The F. Melius Christiansen (FMC) Endowment Fund was established in 1996 by the American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota (ACDA-MN) to guarantee a vibrant future for choral music in the state of Minnesota. Its mission is to provide financial support to Minnesota choral directors for professional development and graduate education, to encourage young musicians in the state of Minnesota to pursue choral conducting as a career, to provide need-based financial support for students of ACDA-MN members who are selected for the ACDA-MN state honor choir program, and to provide financial support for administration of the FMC Endowment Fund Committee activities.

The endowment’s namesake, F. Melius Christiansen (1871-1955), was a Norwegian immigrant who is considered the ‘father’ of a cappella singing in North America. Christiansen founded the St. Olaf Choir in Northfield, Minnesota, and shaped it into arguably the best-known collegiate choir in the world. For nearly thirty years, he used an ethic of hard work to achieve perfect intonation, seamless ensemble blend, and crisp diction. The FMC Endowment Fund recognizes Christiansen’s inspirational contributions to the choral art that are still in evidence today.

Thanks to the generosity of people like you, we provided a record 51 people with $26,220 in scholarship awards from ACDA-MN’s FMC Endowment Fund in 2017. Included were awards in two new scholarship categories: one that honors the memory of a remarkable choral director and helps support women in this career, the Alice T. Larsen Memorial Scholarship, and a need-based scholarship fund for students of ACDA-MN members to participate in state honor choirs.

We are deeply grateful to members of ACDA-MN and other supporters of choral music whose faithful giving has allowed us to invest in the choral life of Minnesota through the FMC Endowment Fund. Scholarship descriptions and the 2017 recipients are listed on pages 4 and 5.

Your gift to the F. Melius Christiansen Endowment Fund supports choral music excellence in Minnesota today and in the future. ACDA of Minnesota is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization and all donations are tax-deductible. For more information or to make an on-line contribution, please visit: acda-mn.com or mail your contribution to:

FMC Endowment Fund
Bruce W. Becker, ACDA-MN Executive Director
13288 Downey Trail
Apple Valley, MN  55124
execdirector@acda-mn.org

We greatly appreciate your generosity and support. Thank you!
I got reacquainted with the basic reason as to why we sing, and it was a very valuable lesson for me to learn. It was amazing to speak with other teachers from around the nation. The sessions, concerts, friends, experiences and the materials learned will serve my teaching for the rest of my life. The scholarship award made this all possible for me... thank you!

*Jeremiah Krueger, St. Cloud State University National Conference Scholarship Recipient*

Receiving the Alice T. Larsen Memorial Scholarship helps to alleviate outside stressors and allows me to put my full focus into completing a DMA in Conducting. I hope that this special scholarship, given in memory of a pioneer in our profession, will continue to assist and empower young female conductors for generations to come.

*Amanda Weber, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities Alice T. Larsen Memorial Scholarship Recipient*

Since I stepped foot into my first choral classroom as a high school sophomore, I have been deeply passionate about two things, singing choral music and other cultures throughout the world. The collision of my two passions came together thanks to the FMC Endowment Fund that awarded me a scholarship to attend the 2017 IFCM World Choral Symposium in Spain. Thank you for the amazing confidence shown in me.

*Michele Hayes, Anoka High School World Choral Symposium Scholarship Recipient*

I would not have been able to attend had it not been for this scholarship help. It allowed me to pursue personal development as a student, which furthered my understanding and provided valuable connections to my coursework. Thank you for funding my professional development at ACDA.

*Emma Jirele, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities National Conference Scholarship Recipient*

It is a great privilege and honor to live in a state where the choral arts are strongly supported. I look forward to giving back to this incredible organization and I am grateful for the abundant opportunities for personal, professional and musical growth.

*Paige Armstrong, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities Graduate Scholarship Recipient*

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**2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

*for the year January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017*

| FMC Endowment Fund Balance as of December 31, 2016: $796,234 |
| FMC Endowment Fund Balance as of December 31, 2017: $885,895 |

**INCOME**

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<th>CONTRIBUTED</th>
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<td>Individual Donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation and Corporate Sponsorships</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>EARNED</th>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EARNED</strong></td>
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**TOTAL INCOME**

**$133,196.11**

**EXPENSE**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Operating Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment Fund Scholarships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Dialogue</td>
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<td>Student Conducting Workshop</td>
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<td>National Conference</td>
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<td>Graduate Study</td>
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<td>Honor Choir</td>
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<td>World Choral Symposium</td>
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<td><strong>Total Scholarships</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$40,111</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attending graduate school is an immense privilege. Without the support of organizations like ACDA-MN, I know that I might not have the opportunity to further my studies in vocal music education. Thank you for believing in me and helping to make my dreams a reality.

*Katelyn Larson, University of St. Thomas Graduate Scholarship Recipient*

This scholarship made it possible for me to connect with colleagues from around the state and listen to some wonderful interest sessions. Being new to the region, the opportunity to connect with other conductors was invaluable.

*Ahmed Ansaldua Et Samkary, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities Summer Dialogue Scholarship Recipient*

The ACDA National Conference has shaped and sharpened by dreams for the future, inspired my current teaching practice, and equipped me with invaluable tools to help my future students. Each session, concert and exhibit gave me new insight into what it means to be a great choral educator.

*Jaclyn Anderson, North Central University National Conference Scholarship Recipient*

Receiving this scholarship provided assistance to continue to learn and grow in my career. Learning many new skills and lessons that can be directly applied to my job was fantastic. It made a difference in my future as a choral director and music educator.

*Sarah Waller, Albany Area Public Schools Summer Dialogue Scholarship Recipient*
FMC ENDOWMENT FUND
SCHOLARSHIPS

ACDA-MN’s FMC Endowment Fund Committee awards scholarships annually to ACDA-MN members to attend ACDA division and national conferences, the Summer Dialogue professional development conference, and graduate school. Every three years an ACDA-MN member is awarded a scholarship to attend the World Symposium on Choral Music.

In addition, we now award the Alice T. Larsen Memorial Scholarship to an ACDA-MN woman conductor who is pursuing a graduate degree in choral conducting or music education and provide need-based financial support for students of ACDA-MN members who are selected for the ACDA-MN state honor choir program each year.

Since 1997, 362 Minnesota choral directors, collegiate members, and students of members have been the recipients of $218,665 in scholarship awards. We are pleased that the following scholarships have been awarded to ACDA-MN members:

- Honor Choir Student Scholarships: 23
- Summer Dialogue: 159
- Summer Dialogue Conducting Workshop: 47
- Graduate Study: 59
- Alice T. Larsen Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Study: 1
- ACDA Division and National Conference: 68
- World Symposium on Choral Music: 5
- Total: 362

SUMMER DIALOGUE STUDENT CONDUCTOR WORKSHOP SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships were awarded to ten Minnesota collegiate students to participate in a two-day conducting workshop during ACDA-MN’s Summer Dialogue conference. The 2017 student conductors were:

Derek Bebeau, Bemidji State University
Samuel Gaines, Concordia College-Moorhead
Emma Jirele, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Jacob Kempenich, College of St. Benedict/Saint John’s University
Scott Kleppe, Concordia University-St. Paul
Miller LaMotte, St. Olaf College
Gunnar Molstad, University of Minnesota-Morris
Alex Rack, Macalester College
Cassie Ricker, St. Mary’s University
Megan Shipley, St. Cloud State University

SUMMER DIALOGUE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships to attend a four-day ACDA of Minnesota annual professional development conference are available to conductors with up to two years of experience and conductors with any length of experience who have never attended a previous Summer Dialogue. The 2017 Summer Dialogue recipients were:

Ahmed Ansaldua El Samkary, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Naomi Horn, Pine River-Backus Public Schools
Alexandra Johnson, Winona High School
Shawn Neisen, Battle Lake Public Schools
Philip Schroetter, Baine High School
Wyatt Steinke, Park Rapids High School
Sarah Waller, Albany Public Schools

SUMMER DIALOGUE STUDENT CONDUCTOR WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

(l-r, row 1) Randi Erlandson, Emma Jirele, Megan Shipley, Cassie Ricker, Miller LaMotte
(l-r, row 2) Therese Hibbard, Gunnar Molstad, Scott Kleppe, Samuel Gaines, Derek Bebeau, Jacob Kempenich, Alex Rack

SUMMER DIALOGUE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

(l-r) Ahmed Ansaldua El Samkary, Philip Schroetter, Naomi Horn, Wyatt Steinke, Shawn Neisen, Alexandra Johnson, Sarah Waller
ACDA CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS
Scholarships to attend ACDA division or national conferences are awarded annually to graduate student and undergraduate juniors/seniors, who are student members of ACDA-MN and enrolled in a choral music program, and to choral directors who are engaged in their first six years of professional experience. Scholarship recipients who attended the ACDA National Conference in Minneapolis during 2017 were:

Jaclyn Anderson, North Central University (student)  
Nicholas Hager, Concordia College-Moorhead (student)  
Victoria Janasz - St. Cloud Apollo High School  
Emma Jirele, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities (student)  
Jeremiah Krueger, St. Cloud State University (student)  
Andrea Peterson, University of Northwestern-St. Paul (student)  
Laura Potratz, University Baptist Church, Minneapolis  
Jonathan Rydberg, St. Cloud State University (student)  
Megan Shipley, St. Cloud State University (student)  
Mikayla Vetter, North Central University (student)  
Cory Westgard, Minnesota State University-Mankato (student)

ACDA National Conference Scholarship Recipients
(l-r, row 1) Megan Shipley, Mikyala Vetter, Emma Jirele, Jaclyn Anderson, Laura Potratz  
(l-r, row 2) Jeremiah Krueger, Jonathan Rydberg, Victoria Janasz, Andrea Peterson, Cory Westgard, Nicholas Hager

GRADUATE STUDY SCHOLARSHIPS
Scholarships to pursue part-time or full-time graduate study in choral music are available to conductors who have completed a minimum of two years of choral conducting experience and are current members of ACDA-MN. The 2017 graduate study scholarship recipients were:

Paige Armstrong, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
Katelyn Larson, University of St. Thomas  
Jami Lercher, Frost School of Music, University of Miami  
Brandon Nordhues, University of St. Thomas  
Nicole Thietje, University of St. Thomas

ALICE T. LARSEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (NEW)
On the 85th anniversary of Alice T. Larsen's birth, a scholarship was established in her memory by former students at St. Olaf College through ACDA-MN's FMC Endowment Fund. The Alice T. Larsen Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an ACDA-MN woman conductor who is pursuing a graduate degree in choral conducting or music education. Established in 2016, the scholarship was awarded for the first time in 2017 to:

Amanda Weber, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Contributions to the ATL Memorial Scholarship may be given on-line at: acda-mn.com or via the mail at: FMC Endowment Fund (Attention ATL Scholarship) at 13288 Downey Trail, Apple Valley MN  55124.

WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP
The International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) sponsors a World Symposium on Choral Music every three years. A scholarship to attend the symposium is offered to a current ACDA-MN member who has been active in the organization for a minimum of five years. In 2017, the symposium was held from July 22-29 in Barcelona, Spain. The recipient of the 2017 scholarship award was:

Michelle Hayes, Anoka High School
THE F. MELIUS CHRISTIANSEN ENDOWMENT FUND HONOR ROLL

Donors to the F. Melius Christiansen Endowment Fund of the American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota from January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017.

LEGACY CIRCLE
Individuals and families who have made a planned gift to ACDA-MN’s FMC Endowment Fund are honored with membership in the Legacy Circle.

Founding Members:
Bruce W. & Paula M. Becker
Richard & Zoma Edstrom
Wayne & Alice Kivell
Melanie & Jeff Kjellberg
Michael & Donna Wolsted

MAESTRO
(Gifts of $5,000 or more)
Michael & Donna Wolsted

GUARANTOR
(Gifts of $1,000-$2,499)
Bruce W. & Paula M. Becker
Lawrence Burnett

BENEFACTOR
(Gifts of $500-$999)
ECs Music Publishing Group,
Mark Lawson, President
Richard & Zoma Edstrom
Geneva S. Eschweiler
Nancy & Stephen Grundahl
Geneva S. Eschweiler
Richard & Zoma Edstrom
Mark Lawson, President
ECS Music Publishing Group,
(Gifts of $500-$999)

BENEFICTOR
(Gifts of $500-$999)
Bruce W. & Paula M. Becker
Lawrence Burnett

PATRON
(Gifts of $100-$249)
Alex Ferderer
Chad Felton
Ryan Fellman
Karle Erickson
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Donald P. Dreyer
Peter Durow
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Susan Engfelt
John & Joy Englund
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Jason Etten
Ryan Fellman
Chad Felton
Alex Federer
Bryan Fisher
Tyler Forsythe
Samuel Fouts
Ann Frank
Deborah Frisstad
E. V. & Marica Fugelstad
Chad Garrels
Barbara A. & Paul Geier
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Sarah Gilbertson
Sue Gildof
Lana Glitter
Joel & Karen Gotz
Seana Graber
Martha Graber
Jere Gaetz
Erin Gray
Elizabeth Grefeheim
Elizabeth C. Gullick
Brandy Kriegel Gullickson
Sylvia Gunderson
Ron & Mary Freng Gunderson
John Habermann
Connie Hamilton
Daniel Hampton
James Hanson
Christopher M. Harris
Tom & Judy Heinerman
Janet Heineman
Mark Hemingway
Benjamin Henschel
Jane Hesse
Nicholas Hollermann
Naomi Horn
Duane C. & Ann Hoven
Jeff Iverson
Lynne C. Iverson
Christopher Jacobson
Dwight Jiek
Alexandra Johnson
Eliah Johnson
Paul & Mary Johnson
Robert & Sigrid Johnson
Timothy & Susan Johnson
W. Clark Johnson
Jake Kaelne
Siri Keller
Matt Kiminski
Helen Kisel
Kristin Kivel
Jesse Knight
Knight Shick Press,
Paul Brandvik
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M. Pauline Krieger
Jennifer Kriek
Kyle Lamb
Miller LaMotte
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Garrett & Holly Lathe
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Lisa Loizzo
Sarah Ludwig
Patrick & Jody Lunemann
Jody Martinson
Patricia Mason
Sara Matson
Kristen Mattick
Michael McGaghie
Bryan McGinnis
Melanie McIvor
Bryan McGinnis
Michael McGaghie
Christina Millard
Bradley Miller
Brandon Miller
Robert & Lois Mix
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Macey & Joshua Mulheron
Jonah Nelesen
Betty Lou Nelson
M.J. Nelson

Anne Neuguit
Sarah O'Banion
Gordon & Betty Olson
Gezr Panait
Jennifer Parker
Gene Peterson
Neal Peterson & Deanna Thompson
Jerome & Kathleen Petron
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Ann Schuette
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Mary Shetton Stansbury
Jennifer Starr
Diane Steen-Hinderlee
Solveig Steenkland
Wyatt Steink
Marcia Stevens
Douglass Stradell
Noel & Lois Stratum
Chris & Amy Stuart
Brian F. Stubbs
Bill G. Swedenborg
Kathy Olson Thompson
Dawn Thomsen
Leon Thurman
Janet Tollund
Roger Towler
Richard Trapp
Larre Tollefson
Upsala/Swanville Community Chorus
Marcia Van Camp
Aaron VanDanaker
Bri Velske
Thomas Wadsworth
Sarah Walker
Karin & Scott Werdahl
Chris & Jill Westermeyer
Carole Whitney
Elizabeth Wiltsin
Maria Wilson
Eldo Witsenauer
Rebecca Wyllys
James Yao
SPECIAL TRIBUTES

The F. Melius Christiansen Endowment Fund is grateful for the many gifts received ‘in memory of’ or ‘in honor of’ friends, family members and colleagues. The following special tributes were made from January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017. If you wish to make a tribute, please email execdirector@acda-mn.org or phone 952.270.7489.

In memory of Trudy Roe Anderson
Eldis Wittkamp

In memory of Richard Aune
Greg & Julie Aune

In honor of Bruce W. Becker
Diana J. Leland

In memory of Gladys A. Becker
Bruce W. & Paula M. Becker
Dione J. Peterson Belling
John & Joy Englund
Barbara A. & Paul Geier
Janice Gilbertson
Jere Gratz
Tom & Judy Heimerman
David & Laura Koch
Diana J. Leland
Lisa Lozito
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Sharon Rosing
Jeff & Janie Rubin
Karin & Scott Wendahl
Susan C. Zemlin

In honor of Kathy Benson
Tim & Susan Johnson

In honor of Angela Broeker
Bruce W. & Paula M. Becker

In memory of Darwin Bruesewitz
Bradley Miller

In memory of Joy Chapman
Bruce W. & Paula M. Becker

In memory of Olof C. & Ellen Christiansen
Fredrik & Mary Christiansen

In memory of Paul J. Christiansen
Laree Tollinger

In memory of Dr. John Cooksey
Leon Thurman

In honor of Allen Cornell
M. J. Nelson
Upsala/Swanville Community Chorus

In memory of O. B. & Dorothy Dibble
Daniel Dibble

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In memory of Lyman & Julie Eidsvold
James & Anne Eidsvold

In honor of Karle Erickson
Karmen Blakeborough

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Arne Everson

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In memory of Murroe Freng
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In memory of Murroe & Helen Freng
Charles & Karen Sagedahl

In honor of Mary Kay Gjestad
Westmark Productions, Doug Gjestad

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Joshua Smith

In honor of Janice Gilbertson
Jennifer “Twink” Starr

In honor of Madeline Gilje
Marlyn Cooper

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Daniel Hampton

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Solven Steendal

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Jane Hesse

In memory of Richard Hoffland
Rikka Estenson

In honor of Nancy Hogan
Marcia Brennhoft

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Diane Heaney

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Larry & Faith McCaghy

In honor of Gloria Mortensen
Knutsen
Duane & Ann Hoven

In memory of Don Kunau
Janet Kunau

In memory of Alice T. Larsen
Ken & Margaret Aspaas
Katie Moran Barr
Dione J. Peterson Belling
Virginia Bergquist Bowles
Ruth J. Buss
Marie Spar Dymit
Susan Engfelt
Joan Mattila Jacobsen
Margaret Edmond Kirkegaard
Laurie Kuenh
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Lisa Lozito
Cassandra Middboe
Anthony Priest

In memory of Connie Nord
Jon Pederson

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Sharon Olson

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Joel & Karen Gotz

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In memory of Ole Joseph Midboe
Cassandra Midboe

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Marilyn Cooper

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Paula Holmberg
Betty Lou Nelson

In memory of Westen Noble
Bruce W. & Paula M. Becker
Jesse Knight
Diana J. Leland

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Margaret Edmond Kirkegaard
Laurie Kuenh
Janet Kunau
Lou Ann Larson
Diana J. Leland
Lisa Lozito
Cassandra Middboe
Anthony Priest

In memory of Connie Nord
Jon Pederson

In memory of Dick Olson
Sharon Olson

In honor of Patricia Paul
Joel & Karen Gotz

In honor of Bruce T. Phelps
Bruce W. & Paula M. Becker

In memory of Herman E. & Ida P. Pinski
Carl H. & Jean C. Liske

In memory of Mark Sedin
Abigail & Paul Pribbenov

In memory of George E. Skuzuooz
Diana J. Leland

In honor of Carl A. & Gertrude S. Liske
Carl H. & Jean C. Liske

In memory of Ole Joseph Midboe
Cassandra Midboe

In honor of Dr. Britany Murphy
Marilyn Cooper

In memory of Ronald A. Nelson
Paula Holmberg
Betty Lou Nelson

In memory of Westen Noble
Bruce W. & Paula M. Becker
Jesse Knight
Diana J. Leland

The Alice T. Larsen Memorial Scholarship Fund

Celebrate the legacy of a true trailblazer and provide direct scholarship support to women in choral music by donating to the Alice T. Larsen Memorial Scholarship. Established in 2013 by former students and colleagues through ACDA-AN’s FMC Endowment Fund, the scholarship fund honors the pioneering influence of Alice T. Larsen (1924-1989), Professor of Music and Conductor of the Manitou Singers at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. Each year, the named scholarship is awarded to an ACDA-MN woman conductor who is pursuing a graduate degree in choral conducting at the college or university of her choice. The first scholarship was awarded in 2017.

Tax-deductible contributions to the ATL Memorial Scholarship may be given on-line at: acda-mn.com, or via the mail at: FMC Endowment Fund (Attn: ATL Scholarship), 13288 Downey Trail, Apple Valley MN 55124.
A gift to the F. Melius Christiansen Endowment Fund is a lasting way to remember or honor loved ones, musical mentors, friends, or colleagues. Your contribution will help sustain the distinguished legacy of exemplary choral music in Minnesota.

**A Special Gift...A Lasting Legacy**

Plan a special gift that will make a difference for many years to come. Designate the F. Melius Christiansen Endowment Fund as a beneficiary in your will or trust. The following statement will ensure that your gift is appropriately directed:

I bequeath ____% of my estate (or a specific fund) to the FMC Endowment Fund of the American Choral Directors Association, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation located at 13288 Downey Lane, Apple Valley MN 55124.

A bequest and estate planning form is available at: [http://acda-mn.com/fmc-planned-giving/](http://acda-mn.com/fmc-planned-giving/)

For further information contact: Dawn Thomsen, Director of Development, 917.273.3296, dawn.thomsen@bricksandbone.com