



## A New York City Moment

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**by KASS STONE**

They are back from a whirlwind tour of New York City that culminated with a triumphant performance at Carnegie Hall.

Thirty-six Munster choir members have recently returned from performing in a Palm Sunday concert of Mozart's "Requiem Mass in D Minor" at the famed concert hall.

The Munster choral students joined with high school choir members from New York, Texas and Wisconsin to perform the Mozart piece with the New England Symphonic Ensemble, under the guidance of conductor Patrick Gardner.

By all accounts, the trip to New York was a resounding success, with the choir receiving a standing ovation at the end of its performance.

"It went very well, without a hitch, and the students represented Munster very well," said Munster choir director Tim Bartlett, who accompanied his students to New York.

The Munster students went on a tour of the city, visiting a number of major landmarks, including The Empire State Building, ground zero and the Statue of Liberty.

For junior Mark Knight, his first trip to New York was an unforgettable experience. One of the highlights for him was a "choir duel" between members of another choir performing in the Palm Sunday concert and members of the Munster choir who made up the barbershop quartet in the school's production of "The Music Man."

According to Knight and Bartlett, the duel occurred on a ferry taking the students to the Statue of Liberty. Both sides of the musical battle took turns belting out tunes while the boat carried them across the harbor.

"It was a choir off," Knight said. "It was a duel, but it was also all in good fun."

Besides a good story to take back home, Knight believes he also learned a lot about performing from conductor Patrick Gardner on the trip.

"We learned a lot about the style. He gave a lot of notes on the performing style. We all learned a lot more about how the style of Mozart is performed," Knight said.

Freshman Krista Zagar found the whole experience to be inspiring.

She was particularly moved by the audience response to their performance.

"It was amazing," said Zagar about the standing ovation the performance received. "I had tears in my eyes. It was the greatest moment of my life."