



## NEWS RELEASE

**For release:** Thursday, Nov. 21, 2013

**Contact:** John Perlich, (260) 427-6957, john.perlich@cityoffortwayne.org  
Marshall White, (260) 312-6902, upaf2000@aol.com

### **Life-Changing Opportunities Await Voices of Unity Youth Choir** *Fort Wayne to be represented in Latvia and at Carnegie Hall in 2014*

*Fort Wayne, Ind.* – Fort Wayne’s Voices of Unity Youth Choir, of the Unity Performing Arts Foundation, will gain more national and international exposure in 2014 as they participate in two life-changing opportunities.

Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry, Unity Performing Arts Foundation, and community leaders today have come together to unveil the “Gold for the City” campaign. This campaign is designed to raise awareness, build pride in the community, seek public support for the great achievements of these young Unity champions and bring positive attention to Fort Wayne.

The Voices of Unity Youth Choir has received a first-time special invitation to participate in the 2014 Choirs of America Music Performance Nationals at Carnegie Hall in New York City, New York June 19-22.

In addition, Voices of Unity will defend their gold medals and seek to reclaim world-champion status in the 2014 World Choir Games in Riga, Latvia. The World Choir Games is the world’s largest choir competition and attracts many of the world’s best choirs from over 80 countries. The World Choir Games is also commonly called, The Choir Olympics.

This opportunity will offer our youth an educational experience that will expose them to multiple cultures and people of many countries. Students will also develop a more global mindset as they prepare for life as young adults.

“How do you combat a negative outlook many youth are developing today? You create a climate where youth can benefit from the power of encouragement, hope, positive reinforcement and genuine support. That’s what the young people in the Voices of Unity experience each week of their lives. We as a community need to fuel and support that climate so that it will spread and reach more young people in our community,” said Marshall White.

“We’re encouraged to see so many young people committed to making a meaningful difference in their lives and in the lives of others,” said Mayor Henry. “It’s tremendous to see youth develop and enhance skills that will position them for future success. We need to come together as a community and support the Voices of Unity. They represent what is great about Fort Wayne.”

The \$385,000 “Gold for the City” campaign is seeking corporate, community and individual support to send our students to represent Fort Wayne in New York and Latvia. Make your investment in our city’s youth today by going to [www.upaf.com](http://www.upaf.com) or call (260) 481-6719.

###