## Secrest Wardle Supports Grand Rapids Area Girls Choral Academy at "Raise Your Voice" Event





Secrest Wardle Partner, Amanda Fopma, (pictured left) and Paralegal, Laurie Weaver, (pictured right) both of the Firm's Grand Rapids office, attended the Girls Choral Academy (GCA) "Raise Your Voice" fundraising event on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The event took place at the City Flats Ballroom in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The table hosted luncheon gave those in attendance an opportunity to learn more about GCA's endeavors to provide girls across west Michigan with the opportunity to learn leadership skills and to elevate their level of self-confidence through music. Secrest Wardle proudly served as a "Member of the Choir" sponsor. Proceeds for the event support a major portion of the organization's operating budget.

Amanda Fopma and Laurie Weaver were in agreement about the positive effects GCA's outreach to young women through music has had in the community.

Amanda Fopma had this to say: "The Girls Choral Academy is a very worthy organization that allows young girls the opportunity to engage in an activity they love while creating an atmosphere promoting confidence, growth and acceptance of the differences which make each member unique. Through this program these girls learn self-confidence and the knowledge they can achieve their goals when they work hard. This program offers these individuals the opportunity for a sense of belonging as well as experiences like field trips and educational endeavors which they would not otherwise have. During the luncheon we were treated to performances from some of the younger members."

Laurie Weaver, also reflected on the event: "It's a very worthy charity, providing a sense of identity and self-confidence for girls who might otherwise not have these types of opportunities. The enthusiasm for the program was very evident at the luncheon and we had a chance to hear some performances."

Founded in 1997, the GCA provides excellent music education in a safe and positive setting where girls can explore a varied repertoire of choral music. They encourage and teach girls to excel as artists and musicians while providing opportunities for girls to collectively learn self-confidence, self-esteem and leadership skills. The Academy cultivates confident musicians and strong community stewards.

Secrest Wardle is a law firm specializing in defense litigation and counsel for insurance, municipal, and commercial clients headquartered in Troy, Michigan, with additional offices in Grand Rapids and Lansing.



Troy · 248-851-9500 Grand Rapids · 616-285-0143 Lansing · 517-886-1224 www.secrestwardle.com







