



Paid advertisemen

ANGELICA CANTANTI YOUTH CHOIRS — The Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs (ACYC), founded in 1980, is an award winning children's community choral program and among one of the oldest in the Twin Cities. Recognized for its outstanding music education and renowned for excellence in performance, ACYC has become an established pillar of our arts community. The Artistic Staff includes Directors Ann Williams, Michelle Gehrz, Elizabeth Egger, Philip Brown and Nancy Grundahl. The ACYC organization offers ten ensembles, serving youth from grades K-12, with an adaptive class for singers with special needs and an alumni adult chorus. ACYC singers performed at the 2018 Super Bowl at US Bank Stadium in Minneapolis and were named "Best Community Choir in MN" by WCCO-TV. Learn more at www.angelicacantanti.org.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Sunday, Feb. 23, 2025 – Rita Docter Fundraiser Concert at Schneider Theater, Bloomington Sunday, March 9, 2025 – Send off concert for Cantanti Singers to Dallas, TX Sunday, May 18, 2025 – Spring Concert at Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis Friday, August 29, 2025 – National Anthem at Twins Game, Target Field

CONCERT CDS/MP3 DOWNLOADS — This concert is being professionally recorded. You can order a recording by visiting www.angelicacantanti.org by December 31.

END-OF-YEAR CHARITABLE GIVING—As the year comes to a close, it's the perfect time to make a meaningful gift while benefiting from potential tax advantages. Support the talented young singers of Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs and help keep the music alive. Your generosity makes a lasting impact.

THIS SEASON, Angelica is thrilled to have been invited to collaborate with Minnesota Orchestra musicians in two upcoming concerts. A small ensemble of ACYC singers will perform with trumpeter Charles Lazarus at his annual Merry & Bright concert on December 15. Middle-school ACYC singers will perform Puccini's *Turandot* on May 1 and May 3 with the orchestra and Music Director Thomas Søndergård. www.minnesotaorchestrahall.org

Pay what you can today. Thank you for supporting our young singers!

Venmo@AngelicaCantanti

Send a donation in the mail using the envelope included in this program or to: Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs 1800 W. Old Shokopee Road Bloomington, MN 55431

Look for an usher with a basket at the exit when you leave today.

Look for our Angelica table in the lobby to drop off a donation.

Visit our website to donate online. www.angelicacantanti.org



ANGELICA CANTANTI CONDUCTORS



ANN WILLIAMS is the Conductor of the Con Brio Choir and also leads Angelica's Vivace choir (grades 3-6). She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Music and Elementary Education from The College of St. Benedict, then earned her MA in Music Education at the University of St. Thomas. Ann is inspired by youth and loves teaching. For the past thirty-six years, she has been a classroom educator, music educator and youth choir director. Her directing experience includes the auditioned District 279 Children's Chorus, the St. Alphonsus Children's Choir, and was a founding director of the Twin Cities Youth Chorale (TCYC), an auditioned children's chorus in the northwest suburbs of Minneapolis. Over the years Ann's choirs have had the distinction of performing at both state and national conventions for

the National Association for Music Education (NAfME and MMEA) as well as the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA-MN) fall conference. Ann was also selected as an elementary honors choir co-director for ACDA-MN. Ann was a member of the Education Board for the Dale Warland Singers (DWS), and assisted with curriculum writing for both the DWS, and the Osseo Area Schools. She holds memberships in both ACDA and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). As a vocalist, Ann currently serves as a cantor at the Basilica of St. Mary, Minneapolis. Ann recently received the College of Saint Benedict's 2024 Distinguished Alumna Award for her work in music education and children's choral music.



MICHELLE GEHRZ is the conductor of Cantabile Choir and also leads Angelica's Prelude Choir Class (K-1) and Prep Choir Class (grades 1-3). Michelle is a passionate and joyful choral conductor, music educator, accompanist, church musician, and organist in the Twin Cities. She holds degrees in music education, sacred music, and organ performance from St. Olaf College, University of Notre Dame, and University of St. Thomas (ABT) and has her Orff Certification from UST. Michelle is the Artistic Director of Bella Lumina – an adult treble choir based in Hopkins, and also directs the Music Association of Minnetonka Senior Chorale (55+). She is a collaborative pianist for ACDA-MN Honor Choirs, MMEA All-State Choirs, Minnetonka High School, and Mound Westonka High

School. She has served as the R&R Chair for Children's/Youth Choirs for ACDA-MN. Michelle was the conductor of the ACDA-MN 4-5-6 Girls State Honor Choir in May 2023. Her school music teaching career has spanned all grade levels K-12 and has included teaching at Mounds Park Academy (St. Paul), St. Croix Preparatory Academy (Stillwater), and in the Wayzata School District. She has served as Organist/Choir Director at many churches including the Cathedral of St. Paul, Lake of the Isles Lutheran, Mount Calvary Lutheran (Excelsior), Hennepin Avenue UMC, and St. Anthony Park UCC. Michelle recently received the 2024 Choral Director of the Year award from ACDA-MN. Michelle's greatest calling and wish for her time on this earth is simply to bring people together in singing. "I hope to be a catalyst for others to spread light, to find hope, and to feel immense joy through song!"



PHILIP BROWN is the conductor of the Treble Singers and the Cantanti Singers and is the Director of Choral Activities at Totino-Grace High School. He graduated summa cum laude from Bethany College (KS), majoring in K-12 music education and has his M.M. degree in music education from Northern Arizona University. His choral groups have been selected for performances at CMEA Conference, CU-Boulder Madrigal Festival, MMEA Mid-Winter Conference, ACDA-MN Fall Conference, NC-ACDA Conference, MSU-Mankato Choral Festival, ACDA-MN Choral Arts Finale, St. Olaf College Choir Festival, Concordia College Choir Festival, Northern Voice Festival, and the Americana Portrait Festival with Mack Wilberg. Philip was honored as the 2011 ACDA-MN Young Director of the Year. He was selected as the Director of Note for Minnesota by Choral Director Magazine in 2012. In 2013 he

received the VocalEssence/ACDA-MN Creative Programming Award for his repertoire philosophy and programming. Philip directed the ACYC Treble Singers at the 2019 National ACDA Conference in Kansas City, the Cantanti Singers at the 2024 ACDA Midwestern Conference in Omaha, NE and last spring was the guest conductor for the Singers in Accord choral ensemble. Philip is an active clinician and is professionally affiliated with ACDA and NAfME. Recently he was named the ACDA Repertoire and Resource Chair for Senior High School choirs and will lead the Cantanti Singers in March 2025 at the National ACDA Conference in Dallas, Texas.



ELIZABETH EGGER is a conductor and singer whose career is grounded in her mission to educate, create, and explore to help young singers develop their authentic voice. A passionate teaching artist, Beth incorporates playfulness with her students and always leaves room for exploration. Beth is the conductor of the ACYC Concert Choir and is the choir director at Scott Highlands Middle School in Apple Valley, MN. With 18 years of experience, Beth has held teaching and conducting roles in various schools and churches across Minnesota and Wisconsin. Under Beth's artistic leadership, her ensembles achieved notable recognition,

performing at the MMEA Midwinter Convention in 2014 and were featured as a clinic choir for the ACDA Fall Conference in both 2015 and 2022. Notably, Beth conducted ACYC singers during the 2018 Super Bowl LII performance and led a 25-member ensemble in the children's chorus for Director Osmo Vänskä's season finale of Mahler's Symphony of a Thousand in 2022. In the upcoming 2025 season, Beth is looking forward to directing the 7-8 SSA Honor Choir for ACDA of Minnesota, presenting sessions at MMEA and ACDA of Minnesota conferences, and directing the Children's Chorus for Turandot with Minnesota Orchestra. Beth is also a singer at heart, and has sung with several professional ensembles including The Singers - Minnesota Choral Artists, Milwaukee Choral Artists, Florentine Opera, and Skylight Music Theatre. She earned her MA in Music Education at the University of St. Thomas and BM summa cum laude in Vocal Performance and Music Education at the University of Minnesota. Follow her vibrant journey on Instagram: @choirsips.

PROGRAM

Please silence all cell phones. Recording devices and cameras are prohibited. No flash photography.

MUSICIANS

Jeff Bina, Percussion Christopher Larson, Percussion, Bass Clair Bernard, Violin Chuck Kreitzer, Double Bass Monica Healy, Percussion

CON BRIO (2:30pm concert)

This season's Con Brio selections celebrate cherished traditions. From the vibrant energy of a beloved spiritual, to the fresh interpretations of ancient texts and the beauty of the season's transitions from fall to winter, each piece was chosen to open hearts and revive timeless moments and emotions. (And of course, we can never resist adding some silly holiday fun.)

CANTABILE (2:30pm concert)

Cantabile's repertoire is all about using one's voice to uplift and bring unity! Our concert begins with two songs, *Lift Up your Voice* and *Singabahambayo*, that focus on using our voices to lift up others and ourselves in the name of unity and freedom. *How Can I Keep from Singing*, a traditional American hymn, reminds us that when life gets heavy and hope is waning, we can find strength to carry on through song and faith. *I Have a Voice* is empowering and important for all of us to hear, especially our young people. Each of us has a unique voice to share and can make a difference in this world. The power of one voice can be amplified when we combine our collective voices for love, compassion, and hope. This is what singing in a choir is all about! May the combined voices of the Cantabile singers lift you up and bring inspiration to you.

CANTANTI SINGERS (2:30pm and 4:30 concert)

The Cantanti Singers performance explores the past, celebrates the present, and anticipates the future. *Exultate Justi in Domino* celebrates joy and beauty while musically emphasizing the

interplay between vocal parts, characteristic of a Renaissance motet. Hagenberg's *Splendor* is inspired by a text by St. Ambrose; the composer combines vibrant musical textures with profound textual interpretation to convey a powerful sense of light and majesty. *Time* explores the concept of time and how it dictates our lives; the line between time's reality and its invention is blurry, so the composer depicts this by writing a repeating lyric that erodes as the piece unfolds. *Hymn of Acxiom* is a haunting exploration of personal information in the digital age, reflecting on how technology promises connection and fulfillment while raising questions about privacy, manipulation, and control, leaving listeners with a mix of feelings. *The Shadow Dance of Sylva* explores the interplay between light and shadow, both literally and metaphorically and portrays a mystical and evocative journey through hidden groves, tangled vines, and ancient trees.

Exultate Justi in Domino	Andreas Hakenberger
Splendor from "Illuminare"	Elaine Hagenberg
Time	Jennifer Lucy Cook
Hymn of Acxiom	Vienna Teng. Arr. Kerry Marsh
The Shadow Dance of Sylva	Darius Lim

CONCERT CHOIR (4:30pm concert)

Concert Choir is delighted to share a set of five songs that journey through the joys of celebration, the beauty of winter, and the transformative power of change. We open with *Hodie*, a jubilant celebration of the season's energy and hope. Next, two snow songs capture the wonder of winter through playful movements and familiar melodies. We close with songs of change and transformation, celebrating winter as a time of rest and renewal, paving the way for growth and spring's rebirth.

Hodie	Jacob Narverud
Snow	Franco Prinsloo
Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!	Jule Styne, Arr. Joyce Eilers Bacak
Change	Melissa Dunphy
Sing Change	Kyle Pederson

TREBLE SINGERS (4:30pm concert)

The Treble Singers are excited to share a variety of songs and styles. *Be Like the Bird* is a stunning round about being raised up and raising others up, even when we lose the sense of a solid foundation beneath us. *Cantique De Jean Racine* blends charming melodic phrases with lush harmonic treatment. *Known* is new work by former ACYC Treble Singer, Grace Becker, and speaks of a message about stepping out of fear and into love, finding freedom in vulnerability, and realizing the beauty of being truly seen and understood. *How Can I Keep from Singing*, was born out of NYC's shutdown in response to Covid-19. The arrangement was suggested to me by Rita Doctor, and the choir's performance today is dedicated to ALL the singers whose singing has been guided by Rita. *Untraveled Worlds* blends dynamic choral textures with evocative violin and percussion

lines to evoke a sense of urgency and adventure.

Please hold applause between first two songs

Be Like the Bird	
Cantique De Jean Racine	Gabriel Faure. Arr. Jean Ashworth Bartle
Known	by Grace Becker
How Can I Keep from Singing Rev. F	Robert Lowry. Arr. by Matt and Adam Podd
Untraveled Worlds	Paul Halley

ANGELICA CANTANTI YOUTH CHOIRS

CON BRIO CHOIR (grades 3-6)

Ann Williams, Conductor & Moya McGinn Mathews, Accompanist Grace Hammes & Elizabeth Hainlen, Rehearsal Assistants

Lily Becker	Fiona Ferrari	Aurelia Leither	Maren Nolan-
Charlotte Benbow	Zeke Garcia-Crawmer	Linnea Leverentz	Michaelson
Julia Blessing	Theo Goepferd	Julianna Lucic	Simone Redelsperger
Petra Bly Ede	Liliana Helland	Zola McGovern	Violet Riley
Cecilia Broberg	Luna Hicks	Sarah Meeker	Everleigh Strand
Susie Chung	June Kapsner	Kristian Millares	Mira Wandling
Alex De Jarnett	Sophia Kasemkhani	Mila Mitchell	Clara Welshinger
Emme Dunning	Yena Kim	Lorelai Moe	Emily White
Evelyn Erickson	Violet Kornis		Erlinjo Zamora

CANTABILE CHOIR (grades 4-6)

Michelle Gehrz, Conductor & Jeffrey Patry, Accompanist.

Jennifer Koenen, Choir Coordinator. Monica Healy & Avery Cracauer, Rehearsal Assistants

Ruby Blomgren	Luna Fisher	Julia Kozisek	Aaron Richter
Colin Bousu	Morgan Folk	Amelia Lahr	Isabel Roukoz
Nico Caffari	Tilda French	Annaliese Lahr	Nora Rudlang
Kaitlyn Catalano	Franki Gile	Elise Loving	Louie Salmen
Kate Cook	Colette Glaus	Greta Lutgen	Finley Schmidt
Elizabeth Doty	Shiprah Grantham	Hannah Lymangood	Madeleine Schroeder
Madeline Dybsky	Ella Harrington	Eliana Manrodt	Anya Solodin
Paige Eiden	Charlotte Hersey	Ariana McGilberry	Cate Standley
Mae Eisenschenk	Julia Huss	Kendall McGuire	Adelynn Stock
Beatrice Eisenschenk	Naomi Jurrens	Vivienne Meland	Ghinad Tchoffo
Nichole Ellis	Clara Keyes	Silvano Mercado	Anne Temple-Hanson
Anja Engelbert	Asha Khariwala	Alayna Moenga	Ryan Warmka
Rylee Fincham	Jean Koenen	Hazel Morey	Graham Westlie
Rosie Fischer	Elinor Kornis	Emmi Ninow	Jamieleen Zamora

CONCERT CHOIR (grades 6-8)

Elizabeth Egger, Conductor & Jeffrey Patry, Accompanist Noreen Carlson, Zoë Zarth & Laura Glorvigen, Rehearsal Assistants

Harriet Ayres	Julia Farah	Grace Lastoka	Gweneth Skinner
Chloe Barim	Caitlyn Gorton	Kainalu Lazarus	Teaghan Smallwood
Evelyn Blessing	Julia Gottschalk	Lucy Lutgen	Josephine Spott
Katherine Bowman	Jadyn Harrison	Liam McNally	Eryn Stave
Emma Carpenter	Elliott Hazzard	Adeline Menning	Zinnia Swanson
William Catalano	Freddie Holm	Kiersten Millares	Lucy Tabone
Ashton Cogswell	Madeline Jensen	Annemarie Mulrooney	Kayla Vogland
Lydia Duphorn	Magnus Johnson	Hope Peterson	Adalyn Western
Josephine Elfering	Amelia Johnson	Flora Scharback	Josephine Wheeler
Reagan Erlandson	Evelyn Jurrens	Audrey Schmidt	Elizabeth Wilson
Sophia Ernst-Herrera	Beatrice Karlson	Cara Schneider	Gloribel Zamora
William Fanta	Talia Kramer	Stella Siler	

TREBLE SINGERS (grades 9-12)

Philip Brown, Conductor & Jamie Schmidt, Collaborative Pianist. Macy Castilleja, Intern

Eleanor Baier	Noah Glode	Meredith Leo	Cilo Rieke
Diana Carlson	Madelyn Hawkinson	Anne Love	Olivia Rocha
Anne Carr	Elizabeth Hersey	Izzy Lyons	Julia Rodenz
Nora Carrier	Margaret Hoffman	Isabella Mantilla	Anya Seppala
Clare Cook	Mamie Holm	Lydia Matson	Anna Skirry
Sadie Cordell	Arianna Huss	Maura McGuire	Kaylee Soles
Spirit Cordes	Julia Jackson	Aadhavi Natarajan	Naia Spoonheim
Elizabeth Couling	Kenley Jansen	Anna Ninow	Ella Spott
Vivian Elfering	Evangeline Johnson	Anna Parashos	Noelle Stockton
Marin Erlandson	Ana K Johnson	Frances Patton	Holleigh Stockton
Katherine Fanta	Seanna Kluzak	Philesha Pfeifer	Omera Syed Asif
Jayla Ferguson	Cate Koehmstdt	Claire Pridemore	Josie Walgrave
Jordin Floyd	Alyssa Kopischke	Annabel Raney	Erica Weiler
Esther George	Noelle Kubicek	Mckenna Reding	Ingrid Wills
Alexandra Gleb	Dianna Lenz	Kolsrud	

CANTANTI SINGERS (grades 9-12)

Philip Brown, Conductor & Jamie Schmidt, Collaborative Pianist

Elise Albrecht	Gabriel Challberg	Sophia Gardner	Jericho Juenemann
Mason Baas	Leo Choi	Niko Gruss	Ash Kansara
Jonah Baker	Sadie Cinnamon	Gabby Haake	Isabel Kristensen
Christopher Bennett	Hazel Collins	Aubrey Halpern-Smith	Brody Lawrence
Clark Bergstrom	Eliott Cook	Elizabeth Hegarty	Nathaniel Boyd
Jacob Berna	Jonas Dammen	Alex Huie	Mayfield
Sam Bomar	Samuel DeToffol	Charlotte Husten	Conor McCrave
Chloe Brown	Elling Dyrud	Audrey Jakopin	McCoy Miller
Andrew Burnes	Ellery Eapen	Elianah Jespersen	Payten Miller-Zarambo
Collin Burns	Chloe Fider	AJ Johnson	Nora Moon
Vian Caskey	Grace Galbus	Natali Jorgensen	Ella Moore

CANTANTI SINGERS (continued)

Annika Nelson Levi Potchinsky Ella Takalo Katie Weaver Evan Weiler Sawyer Olson Will Rafn Ada Thompson Reeve Olson Kelsev Rasinen Rostislav Tomasevich Anne Whalen Ingrid Olson Preston Rose Kieran Winegarden Jack Trygstad Mason Pardoe Owen Salmi Wyatt Vogland Anna Woods Gemma Wallace Avery Patterson Berit Schulz Maya Zhaivoronok Damyre Perr Carter Strand Aimee Weaver



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Visit: www.angelicacantanti.org Email: angelicayouthchoirs@gmail.com



BUY A MILE DEDICATION

We are thrilled to announce that the Angelica Cantanti Singers (gr. 9-12) have been selected to perform at the prestigious ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) National Conference next March in Dallas, TX. The ensemble will represent ACYC and the entire state by performing for directors, conductors, composers and music educators from all around the world! We are the ONLY Minnesota choir that will performing at the event!

THANK YOU to the following friends of Angelica for your kind dedication and donation toward "Buying A Mile" and helping to send our singers to Dallas, TX. You can still donate and buy a mile for \$20. Dedications will be included on our website. Visit www.angelicacantanti.org Thank you!

Mindy & Jason Woods (1) WITH LOVE TO Anna Woods

Aadhavi Nataraian (1) DEDICATED TO Gitamma

Dan and Jana Cinnamon (5) IN HONOR of Sadie Cinnamon

Pam Throne (5) IN HONOR of Levi Potchinsky

Brenda and Eric Raney (1) WITH THANKS TO Philip Brown, Jamie Schmidt, Audrey Riddle, Andrea Dittmer

Roger & Barb Norbloom (2) IN HONOR of Levi Potchinsky

Audrey Riddle (1) IN MEMORY of Sandy Winegarden

Melissa Kraut (1) DEDICATED TO Ella Takalo

Brenda and Eric Raney (1) IN CELEBRATION of The Cantanti Singers

Audrey Riddle (1) IN MEMORY of David Docter Avery Cracauer (1) WITH LOVE TO Niko Gruss

Lawrence Kraut (1) DEDICATED TO Ella Takalo

Audrey Riddle (1) IN MEMORY of David Temte

Aunt Annie & Uncle Bud (3) WITH LOVE TO Anna Woods

Avery Cracauer (1) WITH LOVE TO McCoy Miller Audrey Riddle (1) IN MEMORY of Benjamin Temte

Alaina McCrave (10) IN CELEBRATION of Jim McCrave

Dan and Jana Cinnamon (5) WITH THANKS TO Philip Brown, Jamie Schmidt, Audrev Riddle

and Andrea Dittmer

Jeff and Randi Erlandson (16) DEDICATED TO ALL of the Prior Lake HS Singers- Marin E.,

Reagan E., Leo C., Grace G., Brody L., Conor M., Ingrid O., Aimee W., Katie W., Jonah B., Reeve O.,

Mason B., Sawyer O., Berit S., Cate K., and Josie W.

Wendy Genes (1) DEDICATED TO Slava Tomasovich

Jocelyn Siefering (Jaimez) (1) IN MEMORY of Benjamin and David Temte

Todd and Kate Koester (2) IN HONOR of Anna Koester Dunbar and Ingrid Koester

James & Aileen Zamora (1) IN CELEBRATION of Our 3 Young Artists

Lana and Ian Western (1) WITH THANKS TO Audrey Riddle and Andrea Dittmer

Haley Cunningham (1) IN CELEBRATION of Anna Woods

Nancy Grundahl (1) IN HONOR of Rita Docter

Haley Cunningham (1) IN CELEBRATION of Anna Woods

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Claire Hazzard (3) WITH THANKS TO Audrey Riddle

Your mom (1) WITH LOVE TO Sophia Ernst-Herrera

Jess Hoffman (1) IN CELEBRATION of BCov Youth

Jiyoun Shin (1) WITH LOVE TO Yena Kim

Joe & Mary Kernan (5) IN HONOR of our granddaughter, Annika Nelson

Diane Borgendale (5) IN HONOR of Levi Potchinsky

Jim Handy (5)

Stan & Jan Burns (5)

Jim & Evelyn Albrecht (5)

Andrea Dittmer (2.5)

Mary Kernan (2.5)

Vince & Sharon Cavegn (10)

Barbara Hoback (5)

Angela Nelson (5)

Paul Hasse (5)

Nancy and Doug Rose (5)

Paul Jakopin (5)

Kali Sutton (2.5)

Janet Hosch (2.5)

Kevin Jakopin (5)

Joseph Weismann (5)

Katie Cinnamon (2.5)

Steven McDonald (2.5)

Jana Cinnamon (25)

Ann Hill (10)

ANGELICA CANTANTI DONORS AND FRIENDS

Angelica Cantanti depends on donations for nearly 40% of its annual budget, allowing us to deliver exceptional music education programs and performances to our singers and the community. We are sincerely grateful for the generous and ongoing support of our donors. As a proud member of the Bloomington Fine Arts Council, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Allan and Deborah Schneider for their support. Due to our printing deadline, we apologize if your name was inadvertently omitted.

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This fund honors retired Angelica Conductor and Composer Nancy Grundahl. Donations of any amount are welcome to help purchase future choral works for our singers. Contact the choir office for more information.

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Join us for an afternoon celebrating and supporting the Angelica organization with "Broadway, Movie & Pop Songs" along with special host Greta Grosch. The five youth choirs will present this special concert event established in honor of long time director Rita Docter's 25 years of dedicated service and leadership to the Angelica organization.

Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 2:00pm and 4:00pm. Schneider Theater, Bloomington Center for the Arts. All seats \$40 Order online: www.angelicacantanti.org

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