking at one's own brokenness, exploring whether or not one's own community is safe for victims of injustice to come forward and researching

solutions that already exist. It also involves researching the complex factors resulting in the injustice, often leading to “encounters” with other injustices. A clear marker of the Explore phase is coming to recognize that God is the God of Justice and that the end of injustice is impossible without His intervention. It requires prayer.

Finally we approached Ensemble Arbour Lake as being a group who had been learning about the injustice of sexual exploitation for a long time, the majority for more than 5 years, and as such they were moving from the explore phase into the **Engage** phase. This is when a community narrows focus to how they can respond in a long-term manner to a specific injustice, in a specific area, in a specific way.

Through these lenses, each ensemble had very different discussions about the book “Overrated,” about the performances we did and engaged at different levels in Seek Justice Summit.

An “issue affecting the world today” (Object 1b) is the tension caused from lack of compassion and understanding between colleagues at different phases of learning and engagement. There is also tension of the different expectations within churches and para-church organizations around a response to injustice, and between organizations that raise awareness and organizations that are frontline workers. It is messy. We see that HtH has an important role we can play as bridge builders between these different parties. Each of us can celebrate one another’s efforts to fight for justice and together we can really impact culture!



How has HtH accomplished “The development of leadership skills”? (Object 1c.)

The HtH network seeks to develop the leadership skills of participants and leaders through creating a framework of continual invitation and challenge, whereby our core values are tested.

In HtH, we believe character development is central to leadership development. We believe we lead out of who we are and that followers are more attracted to who we are than to what we do. From the outset, the vision has been one day to have HtH ensembles all over the world. To do so, we need leaders developed internally.



The primary method we use for development of leadership skills in HtH, therefore, is by aiming to increase the emotional intelligence of our participants, in particular by increasing self-awareness and other-awareness. We seek to affirm behaviors reflecting our core values of humility, courage, compassion, effort, commitment and growth. We look for these core values being demonstrated through the framework of our core activities. The core activities create opportunities for invitation to relationship and challenge of character and skill. The following are types of leadership tests occurring through our core activities:

Gathering Together: Does the individual seek to build trust with others? Does the individual practice hospitality?

Eating Together: Is the individual punctual? Does the individual express courtesy and gratitude?

Singing Together: Does the individual come prepared? Does the individual take ownership for mistakes?

Performing Together: Does the individual communicate a message clearly, mindful of facial and body expression?

Learning Together: Does the individual demonstrate a teachable spirit?

Serving Together: Does the individual demonstrate initiative? Does the individual put aside self for the needs of the other?



Praying Together: Does the individual share vulnerably? Does the individual listen to the hearts of others?

Traveling Together: Does the individual look out for the team? Does the individual demonstrate cultural intelligence?

To our knowledge, there are no models of choral ensembles with an intentional culture of releasing leaders to multiply other ensembles. Beth attempted to develop a monthly "Leadership Discipleship Cohort" (LDC). This did not gain momentum. There was one leadership evening. This has been a key mechanism to developing leaders in the past. Ensemble Dalhousie, however, loosely followed the LDC model. This ensemble did an additional book



study, *Encouraging the Heart* by Kouzes and Posner. The primary purpose of LDC was to develop disciples of Jesus, for wherever life takes them. The secondary purpose was to deepen the understanding of why Jesus is the motive behind HtH, how this looks in the culture we are creating and multiplying in HtH; to equip and empower participants to take on increasing leadership in the HtH community and eventually, to lead ensembles. Ensemble Dalhousie had healthy discussion one how to care for the hearts of people. The participants in this ensemble actively engaged in serving in Seek Justice Summit and then in various leadership roles in the Spring Production, "Gather Round" applying concepts from the book study and group discussions.

Ensemble Arbour Lake viewed themselves as "the older participants in HtH". (In actuality, there were people of the same age and older in Ensemble Dalhousie as well! This "older" was more about number of years in HtH.) They considered it their responsibility to be engaged in leadership in productions and to model engagement to Ensemble 4007.

This was the first year where we did not discuss strengths and create a common language using Strengthsfinder. We did, however, use SurveyMonkey to give participants a broader view of opportunities for service in Seek Justice Summit and Gather Round. The surveys listed a very wide range of tasks people could self-select to do based on interests, experience and availability. This was very successful and resulted in everyone in the community being involved in some way in each event.

Our key participant leaders this year were: Curtis Bestard, Gina Bestard, Katrina Friesen, Alex Gordon, Christa Holten, Melissa Metz, Stacey Tweedle, Caleb Vooyo, and Vicki Wik. Each of these individuals demonstrated consistent humility, courage, compassion, commitment and effort in a wide variety of circumstances. Their growth in understanding of the HtH mission and vision was evident. They were excellent ambassadors of HtH internally and externally.

Our leadership team: Reid McLean Wiest serves as our "Creative Director". Becky Timmons remains our "Producer". Katie Pearn serves as our "Communications Director", Kelly Guenter as our "Bookkeeper", John Vooyo as a "Conductor". Becky and Katie were ensemble leaders of Ensemble Arbour Lake. John and Kelly were ensemble leaders of Ensemble 4007. Reid and Beth McLean Wiest were ensemble leaders of Ensemble Arbour Lake. Christina Pitre and Sarah Vooyo were "Learning and Serving Trip Coordinators" for the trip to Ukraine. Torri Airhart was on sabbatical from being Principal Conductor. Torri, Becky and Sarah were independent contractors. Christina, Kelly, John and Katie received an honorarium in appreciation for their



tremendous work as volunteer staff. HtH is immensely grateful for the generous contributions of all of our leaders and for their commitment, effort and modeling.

Please see “What’s Next?” for further comments on developing leaders.

How does HtH “use the performing arts to inspire engagement in social change”? (Object #2)

The HtH network employs the performing arts to inspire engagement in social change, primarily in our participants and second with our audiences.

Our mission to “impact culture through the fight for justice” means this object to “use performing arts to inspire engagement in social change” is a key strategy for the network. Participants engage in social change through learning the repertoire, creating presentations, in performance and in interacting with the audiences after a performance.

Our performances are a combination of music and message. These presentations can be one song and to a small intimate audience, a half hour set as part of a fundraiser or a full concert. The lyrics of our songs create the framework for our presentations. Many of our songs are original. (See Creative Director Report) This year we have focused the scope of our fight for justice: we are FOR restoration, reconciliation and redemption in relationships and we are AGAINST sexual exploitation and sex trafficking.



I became part of a courageous community this year, and through it, my life has changed in ways that I couldn't quite have anticipated.

I remember the very first rehearsal at the beginning of the HtH season in October. I was dishing up a plate at the kitchen table and was chatting with Beth. I was telling her about the composition class I was currently working on as a music student, and she told me that I should write a song for HtH. I smiled and laughed, thinking that it would be cool to write a song for HtH, but rather impossible. Maybe I could write one in the last year of my degree, but not now. It was a nice daydream or “someday” goal, but not anything I thought could happen soon. Little did I know the courageous community that HtH would become for me.

Over the fall semester, I began to encounter social justice issues in new ways through my involvement with HtH. I watched a heavy documentary about sex trafficking in different areas of the world. I attended a fundraiser for HART and heard stories of people being rescued from the sex trade and being restored. I read through the book of Isaiah in the Bible and marked every passage that had something to do with justice. There were quite a few! I began to encounter the gravity of social justice issues in our world, and the heart of God in response to injustice.

These experiences silently cycled round and round in my head, spurring me on, until I decided that I should just try writing a piece that could potentially be used by HtH. It took a couple weeks to solidify what ideas I wanted my piece to explore. I settled on using the question “What do you hear?” as a springboard to give voice to the anguished cries of the world. The anguished cries that GOD hears, but that WE may not notice. I found passages in the Bible talking about things crying out to God, like wages that were never paid or innocent blood that was shed. Other passages spoke of the groaning of slaves reaching God’s ears, or the whole of creation groaning before the Lord. There was a visceral, audible energy in the world’s cries for justice, and I was inspired to respond. With this big idea in mind, the writing of the music culminated in an unassuming Sunday afternoon where I wrote a sketch of the entire piece. Writing so quickly is abnormal for me. A full sketch of a piece does not come in one afternoon.

Throughout this process, I kept my HtH leaders up to date on my progress, and they encouraged me and graciously gave me feedback on my piece as I was polishing it. I felt encouraged and empowered by this courageous community. This community spurred me on when they decided to use my piece and put it in the HtH repertoire for this semester. And then they got me, a brand new conductor, to conduct and rehearse it, in preparation for the IJM night of prayer. Later, I got to present about my piece in the Ambrose Research Conference and conduct HtH as they sang it for my peers and professors. I couldn’t believe it that afternoon. I had no idea that Beth’s comment at that first rehearsal in October would lead to this.

Creating and directing this piece has served as a musical and justice journey for me. It made me develop new skills in composition and conducting, but it also made me think about the cacophony of cries that God hears because of injustice. This has been instrumental in my “encounter” stage of my justice journey this year, and has equipped me to take a step toward the “engage” stage. I have been accepted as the Director of Social Justice on Ambrose Student Council for next year, and look forward to continuing in my justice journey, surrounded by this courageous community.

- Katrina Friesen, Year 1





Sexual exploitation is a complex issue. In order for social change to occur, many other social changes also need to occur: pornography, sexual abuse, trauma, poverty, neglect, cultural awareness for vulnerable people groups, addiction, etc.

Awareness concerts are formatted around the acronym A.C.T.: Awareness, Care, Take Your Next Step and Tell Others. This year both our Christmas and Spring concerts featured stories by our participants of how they have increased Awareness, Caring and Taking Action with addressing sexual exploitation. We believe the credibility of our platform comes from an authentic voice: the heart of our participants. We are committed to sharing stories of our experiences in hopes to inspire and challenge our audience to take their next step in increasing their ACTION.

Each participant is encouraged to engage in the concert creation process as a means of offering his/her talents to the fight for social change. Every participant was involved in the spring production. (See Producer Report.) We believe that as our participants experience the process of using art to express a message, their passion for social change will increase.

2013-14: 37 performances
 2014-15: 29 performances
 2015-16: 13 performances
 2016-17: 11 performances
 2017-18: **21 performances**



How does HtH accomplish “Through HtH’s presentation of musical concerts and tours, to collaborate with other organizations to raise awareness of the issues affecting the world today and to raise funds for those organizations seeking to address the possible solutions to those issues”? (Object #3)

In addition to our Awareness events, we collaborate with organizations in their fundraisers. Below is a summary of funds raised for other organizations in events where HtH took part this year.

Good Samaritans provides sewing and computer training for poor young women in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu province, India. (<http://tgstt.org>)

Humanitarian Aid Response Team (HART): HART is dedicated to alleviating poverty and injustice in eastern Europe by working alongside local Christian leaders, organizations and churches – giving them the tools to build a better world for themselves, their communities and their countries. (<http://hart.ca>)

Hopeshares / Seed of Hope: A faith-based community development organization focusing on alleviating poverty and enhancing community self-sustainability in Amanzimtoti, South Africa. (<http://hopeshares.ca>)

International Justice Mission Canada is a human rights organization that secures justice for victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other forms of violent oppression, in partnership with U.S.-based International Justice Mission (IJM). IJM lawyers, investigators and aftercare professionals work with local officials to ensure immediate victim rescue and aftercare, to prosecute perpetrators and to ensure that public justice systems – police, courts and laws – effectively protect the poor. (<http://ijm.ca>)

Christ Heals in Low Lights (CHILL): aims to journey with individuals who have been affected by sexual exploitation. (<https://chill.community>)

Oxford House: The mission of Oxford House is to provide safe and affordable housing for individuals recovering from addictions. (<http://oxfordhouse.ca>)

Next Step Ministries (NSM): NSM is a Christian organization to help meet the needs of vulnerable and exploited people in the community of Calgary. NSM has four programs (outreach, housing, day program, & followup care) that work together to help women exit sexual exploitation and move towards a life of hope and healing.

In addition to our Awareness events, we collaborate with organizations in their fundraisers. On this page, please find summaries of funds raised for other organizations in events where HtH took part, and honoraria or donations paid to HtH at performance events.

Typically, whenever HtH does an awareness production, organizations that align with the issue we are addressing are invited to have booths in the foyer of that venue. At the end of our awareness production we invite the audience to respond. We give the audience opportunity to learn about the organizations, take their brochures, purchase products from them, donate to them, and explore how they can get further involved. This year we didn’t do that. Instead, we put on Seek Justice Summit.

Funds HtH Helped Raise for Other Organizations

Organization and Events	Total \$
HART fall fundraiser	120,000
Oxford House & NSM Change Her Legacy event	34,813.46
Good Samaritans annual bake auction	40,222.00
Habitat for Humanity thru Building Bridges concerts	18,200.00
HopeShares Canada Ithemba fundraiser	4000.00
CHILL Brighten fundraiser	31,922.00
Kingsfold Retreat celebration	3,000.00
Grand Total	\$252,157.46

HtH Fee/Donations Collected from Events

Event Name	Honorarium
Good Samaritans bake auction (via CIDO)	?
6 th Annual No Crib for a Bed (good will offering)	?
CSC Single Moms Christmas banquet	100.00
HopeShares	?
CHILL (via the Great Commission Foundation)	500.00
HtH Awareness Concert “Gather Round” (tickets sold: 179 @ \$20 each)	3580.00
Grand Total	.00

HtH Pro Bono (unpaid) Events

Event Name	In Kind Compensation
HART fall auction	
CTV TV promotion spot	
Change Her Legacy event	Free tickets to Steve Bell concert
Building Bridges Concerts 1 & 2	
Seek Justice Summit: Praying for Justice	
Kingsfold Retreat celebration	Reduced fee for HtH weekend retreat @ Kingsfold
No Greater Love – Take the Stage event	12 free weekend passes to festival in August



MARCH 16-17, 2018

SEEKJUSTICESUMMIT.CA

Seek Justice Summit: *Justice Begins at Home*
(<http://seekjusticesummit.ca>)

During the 2016-17 season, HtH leadership began actively exploring and praying about what it would look like for us to host a conference. We could see the need to gather people from our relational networks for more than just our concerts.

HtH is at the intersection between churches and organizations addressing sexual violence. Over the years we have had many speakers come to share with our community. The YYC Church-Agency Collective to End Sexual Exploitation began two years ago, and HtH is a participating organization. In the Collective, there is a wide spectrum of levels of engagement. Some represent churches encountering the issue and are there to learn. Some represent organizations that have been addressing some aspect of the issue for decades. Many have personal testimonies that fuel their passion and focus.

Participants in our Harmony through Harmony community are also in a wide spectrum of levels of engagement. As such, our leadership is regularly discussing how we can meet the diversity of needs through invitation and challenge. We have only been journeying together on this issue for the last 8 years.

We believe Calgary is awakening to the need to create safe communities for healing of sexual pain. For our community, learning together about sexual exploitation has been a key strategy toward creating space for safe disclosure. The time had come to do a pilot project of a conference/forum/gathering/summit aimed specifically at the complexities of sexual violence. A justice summit on this topic is another step in bringing light to this dark issue.

Core Verses

Isaiah 1:17 *Stop doing wrong, learn to do right! **Seek Justice**, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.*

Isaiah 61:1 / Luke 4:18-19 ***The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is upon me because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.***

Matthew 9:35-38 (MSG) *Then Jesus made a circuit of all the towns and villages. He taught in their meeting places, reported kingdom news, and healed their diseased bodies, healed their bruised and hurt lives. When he looked out over the crowds, his heart broke. So confused and aimless they were, like sheep without a shepherd. "What a huge harvest!" he said to his disciples. "How few workers. **On your knees and pray for harvest hands!**"*



In our strategic planning of the event, we determined what we wanted people attending:

- **To know:** We need to work together to fight sexual exploitation.
 - The invitation and challenge in the above verses
 - Together means locally, nationally, internationally
 - Together means churches and agencies working together
 - Together means any step on the journey is a good step. IJM has documented there are three different phases of engagement on the justice journey.
- **To feel:** Encouraged
 - In the collective heart for the marginalized, poor, vulnerable
 - To care for those being prostituted, abused, pimping, purchasing, struggling with pornography
 - Courage to continue their own journey of brokenness and with justice
- **To do:** Take the next step in their fight for justice.
 - Attend the Praying for Justice evening and pray;
 - Dialogue about individual and collective next steps
- **To see:** unity in the Body of Christ between churches and agencies

We believe...

- Each person is made in the image of God and has dignity.
 - Sexual exploitation of any kind violates a person's dignity.
- We are commanded to "love your neighbor as you love yourself".
 - Love, forgiveness, reconciliation, restoration and redemption are found only in Jesus; and experienced through a community of support.



- We are designed for family and community.
 - Pornography is a public health crisis destroying individuals, families and communities.
 - Silence about sexual pain (pornography, sex abuse, sexual exploitation, prostitution, sex trafficking, sex addiction etc.) is not ok in our city, or anywhere.
 - Healthy relationships, marriages, families and communities prevent and restore victims of sexual pain.
- We can be part of the solution, and stop being part of the problem.

In March, HtH hosted our first Seek Justice Summit at Dalhousie Community Church. The itinerary was as follows.

FRIDAY night: Movie Screening

screening of the film "She Has a Name"

- International focused film focuses on tourists to Thailand
- "Talk Back" Q & A following the movie
 - Matthew Kooman, Film Director
 - Phil Calvert, Director of Development IJM Canada

SATURDAY Afternoon: A.C.T. NOW workshops

(A.C.T. = Awareness. Care. Take your next step.)

After a keynote presentation, there were three classes offered each block. The classes were chosen to reflect the three phases of engagement: encounter, explore, engage. (See IJM's resource *Just Church* by Jim Martin)

OPENING KEYNOTE:

Justice Seeking is Not a Passing Fad!

Mark Wollenberg, National Director for Church Mobilization, International Justice Mission Canada

Justice and injustice have become a very popular word in the Christian community over the past 10 – 15 years. Some have even called the emerging young leaders in the church the "Justice Generation". For this we can be very thankful. But to keep justice seeking as a primary goal of the church we need to continue to see justice as a central theme of Jesus' work and teaching. If we continue to root seeking justice in Jesus and his mission the justice generation will not fade away, but continue to grow into the river of justice we hope for.

SESSION ONE:

Who is "She" in Calgary? A panel discussion from leaders working on the frontlines with exploited women

Judy Osborne, Program Director, Emma House

Phil Reimer, Executive Director, Next Step Ministries

Amy Stephenson, Executive Director, C.H.I.L.L.

Kelsi Wind, Leader, The Walk

Jutta Wittmeier, Executive Director, Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre

Why People Get Hooked on Porn and How Addiction Works

Daniel Komori, Associate Executive Director, Journey Canada

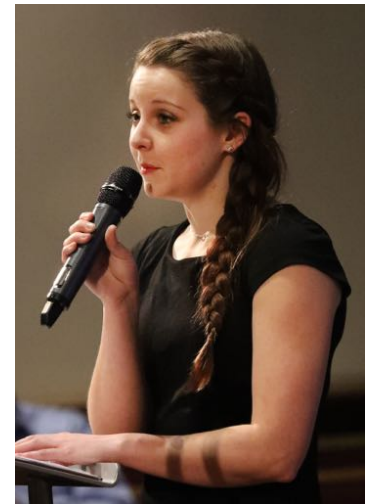
In this session, we'll explore some of the reasons why people get addicted to pornography, how pornography addiction works, and how habitual use of pornography can lead to sexual exploitation



Fighting Slavery in the Supply Chain: How you can you engage in the fight against slavery as a consumer, in your workplace and as a Canadian citizen.

Angie Redecopp, Associate professor of business and development studies, Ambrose University

Angie will talk about both legal responses and advocacy as tools to fight forced labour and sexual violence in the supply chain of Canadian companies. How can you advocate as a consumer? What actions can you promote in your workplace? What Canadian initiatives and laws are on the horizon to increase corporate accountability for activities that take place in high-risk regions of the world?



SESSION TWO:

Sex Trafficking in Calgary: Learning about what sexual slavery looks like in our city and across the country

Susan Brandt

Slavery is alive and thriving in the 21st century. To most Canadians, human trafficking evokes images of women smuggled from far-off lands or over the border.

While human trafficking is indeed a global issue, Canadian citizens are often trafficked within their own country, enslaved, bought and sold from province to province. We know that men, women and children fall victim to this crime, although women represent the majority of victims in Canada to date.

Imagine being beaten, forced into sex work, and told you'll be killed if you try to escape. The constant threat of violence means you're too scared to go to the authorities, but even if you did, there's little chance of retribution for your attacker. This might sound like something that would happen in a third-world country, or during some bygone era, but it's happening now in Calgary, and is a reality for many victims of human trafficking. Let's hear the facts and bear witness to their stories.

The Process of Healing for the Addict

Daniel Komori, Associate Executive Director, Journey Canada

In this session, we'll continue the discussion around pornography addiction and look at the factors that lead to healing for the sexual addict. Practical tools & steps will be explored, as well as opportunity for Q & A.

Understanding the Impact of Trauma (2 hour session)

Jutta Wittmeier, Executive Director, Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre

Trauma is an unexpected, and often unbearable, event that has impact beyond normal coping capabilities. Crisis challenges a person's ability to cope; trauma overwhelms. Trauma can leave a person with ongoing symptoms, on minds, bodies and spirits, not easily healed. It can affect those impacted, as well as, those around them. As a Christian community we are called to seek Justice. Many of those we will come alongside have had significant losses and trauma in their lives. This workshop will help you better understand how behavior and reactions may be impacted by the past. We will discuss how to be a compassionate presence, the impact of witnessing the stories of others, how to stay within the limits of appropriate care, and the importance of referral.

SESSION THREE:

Self-Compassion and Care

Susan Brandt, Streetlevel Consulting

This session will focus on the importance of taking care of yourself in the justice journey in order to stay in the fight long-term. Vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue and processing grief will also be addressed.

Porn as a Public Health Crisis

Glendyne Gerrard, Defend Dignity and
Julia Beazley, policy analyst in Ottawa
for Evangelical Fellowship of Canada

Pornography is harmful to individuals and to society. It needs to be treated as a public health issue so that governments, educators and medical personnel can address it.

Filmed exclusively for Seek Justice Summit from Ontario, this session will be a video of a session Glendyne and Julia do at their REVEAL conference. Julia speaks first about the harms of porn and why there's a need for pornography to be treated as a public health crisis. Glendyne follows talking about the need for public engagement to get involved in changing our culture.



The Relentless Pursuit of Justice

Mark Wollenberg, National Director for Church Mobilization, International Justice Mission Canada

As churches engage in seeking justice they will encounter obstacles and challenges. To STAY in the fight of justice we need to prepare the church to be relentless and not to give up. Building legs and lungs of endurance in the fight for justice is important for faith communities to prioritize.

SATURDAY evening: "Praying for Justice"

an IJM event with guests Harmony through Harmony

This event uses The Lord's Prayer as a model for praying for justice.

- Silent prayer
- Small groups
- Written prayers
- Corporate prayer with words on screen for them to pray as we sing,
- Songs for reflection
- Worship at beginning and end

Praying for Justice is based on the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples- The Lord's Prayer. Have you ever considered the prayer as a passionate, communal prayer for justice? From the very first word, Jesus lays out a powerful petition that brings us to the front lines to confront injustice and evil in our world. International Justice Mission and Harmony through Harmony are partnering to share The Lord's Prayer as a model for praying for justice. Expect a powerful evening using different forms of prayer, times of reflection through song and worship together.

SJS Pilot Project evaluation

There were many encouraging outcomes from this first SJS conference experience. All of the conference presenters gave HtH praise for a well-organized, well-executed event. Many of our HtH participants stepped up in leadership, to serve in ways they hadn't ever before. The speakers gave excellent teaching sessions, and there was something valuable for every attendee, no matter what phase of their justice journey. It was somewhat discouraging there were not more people in attendance for the conference. However, most HtH participants engaged with some aspect of the conference, and the learning experience was particularly valuable for them.

There was sufficient encouragement from this first SJS, that our board of directors has given approval to pursue staging the conference a second time. This is currently scheduled for 29-30 March 2019 at Centre Street Church's West Campus. ●●●



HtH 2017-2018 Season Performances Summary

Event Name	Total Events	Estimated Audience Size
2017	11	
June	1	110
HtH Spring Show Encore Performance		110
August	4	227
Ukraine – HART camp	1	100
Ukraine – HART camp	1	100
Ukraine – Gypsy village	1	20
Ukraine – HART staff	1	7
October	1	75
Kostya & Iryna Voloshyn wedding reception	1	75
November	2	400
HART Fall Auction	1	400
CTV Inspired Albertan TV spot	1	unknown
December	4	600
The Good Samaritans Bake Auction	1	50
Change Her Legacy with Steve Bell	1	700
6 th Annual No Crib for a Bed Christmas Concert	1	200
CSC Single Moms Banquet	1	50
2018	9	
February	2	500
Building Bridges #1: Knox United	1	300
Building Bridges #2: Beth Tzedec Congregation	1	200
March	1	30
Seek Justice Summit – Praying for Justice event	1	30
April	6	704
Ambrose University Research Day	1	30
HopeShares Fundraiser “Ithemba”	1	25
CHILL Fundraiser “Brighten”	1	200
Kingsfold 40 th Anniversary Celebration	1	200
Renfrew Baptist Church service	1	70
HtH Spring Awareness Concert: “Gather Round”	1	179
May	1	100
No Greater Love “Take the Stage” competition	1	100
Grand Total	21	3146

Graphs Legend

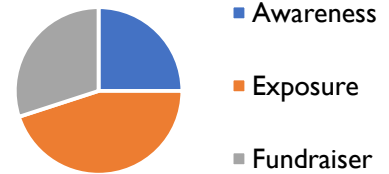
HtH Intent –this graph shows the percentage of events where the primary purpose of HtH performing was to deliver a message about injustice and/or hope (“Awareness”), gain exposure to other arts groups, church communities, or public audiences in hopes of receiving invitations to other events to promote awareness (“Exposure”), help an organization raise money (“Fundraiser”), or an unplanned opportunity to share music (“Spontaneous”).

Collaboration –the percentage of events that were performed with other arts groups versus those events that featured HtH as the only performers or guest artists.

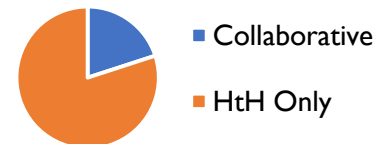
Ensembles –the percentage of events that were performed as a mixed group (all ensembles), or in separate ensembles.

Audience Type – the type of audience each event was targeted at.

HtH Intent



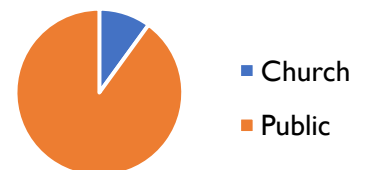
Collaboration



Ensemble Type: Mixed Ensemble



Audience Type





CREATIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Reid McLean Wiest

START-UP WINS & CHALLENGES

Starting our 9th season of HtH seemed to carry extra challenge this year. We

had some sense of which singers were going to be returning from the previous season, but you never know what life is going to hold for people after 2-3 months of summer break. As a lead team, we had also set ourselves a big goal of expanding our participant numbers to 55 people by the end of October. Unfortunately, we didn't come up with a robust plan to attract and recruit that many singers, especially a plan that would take into account summer distractions, and a trip to Ukraine in August that included three of our leaders. We also piloted a third HtH ensemble, consisting of HtH alumni with a

lower time commitment, and we didn't know how many singers might choose that path, even as late as early October. And having Torri away on sabbatical this season meant not having his attention to repertoire planning, plus keeping to deadlines for sheet music prep and rehearsal plans. We also had a couple of early season gigs to plan for: a Ukraine trip reporting-back event at the HART office, followed by the HART fall fundraising dinner.

As a result, we spent most of rehearsal time in September and October focused on returning repertoire from last season, and getting new singers the opportunity to learn these songs so they would have the option of performing in these early gigs. We also got an early feel for the rehearsal and people dynamics in the three ensembles; Ensemble Arbour Lake (alumni group, under Becky and Katie), Ensemble 4007 (under John and Kelly), and Ensemble Dalhousie (under Beth and Reid). It was encouraging to see several alumni from previous HtH seasons return this year (e.g. Shaun, Jon Fish, Gina, Peter, Vicki). It was also a treat for Beth and me to host an ensemble in our own home, for the first time.

We experimented with the idea of a paperless music folder, making sheet music available in PDF files that could be accessed through a smartphone or tablet with an internet connection. Advantages to this approach include reduced cost for photocopying/printing, and portability of sheet music, since most everyone has a smartphone these days. We identified a couple of apps that could display the files. While a couple of singers appreciated having this option available, most singers still preferred having hard copies for sheet music, and this will likely remain the case in the foreseeable future. Many singers found viewing sheet music difficult on their small phone screens, and they found it a poor replacement for paper.

This was the first year in a while we chose to have a Fall Workshop Weekend, going out to Pioneer Lodge in Sundre the first weekend of November.. This was the first time that we changed our language around expectation of attendance from 'mandatory' to 'highly encouraged'. This was to acknowledge the increased complexity of our participants' lives and commitments. Some people were able to stay from Friday through



Sunday; many only came up for the Saturday sessions. Overall, it was an effective weekend of music making, vision casting, learning and discussions, particularly around the words “thriving” and “community” in our vision statement.

REPERTOIRE

As far as repertoire selection, we continued to have all ensembles learning the same repertoire. This allowed performance groups to be formed from participants of any ensemble.

I continue to favour original compositions and published charts over arranging existing works, due to the challenge of obtaining arrangement rights from publishers. I am also preferring the personal challenge of finding my own voice through composing, as well as developing the voice in others. This year's repertoire ended up being a solid mix of HtH hits from the past, combined with newer works.

COMPOSERS GUILD

Three meetings were held over the course of the season. John Vooy's and I met in the first meeting. The second meeting had Shaun P., Curtis B., Katrina F. attend; more of an open session of those showing some small interest in songwriting for HtH. In this second meeting, we discussed our process so far for presentation, filtering, and refining of songwriting ideas. The third meeting was attended by John V and Jon Fish's wife Leticia. We are blessed with many song ideas, but there remains a lot of work to evaluate these ideas, arrange and notate them for the choir.

Great contributions from the Composers Guild this year included:

- “What Do You Hear?” by Katrina Friesen, a piece composed as a class assignment, inspired by her own justice journey, and intended for HtH to perform
- “Remember the Lord” by John Vooy's, featuring piano accompaniment

Pieces I contributed:

- “Born to You This Day”, a Christmas piece, featuring piano, guitar, violin, mandolin
- “King's Fold”, commissioned by Kingsfold Retreat Centre for their 40th anniversary celebration. Based on an old English melody of the same name, King's Fold featured lyrics by Sebastian's mother Alicia Dykstra, and included piano, guitar, violin, and cajon for accompaniment.
- “Gather Round”, a quick learn, inspired by our spring concert theme and title, which the choir was wonderful to learn at the last minute



2017-18 Repertoire

Song Title	Composer/Arranger
NEW WORKS COMPOSED	
Born to You This Day	RMW
Remember the Lord	John Vooy's
What Do You Hear?	Katrina Friesen
King's Fold	RMW
Gather Round	RMW
Ukuthula	RMW (lyrics only)
NEW PUBLISHED WORKS	
Bogoroditse Dyevo	Rachmaninoff
Exultate Deo	Palestrina
We Are Not Alone	P. Choplin
RETURNING WORKS (HTH HITS)	
Sit Back, Relax	RMW
Change the World	RMW
Northern Harmony	RMW
Love One Another	RMW
HtH 3.0	RMW
He Has Sent Me	RMW
Be With You	RMW
One Voice	RMW
How Many Kings?	M. Martel / RMW
Still Good News	RMW

"thriving community at Christmas". For the Spring production, we explored and rejected several creative show concepts before landing on the theme of "Gather Round", the idea that we each can find a place at the 'table' of HtH regardless of where we are in the justice journey. I refer you to Becky's [Production report](#) for more detail.

RECORDING

My hope and plan this season was to get the machine started on some regular professional-level recording of HtH repertoire, with a view to improving our online communication, giving us better tools to attract new HtHers and get us closer to achieving our 5 year goal of expanding ensemble numbers and locations. I put a lot of time into thinking about the process, but failed to lead the choir to actually execute on recording anything, apart from simple live recordings at our mainstage shows.

In January I held a meeting about HtH recording with an open invitation to any participant to join; Shaun was the only one who attended; he has some past experience and training in pro-audio recording. Unfortunately, I was not able to put his skills to work, distracted by other priorities.

It is heartening, however, that our board has recently approved funding support for recording and communications in the 2018-19 budget.

COMMUNICATIONS

Much creative effort was devoted this season to developing and improving our organization's communications, particularly to external stakeholders. A Communications Team was formed, consisting initially of Katie Pearn, Sebastian Dykstra, Hannah Gaunt, Rick Erlendson (HtH Board Director), and me. The team was led by Katie. Our initial priorities were to update a HtH Friends database, begin sending out e-mail newsletters monthly, and re-launch our organization's website. Once we decided to pursue the Seek Justice Summit initiative, however, our priorities shifted to the communication and promotion needs for the conference. I refer you to Katie's [Communications report](#) for more detail.

MAINSTAGE PRODUCTIONS

It was a pleasure to co-produce the Christmas and Spring productions again this season with Becky. Our Christmas production "No Crib for a Bed" featured an idea from Becky to do a show reminiscent of the late Stuart McLean's Vinyl Cafe. Instead of stories about "Dave and Morley", however, we invited HtHers to write short stories on the theme of

SQUASH INJUSTICE

In 2013, some guys I regularly play squash with planned a fun tournament, and raised some money in support of International Justice Mission. Many of the players were HtH connections. I organized another tournament this year, which took place April 21st at U of C. This time we split the funds raised between IJM and HART.

Although this was not an official HtH event, much of the success of this event came again through HtH connections, including several players and supporters. At least 12 players and volunteers were direct HtH connections, which did give the impression to many this was an HtH event.



CREATIVE GIGS

An interesting highlight of early February was HtH being a participating choir in a pair of concerts called "Building Sacred Bridges". This was a multi-choir, multi-faith event in support of Habitat for Humanity. As I understand it, the event was either birthed from or inspired by a movement called the Calgary Interfaith Council and was led by musician leaders from a local Jewish synagogue and a local Mormon church. HtH's contribution to the concert was very well received, and I expect we will be invited back next year, should they hold the event again.

Our executive director, Beth, was honored by CTV as an "Inspired Albertan" for having founded HtH! This well-deserved honour involved Beth being interviewed by Darrel Janz on camera at one of our mass choir rehearsals.

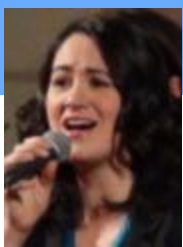
Another unique gig opportunity that came up after the Spring show came from enrolling HtH in a competition to vie for a performance spot at the No Greater Love music festival. Part of the competition involved getting our family and friends to vote for HtH online. This turned out to be an interesting test of our Friends of HtH. With their help, we did manage to make it into the Top 10, and shared a stage with nine other excellent Canadian Christian artists and bands. Who knows what might come from these new connections...

FINAL THOUGHTS

As our 9th season draws to a close, I look back on a season with many creative achievements and disappointments. I'm glad for the progress we made in the Composers Guild, in our external communications, in developing authentic spring and Christmas show concepts. I'm disappointed we made very little progress in plans to do audio and video recording, and that we failed to launch an updated HtH website.

At the moment, I find it very hard to see at how we are any closer to our 5-year goal of expanding HtH to other cities. I am grateful, however, to God for the opportunity to still be in creative community. ●●●





PRODUCER REPORT Becky Timmons

learned, and to share about the important work of other organizations around the world. This year we had 3 practicing ensembles who came together throughout the year to perform as one group.

Over the course of this season HtH held with 2 major productions and the first ever Seek Justice Summit with the entire community as well as 15 performance ensemble gigs at various other events including on air with CTV, an interfaith fundraiser and one church service. The major productions challenged our capacity and ability but also allowed us to invite everyone in the community into production roles. The 3 larger productions were our 6th annual No Crib for a Bed Christmas show, the Seek Justice Summit, and finally our annual spring performance which we called "Gather Round".

For these major productions we followed a process similar to previous productions where we sought to determine answers for the following questions:

1. Who is our target audience?
2. What do we want the audience to know?
3. What do we want the audience to feel?
4. What do we want the audience to do?
5. What do we want the audience to see from us?

These questions help provide us with a strategic framework from which all the other elements are placed, this is the foundation of the concert. In order to put together a production in HtH we typically pull together a Strategic team, a Creative team and an Execution team who play different roles throughout the process. The Strategic team seeks to answer the know, feel, do questions, while the Creative team puts together a script, setlist and staging, and finally the Execution team pulls all of the final elements together and handles many of the logistics around performance day. It has been inspiring to see the number of participants over the years who have stepped up to fill various roles and take lead of these teams and this year was no exception. This year we had 100% of participants fill leadership roles and step into various task areas where they could use their strengths.

The 6th annual "No Crib for a Bed" welcomed a new venue for our Christmas show, Dalhousie Community Church. We were delighted to work with them for our 2017 Spring show and due to change of agreement with First Baptist Church, we were eager to extend our relationship with Dalhousie Community Church.

The Christmas concert itself was based around the repertoire we had gathered over the first term and the theme "what does a thriving community look like at Christmas?" We mined our participants for short stories and presented them in a "Vinyl Cafe" style with Peter Vooys as our Stuart McLean. The result was a balanced concert with laughter, tears and thoughtful moments. This was truly a wonderful show that was brought together through the Spirit of God!

We have been blessed in HtH to have participants who are vulnerable and authentic in sharing their journey with others. They clearly exhibit the values of humility and courage. It is beautiful to see those participants and leaders model an authentic, Spirit led life that is worth following and replicating. The fruit of this concert impacted our community and thereby shaped our concept for the spring show.

There have been so many great performances in the 2017-2018 HtH season. As in the past, these performances provided great opportunity to share with our audiences what we have



After Christmas and the Seek Justice Summit we turned our attention to the spring show. This year the strategic process took much longer than usual. There were several major questions raised during our meetings and it took a significant amount of discerning and prayer to sort through. In the end, our strategic team settled on the following production goals:

Who: Creative young adults who want to change the world and want to connect with similarly minded people

Feel: Encouraged

Know: God calls us uniquely into the work of impacting culture through fighting for justice. We are individually in different phases (encounter, explore, engage) but we need a thriving community to encourage us along the whole journey

Do: Time of self-reflection must lead to action. Have foyer setup with tables of next steps for encounter, explore, engage

See: A courageous community where members are engaging fully in their step of the justice journey

From that point, we then turned it over to the creative team who worked briskly to determine a creative concept, title and relevant image. We also used our lead team to flush out some of the other creative elements including the 3 videos that we used and the 3 justice journey testimonies. A key concept that was affirmed at Christmas and employed for spring show was the use of authentic stories. People really appreciated the vulnerability and humility that was exhibited by our HtH participants when they shared from their own lives.

Using a detailed survey, we were able to involve every participant of HtH in the execution of the Spring show and we had 2 team leaders who were brand new to HtH this year! Vicki Wik was one of the key leaders in the productions this year and here is a bit of her experience:



In Harmony through Harmony we have developed a culture where everyone pitches in and contributes when putting on our main productions. There are many advantages to this approach, but the ones that stand out the most to me is that we are able to develop and use our unique gifts and passions, and serve in areas that interest us. I have also found that even in the act of serving, I too end up being immensely blessed through my involvement! This past year I was grateful to be part of the production of both the Christmas and Spring concerts.

I have always loved to write and share my insights with others, and appreciate the

way HtH encourages vulnerability. For the Christmas concert we were invited to share a story of a favourite Christmas memory. I decided to share some stories about my Mom, and explain how Christmas hasn't been the same since she was diagnosed with dementia five years ago. I was glad to be able to honor her in this way, and recall with fondness the role she played in shaping all the Christmas' of my childhood. I had no way of knowing that in a few short weeks following the concert, on December 27, 2017, my mom would pass away. I then realized that the writing of my memories for the concert had been a therapeutic part of me being able to say goodbye, which only God knew I needed.

My role in the Spring show was a little less personal, but no less impactful. I was on a small team of individuals that sought to establish what we wanted the show to be about. It ended up being a somewhat slow, and faith-building process. A couple weeks before the concert was scheduled we still hadn't come up with our key themes, and decided we needed to pray for guidance, and even against any spiritual warfare that may be happening! Well God answered our prayers because it all came together, and the theme 'Gather Round' seemed to fit our year perfectly. I learned that sometimes God just wants us to trust Him and spend time with Him so we can receive the clarity that we need in our lives.

- Vicki Wik, Year 4

Each year my hope is that we create impacting productions that help the participants process and share what they have learned and at the same time challenging the audience to take another step toward justice. This is a tall order and often the outcomes are difficult to measure, but this spring as I stood at the door and said goodnight to the concert attendees, people were genuinely grateful for the concert and for the opportunity to reflect on their own journey. ●●●



COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Katie Pearn

The 2017-18 season has been a year of courage, growth and learning in the area of communications. Our team,

which met for the first time in January, has ventured into new-to-us territory, taken some risks and implemented some systems that have proven to be effective and helpful.

It's interesting and encouraging to look back on the minutes from our first meeting to see the priority areas we identified, and how we have made strides in each area since January. I will outline the progress of these four priority areas in the remainder of this report.

Update database of HtH friends/Stakeholders

We identified this as our top priority area, as we all agreed that our low-hanging fruit is our loyal fan base (primarily friends and family), and we desperately needed to aggregate their contact information into a database. This would allow us to send emails or do mailouts or other promotional and relational material and target our messages to this incredibly important group of people.

We asked our members several times (face-to-face, email and Facebook) to forward contact information to our team, but with little success. We will need to strengthen the messaging around why this is important and help our members understand that they can trust us with their loved ones, and would never spam or send messages out carelessly. We did still manage to consolidate the list of contacts to a single electronic list, which was definitely progress that we will build upon.

Website overhaul

We also all agreed that it was definitely time for a website redesign, and Reid graciously began researching platforms and working on a draft. This work became stalled with the planning and execution of the Seek Justice Summit (which began in February). While the schedule may have changed, this work is still very much on the radar and we hope to have something before the beginning of the 2018/19 season.

Creation of an email newsletter

The idea here was that once we had our database, we could begin sending out monthly email newsletters to our stakeholders. Reid set up the infrastructure and we sent out six emails. I still need to review the analytics and refine our process (have an editorial calendar, regular features etc.) but getting this off the ground is a very big accomplishment this year.

Promotion of HtH beyond our existing HtH friends

This area was one of significant growth for us this year. We were able to receive a lot of free publicity and ventured into the world of paid advertising as well, thanks to a generous donation. This season we appeared on CTV (Christmas caroling to promote the Steve Bell concert, Inspired Albertan segment, and their website), City Light News (Feature before our spring concert as well as a feature after our Seek Justice Summit), and we embarked on a paid advertising campaign with Shine FM and Facebook ads. We appeared in church bulletins, and in a Rotary mailout (specifically for the movie screening portion of the Summit) and IJM and the YYC Church Agency Collective email blasts. While it is difficult to measure the success of this exposure, we have some anecdotal evidence that they brought in people who have no relational connection to HtH, which is exciting.

Seek Justice Summit

As mentioned previously, the Seek Justice Summit ended up taking up a large amount of time and resources from the communications team. It was really edifying for the team to rally around a project as robust as this. Thanks to a generous donation towards our advertising costs, we were able to take out a full-page advertisement in City Light, and purchased a radio ad package with Shine FM. We also created a logo, built the summit website, created the Facebook ad and event, and sent out a several email newsletters, encouraged our participants to promote and posted it in media calendars. This was definitely the most concerted effort we have made to promote an HtH event (and the most we have spent). It was also a risk/exercise in trusting God that He would bring whoever needed to be there.

After all our efforts, it was somewhat disappointing to have had a relatively small turnout; however, this was the first time we have attracted people who have zero relational connection to HtH, and everyone with whom we talked said they were really glad they came. The low turnout also hit home for our participants, and brought a valuable piece of insight to the fore. We now understand that our participants may be more reluctant to invite people to events (concerts or otherwise) that they do not really know what the finished product will be (in other words, what they are actually inviting people to). We have taken this feedback into account in our spring concert communications, and have endeavoured to keep our participants informed from concept to final script so they can feel excited and confident about the finished product.

I was also informed by our advertising representative at Shine FM, that typically in the first year of an event, advertising dollars don't result in increased attendance, but rather, they legitimize the event and create brand awareness, which leads to increased attendance in future years.





Spring Show Promotion

While the Seek Justice Summit in the month of March turned our communications efforts to the external in some new ways, April and May brought a renewed focus on internal communications.

We learned from the Summit that if we didn't properly communicate to our own people what we were doing and why, the buy-in and enthusiasm for the event would be low. We've learned that people need to feel like they know what they are inviting people to before they take the step to ask, so we decided to try a slightly different approach to our spring show process.

In what turned out to be our last Communications meeting of the season, we decided to engage our members throughout the whole production process. This didn't mean that everyone was involved in every decision, but rather that we asked for input at specific points in the process, and committed to keeping people informed throughout the process. This was done by getting face-to-face group feedback, and also the creation of a survey asking participants for their input on the show's concept and theme (letting them know that the decision still rested with the strategic and creative teams, but that input would be considered during decision making).

What resulted was very encouraging, as we have heard from many participants that they believed the show reflected their journey this year and that they felt comfortable inviting people to the show.

We also put significant effort into promoting the spring show following the work-back schedule that was created by the communications team for event promotion purposes. This includes things like event calendars, social media, website updates, press releases etc.

We did not have a budget for marketing for the spring show, so we mainly relied on free outlets and word of mouth (this included setting individual and ensemble goals for ticket sales, City Light News, CTV, HtH Facebook, website and online newsletter).

Our turnout was fairly consistent with previous years, which suggests we may need to begin educating our people about promotion even earlier. We also did not put on a second show because of lack of buy in from the group. I don't believe we had properly considered the need for strategic internal communications around this, but it surfaced a need for us to make the case for a spring show with the whole group well before the first show is over.

Over the summer, we will be working on completing the new website, and fleshing out some strategies around leveraging our existing relationships with churches. ●●●



ENSEMBLE 4007 REPORT

John Vooys

The 2017-2018 year was a good one for ensemble 4007. Instead of describing our year chronologically, I have described how we lived up to (or failed to live up to) our mission and vision statements.

BUILD COMMUNITY

The formation of our ensemble into a true community was my favourite part of the year, and a definite success. There were friendships formed between individuals in the group, and a sense of group identity as well. Some examples of this:

- Attendance each week, and attendance at the two workshops. In spite of heavy class schedules for various members (Trent in particular), there were few absences throughout the year. I believe the entire ensemble was present at the Pioneer and Kingsfold workshops, too.
- Tuesday night end times. Though it was a school night, and we officially finished at 9, people would consistently stay at the house until about 9:30 or so.
- Caleb and Tim as the unofficial "huggers". Both made sure to welcome and say goodbye to each member, and often ensured that Carrie and Trent could not escape unnoticed
- Involvement in things outside of HtH. For example, I spent time with Kara and Katrina at Ambrose, and Caleb at family gatherings; Tim and Caleb were involved in the same youth group; Kelly and Jaymie would hang out together, and chat before rehearsals
- Discussions of curriculum. There are several strong personalities in our ensemble, and people were willing to disagree on things; however, there were few moments of genuine friction (perhaps none?)
- The baby shower we threw for Kelly. In Tim's words, "Everyone participated, and it was evident that we were all friends"

Two areas of concern – first, though our ensemble community was strong, members said that they also wanted to get to know people from the other ensembles, and that there wasn't sufficient time to do so. This is an important consideration – if we are to be a network of singing ensembles, what level of interaction is there between the different groups? Should there be more? Second, meeting more often as friends outside of Tuesday night would be a great way to build community. This may not be possible given our busy schedules, but it is worth doing. Ensemble rehearsals only have so much time for group fun or conversation

EXPAND WORLDVIEWS

This was also a strong part of our year – several members of the ensemble noted how their worldviews had expanded in HtH. Our curriculum study was the book "Overrated," by Eugene Cho. Though this led to some good discussion, I believe that other activities throughout the year played a larger role in expanding our worldviews. A few examples of these other activities:

- The Building Sacred Bridges gigs. These were an opportunity to learn more about other faiths, and the ensemble members who attended found them very interesting. We had a good discussion about the message of unity that the event promoted – how parts of it were good, but it seemed to fall short – and about the lyrics of some of the other songs that were sung there. This gave us a chance to reflect on what we believed as Christians.
- Tim spoke of how being part of HtH expanded his understanding of prayer and Christian worship. This was particularly through connections to Ambrose chapels and events, as well as some prayer ideas I brought into our curriculum. He also found the Seek



Justice Summit very valuable, and the speaker from CHILL who joined us after a group rehearsal - Caleb mentioned that learning about different aspects of justice was valuable for him - particularly hearing about money from Beth, and business from Angie Redecopp at the Seek Justice Summit.

Some curriculum activities that have been suggested for next year - a justice-focused Bible study, a research project, and collaborations with Ambrose missions and social justice organizations. I believe that, in addition to having "expanded worldviews", members of our ensemble are looking to integrate the different pieces of their worldviews - to see how faith, music, community, and justice can come together.

DEVELOP LEADERS

This year was a good one for our ensemble in the area of leadership development. Though Kelly and I had helped lead the ensemble the previous year, this was our first time doing so without an older HtH leader present at rehearsals. Even so, what was most apparent to me was not our own leadership, but that of our ensemble members. Kara and Katrina both led vocal warm-ups throughout the year, and Katrina spent time conducting the ensemble - at first simply teaching her own song, "What Do You Hear?", but later spending time directing other songs as well. She is well-respected by the rest of the ensemble (and the other ensembles), and has grown significantly as a conductor.

Other examples of formal leadership development were Caleb taking on the role of cook coordinator, Tim leading a curriculum discussion one week, and Jaymie officially becoming the music librarian for next year. Though these could be merely task assignments, they do fit with the personalities of the people doing them.



My worldview has shifted since joining 4007. I came into this group thinking that to be a passionate Christian, you had to be a bit removed from reality, and a little bit square...and that's what I was expecting in the other members. The young Christians I had in my life so far I had categorized into two categories; the passionate yet out of the world sort, and the apathetic but socially acceptable sort. Meeting the people in HtH turned this system on its head. It's a fine line that Christians walk, being in the world but not of the world. I didn't believe it could be done, but my friends in 4007 seem to have mastered it, and I now consider them some of my closest friends.

- Donna Kroeker, Year 1

Beyond the formal, there were also many moments of leadership shown by people in our group. Caleb and Tim both demonstrated relational leadership in the ensemble and in group rehearsals, making sure to welcome and say goodbye to everyone, or at least as many as they can catch before leaving. Kara and Katrina have been working to get HtH connected to Ambrose, and we performed Katrina's song at a research conference there in April. Tim and Donna took on the responsibility of planning our ensemble fun night (Kelly's baby shower). I see our role as increasingly being about creating space for our ensemble members to lead, and only formally leading in a few key areas.

IMPACT CULTURE

This was an area where our progress wasn't so obvious. In one sense, we clearly impacted the culture of our small group, and the individuals in our group impacted culture by being who they are. We also knew that our message could have an impact on our audiences; however, we weren't always sure if it did, or to what extent. This is an area where we may not be as strong yet.

A few examples of where we did see that our choir had impacted culture, however:

- Caleb noted that through prayer, we do impact culture. Our focus on prayer has been good, and the Seek Justice prayer session with Mark Wollenberg was a very good example of this
- Tim met a few girls at the Seek Justice Summit who had learned about it through a Shine FM advertisement.
- Jaymie mentioned that her brother was impacted by our spring concert; our message that women and children aren't objects clashed with what some of his friends seem to think

FIGHT FOR JUSTICE

Like "Impact Culture," this was an area where progress was difficult to assess. The appetite to be involved in fighting for justice is certainly present in our ensemble. Kelly, in writing about Donna - "Donna described her



year in HtH as one that helped light the fire and keep it going in her pursuit for justice for abused women. She is seriously considering pursuing law in human rights after her current degree. She learned that it was very important to have a like-minded community surrounding her in order to keep fanning this fire."

Both Tim and Caleb want to be more involved in fighting for justice through some kind of frontline work – something like Katie and Gina's experience at The Walk, which we heard about at the Spring Concert. Likewise, Kara and Katrina have both wanted to see HtH involved with the missions and social justice organizations at Ambrose.

In the sense that fighting for justice means going out and fighting injustice directly, our ensemble has not done much this year. Perhaps our involvement in helping pack Christmas gift boxes with HART, and Katrina and I being part of the Squash Injustice Tournament would count. However, in the sense that fighting for justice also includes developing a commitment to justice, and an understanding of how we can be involved, I think that we were successful.

THRIVING COMMUNITIES

As can be particularly seen in the "Build Community", "Expand Worldviews", and "Develop Leaders" sections, our ensemble has lived up to HtH's vision statement – we have definitely become a real community where the members have attended to their identity and purpose. I believe the next step is to become more self-sustaining – though we have a distinct identity as an ensemble, we need to be able to generate our own gigs and perform without requiring singers from the other ensembles.

Before a performance, we took time to explore the organization we would be partnering with. Members really enjoyed gaining context to the organizations that we were going to be working with, and appreciated that knowledge ahead of time. We heard several comments around increased engagement and level of caring about the people at the gigs. There is an increased understanding of our role in awareness and using our gifts and talents in the fight for justice.

A new tool we implemented this year was performance evaluations. The next rehearsal after a performance, we spent time evaluating how we did, sharing areas of improvement and celebrating when we saw improvement. This took courage to speak the truth, humility to hear it, and ownership to improve on everyone's part. It was well received and contributed to the success we felt throughout the year.

Our final spring concert had high engagement from members in our ensemble. It was a change in dynamics as we joined with Arbour Lake ensemble almost every week in order to prepare together for this production. This was challenging to let go of the close-knit feel we had become accustomed to during rehearsals, but the challenge of producing an excellent show was exciting. The eagerness to engage was infectious and Ensemble 4007 members tried new roles and took on new responsibilities. This is very encouraging to see fresh energy and passion around our productions. It was a good place to end off the season and will hopefully provide momentum through to the next as young and new members become older and experienced. ●●●

Ensemble ARBOUR LAKE REPORT Katie Pearn



The Arbour Lake Harmony through Harmony group was a pilot project for the 2017-18 season. It was

primarily made up of individuals who are in the busy season of raising a young family and also includes those who are busy with their professions and are more limited as to the time commitment they can give. Many members have previously been involved in HtH for numerous years and have been committed to the organization's standards and goals. The ensemble consisted of Katie Pearn, Stacey Tweedle, Becky Timmons, Peter Vooy's (who all began in 2009), Vicki Wik (2012), Gina Bestard (2013), Hannah Gaunt and Curtis Bestard (2014).

At the beginning of the year, these participants met to discuss the goals of the group and openly dialogue about what we wanted the group to look like, while still ensuring that the purposes and goals of Harmony through Harmony were upheld. There was some uncertainty as to how it would all work, but members chose to take on a flexible attitude and experiment a bit to see.

Practically, we decided to shorten the time we meet from the regular 6-9pm to 7:30-9:30pm, which allowed many of us to care for and put our young children to bed before coming. We share dessert together over our leadership/learning conversations and then practice music for approximately an hour and 15 minutes. Our goal was to prepare for the Christmas and Spring concerts and any other gigs that one did would be based on whether they wanted to and could commit that time, but would not be mandatory. We also hoped to do some form of outreach together, and to have opportunities to have gatherings with our entire families. Looking back over the last year, it is encouraging to see how many of the initial hopes we had for the ensemble were realized.

BUILD COMMUNITY

Ensemble Arbour Lake primarily built community through weekly gatherings, learning music together, discussing our book study questions and sharing desserts and tea. Because of the overall level of maturity and existing familiarity in the group, discussions were rich, people were appropriately vulnerable and we hold each other to account for learning music and assigned readings.

Additionally, we experienced both death and new life in our group, which provided opportunities to walk alongside, cook meals and support one another. We also held three family potluck gatherings where members brought their spouses and children. Our ensemble may have been small, but there was genuine care for our participants and their families, which has been a joy to experience.

FIGHT FOR JUSTICE / EXPAND WORLDVIEWS

One of the most encouraging and inspiring moments was something that happened in our ensemble on Good Friday of this year. Before Christmas, we had been challenged by an IJM video to go out of our comfort zones to help the marginalized in our society. We had discussed the possibility of going out with "The Walk", an organization that ministers to women being sexually exploited on Calgary's streets and in massage parlours across the city. They had a stroll scheduled on Good Friday and all but two members of our ensemble came out for training and to walk the



streets. We were all nervous and a bit afraid, but as I scanned the faces of our community, my heart beamed with gratitude. Together, we were able to conquer our fears and try something bold for the kingdom. Together, we could enter those dark places that so often go unnoticed or forgotten. Together, we were able to take a big step in our respective justice journeys. It felt tangible, meaningful and significant. This is the kind of thing we want to keep doing – impacting culture through the fight for justice, in a thriving, courageous community.

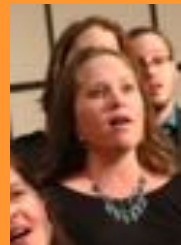
We also had the privilege of helping organize and attend the Seek Justice Summit, which expanded our worldviews through various speakers, the film “She Has a Name” and the prayer event.

DEVELOP LEADERS

Every member of Ensemble Arbour Lake took on significant leadership roles in the planning and execution of the Christmas production, Seek Justice Summit, as well as the spring concert. Many of us led teams (Gina led the prayer team, Curtis led the Execution team, Becky led production, Katie led communications), and others humbly lent their talents and time to the events (Stacey helped organize volunteers, Vicki, Gina and Katie wrote and spoke, Peter worked with the speakers). In addition, several of our members were also part of multiple teams, apart from the ones they were leading. It is amazing to see that even though time is stretched for our members, most of whom have young families and busy jobs, that everyone stepped up beyond what was expected and led while embodying HtH's core values.

Strengths/Opportunities:

- Our ensemble was comprised entirely of alumni, and HtH was already familiar to us, allowing us to go deep and share honestly. Everyone already had some background with music, some more extensive than others and we were mature enough to hold one another to account musically
- We were all in similar situations in terms of limited capacity at this point in time and all chose to be flexible because of that.
- We were already involved in praying for one another's needs. Our group had a real hunger to pray for spiritual breakthrough.
- We were all eager to serve in community together and ENGAGE on Social Justice issues we have learned about together.



This experience we had as a small HtH community to go and minister to broken women and pray for them with an organization called THE WALK broke

my heart more than merely hearing about it ever would have. Alone, I would never have stepped out; however, in community, I was encouraged to do so.

- Gina Bestard, Year 3

Weaknesses/Threats:

- We wanted to be flexible, yet it was a challenge to find a balance with our commitment. This was because we wanted to show understanding for one another in certain seasons or in certain situations, but we also realized there needed to be a certain level of commitment for community to be built. Without this weekly commitment and a time of connecting, the sense of a thriving community is threatened. Although we lovingly called ourselves, “HtH Lite”, we still wanted to be committed in order for our group to be excellent at meeting the standards that we have decided we are capable of achieving.
- When members don't show up for more than two weeks in a row, it is hard to catch up on content and, as a result, community with that person is naturally lost.
- We were a small group, which forced us to own our musical parts, but it also took us longer to learn the parts (even though we have less rehearsal time). We also didn't have an accompanist, so Becky had to pound notes, instead of conducting freely, which is really her strength. ●●●

Ensemble DALHOUSIE REPORT

Beth & Reid McLean Wiest

created around family meals. Hosting Ensemble Dalhousie was the first time Reid and I hosted an ensemble in our home. This was a delight to us and to our children who are now old enough to share in the hosting roles. They joined the ensemble for meals along with their babysitter, Leticia, the wife of one of our participants, Jon. Reid and I hadn't led an ensemble together since the first two years of HtH when there was only one ensemble.

Ensemble Dalhousie had the biggest age range of participants: age 25 – 40. The majority of our participants were single and in careers. Our ensemble had 10 participants: 4 newcomers, 2 who returned to HtH after a year sabbatical, and 4 returning singers. We had two additional participants who came irregularly in the fall, one who performed in the Christmas concert but did not return after Christmas.



Ensemble Dalhousie had a rough fall. Each rehearsal felt like a first rehearsal as we opted to allow people to check us out and consider joining. The combination of a steady flow of newcomers and irregular attendance made it difficult to find our groove, build trust and create routine. Unfortunately, only one of our women was able to attend the fall workshop resulting in the sopranos and altos being behind our basses and tenors. I abandoned our book study of *Overrated* until January as we needed the time to get to know one another and to catch up on music. The men were patient and we all persevered but it was tough. After the Christmas concert and changing our rehearsal start time to start 15 minutes later, we finally began to gel.

The focus of discussion in this ensemble ended up being around the book *Encouraging the Heart* by Kouzes and Posner. The book was easy to read in rehearsal if participants hadn't done their homework- which was generally



about half the group. We discussed leadership content through the lens of case scenarios in HtH and examples from the lives of the participants.

Each participant seemed to be going through an unusually intense year. HtH was a high priority, however, commitment and effort often needed to be sacrificed due to the demands of other deadlines and responsibilities. The commonality of the need for grace and understanding ended up bonding the ensemble. By the spring, many of the participants were sharing prayer requests for their personal lives on a fairly regular basis.

Participation in the preparation and execution of Seek Justice Summit and then the Spring Production ended up being two projects where individuals could apply both their talents and the ideas in *Encouraging the Heart*. It was in working alongside one another that the friendships began. It became evident this group wanted to serve the HtH network.

COMBINED REHEARSALS

I (Reid) will make a few comments here too about our combined HtH mass rehearsals. Roughly once a month, we bring all ensembles together as one mass choir to rehearse, learn from speakers, and connect the larger community of HtH. While Ensemble 4007 developed a unique sense of community this season, Ensembles Dalhousie and Arbour Lake took longer to gel together, and as a result, the mass rehearsals were critically important for participant engagement and organizational health.

We are very grateful to Jon & Stacey Tweedle, pastor Jacob George, CHILL representative Carissa Lawton for blessing HtH with their stories, insights, and wisdom! We are also grateful to Heritage Christian Academy (via Torri Airhart), Rundle College (via Tara Lavender), and Renfrew Baptist Church (via Trent McDowell) for free use of their space for HtH combined rehearsals this season.

Combined rehearsals suffered a bit this year due to the three different ensembles' usual start and end times; it was difficult to get all HtH participants in the same room at the same time. Historically, we also have not eaten together at combined rehearsals, due to the larger group size and the challenge of serving a meal to everyone in a non-home-based location. Feedback from several participants reflected the desire of many to figure out a creative solution going forward, so we can continue the core activity of eating together, a key means of building community particularly across ensembles. (One suggestion involves bringing a few blenders with ingredients for smoothies; we'll have to look into this good idea!)

Because of facility changes and availability, our usual combined rehearsal location of Heritage Christian Academy was inconsistent this season. In one case, we combined everyone at 4007's location, which was cozy, but not a great long-term location for the larger group. It's clear a consistent location for mass rehearsals is important for logistics, for community health, and participant stress levels. ●●●





INTERNSHIP REPORT

Beth McLean Wiest

In March 2017, Sarah Vooyo approached me with the idea of doing a Summer 2017 internship with HtH.

Sarah began in HtH in 2010 and was in her final year of her Masters of Philosophy at the University of Calgary. The U of C was doing an internship program to help Master's students gain work experience. I appreciated Sarah's initiative and desire to help move HtH forward while gaining work experience in her field.

The HtH Board and I then explored what project areas would significantly move HtH forward. We identified two key areas: research and analysis. Specifically, we needed projects resulting in proposals for technical infrastructure, retention of participants, communications, ensemble multiplication, compensation, and a financial model. If these areas received greater focus, we would be better prepared to move toward our five-year expansion goals. Individuals who worked on these projects needed to be highly self-motivated as the work would be done predominantly independently. In the end, we created project descriptions for seven projects and presented them to the leadership team for consideration.

Examining HtH through the lens of projects was a very helpful exercise. I found it opened my eyes to a way of approaching one stage of our leadership development: the stage of exploring HtH at greater depth while applying one's knowledge and experience to HtH. A short-term project gives both parties, the intern and HtH, an opportunity to grow without a long-term commitment.

Having never done an internship approach in HtH previously, the summer was a steep learning curve for me. I knew what work needed to be done, however, I underestimated how long it would take to accomplish the work, which projects could be done simultaneously, the supervision required and the end point of a project. The internships did move HtH forward. Four of the HtH leaders committed to step into internships. Of these four individuals, two completed the work they set out to do.





Sarah Vooys went through every file and document in HtH and sorted them into a system to be used by ensemble leaders. She wrote the year-end survey, reviewed the results and compiled the annual report. She rearranged the physical space of “HtH Central”, the space where HtH has office space, keeps music files and holds performance materials and sorted books into a useable library. She researched online filing systems, Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation, and donor tracking. Throughout these tasks, Sarah looked critically and philosophically at what HtH was teaching and using as resources, testing out methods for keeping information and mapping the flow of communicating information within the network.

Sarah and Christina Pitre reviewed the Learning and Serving Trip forms and handbook and updated them for the Ukraine trip. Together, they planned and executed the pre-trip training sessions and then led the team to Ukraine. In Ukraine, they liaised with H.A.R.T. staff, held team debriefs and shepherded the team. Post-trip, Sarah and Christina planned team debriefs and the presentation to the HtH community. Greg Grunau facilitated a debrief of their leadership experience. The recommendation is HtH return to Ukraine in the future. ([See Ukraine Report](#))

Sarah estimated her time was spent 50% physical file sorting / arranging HtH space, 25% Ukraine Learning and Serving trip planning and preparation, 15% Annual report preparation, 10% research for system options. Sarah accomplished more than I had anticipated overlapping research and analysis of various aspects of HtH. Her assertive and independent nature was such a gift. She was confident in her knowledge of what she could bring to HtH and was eager to experiment with ideas that would strengthen HtH. Her enthusiasm to deepen her understanding of our operations resulted in very thorough research that will be invaluable to us in the future. She was creative, thoughtful, efficient and determined. Remarkably, Sarah invoiced HtH for \$2,000 for her internship, requesting additional funds be given to Christina for her work. Christina was given an honorarium of \$1,500. HtH is very grateful for Sarah’s generosity and this example of building community.

Kelly Guenter has volunteered as HtH Bookkeeper for the last two fiscal years. We are very grateful for her service and generosity. Kelly has faithfully prepared our financial quarterly reports. Kelly began work on the compensation and financial model projects, however, Kelly was also a participant on the Ukraine trip and fundraising for Ukraine and then pregnancy reduced her capacity to complete these projects.

Over the summer, Katie Pearn began exploration of the Communications project, however, work on this project didn’t really begin until January 2018. The goal of the project was to identify whether HtH needed a communications director or not. At this time, the fund development needs of HtH overlap with communications needs: updating our donor database and creating a system to maintain it, developing systems for regular communication with external stakeholders, increasing our online presence and communicating stories of how HtH is staying mission true. Of the various internship projects, Communications is ongoing and has evolved into a role. ([See Communications Report](#)).

I suspect I learned more about myself and my leadership style than the interns learned from me. I learned I often need someone to bounce ideas off of, in particular to challenge my understanding of “why” behind decisions and “how” I or others perceive an action will move HtH forward. For example, I need to be questioned on “why are you saving this piece of paper?” as much as “why is that the priority right now?” Knowing we are doing the right things for the right reasons with the right people can ultimately save an organization money and morale.



I learned I place very high value on self-awareness, collaboration and accountability. I learned I most easily trust the effort being done when individuals regularly report on their progress and learning. I learned I underestimate my own knowledge and I fear failure more than embrace failure. I learned I invest heavily in the relationship with interns, passionately wanting them to succeed. When an intern struggles with circumstances outside my control, I struggle to know how to hold the individual to the work to be done. I learned having a pre-existing relationship is a tremendous asset to the internship experience. Very quickly, my dialogue with each of the interns was at a depth that demonstrated their capacity and competency to run with their ideas. This then allowed me to extend greater trust in all areas – in tasks, in working with others, in project management, in time management.

HtH is not doing internships in summer 2018. In order to fully embark on internships as a regular rhythm of HtH, there are human resources and compensation structures we need to put in place. I hope to resume project based internships as an ongoing part of HtH. Having interns with very specific areas of expertise studying and analyzing our network can result in an important scrutiny of the strengths and weaknesses of systems, personnel habits, plans and relationships. ●●●



Going forward I think that if HtH would like to have more interns in the near future they will need to cater to the individual. The internship I was on was very specific to me: I had access to a scholarship, am used to self-directed work due to my undergraduate and graduate theses, and I like pilot-projects. Beth was very flexible with time and gave me significant freedom throughout the summer. Because of these factors I think this internship was a success. Because of where HtH is as a network (re: size, income, etc.) I think future internships will be more successful if they are catered to the individual rather than creating an internship and finding someone to fill it.

That find-and-fill method could work in the future, but not until there have been more experimental internships. I am intrigued as to how HtH will manage fiscally with internships. Many internships or summer work-terms that I am aware of which are unpaid, fundraised or bursary-paid, have some incentive (ex. In an exotic country, extremely valuable job experience, many learning benefits etc.). For me leading a trip to Ukraine increased the appeal of the internship, because I was gaining valuable work and leadership experience while in another country. Going forward if HtH wants to have unpaid interns or fundraised positions I believe there will need to be some experiential incentive.

- Sarah Vooy, Year 8



UKRAINE TRIP 2017

HtH seeks to travel to developing nations and locations where your “traditional choir” wouldn’t usually go.

Traveling together is one of HtH’s core activities. Wherever we go, we want to create a win-win experience, where HtH is a blessing and adds value by our presence, and where we grow as individuals and as an organization. Mounting such trips is a challenging endeavor – we need a critical mass of available leaders and participants, we need to raise sufficient funds, and we need sufficiently developed relational connections at the destination to accommodate an HtH team. For these reasons and others, it was several years since our last Learning & Serving Trip, and so far, our only international trip so far had been to South Africa in 2011.

Learning & Serving Trip Objectives:

- To develop relationships
- To learn
- To serve
- To deepen faith, explore values

An exciting next chapter took place from August 15-27, 2017, when a HtH team embarked on a Learning & Serving Trip to Ukraine, out of our connection to the organization HART.

Reasons for travelling to Ukraine this season included many factors. Conversations between HtH participants and HART staff about a collaborative travel experience have been in the works for numerous years - particularly between Beth & Reid, and Kostya Voloshyn, the head of the Ukraine HART office. HART has spoken numerous times to HtH

participants as a part of the curriculum portion of our rehearsal evenings, and many people believed it was time for HtH to make the journey and experience the other side of this organization that we have interacted with and supported financially over the years.

The travelers included Christina Pitre and Sarah Vooys as first-time leaders of an International HtH trip, Reid McLean-Wiest as HtH staff support, and five participants: Thane McLean-Wiest, Tara Lavender, Kelly & Darrell Guenter, and Alex Gordon. Of the travelers, three are not participants in the regular HtH season; Alex is a close friend of Christina’s and has been a long-time supporter of HtH; Darrell is Kelly’s spouse; and Thane is son to Beth and Reid. Jaymie Schouten was scheduled to join us on our trip, but unfortunately had to cancel due to a family tragedy.

Prior to leaving, the team met for 5 pre-trip training sessions. At these meetings, we studied cultural differences, the history of Ukraine, units 1-5 in the book *Helping Without Hurting*, and team personality differences. Participants were to complete any homework prior to the meeting so that we could engage



immediately instead of working through the sessions as a team. Each meeting resembled HtH rehearsals - start with dinner and conversation, then transition into the “work” of the evening, end with dessert.

The total cost of the trip came to \$21,876.67 which was fundraised as a team prior to departing. The main stressor for the majority of individuals on this particular team was the element of finances, and the journey of trusting God's provision and presence was rewarding to be on together. (This sum was an ‘in-and-out’ expense (through HART), which is why it doesn't appear as a line item in our 2017-18 financials)



The summarized itinerary of this 10-day trip was as follows:

- We served as part of the volunteer leadership team at a summer camp for teenagers from the city of Lutsk, many of whom are children in HART's sponsorship program
- We met several of the staff from the HART office in Lviv, who administer HART's child sponsorship and education fund programs. We heard many stories of children and families positively impacted by these programs.
- We met one of the Ukrainian pastors that HART supports. Pastor Gennady lives near and ministers to people at the war front between Ukrainians and pro-Russian armed forces near Ukraine's eastern border. He and his wife traveled over 20 hours by train just to have the opportunity to share their story with our team!
- We traveled to a gypsy village to meet another HART-supported pastor and his family. The gypsies are a disenfranchised people group, scattered all over eastern Europe, descended from Indian immigrants. If the average (white) Ukrainian struggles with material poverty, the gypsies struggle even more.
- We traveled to the Carpathian Mountains area to meet a couple of families supported by the HART child sponsorship program, facilitated by their local case worker. HART staff asked our team to do a little bit of labour on one lady's property; painting a door and praying for her.
- While the rest of the team got to do a bit of tourism in Lviv, Reid had the opportunity to meet one of the children that he and Beth have sponsored through HART for the past few years.
- After leaving Ukraine, our team spent one day together in Brussels, Belgium. This experience of a modern cosmopolitan European city was a stark contrast to our experience of Ukraine.
- After Brussels, our team split up; a few returned home to Calgary, while the others either stayed longer in Brussels or did some additional touring in Europe.

Reid wrote a detailed day-by-day account of the Ukraine trip, which will be accessible through the Blog of our soon-to-be updated website.

Christina and Sarah were each requested to submit their own reports of how this trip was consistent with the pillars of our HtH mission statement.





Build community

Christina: We strengthened relational bonds between all of the travelers, began relationship with Ukrainian ministry leaders at Fimiam Church in Lutsk through our involvement at their summer camp for sponsor children, and interorganizational relationships were strengthened between HtH and HART, as well as the personal relationship between Reid and Kostya.

Sarah: HtH has taken the first step towards building community. If we return to the same locations, particularly the summer camp, we will build a much stronger community. While community has been built currently, there is great potential for future building.

Expand Worldviews

Christina: Our travellers had never been to Ukraine before. Learning a new language (Ukrainian), both spoken and sung. Wrestling with perceptions of the camp we worked at and the realities that all of those “seemingly well off” children were actually a part of HART’s sponsorship program. This expands people’s worldview around the notion of poverty. Working through the content in “Helping Without Hurting” pre and post trip training.

Sarah: Ukraine is an excellent country for expanding worldviews. The people of Ukraine share more cultural values with Canadians than many other countries we could visit, which allows the HtH travelers to connect more easily and understand more how poverty can look very different. The book we studied helped travelers recognize that there are different types of poverty.

Develop Leaders

Christina: Sarah and Christina were ‘flying the nest’ so to speak, to take the experience and strengths they had into a leadership abroad context. There were many moments on the trip that tested and tried our leadership in the form of patience, distraction, compassion, and understanding.

Sarah: Christina and I had an excellent opportunity to put our travel and leadership experience into practice. At one point we looked at each other and said “we were ready for this” but we would never have known this without the actual experience. Other members were able to test out what leadership looks like with a different language. Kelly was asked to advise Sasha the camp’s speaker, Darrell was a leader to his team of kids, Thane lead as a peer with the campers etc.



Impact Culture

Christina: The entire premise of going on a missions trip to “be with” rather than to “do for” is quite counter-cultural. There were moments where each person on our team wrestled with this in different ways, and ultimately I don’t think anyone left this trip without having their own personal concept of culture transformed in some way.

Sarah: This remains to be seen, but there is future opportunity to do so, similar to the “build community” section

Fight for Justice

Christina: The work HART does in Ukraine actively works to protect vulnerable people and to prevent children from entering the treacherous world of human trafficking. As a part of this trip, we got to see physical, tangible ways that donations through HART have impacted (and continue to impact) communities. We all learned details about the war currently happening in Ukraine.

Sarah: Many of our participants experienced a sense of powerlessness while in Ukraine, and came to a realization that we need to pray. I predict that prayer will be more heavily incorporated in the HtH mission to fight for justice partly due to this trip.

POST TRIP EVALUATION

Since the team returned from Ukraine, there have been some positive developments and some challenges. On the positive side, the team put together a ‘reporting back to supporters’ event at HART’s head office in Calgary, coinciding with a HtH gathering there to pack Christmas gift boxes. And after repeated invitations both during and after the trip, Alex joined HtH as a participant!

As far as challenges arising post-Ukraine, there were several. We had intention to meet as a team regularly after returning, but this did not happen. Sarah and Christina experienced interpersonal difficulties and reduced leadership capacity in the months following the trip. When we first decided to pursue a L&S Trip to Ukraine with HART, it was with the intention to send HtH teams there on a yearly basis, including 2018 and 2019. But this idea suffered in 2018 from a lack of leadership and lack of participant buy-in. We shall see what happens for 2019.

In our overall review of the Ukraine trip, we also concluded that before any international L&S Trips are planned in the future, there should be a ‘scouting’ trip by HtH leadership in advance of bringing an HtH team there. ●●●



WHAT'S NEXT?

The 2018-19 season will be our 10th season! Time to celebrate!

It is such fun to dream about how to share our joy at the journey of the past 9 years! We marvel at the growth as individuals and as a community. This will be the second year in our five-year goal to see another ensemble in another city in Alberta, in another province in Canada and in another nation. We want to keep HtH moving forward and also pause to remember God's goodness and faithfulness to us.

Here's a snap shot of some key events.

We look forward to welcoming back Torri Airhart to the leadership team, after his year's sabbatical from HtH. He will return again to the role of Principal Conductor.

HtH will have its Fall Workshop Weekend at Pioneer Lodge in Sundre, AB from Friday October 26th to Sunday October 28th, 2018.

On Saturday, November 10th, 2018, in partnership with Alberta Gospel Outreach, HtH will host **"Immeasurably More"** a fundraiser for our charity-agency agreement. This event will kick off the celebration of 10 years of God doing "immeasurably more than all we could ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3: 20-21).

The weekend of November 18th, 2018, HtH has been invited to Grand Prairie to perform. Discussions are in the works! Residents of Grand Prairie and 2nd year HtH participants Kara and Katrina Friesen, are eager to show off HtH. Kara and Katrina will both graduate in spring 2019. We are discussing what starting an HtH ensemble in Grand Prairie would entail. Please join us in praying for discernment and timing!

The HtH Board of Directors and HtH Leadership Team will head to King's Fold Retreat Centre for a workshop weekend November 23rd – 25th, 2018. This is an important time of connecting, visioning and planning together.

We will kick off the Christmas season with our 7th annual **"No Crib for a Bed"** Christmas concert in support of The Good Samaritans (<http://tgstt.org/>) HtH has performed at their annual Christmas Bake Auction every year. The concert will take place on the first Sunday of Advent, December 2nd, at Dalhousie Community Church. The Good Samaritans will have its 40th anniversary in 2019 – that is 40 years of Calgary donors providing significant funds for skills training in Tuticorin, in Tamil Nadu state, India. It is our hope to send a team to India in late August followed by a justice learning intensive in Kolkata with International Justice Mission, September 2-7, 2019.

We will end the Christmas season with **"Music for a Twelfth Night"**, a performance to raise funds for Investing Hope Foundation (<https://ca.opportunity.org/groups/ihf>). This concert will be on Sunday January 6th. Location to be determined. Investing Hope Foundation teaches very poor children and youth in Columbia financial literacy and entrepreneurship skills. We are excited to have two major Christmas performances



highlighting organizations focused on poverty alleviation through skill development and business skills. These skills are key in the prevention of sexual exploitation and greatly reduce the risk of women and children being trafficked.

HtH is pleased to host **Seek Justice Summit** again March 29-30, 2019. The Summit will be held at Centre Street Church West Campus and follow the same format of our pilot project: a film Friday night, an afternoon of A.C.T. Now learning sessions Saturday afternoon and "Praying for Justice" Saturday evening. As an effort to increase attendance at "Praying for Justice", HtH will be seeking churches to host "Praying for Justice" as part of their Sunday morning or evening service. HtH will serve the YYC Church Agency Collective to End Sexual Exploitation in Calgary by presenting "Praying for Justice" the evenings of November 8th and January 10th. The theme of Seek Justice Summit will be 'Justice Begins at Home'.

Amidst all of the performance opportunities, we will be recording for the first time! The majority of the work of a recording project is in the pre and post production stages. We are excited to see how God will use the recordings as we take this significant faith step. We are hopeful to have multiple songs recorded by the time of our Spring Concert in May 2019.

The work of HtH is not easy, the spiritual battle is constant and often very wearying. We take the battle as evidence we are doing something right! We desperately need prayer coverage and intercession. As we look to the next ten years, we want to increase the number of people in our praying community and our communication to this community. Significant effort this year will go into developing our communication strategies. We are so grateful for the faithful prayer partners, many of whom have been parents of HtH participants, who have supported us all these years. To God be the glory! ●●●



HtH 2017-18 Staff and Lead Team

Beth McLean Wiest: Executive Director
Becky Timmons: Producer
Reid McLean Wiest: Creative Director
Katie Pearn: Communications Director, Ensemble Arbour Lake Team Leader
Carrie Stoesz: Accompanist
John Vooy: Ensemble 4007 Director
Kelly Guenter: Ensemble 4007 Team Leader, Bookkeeper
Additional volunteer leads: **Christina Pitre, Sarah Vooy**
Torrance Airhart: Principal Conductor (on sabbatical)

Acknowledgments

Report Layout: **Reid McLean Wiest**
Photography: **Rick Erlendson**

HtH Board of Directors (as of May 2018)

Rick Erlendson: sessional lecturer, Mount Royal University
Greg Grunau: Pastor of Spiritual Development, Centre Street Church
Beth McLean Wiest: Teacher, HtH Executive Director
Kim Pangracs: Family Counselor, Grief Support Program, Alberta Health Services
John Pritchard: Pastor, The Edge home church network
Angie Redecopp: Associate Professor of Business & Development Studies, Ambrose University
Keith Weaver (chair): Chief Finance and Administrative Officer, MicroEnsure



Harmony through Harmony (HtH) began as a pilot project October 6th, 2009. The first HtH Board of Directors meeting occurred on June 30, 2010.

On October 25, 2010, HtH was issued its Letter Patent to become incorporated as “a corporation without share capital under part 2 of the Canada Corporations Act”. We received our documentation in January 2011. The HtH Corporation Number from Corporations Canada is 767251-9. The business number from Canada Revenue Agency is BN 83555 8115 RC0001. On August 19, 2014, HtH was issued its Certificate of Continuance under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act.

On May 30th, 2012, the HtH Board of Directors chose the HtH fiscal year to be June 1st to May 31st. This is the annual report for the year ending May 31st, 2018.

