

## Mr. Heijdens' Impact on my Life

Mr. Heijdens has likely impacted my life in more ways than he is aware of. Before I was born, my family immigrated from Egypt to Canada. Being born in Canada, the only relatives I had were immediate (mother, father, and two sisters). When Mr. Heijdens became a prominent leader in my life, I immediately respected and cared for him. He taught us life lessons, told us stories, was focused on making sure we were learning properly, and took care of each individual's well being. Mr. Heijdens has definitely been a grandfatherly figure in my life. I know for a fact that I am a better person because of him, and I am positive that I am not the only chorister who feels this way. In our last concert of him conducting us in Salzburg, he gave us a final official speech discussing how proud he was of us, his children. I truly don't know how to thank this man for being a magnificent leader in my life.

