

## *safe, stable, loving, and*

## *permanent home:* You have a story to share...

...with your connection to the child welfare system, your experiences deserve to be heard. This is why composer Sean Ellis Hussey, in collaboration with Constellation Men's Ensemble, and in partnership with Intuit museum of outsider art are creating a musical ethnography of the foster care system in Chicago. We believe your stories can help reshape relevant issues within the foster care system in Cook County. If you have ever been involved in foster care within Cook County as a former or current foster youth, foster parent, biological family member of foster youth, social worker, CASA volunteer, or in any other capacity, please consider one of the following ways to share your experience and help build this work:

1. Email your stories, ideas, and/or questions to [fostercarevoices@gmail.com](mailto:fostercarevoices@gmail.com)
2. Call (312) 445-0859 and leave a short 1-3 min voicemail explaining your story.
3. Join us in one of our community gatherings at **Roosevelt University on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>** from **11:30am-1:00pm**. To RSVP or learn more, email [fostercarevoices@gmail.com](mailto:fostercarevoices@gmail.com). Space is limited, so please contact us ASAP.

**To Learn more about a Musical Ethnography of Foster Care in Chicago (MEFCC) continue reading below or visit [seanellishusseycomposer.com/mefcc](http://seanellishusseycomposer.com/mefcc)**

# A Musical Ethnography of Foster Care In Chicago

A *Musical Ethnography of Foster Care in Chicago (MEFCC)* will reveal the latency of child welfare through a multi-media vocal oratorio. This musical work will broadcast collected stories from those affected by and/or working within the foster care system in Cook County. Ultimately, this project will embolden audiences, performers, and the community to advocate for those affected by the foster care system, and in doing so enact an equitable, functional democracy.

visit [seanellishusseycomposer.com/mefcc](http://seanellishusseycomposer.com/mefcc)

## Composed by Sean Ellis Hussey

"My artistic focus stems from a foundation that sees music as a connective tool of empathy, compassion, and activism. In addition to *MEFCC*, this includes an ongoing project in Sweden called *Connecting Cultures Through Music (CCTM)* that seeks to use music as a communicative tool to reduce harmful biases between refugees and native Swedes. It is my goal to use music to advocate for social change, and bring people together."

visit [seanellishusseycomposer.com](http://seanellishusseycomposer.com)

## Performed by Constellation Men's Ensemble

Constellation Men's Ensemble (CME) is a Chicago-based vocal group dedicated to creating distinct performances in unique spaces, empowering the next generation of singers through educational engagement, and expanding the repertoire for men's vocal music by commissioning new works from both emerging and established composers.

CME's new music series, NOVA, highlights new original vocal art through the commissioning of living composers surrounding a theme. *MEFCC* will serve as the centerpiece for the 2020 NOVA concerts surrounding the theme of *house & home*.

visit [constellationensemble.org](http://constellationensemble.org)

