

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2018-2019 SEASON

Welcome to issue #8 of the Alumni Newsletter!

The 2019 year has come to an end, and it is on to the 2019-2020 season! But first we will recap 2019.

The 2019 season was a historic one and one to remember for ETC. All 3 groups had amazing years and made some history along the way.

The competition season started off with a bang. All three groups competed in February at the Carroll Classic Invitational in Ft. Wayne Indiana. Main Street was first and ended up placing 2nd out of 11 middle school groups. All Americans had an amazing day as they came back from 1 point down in prelims to win the competition by 45 points! Along with winning, they received Best Vocals, Best Choreography, and senior Molly Oldham kept the recent tradition of great ballad soloists alive, as she won her first of 3 best female soloist awards. It was an amazing way to start the year.

The good season continued at their next competition at Homestead High School in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. At this competition Main Street again placed 2nd, this time out of 12 middle schools. Our own 8th graded Lila Wagner-Gleeson won best female soloist in the middle school division. Rouge performed well and made finals in the women's division along with best combo and ended up in 4th place. The All Americans had a good showing and placed 3rd amongst some very stiff competition, and Molly Oldham won her second-best female soloist award. We also dominated the solo competition, as freshman Ellie Lewis won the female solo competition, and junior Patrick Sullivan won the male solo competition.

At the third competition the groups made some ETC history. At this competition all three groups won grand champions in their divisions. Main Street won GC in the middle school division, Rouge won the unisex division, and All Americans won the entire competition. On top of that Rouge got the highest overall placing they have ever received in placing 4th. All Americans also won Best Vocals, Best Choreography, Best Combo, and Best

Show Design. It was an amazing day that everyone in the organization was glad to be a part of.

At their fourth competition All Americans did well, placing 2nd place and winning best choreography. The groups also cleaned up on individual awards. Molly won her third best female soloist award. Junior Ryan Scott won best male soloist, freshman Ellie Lewis won best female soloist in a show in the unisex division, and senior Brennan O'Connor placed 2nd place in the solo competition.

The year ended at Wapakoneta, where Main Street won their second middle school grand championship, Rouge got third place in the unisex division, and All Americans put on a very emotional finals performance and ended up placing third overall.

It was an amazing competition season for all the groups, and it ended up being statistically the best season the All Americans have ever had. It was also only the 4th time in ETC history that the All Americans won multiple competitions in the year.

It was a great year, and the shows were one's people will remember for many years to come.

If you want to check out videos from the groups, check out the following links to playlists for each group.

[2019 ETC All Americans](#)

[2019 ETC Rouge](#)

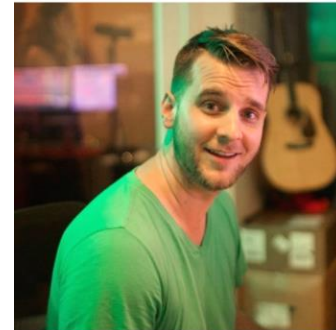
[2019 ETC Main Street Singers](#)

Now we are on to 2020! It has already been a great start of the year. It is still early, but it looks to be another special year! If you get the opportunity come out and check us out! Look at our upcoming dates to see where we will be performing near you!

Upcoming Dates

- November 26th – Brecksville-Broadview Heights Show Choir Festival @ BBHHS- 7:00pm
- December 14th – Brush Show Choir Festival @ Brush High School – 6:00pm
- December 23rd – Civic Holiday Show @ Akron Civic Theater 6:30pm
- January 18th – Marysville Show Choir Competition @ Marysville High School in Marysville, Ohio
- January 31st – ETC Night of Music @ Todaro's Party Center
- February 1st – Marion Harding Show Choir Competition @ Marion Harding High School in Marion, Ohio
- February 15th – Homestead Show Choir Competition @ Homestead High School in Ft. Wayne, IN
- February 29th – Grove City Competition @ Grove City High School in Grove City, OH
- March 21st – Fairfield Competition @ Fairfield High School in Fairfield, OH

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Alumni Spotlight

Doug Larsen

This edition of Alumni Spotlight will focus on the alumnus Doug Larsen!

Doug was a 3-year member of ETC from 1999-2001, starting in middle school and continuing through his freshman year of high school at Firestone. He was a singer/dancer for the Main Street Singers.

After graduation from high school Doug attended the University of Miami in Florida to study Music Composition – Commercial Music and Production Emphasis.

After graduation he got the opportunity to work for the John Lennon Songwriting Contest for a year on the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus as an On-Board Engineer. In this job he was able to travel the country 10 months out of the year and provide students of all ages with free hands-on opportunities to make music and produce video projects.

After his time with the John Lennon Contest he began work at Digital Media Academy where he traveled across the country to teach music and video production courses.

He then moved to New York, and in 2011 he and a few friends founded the East Midwest Music Group based out of New York, New York. Not only was this a band but a production company which aimed to produce great music and develop artists. The music group launched an album in 2013 entitled "Shuffle" in partnership with VH1 Save the Music Foundation. Doug stayed with East Midwest Music until 2017.

At the same time, he was starting East Midwest Music in 2011, he also took a job at an editor for the YouTube Next Lab. In this position he did video pre-production, production, post-production, and music production for the BarelyPolitical YouTube channel.

In January 2016 Doug transitioned into a producer position with The Key of Awesome. In this position he helped the channel create funny videos and parody songs for the YouTube channel, some of which having upwards of 8 million views like their parody of Rihanna's song "Work".

In 2018 Doug began a position at Conde Nast Entertainment as a video editor and continues in that role today. In this role he got to edit for many clients around the nation such as Vanity Fair, In September of this year Doug directed his first video for Conde Nast, where he got to work with comedian Jim Gaffigan!

While working in the production field Doug continued to perform in one of the genres he loved growing up, A Capella. He sang with the group Feedback A Capella where they performed in gigs and competed multiple years at the Harmony Sweepstakes A Capella Festival. In 2016 the group placed 3rd in the NYC Harmony Sweepstakes Regional competition. In 2018 the group ended up winning the NYC Regional and took home the award for best original arrangement of California Rain.

It has been great seeing Doug's career grow over the years, and we are excited to see what all lies ahead for him!

If you are interested in seeing some of his work, here are links to some YouTube Channels he worked on and songs he has been a part of.

[California Rain by Feedback A Capella](#)

[East Midwest Music Group - It Girl Remix on iPads](#)

[Key of Awesome YouTube Page](#)



WANT TO BE SPOTLIGHTED?

We would love to hear what you have been doing since leaving ETC! If you'd like to be on the next alumni spotlight please e-mail Robert.Sabree@etcheidsschoolofmusicalarts.com with your name, years in ETC and what you have been up to!



ETC All Americans 2003

The 2003 All Americans was a group that looked to rebound from a very difficult 2002 season.

The 2002 season was a season of change for ETC. The organization moved from 3 groups to 2, and changed the grade levels from 4-6, 7-9, 10-12 to 5-8 and 9-12. There were some large growing pains with the All Americans, which led to a very tough season. That season also came with the consequence that a large percentage of the group left ETC.

This left a lot of uncertainty coming into the vocal and choreography workshops. Although there were many that quit ETC, luckily the group had a rare large influx of brand-new students. The group ended up gaining about 17 brand new members to ETC, a large majority of those new members being boys. This meant that the group numbers actually increased from the year before, including the number of boys which went from 11 to 18.

The group received an extremely high energy and fun show from director Cheryl Boigegrain and choreographer Mike Weaver. The show hit the ground running and didn't let off the gas until the final bow. The group was excited for the show, especially after receiving some of the hardest choreography that they had ever received.

This excitement bled over when picking competitions. Seeing just how much a fun show it was the organization decided to go to 7 competitions, which was unheard of in years past. The schedule would have them competing in Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan.

The competition season started off like years past at the Ada Music Feast in November. The group was very excited to get their show out in front of audiences, but there was also a sense of nervousness. Due to some difficulties with the costume company, the girls' closer costume did not arrive until the day before the competition. This meant that the first time the girls would be trying their costume change was going to be in prelims. It was nerve racking, but the girls did great, mostly nailing the costume change. There were some issues though, and the group surprisingly went into finals in 5th place.

In finals they put on a great show and ended up placing 3rd behind Ohio powerhouses Teays Valley and Twinsburg. The kids were very happy with the result and were excited for the rest of the season.

In their next competition at Beaver Creek they put on what would be their best performance of the year. Unfortunately, the results did not go their way and they ended up in 4th place. The group was bummed about the result, and it spilled over into their next competition at Mt. Zion in Illinois. The group did not put on their best show. With the stiff competition they ended up missing finals.

Mt. Zion was sort of a wake-up call for the group, and they performed a great show at their next competition at Lakeview in Battle Creek, Michigan. They ended up placing 2nd at this competition, missing 1st place by under 1 point (0.6 to be exact).

The group then faced a blizzard at the Ball State University competition, and the finals ended up being canceled. They

then had a tough 4th place finish in Cleveland, and then finished the year with a great show at Wapakoneta while being down 10 members. In that show the power cord to the piano and electric drums was kicked out, and they had to do a verse of their ballad a capella. It scared the kids, but they pushed through and delivered a performance that got a standing ovation from the vocal judges. That performance skyrocketed them from 6th place to 3rd place, and they ended up tying for best vocals. It was an incredible way to end a fun year.

Although the 2003 group could not capture a win, it was a group and show that was a crowd favorite everywhere they went. Each crowd loved the energy of the show, and it led to some very memorable moments the entire year. It was a great way to bounce back from a tough year in 2002 and set up the organization for success in the future!

Check the "Year in Review" section in the past years page of the website for a more in-depth review.

You can also check out the 2003 show here: [ETC All Americans 2003 Playlist](#)

Alumni Events

In this section we will have updates on any possible alumni events that will be scheduled. If you are interested in an alumni event, please e-mail

Robert.Sabree@etcheidschoolofmusicalarts.com with ideas or RSVPs.

December 21st – Alumni Winter reunion

– Much like last year, we will hold an alumni reunion in December. Currently we are looking at December 21st at Pub Bricco in the Merriman Valley. We have had the event here the last two years and it has been a blast! Don't miss out this year on hanging out and seeing alumni from years past! You do not have to be 21 to attend the event, so all are welcome!

TBA – “Vintage” Show Choir

We will again have the Vintage show choir that we debuted at Spring Gala in 2018. More details to come.



Fundraising

This section will mark any upcoming fundraising opportunities coming up for ETC beyond alumni events. Information on how to sign up or come to any fundraisers will be included in this section.



\$2500 GRAND PRIZE

**Purchase your
Reverse Raffle
tickets TODAY!**

Visit: <https://etc.seatyourself.biz> Access Code: Fall

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2019
DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM
RAFFLE BEGINS AT 6:00 PM
STOW YOUTH BASEBALL HALL
4157 HUDSON DRIVE
STOW, OHIO 44224

Your ticket includes an entry into the reverse raffle along with dinner, drinks and dessert.

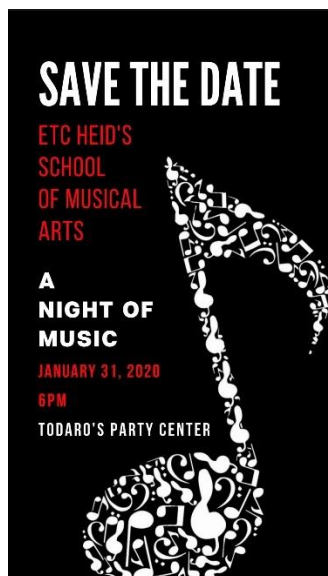
Tickets are \$50 per person

There is a (2) Ticket minimum per ETC family

****At Checkout be sure to enter the Student to Credit Field****

Reverse Raffle Fall Fundraiser – Friday, November 8th @ Stow Youth Baseball

Want a fun night out and a chance to win \$2,500? Join us for our reverse raffle fall fundraiser!! It will be a great night of fun, food, and good company. This is a 21-year-old and over event and will be held November 8th. See the link in the flyer above to buy tickets!



ETC Night of Music – Friday, January 31st @ Todaro's Party Center

We are once again having our Night of Music fundraiser! Enjoy a night of song with the ETC Show Choirs. Tickets are \$75 and will include a plated dinner. There will also be silent auction items available throughout the night. Come and support ETC! More details to come.



ETC Alumni Shirt Sale - \$10-\$12 per shirt.

We are selling alumni t-shirts! The shirts will look much like the picture above. Sales will run for a few weeks. E-mail Robert.Sabree@etcheidsschoolofmusicalarts.com if you are interested in purchasing a t-shirt!