

Report: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Ambassador

Role purpose: To uphold Holland Chorale's purpose statement while assisting to foster an environment that embraces those from different races, ethnicities, nationalities, disabilities, socioeconomic statuses, religious backgrounds, genders, gender identities and expressions, and sexual orientations. This role will help facilitate Holland Chorale's ongoing and continuing efforts to create a culture and atmosphere of mutual respect, and to attract, retain, and promote outstanding individuals from all backgrounds, perspectives, and abilities.

I met with Sonja Trent Brown who is not only a Chorale member but the Vice President for Culture and Inclusive Excellence for Hope College. I gathered so much information during this conversation and was able to rein it into the areas below:

- Create alliances with the local diverse groups.
 - Sonja was able to give me several contacts of minority organizations. My hope is to align with these individuals to learn more and build awareness of Holland Chorale
- Create a contact database....or rather expanding on our existing database to include more diverse contacts for performances, auditions, and other announcements
- Education
 - It is important to understand and enhance our mindsets of the factors within diversity, equity, and inclusion. I am looking to hopefully find training that can help us get there for all the board leadership

Our goal is to make Holland Chorale the premier artistic group within West MI and we cannot do so without doing something different...without expanding our reach outside of ourselves...without becoming visible to other demographics.

Keon Atkins
June 6, 2022