

Luke McGinnis Artistic Bio

As an active musician in the Berklee community, I have had many amazing opportunities and experiences during my time in Boston. Most notable would be my performances with the Y Chromotones, an all male A Cappella group that I started here at Berklee. The Y Chromotones are a completely non-auditioned group, which I founded in hopes that it would give people a chance to sing in a low pressure environment, without having to worry about their experience or vocal ability. I think this is very important, as sometimes it's very difficult to get past the shyness of singing in front of people, especially if you don't have much experience. The Y Chromotones have around forty-five members, and only half are voice principals. Many people in the group have never sung before, and this is the first time they've ever seen choral music or been in a large ensemble like this.

What I am most proud of is the very high level of musicality that we have achieved. The singers in the Y Chromotones have come so far, and it's been really amazing to see how a lot of them have come out of their shells, stepping forward and giving input during rehearsals, and even arranging pieces for the group. We have performed three times in the Berklee Performance Center, including being invited to sing for the Spring '12 Convocation Concert. We perform regularly at practically every venue on Berklee Campus, and around Boston. We have traveled to New York for auditions, and have always gotten extremely positive feedback about our professionalism, full sound, and captivating arrangements.

As well as leading the Y Chromotones, I sang for a year in the Crepusculum Classical Choir, a student-run choir at Berklee. Last Fall, we sang with renowned composer and conductor Eric Whitacre, and traveled to New York to sing at the largest gothic cathedral in the world. I served as the Event Manager for Crepusculum, which was a rewarding experience.

I plan on working professionally as a choral arranger and conductor, so I am excited that I've had these experiences in school. In addition to my work at Berklee, I am also in an Atlanta-based folk-rock band (King Richard's Sunday Best), and play bass and sing for several groups around Boston.