



Operation Superpower

Discovering your superpower

Every single person has a superpower. And every single person can become a superhero when they use that superpower to help others. Armand Ranjbaran (composer), John Brancy and Tobias Greenhalgh (baritones) (from here on referred to as “We”) have forged a musical superhero team known as Operation Superpower with the purpose of helping and inspiring students of all ages. Through operatic music and inspirational storytelling, we have set out to inspire the superheroes of tomorrow to discover their superpowers. We plan to support this goal with three sub-goals.

The first sub-goal of Operation Superpower is to redefine the words “Superhero” and “Superpower.” No longer do these terms refer to fictional characters – we believe that every day heroes should be recognized with these larger-than-life descriptions. A soldier is a superhero with the superpower to defend the innocent. A teacher has the gift of education. A musician can bring hope to a dark moment. A courageous third-grader can help his friend from being bullied. Our initial method of relaying this idea is through our performance. Throughout our performance, students have an opportunity to share their superpower as we constantly encourage them to believe in themselves and follow their dreams. We have witnessed students share incredible superpowers: swimming so they can save people as a lifeguard; basketball so they can teach people how to play; kindness so they can make people happy.

The next sub-goal, as in classic superhero fiction, is for superheroes to “team up.” The ultimate expression of friendship is when two individuals put aside their differences to help each other and their communities. We entered college with the intention to pursue solo careers. Yet, we have realized that we can support each other’s individual aspirations while also working together to contribute something positive to the world. The pivotal moment of our Operation Superpower performance is when we “team up” with all the students in the room and combine our superpowers. Through audience singing and interaction, we bring the performance to an emotionally charged finish in which the students walk away knowing they’ve worked together to create something positive.

The final sub-goal is to celebrate and spread awareness of all art forms. As we are classical musicians, our focus is on classical music. Armand’s music combined with Tobias and John’s singing creates an experience that we believe will attract new audiences to classical music. The performances are not only engaging on a musical level, but they are interactive to the point where the audience is an integral participant in the performance. The fact that the music exists in orchestral and chamber forms allows for versatile presentation.

As Operation Superpower, we will continue to help and inspire as many people as we can. When we hear young students speak of kindness and friendship, it is a truly humbling sign of how much we can learn from them.