



**World
Choir
Games**

2012
cincinnati usa



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The Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund announces \$100,000 matching grant to support Women of the Year Initiative for World Choir Games

CINCINNATI (OH) –The Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Trust, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee, today announced a \$100,000 matching grant to Spirit of Cincinnati in support of The Enquirer “Women of the Year” Initiative for the 2012 World Choir Games.

The City of Cincinnati was selected to host the 2012 World Choir Games, the largest and most significant international arts event in Cincinnati’s history. In support the 2012 World Choir Games, recipients of The Enquirer’s “Women of the Year” Award came together to champion the Games and lead an innovative fundraising effort. This effort, The Enquirer “Women of the Year” Initiative, was created to inspire women to help Spirit of Cincinnati underwrite the costs of this landmark event.

The \$100,000 matching grant to Spirit of Cincinnati, the fiduciary agent for 2012 World Choir Games, will be used to leverage funds that are raised by Enquirer “Women of the Year.” Spirit of Cincinnati will have 12 months to meet the match in order to receive the funds.

“This impressive group of women leaders continues to seek ways to further contribute to this community, as they have done throughout their lives,” said Margaret Buchanan, president and publisher of Enquirer Media. “This multi-cultural and historic event, which will benefit Greater Cincinnati in so many ways, is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference and the first of what we expect will be many important collaborative efforts for these women.”

“It’s gratifying and humbling to see some of this community’s women leaders rally to support the 2012 World Choir Games,” said Dan Lincoln, president & CEO of the Cincinnati USA Convention & Visitors Bureau and director of the Cincinnati Organizing Committee for the 2012 World Choir Games.

Heidi B. Jark, vice president and manager of The Foundation Office at Fifth Third Bank, said: “The Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund was created in 1908 to empower women and girls. This \$100,000 matching grant will empower the women of Cincinnati to make history through philanthropic collaboration. Through their support of the 2012 World Choir Games, these women honor Charlotte’s legacy as they advance the arts community both locally, nationally and across the world.”

About the World Choir Games: It is the largest choral competition in the world, taking place every two years. The World Choir Games was created to unite people from all nations through singing in peaceful competition. Cincinnati has been selected to host for the 2012 games. The event will feature 20,000 participants from more than 70 countries and will attract 200,000 spectators.

About the Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund: It was the first foundation in the United States dedicated solely to the needs of women and girls. It was established in 1908 by Jacob G. Schmidlapp, president of the Union Savings Bank, which merged with Fifth Third Bank in 1919. After Charlotte's tragic death in 1906, Mr. Schmidlapp channeled his grief into the creation of the Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund to allow other young women to, unlike his daughter, realize their lives' dreams.

About the Enquirer Women of the Year Award: Started in 1967, this award annually recognizes 10 women, nominated by the community, who, through their volunteer work or careers, have enhanced education, charities or philanthropy in the Tri-state. The 43rd class will be honored in April. To date more than 400 women have been honored.