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### **Chicago Children's Choir Expands Programs to Bucktown Community**

**CHICAGO**—Chicago Children's Choir (CCC) today announced the Bucktown community as the location for the organization's newest Neighborhood Choir. The new after-school program opens in September, with rehearsals taking place twice weekly at Moadon Kol Chadash, 2464 N. Clybourn Ave.

"Our launch in Bucktown is an incredible opportunity to strengthen our existing community connections and build on our mission to inspire and change lives through music," said President and Artistic Director Josephine Lee. "We're thrilled to bring our popular after-school programming to even more Chicago youth."

The new Bucktown Neighborhood Choir builds on CCC's existing strong school partnerships in the Bucktown community, through which the organization educates 200 students annually. The new program will be CCC's 11<sup>th</sup> neighborhood-based program in Chicago, the first of which was founded in 1956 in Hyde Park. These programs offer beginning and intermediate choral training during the after-school hours to young people ages 8-16.

Singers in the Neighborhood Choir program regularly participate in high-level performances across the city, including an array of special projects with peer arts organizations such as Lyric Opera of Chicago and Ravinia Festival. In addition to learning diverse repertoire, singers develop a sense of community pride and grow in their leadership skills, with music as their gateway to the world.

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Students in grades three and up are invited to join the Bucktown Neighborhood Choir. Auditions will be held on the following dates:

**Thursday, April 25, 2019**

7:00pm

Bucktown School Celebration

Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport.

*Auditions will take place following a performance by Bucktown-area In-School Program participants.*

**Monday, June 3, 2019**

4:30pm

New Singer Day

Moadon Kol Chadash, 2464 N. Clybourn Ave.

Students do not need to prepare for the audition and previous musical experience is not required. Learn more about audition opportunities at [ccchoir.org/join](http://ccchoir.org/join).

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**About Chicago Children's Choir**

Chicago Children's Choir (Josephine Lee, President and Artistic Director) is the nation's preeminent youth choral organization, serving over 5,000 students across the city of Chicago. Founded in Hyde Park in direct response to the Civil Rights Movement in 1956, CCC has grown from one choir into a vast network of in-school and after-school programs driven by one mission: to inspire and change lives through music.

CCC has impacted the lives of more than 50,000 diverse youth throughout its 62-year history. Since its founding, CCC has focused on building programs that reflect the racial and economic diversity of Chicago. Eighty percent of youth served are from low-moderate income homes, with over 4,000 students annually participating completely free of charge. All singers in CCC programs receive some level of subsidy. High school seniors enrolled in CCC have a 100% graduation and college acceptance rate, becoming global ambassadors who carry on CCC's core values in a wide array of professional fields.

For more information, visit [ccchoir.org](http://ccchoir.org).