

Concert Events and Performers (listed in order of performance)

Welcome to KC:

Kaleidoscope Concert

Tuesday 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Helzberg Hall

(Open to Both Tracks)

Allegro Choirs of Kansas City



Allegro Choirs of Kansas City inspire thousands of audience members each year with its varied repertoire and heartfelt singing. Allegro directly impacts the KC community by providing free concerts each season and three major performances to sold-out crowds. Drawn from across the metro, the singers in grades three through twelve represent over seventy schools in eight counties. The choirs are frequent guests of the Kansas City Symphony and have performed by invitation for state, regional, and national conventions and events. Allegro performed at the White House for a private performance for former president Obama. The choirs are featured on recordings for Santa Barbara Music Publishing, MusicSpoke, and other music publishers.



Christy Elsner is the founder and artistic director of the Allegro Choirs of Kansas City. Under her direction since 2000, Allegro has grown from one choir of thirty-eight to five choirs with over 200 singers. Elsner is engaging and demanding but wraps her unwavering pursuit of excellence in

humor and inspiring messages. She is currently finishing her second book, *The Athletic Singer*. She received her degree from the University of Kansas and earned the Marcus E. Hahn Award for Outstanding Senior in Music Education.

Kantorei KC



Kantorei KC was founded by Chris Munce to perform for a wedding in 2009, along with remaining founding members, Beth Munce and Courtney Williams. Under Munce's direction, Kantorei has recorded three albums, most recently for the UK label Resonus Classics. Kantorei has performed for various state ACDA conferences and concert series in the Midwest and maintains a local concert season in KC. Kantorei also offers a Summer Choral Institute in June that provides over 150 students the opportunity to learn from world-class clinicians and rehearse and perform alongside adult professional musicians.⁹⁰



Chris Munce is an accomplished choral performer, conductor, educator, clinician, and arts administrator. As a performer he is a member of Kantorei KC and the founder and artistic director. He has also performed with the Simon Carrington Chamber Singers and the Grammy-winning Kansas City Chorale. He serves as the director of choirs at Lee's Summit High School, where his choirs have performed on the Rising Stars series at Piccolo Spoleto and the Missouri Music Educators

Convention. He is the music director at Central United Methodist Church. Munce received degrees from the UMKC Conservatory.

Isaac Cates & Ordained



In 2004, Isaac Cates collaborated with a colleague to form Ordained, a small musical ensemble of skilled vocalists. Together, Isaac Cates & Ordained have appeared in concerts and been featured alongside some of the world's greatest artists ranging from gospel artists Bebe and Marvin Winans to country sensations Trace Adkins and Lyle Lovett. Comprising soloists, worship leaders, music educators, and instrumentalists, Ordained is praised for their dynamic sound. They released their first album in 2006 titled "Take My Life." Other album releases include a Christmas album, "Carol of The Bells." Ordained's music videos of "Hold On" and "Carol of The Bells" have over 1 million views on social media.



Isaac Cates is in demand as a choral clinician and music educator throughout the United States and Europe. In addition to his leadership at music seminars, he is also a prolific producer, music educator, and recording artist. Cates is a gifted pianist and vocal arranger, sought after for his vocal coaching expertise. His original composition, "Strong Tower," is sung and translated in over seventeen. Firmly rooted in both gospel and classical training, Cates combines soulful harmonies, polyphonic rhythms, and dazzling piano accompaniments to create his trademark sound.

Heartland Men's Chorus



Since its founding thirty-three years ago at the height of the AIDS crisis, Heartland Men's Chorus has sought to make music that makes a difference. The over 150 members of HMC, both singers and non-singers, are gay and gay-sensitive people who have joined together to make a positive cultural contribution to their community. HMC presents an annual three-concert season to over 6,500 audience members at the historic Folly Theater. In 2018 the chorus debuted Schools with Heart, a school outreach movement aimed at empowering students to make a positive impact on the culture of their school. In addition to national and international performances, HMC has been featured at state and regional ACDA conferences.



Dustin Cates is a conductor, singer, teacher, and proud native of Kansas City, Missouri. Cates was named artistic director of Heartland Men's Chorus in 2014. Prior to his work with HMC, he taught high school choral music in the Kansas City area and served as associate director of music at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection. Cates is a past president of the Kansas Choral Directors Association and holds degrees from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance and Baker University. Cates is currently in his final year of a graduate teaching fellowship at the University of Missouri-Kansas City pursuing a Ph.D. in choral music education.

Heartsongs Concert:
Cohen's *Alzheimer's Stories* and
Thomas's *Mass*

Wednesday 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm Helzberg Hall

Thursday 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm Helzberg Hall

Tallahassee Community Chorus



The Tallahassee Community Chorus is a mixed, non-auditioned ensemble numbering more than 230 singers. It began in 1988 as a collaborative effort between the Florida State University College of Music and thirty-seven community singers. In 2017 the ensemble received the American Prize, Community Chorus Division. The singers come from all over the Florida “Big Bend” and South Georgia and represent all ages, from high school students to senior citizens. The repertoire primarily focuses on large masterworks with orchestra. As part of its community outreach, the Chorus partners each concert with a nonprofit local service organization and invites school children to attend open dress rehearsals.



André J. Thomas, Owen F. Sellers Professor of Music, is director of choral activities at the Florida State University. He is in demand as a choral adjudicator, clinician, and director of honor/all-state

choirs around the world. Since 1988 he has served as artistic director of the Tallahassee Community Chorus. Distinguished as a composer/arranger, he has produced instructional videos and written the book, *Way Over in Beulah Lan’—Understanding and Performing the Negro Spiritu-*

al. Thomas has been awarded the Chorus America Distinguished Service Award, ACDA Robert Shaw Award, and NCCO Lifetime Achievement Award. Thomas is the national president-elect of ACDA.

The Music of Chen Yi and Zhou Long:
Legacy from the East

Wednesday 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Thursday 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

University of Missouri-Kansas City
Conservatory Singers



The UMKC Conservatory Singers is the flagship choral ensemble at the Conservatory, conducted by Robert Bode. The membership of the chorus comprises thirty graduate and upper-level undergraduate vocal studies students and graduate conducting students. The Conservatory Singers has a rich history of creative programming and collaboration, and regularly commissions and performs new choral works by America’s finest composers. The Conservatory Singers were featured in a performance of Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion* at the 2016 Southwest ACDA Region Conference in Kansas City. The ensemble’s latest CD, *The Deepness of the Blue: Three Choral Cycles by William Averitt*, is available on the MSR-Classic label.



Robert H. Bode is the Raymond R. Nevel/Missouri Endowed Chair of Choral Music and director of choral activities at the Conservatory of Music and Dance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Bode is the artistic director of Choral Arts Northwest, a semi-professional chamber chorus in Seattle, WA. In the spring of 2010, Bode and Choral Arts NW received the Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence, presented by Chorus America. Choral Arts performed at the 2014 National Chorus America Conference and the 2015 National ACDA Conference. Bode's choirs at UMKC have performed for regional and national conferences of ACDA and the Missouri MEA.

Robinson's teaching opportunities span a wide variety of music methods and performance areas including both graduate and undergraduate courses. He serves as conductor/clinician for honor choruses throughout the United States. He has served in varied leadership roles in the Southwestern ACDA Region and as president of the Missouri Choral Directors Association.

University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory Concert Choir



The Conservatory Concert Choir comprises outstanding freshman and sophomore singers who are committed to growth and expression through the process of choral music making. Singers in the ensemble are a diverse community of individuals representing a broad range of majors at UMKC including music education, vocal performance, music therapy, and varied degrees outside music. They embrace the study and performance of a wide variety of choral music. They are also dedicated to collaborations and service to the Kansas City community through annual projects and shared concerts.



Charles Robinson is professor of choral music education at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance. He earned bachelor's and doctoral degrees in choral mu-

Community of the World Concert

Wednesday 8:15 pm - 10:30 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Thursday 8:15 pm - 10:30 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

United States Air Force Singing Sergeants



The Singing Sergeants is the official chorus of the United States Air Force. Stationed at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in Washington, D.C., the group is one of six musical ensembles that comprise The U.S. Air Force Band. Featuring twenty active-duty Airmen musicians, the chorus presents more than 200 performances annually at military and civilian ceremonial and diplomatic functions, education outreach events, and public concerts throughout metropolitan Washington D.C. and around the nation. Originally formed as a men's chorus in 1945,

the Singing Sergeants became the first premier military chorus to enlist women in 1973. As part of The U.S. Air Force Band, the ensemble honors those who have served and inspires American citizens to heightened patriotism and service.



Philip R. Emory is the officer-in-charge of the U.S. Air Force Singing Sergeants. Originally from Mesa, Arizona, his Air Force career began in 2017, and he previously served as the flight commander of the U.S. Air Force Heritage of America Band. First Lieutenant Emory earned a BA from Bob Jones University and an MM in from the University of South Carolina. Highlights of his conducting career include leading the Singing Sergeants at the 2017 Kennedy Center Honors in Washington D.C., conducting instrumental ensembles at White House events, and multiple guest conducting engagements with professional symphonies and ensembles along the East Coast.

St. Stanislav Girls' Choir Slovenia



St. Stanislav Girls' Choir Slovenia under Helena Fojkar Zupančič's leadership is one of the five school choirs of The Diocesan Classical Gymnasium (Ljubljana, Slovenia) with 600 students. It comprises forty girls aged sixteen to nineteen who can sing in the choir for only three years. Their repertoire ranges from classical choral music of various periods to vocal pop and Slovene

folk songs. Special attention is devoted to commissioning new compositions by contemporary Slovene composers. The choir has received numerous awards at national and international competitions. In July 2017 they were the first Slovene choir to successfully perform at the eleventh WSCM in Barcelona.



Helena Fojkar Zupančič works as a choral conductor and vocal teacher at the Diocesan Classical Gymnasium of St. Stanislav's Institution (Ljubljana, Slovenia). She leads the St. Stanislav Girls' Choir and the St. Nicolas Choir Litija, both of which perform classical choral repertoire. She also leads the 110-member (Re)Mixed Choir of the DCG, which sings gospel, pop and musicals. She was the choirmaster of the Slovenian Children's Choir (2004-2009). As a guest conductor she performed with the Slovene Radio Chamber Choir (2009-2014) and the Slovenian Philharmonic Choir (2015). She was awarded the 2016 prize for outstanding achievements in the field of musical education presented by the Republic of Slovenia.



WSCM2020 in New Zealand – the choral experience of a lifetime!

Planning continues in earnest for the 12th World Symposium on Choral Music, to be held in Auckland, New Zealand, July 11-18, 2020.

The Symposium is the flagship event of the International Federation for Choral Music and is regarded as the showcase for the best the choral world has to offer. Up to 2,000 delegates gather to enjoy a week of concerts, lectures, workshops, and master classes given by many of the top choirs and presenters on the planet.

www.wscm2020.com

Ansan City Choir



Founded in 1995, Ansan City Choir is the representative professional choir of Ansan City and is frequently called upon to represent the Republic of Korea on the international stage. They are famous for their unique chamber repertoire and various styles. In August 2002 the choir was selected by the International Federation of Choral Music as one of the twenty-two best choral groups worldwide. In 2011 the choir sang in St. Peter's Basilica upon invitation by the Papal court of the Vatican. They also performed for the 2012 Northwestern ACDA Region Conference. The choir was invited by the IFCM to take part in the Eleventh World Symposium in 2017.



Shin-Hwa Park is the director of the Ansan City Choir, professor of music at Ewha Womans University, president emeritus of the KFCM, director of the Ewha Chamber Choir, member of the World Choir Council, and broadcasting host of FEBC FM. He also conducts the 150-member choir of Young-Nak Presbyterian church. He has conducted this choir and Ansan City Choir for twenty-three years. Park received his DMA from the University of Colorado at Boulder. From 1996 to 2018 his choirs have produced ninety-eight CDs. Recently he became the Korean representative member of the World Choir Council.

Nairobi Chamber Choir



The Nairobi Chamber Chorus (NCC) is one of Kenya's leading choral groups. It provides young Kenyans interested in choral music with a platform on which to build their careers and expand their knowledge and interest in the arts. NCC envisions a strong, well-trained musical community that uses music to promote peace and cross-cultural understanding through quality performance of choral music. The chorus has toured internationally and were Kenya's representatives to the celebrations to mark the Queen of England's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. Together with Festival Singers of Florida they began a global peace campaign on World Peace Day in 2016, which has led to the establishment of avoice4peace.org.



Ken Wakia is an alumnus of Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya. He also studied choral conducting at the University of Miami in Florida as a Fulbright Scholar, where he co-led the university's women's choir. He represented Kenya in the World Youth Choir 1997-2000 and was one of the two conductors of this choir in 2017. He is the founding director of one of Kenya's top choral groups and the internationally acclaimed Nairobi Chamber Chorus and the Safaricom choir. Wakia has conducted choirs in the United States and Europe. He is the president of the Kenya Choral Directors Trust.

President's Concert

John Rutter's *Fanfare* & Ernest Bloch's *'Sacred Service'*

(KC Symphony and Symphony Chorus)

Wednesday 9:00 pm - 10:30 pm Helzberg Hall

Thursday 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm Helzberg Hall

Kansas City Symphony



Founded in 1982, the Kansas City Symphony is a major force in the cultural life of the community. Praised for performances of uncompromising standard, the orchestra comprises eighty full-time musicians and enjoys a national reputation under the artistic leadership of music director Michael Stern. The Kansas City Symphony Chorus is a volunteer, 160-member ensemble led by multi-Grammy Award-winning conductor Charles Bruffy that continues its long tradition of excellence as the choral voice of the Kansas City Symphony. Presenting more than 100 concerts annually in a forty-two-week season, the Symphony also performs for the Kansas City Ballet and Lyric Opera of Kansas City.



Michael Stern is in his fourteenth season as music director with the Kansas City Symphony. Stern also serves as the founding artistic director and principal conductor of the IRIS Orchestra in Germantown, Tennessee. His other positions have included chief conductor of Germany's Saarbrück-

en Radio Symphony Orchestra, permanent guest conductor of the Orchestre National de Lyon in France, and a stint as the principal guest conductor of the Orchestre National de Lille, France. Stern received his music degree from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and he is a 1981 graduate of Harvard University, where he earned a degree in American history.

Kansas City Symphony Chorus

The Kansas City Symphony Chorus, led by Grammy Award-winning chorus director Charles Bruffy, is a 160-voice ensemble that has been offering quality choral music to the greater Kansas City area since the early 1960s, first as the Mendelssohn Choir and then as the Civic Chorus. Conductors Eph Ehly and Arnold Epley led the Symphony Chorus before Bruffy's appointment in 2008. The Symphony Chorus has represented Kansas City in five concert tours with performances in New York City, Boston, the Berkshires, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Mexico, where it performed with the Mexico City Symphony. The Symphony Chorus musicians are all volunteers from the region's extensive musical community selected through rigorous auditions.



Charles Bruffy began his career as a tenor soloist, performing with the Robert Shaw Festival Singers for recordings and concerts in France and concerts at Carnegie Hall. Bruffy received his bachelor's from Missouri Western University and his master's from the Conservatory of Music and Dance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Bruffy has been artistic director of the Kansas City Chorale since 1988 and chorus director for the Kansas City Symphony since 2008. He is also music director for Rolling Hills Presbyterian Church. His discography includes five albums on the Nimbus label and eight with Chandos Records, three of which have Grammy Awards for Best Choral Performance.

Soloist



Stephen Powell's engagements this season include the role of Oliver Jordan in William Bolcom's *Dinner at Eight* with Wexford Festival Opera, the title role of Rigoletto with San Diego Opera, Brahms's *German Requiem* with the St. Louis and Milwaukee symphony orchestras, and *Carmina burana* with the Dallas and North Carolina symphonies. Powell regularly appears as soloist with the country's leading orchestras, performing *Carmina burana*, *Messiah* and *Belshazzar's Feast* along with Britten's *War Requiem* and Jonathan Leshnoff's *Symphony No. 3*.

Graduate Conducting Competition

Sponsored by Manhattan Concert Productions

Thursday 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Grace Trinity Church

Finals - Friday 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Grace Trinity Church

Undergraduate Master Class

Friday 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Grace Trinity Church

Missouri State University Chorale



The Missouri State University Chorale is the flagship choral ensemble at Missouri State University. The MSU Chorale has performed regularly at conferences of ACDA, Missouri MEA, NAFME, and has toured through the United States, Europe, China, and South Africa. Recent highlights include performances for NCCO, the Southwestern ACDA Region Conference, an eighteen-day concert tour of Iceland, Norway, Denmark, and Sweden, and performances at the China International Chorus Festival, the Yellow River International Choral Festival, the China International Folk Song Festival, and the IFCM World Voices Conference.



Cameron F. LaBarr is director of choral studies at Missouri State University, where he leads a comprehensive choral program including over 250 singers in seven choirs. He holds a bachelor's from Missouri State



**A service learning program
opportunity for student chapters**

ChorTransform takes students into settings with underserved populations – such as urban or rural schools, under-resourced programs, or programs that lack administrative or community support – to help pre-service choral directors gain insights into the challenges of early career

Want to learn how to start a program on your campus?

Contact the ACDA National Office (Sundra Flansburg at sflansburg@acda.org) and ask for the ChorTransform Toolkit, which describes program requirements and provides template agreements and other documents.

University and advanced degrees from the University of North Texas. Choirs under his direction have been selected for performance for Tennessee MEA Tennessee ACDA, Missouri MEA, the Piccolo Spoleto Festival, NCCO, SWACDA, the Intercollegiate Men's Chorus National Seminar, and the China International Chorus Festival.

Barbershop/Showchoir Concert

Thursday 6:30 pm - 8:15 pm Folly Theater
(Open to Both Tracks)

and

Thursday 9:00 pm - 10:45 pm Folly Theater
(Open to Both Tracks)

Central Standard Chorus (Kansas City Metro Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society)

As of press time no photo or bio were provided.



Robert Mance is in his ninth year as artistic director of the male a cappella ensemble Central Standard, based in Kansas City. He is also the founding director of the women's a cappella ensemble, Vocal Standard. Mance previously served as interim director of choral activities and interim voice area director at William Jewell College. Additionally, he sang with the Westminster Choir and Kansas City Chorale. He currently serves as director of music at Shawnee Presbyterian Church, where he maintains a voice studio and recording studio. Mance has studied at McGill University, Westminster Choir College, and the University of Kansas.

The Westminster Chorus (Westminster CA Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society)



The Westminster Chorus was founded in 2002 by young barbershoppers who wanted a venue to sing with their peers. They quickly climbed the ranks of the Barbershop Harmony Society and became three-time International Champions. In 2009 they were crowned "Choir of the World" at the International Musical Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales. The Westminster Chorus has numerous cities across the United States and internationally. Members of the Westminster Chorus come from all walks of life for one purpose: to sing at a high skill level and enjoy the company of young musicians who share this goal.



Justin Miller is a native Southern Californian but was raised in Westport, CT. Miller is a graduate of Chapman University, where he earned degrees in music education and conducting and a teaching credential. He has been director of the Westminster Chorus since 2008. During his tenure, it has grown into an ensemble with a diverse repertoire while keeping its roots in the Barbershop style. He is also the director of choral music at Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana, CA, and is the director of the Masters of Harmony. Miller is an active clinician and guest conductor on both local and national levels.

Roosevelt High School Executive Suite



Roosevelt High School's Executive Suite is an auditioned choral ensemble achieving a high level of mastery in singing, dancing, and stage performance. Beginning in August of each year, the ensemble works together with a strong sense of community, motivation, and discipline to create a twenty-minute Broadway-style production from the ground up. Executive Suite is just one of ten choirs belonging to a comprehensive choral department of multiple ensembles, including chamber, jazz, men's and women's choirs, receiving regular invitations to festivals and conventions throughout the nation.



Robyn Starks Holcomb has served as the head vocal director at Roosevelt High School since 2011. Under her direction the program has grown to ten choirs and twelve daily rehearsals of over 600 singers. She has worked professionally as a conductor, church musician, singer, actress, dancer, director, choreographer, and educator for twenty years. Previous positions include teaching at the elementary and middle school levels, conducting church and community choirs, touring as a performer, and serving as an artist in residence for the South Dakota Arts Council.

Music in Worship Service:

Sing Community, Sing Peace

Friday 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

(Open to Both Tracks)

and

Friday 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

(Open to Both Tracks)

The Aeolians of Oakwood University



Established in 1946, the Aeolians of Oakwood University present choral music repertoire from the Baroque era to the twenty-first century, becoming an authoritative exponent of Negro spirituals and Work songs. The choir has collaborated with symphony orchestras to present masterpieces of Brahms, Mozart, Schoenberg, Dvorak, Verdi, and Dett. In 2017, the Aeolians won the Choir of the World award at the LLangollen International Musical Festival. The choir won three gold medals at the 10th World Choir Games and the overall championship for both the University Choir and the Spirituals categories in 2018.



Jason Max Ferdinand is the director of choral activities, professor, and chair of the music department at Oakwood University, where he directs the Aeolians of Oakwood University. In 2017 he earned

the Outstanding Director and Choir of the World Awards at the Llangollen International Musical Festival in Wales. He is a published composer with GIA publications, and his new series with Walton Music released in 2018. In 2018 he was named "Teacher of the Year" by Oakwood University. Ferdinand holds degrees from Oakwood University and Morgan State University, and a doctorate from the University of Maryland.

Unity Church-Unitarian Unity Singers



Unity Singers began in the fall of 2005, auditioned from a membership of 800. They have grown from sixteen to twenty-one voices that speak as one to the human experience through words, harmony, and spirit. Their purpose is to communicate the blessings of existing within the embrace of a religious community that encourages each of us to live lives of integrity, service, and joy. Unity Singers has performed for Minnesota Addictions Association, Women's Advocates, Model Cities 50th Anniversary, and Children's HeartLink.



Ruth Palmer has a distinguished career as pianist, vocal coach, and choral conductor. Her recital work has taken her to Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Weill Recital Hall, National Gallery of Art, and Orchestra Hall and McKnight Theater in Minnesota. Palmer was coach and pianist for national winners in the NATS Artist Award, National Metropolitan Opera Auditions, Rosa Ponselle International Vocal

Competition, and Carnegie American Music Competition. She also served as associate conductor/pianist of the Dale Warland Singers; and pianist for Dale Warland with Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale and Minnesota Beethoven Festival Chorale.

2020 Division Conferences

Save the Date

Central and North Central

Milwaukee, WI
March 4-7, 2020

Eastern

Rochester, NY
March 4-7, 2020

Southern

Mobile, AL
March 10-14, 2020

Southwestern

Little Rock, AR
March 4-7, 2020

Northwestern

Spokane, WA
March 10-14, 2020

Western

Salt Lake City, UT
March 4-7, 2020

Vocal Jazz/Contemporary A Cappella Concert

Friday 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Folly Theater
 (Open to Both Tracks)

and

Friday 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm Folly Theater
 (Open to Both Tracks)

Valley High School

Vocalese



Vocalese is the varsity jazz choir at Valley High School in West Des Moines, Iowa. A co-curricular ensemble that meets twice per week after school, Vocalese consists of students in grades 10-12. They perform advanced jazz repertoire and participate in regional festivals and competitions throughout the year. Under the direction of Haley Gibbons since 2012, Vocalese earned a Downbeat Award in 2015 for “Outstanding Performance” in the High School Large Vocal Jazz Ensemble category. In January 2019 they will have the privilege of opening for the New York Voices in concert. Vocalese is part of a thriving choral program and music department at Valley, which includes nine curricular and co-curricular choirs.



Haley Gibbons directs the Valley High School choral program in West Des Moines, Iowa, where she leads traditional, show, and jazz ensembles. She conducts two curricular choirs: Valley Singers, a select-auditioned chamber choir,

and Concert Choir, Valley’s non-auditioned large ensemble. In addition, Gibbons leads two varsity co-curricular groups: Choralation show choir and Vocalese jazz choir. Under her direction, Vocalese won the Iowa Vocal Jazz State Championships four times. Gibbons serves as the Iowa All-State Jazz Choir Chair for the Iowa Choral Directors Association. A 2011 graduate of Luther College, Gibbons earned her master’s from the Florida State University.

Vestavia Hills High School

Just Singin’



Just Singin’ is one of eight curricular choirs at Vestavia Hills High School and is under the direction of Megan Wicks-Rudolph. This twenty-member, non-competitive, pop a cappella group consists of students in grades 10-12 who are all members of one of the other seven choirs at VHHS. In addition to pre-arranged music, they enjoy writing and performing their own arrangements. Previous performance highlights have included opening for The National A Cappella Convention in Memphis, TN; singing at the Alabama Music Educators’ Conference; and opening for the professional pop a cappella group Vocalosity.



Megan Wicks-Rudolph is the director of choral activities at Vestavia Hills High School, where she oversees eight choirs. Her choirs consistently receive superior ratings at state, regional, and national festivals and competitions. Choirs under

her direction have performed at the Alabama State Music Educators' conference and Choir Nationals for Top Choirs in Carnegie Hall. Rudolph is Nationally Board Certified (2003, 2013), and currently serves as the R&R Chair for Jazz Choirs for Southern ACDA Region. She is past president of Alabama ACDA.



Gavin Dover is in his fourth year of teaching choral music. He earned his bachelor's from the University of Alabama. Dover currently serves as the senior class sponsor and director of Musical Theatre at Vestavia Hills High School. He is also the current newsletter editor and social media chair for Alabama ACDA. He has served as a show choir consultant since 2010 for multiple programs around the state of Alabama. During his tenure at Alabama, he helped to build the show choir program to a recognized level of excellence, which culminated in acting as the host choir at Show Choir Nationals in Orlando, Florida.

Vox Now was recently featured in a TEDx video and was invited to perform at the 2019 JEN conference. The ensemble placed first at the 2017 Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival and was awarded a 2017 and 2018 *Downbeat Magazine* Student Music Award. The ensemble holds a benefit concert every fall benefiting local nonprofit organizations.



Gaw Vang Williams is a vocalist and educator native to Sacramento, California. She became the director of the vocal jazz program at the Sacramento State School of Music in 2014, where she earned her degrees. She began teaching in 2004, serving as a music educator at various schools and music organizations. She was a member of the 2007 world champion Blue Devils Drum and Bugle Corps. Professional appearances as an assisting artist include live performances with Nancy King, New York Voices, Ben Folds, and the San Francisco Symphony. Under Williams's direction, the Sac State vocal jazz program has won seven *Downbeat Magazine* Student awards.

Sacramento State University

Vox Now



Vox Now is one of four Sacramento State vocal jazz ensembles and is under the direction of Gaw Vang Williams. The sounds of Vox Now are influenced by great vocal jazz groups of the past and present. The ensemble also explores contemporary vocal jazz and a cappella music and features student compositions and arrange-

Exhibit Hours

2019 ACDA National Conference

Wed, Feb 27

8:00 am - 2:00 pm and
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Thur, Feb. 28

9:00 am - 2:00 pm and
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Fri, Mar. 1

9:00 am - 2:00 pm and
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Sat, Mar. 2

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Jubilee Anniversary Concert

Friday 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Friday 9:00 pm - 10:15 pm Helzberg Hall

Brock Commission Performance

Composed by Jake Runestad

Capital University Chapel Choir



Since 1929, the Capital University Chapel Choir has upheld the rich Lutheran heritage of fine choral singing and has received national and international acclaim as a premier collegiate choral ensemble. The Chapel Choir has performed for numerous state, regional, national, and international conferences, including ACDA, NCCO, Ohio MEA, NAfME, Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, and for INTERKULTUR at the World Choir Games, where they won gold medals in the Mixed Choir and Musica Sacra competitions. Most recently the chapel choir, along with the Choral Union and composer Jake Runestad, was awarded the 2018 American Prize, Ernst Bacon Memorial Award, for the Performance of American Music.



Lynda R. Hasseler, is director of choral activities and professor of music in the Conservatory of Music at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, where she directs the Chapel Choir, Choral Union, and a cappella ensemble, Philomel. Choirs under her direction have performed for regional,

national, and international conferences and festivals and have toured nationally and internationally. She is co-editor of the *Capital University Choral Series* published by Beckenhorst Press, a member of the Music for All-National Artistic Advisory Committee, and is in demand as a presenter and guest conductor.

Seraphic Fire



Seraphic Fire, Florida's Grammy-nominated vocal ensemble, brings together professional vocal and instrumental artists from around the country to perform repertoire ranging from Medieval chant and Baroque masterpieces to Brahms and commissions by leading living composers. The 2018-2019 Season celebrates cultural diversity through collaborations with fellow Aspen Music Festival resident American Brass Quintet for Renaissance music of Spain under founder and artistic director Patrick Dupré Quigley, with 2013 National Arts and Humanities Presidential Award recipient Anthony Trecek-King, and with National Chorus of Korea Artistic Director E. J. Yoon.



Patrick Dupré Quigley is Seraphic Fire's founder and artistic director. He has been a guest conductor of San Francisco Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra, Utah Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Grand Rapids Symphony, New World Symphony, San Antonio Symphony, Louisiana

Philharmonic Orchestra, Mobile Symphony Orchestra, and the Naples Philharmonic. This season, Quigley will make debuts with Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and the New Jersey Symphony. He holds degrees from the Yale School of Music and the University of Notre Dame, and he also studied at the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy's Fundraising School.

Voz En Punto (Mexico)



Founded in 1990, Voz en Punto is the a cappella ensemble with the most brilliant international projection in the history of Mexican music. The group has performed with great figures such as Bobby McFerrin and The King's Singers.



José Galván is one of the most recognizable figures of choral singing in Mexico. His compositions and vocal arrangements are sung by choirs from around the world. In 1990, Galván founded Voz en Punto. He has performed with both vocal international music and Mexican music characters and institutions such as Bobby McFerrin, The King's Singers, National Symphonic Orchestra, and Nandayapa Marimba. His goal as an artist is that Mexico experiences the pleasure of choral singing and that choral singing enriches audiences with the immense Mexican music culture.

Gospel Mass Celebration

Saturday 10:45 am - 11:45 am Muriel Kauffman Theater
(Open to Both Tracks)

and

Saturday 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater
(Open to Both Tracks)

Conductor



Kevin McBeth is director of music at manchester United Methodist Church and associate conductor for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, leading the In Unison Chorus and the Holiday Festival Chorus. McBeth is a graduate of Houston Baptist University and has done graduate studies at the University of Houston. He is ACDA's National R&R Chair for Community Choirs. McBeth's orchestral conducting credits include performances with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Houston Civic Symphony, Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra, New England Symphonic Ensemble, and the Distinguished Concerts Orchestra.

Growing the Profession



mentoring.acda.org

Central Methodist University



The CMU Choir was founded in 1932. The group's first performances included a radio station concert on WDAF in Kansas City and services at two Kansas City Methodist Churches. Central Methodist students and faculty auditioned, and in 1934 the choir was established, beginning the tradition of vocal excellence. The CMU Chorale continues to expand their sphere of musical influence with over twenty-five concerts each year. The Chorale toured Nashville, Tennessee, in 2018 with a pinnacle performance at the Nashville Symphony. The National ACDA 40th anniversary of Robert Ray's *Gospel Mass* and a performance at the Missouri Music Educators Convention will highlight 2019.



Claude R. Westfall is director of choral activities at Central Methodist University and has served as an educator for forty-two years. His choirs have performed at state and national conventions and have traveled nationally and internation-

ally. In 2000, Westfall became a recipient of a Grammy Gold Signature School Award, and in 2005 he received the Outstanding Missouri State University Alumni Award. In 2018, Westfall was the recipient of the Missouri ACDA Luther T. Spayde Award for Excellence and Commitment to Choral Music. He holds a BME from Southwest Baptist, MME from MSU, and a PhD from the University of Missouri.

Harris Stowe State University

Concert Chorale

The Harris-Stowe State University Music Department offers a variety of music programming and organizations available to all HSSU students. Some of the performing ensembles include the Drumline, Gospel Choir, and Concert Chorale. Courses where students can gain greater appreciation for music or learn to play an instrument include African American Music, Basic Music, Fundamentals of Piano, and Fundamentals of Voice. Currently, a plan is also in development to launch a bachelor's degree in music program starting in the fall of 2019.



Robert McNichols Jr. is the assistant professor of music for Harris-Stowe State University, where he teaches courses in vocal music and conducts the Concert Chorale. He holds a DMA from the University of Kansas and was selected to be a 2016-2017 recipient of the Regional Arts Commission Artist Fellowship Grant. Upcoming performances include returning as a guest soloist with the St. Louis Chamber Project and producing a stage musical on the campus at Harris-Stowe State University. Recent performances include two world premieres: *The Devil and the Law* with Chamber Project St. Louis and the role of Oloferno in *The Borgia Infami* with Winter Opera.

Isaac Cates & Ordained

Isaac Cates & Ordained will be a part of this performance. Their photos and bios are on page 22.

Registration Hours

Tues 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm, Wed 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
 Thur 7:30 am - 6:00 pm, Fri 7:30 am - 7:00 pm

Lincoln University Vocal Ensemble



Lincoln University Vocal Ensemble (LUVE) was founded in 1977 by Robert L. Mitchell Sr. and given its present name in 1980. The size of the ensemble has ranged from as few as eight members to more than forty. LUVE has earned wide respect for the musical and emotive quality of its performance in a wide range of choral styles, including jazz, gospel, and spirituals. LUVE has performed the national anthem at Busch Stadium; the Jazz Festival in Jefferson City, Missouri; for Bishop Desmond Tutu's appearance at the Missouri Episcopal Diocese Meeting in Chesterfield, Missouri. They have sung for events sponsored by the NAACP, for Christian United for Racial Equity, and for Missouri CDA.



Michelle Gamblin-Green is assistant professor of music/director of choirs at Lincoln University, where she conducts the Lincoln University Choir and Vocal Ensemble. A graduate of Spelman College, she holds degrees from Bowling Green

State University, where she was the assistant choral director of the Bowling Green State University Women's Chorus. She has also served as director of the Brazeal Dennard Chorale and Brazeal Dennard Youth Chorale. She has assisted with choral preparation of major choral works for performances with the Cleveland State University Chamber Orchestra, Louisville Symphony Orchestra, and Detroit Symphony and Metropolitan Orchestras.

Mineral Area Community College MAC Singers



Mineral Area College is located in Park Hills, MO, about an hour south of St. Louis. The MAC Singers are the flagship choral ensemble, and the select choir is proudly made up of students from various towns studying numerous academic subjects and disciplines. Delighting in diversity, MAC Singers enjoys performing repertoire from early Renaissance motets to contemporary gospel songs. Along with touring regional high schools annually, MAC Singers has traveled and shared concerts with choral ensembles from other higher education institutions in the state, including the University of Missouri-Columbia, Southeast Missouri State University, and the University of Missouri-St. Louis.



Harry Cecil, director of choirs at Mineral Area College, earned degrees from Truman State University and the University of Missouri-Columbia. At Mineral Area College, Cecil oversees three choral ensembles and the Applied Voice Studio.

He also serves as an assistant director to the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra's In Unison Chorus. Before Mineral Area College, Cecil was the vocal music teacher at Jennings Sr. High School in St. Louis. He has dedicated significant study to the preservation and practice of African American music and spirituals, and the focus for increased diversity and cultural awareness in the classroom, and he has taught courses and workshops in these subjects.

William Jewell College Concert Choir



The William Jewell College Concert Choir, conducted by Anthony J. Maglione, is an auditioned, highly selective ensemble composed of the college's best undergraduate choral singers. Recently, the Concert Choir was named runner-up for The American Prize in Choral Performance, College/University Division. The Concert Choir was invited to perform at the 2015 Missouri MEA's In-Service Workshop/Conference and the 2016 Southwestern ACDA Region Conference. Since 1985, the Concert Choir has made a triennial two-week concert tour through England and Scotland. The Concert Choir's latest two albums are on Centaur Records and Albany Records.



Anthony J. Maglione is a graduate of Westminster Choir College of Rider University, East Carolina University, and the University of California, Los Angeles. He is the director of choral studies at William Jewell College, where, under his direction, the Concert Choir was runner-up for the 2015 American Prize in Choral Performance, College/University Division. In addition to his responsibilities at William Jewell College, he serves as artist-in-residence and choir master at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Kansas City and conductor emeritus of the Freelance Ensemble Artists of NJ, a symphony orchestra based in Central NJ.

Children's Honor Choir

Saturday 11:45 am - 12:15 pm Helzberg Hall
 (Available to Both Tracks)



Emily Ellsworth is nationally recognized as a leader in the field of youth chorus directors. She served as artistic director of Anima (Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus) from 1996 to 2018. Her leadership of Anima won several national awards: Chicago A Cappella's 2014 Tribute Award, Chorus America's 2013 ASCAP award for Adventurous Programming, the 2009 Dale Warland Singers Commissioning Award, and the 2008 Margaret Hillis Award for Artistic Excellence. Ellsworth has led all-state choirs and festivals in over thirty states and three regions of ACDA. She has prepared youth ensembles for Chicago's major musical organizations.

Middle School/Junior High Honor Choir

Saturday 12:45 pm - 1:15 pm Helzberg Hall
 (Available to Both Tracks)



Derrick Fox is the director of choral activities at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. He earned degrees from Arkansas State University, the University of Missouri—Columbia, and Michigan State University, where he was awarded the prestigious University Enrichment Graduate Fellowship. Fox has conducted all state/honor choirs and led professional workshops across the United States and internationally, that focus on assessment strategies, building classroom community, rehearsal strategies, choral conducting techniques, and African American shape-note singing. His compositions and arrangements are published by Hal Leonard and Brilee Music.

National Legacy Director's Chorus

Saturday 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater
(Open to Both Tracks)



Charlene Archibeque was the first woman to receive the doctorate of musical arts in choral conducting. She prepared hundreds of choral directors and mentored over eighty master's students during her thirty-five-year tenure at San Jose State

University. SJSU choirs performed for over twenty-five professional conferences, including three ACDA national conferences. The SJSU Choraliers took sixteen tours abroad, winning seven International Competitions. She has conducted festival choirs, honor choirs, and all-state choirs in forty-six states and six Canadian provinces. She has served as headliner for state, divisional, and national ACDA, MENC, and BCMEA conventions



Eph Ehly has conducted over eighty all-state choirs and more than 600 festival ensembles. As a conductor, author, lecturer, and clinician he has appeared in forty-eight states and around the world. Ehly retired from the Conservatory of

Music, University of Missouri-Kansas City after twenty-seven years of service. He has additionally served at the University of Oklahoma and University of New Mexico. Ehly is the recipient of numerous teaching and performance excellence awards and grants, including the Missouri Choral Directors Association Luther Spade Choral Director of the Year Award and the AMOCO Foundation Outstanding Teaching Award.



Rodney Eichenberger is professor emeritus at the Florida State University. He joined ACDA in the early sixties and served as the local chair of the last ACDA convention in conjunction with MENC in 1968. He served as Northwest Region

president from 1969 to 1973 and has attended all national and at least one or two regional conventions since the

first independent convention in Kansas City in 1971. He led graduate conducting programs at the University of Washington, the University of Southern California, and the Florida State University. His conducting DVDs are widely used in university conducting classes.



Kenneth Fulton was alumni professor of choral studies at LSU for twenty-seven years, where he conducted the LSU A Cappella Choir and produced over one hundred graduates of advanced degrees in choral conducting. He was named

one of LSU's distinguished professors and received the Sanders Alumni Professorship. For fifteen years he was chorusmaster for the Baton Rouge Symphony Chorus and served as artistic director/conductor for the Linz, Austria, International Choral Festival for nine years. Fulton conducted honor festival choruses, master classes, and conductor/teacher workshops in forty-seven states. He is a past president of the Southern ACDA Region Texas ACDA, and Louisiana ACDA.



William Hatcher resides in Rancho Bernardo, California, having retired after forty-three years of conducting and teaching choral music. His last eleven years were at the University of Iowa, where he was director of choral activities.

He was the national president of ACDA from 1991 to 1993, and served as chair of the ACDA Endowment Trust. He was the recipient of the Howard Swan Award for lifetime achievement by the California ACDA and received the Weston Noble Award for Lifetime Achievement by North Central ACDA. Hatcher was also the coordinator and associate director of the 1,000-voice Olympic Honor Choir, which sang for the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1984 Olympiad in Los Angeles.



Sigrid Johnson is professor emerita at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. She holds degrees from St. Cloud State University (Minnesota) and the University of Michigan. Johnson was a featured

Concert Events and Performers (listed in order of performance)

lecturer at world symposia in Minneapolis, Copenhagen, and Argentina. She was also a member of the jury for the Béla Bartók International Choral Competition in Debrecen, Hungary, and was a featured lecturer and clinician at the Australian National Choral Association Conference. Johnson has served as conductor of the Dale Warland Symphonic Chorus, associate conductor of the Dale Warland Singers, and associate conductor of VocalEssence in Minneapolis.



Ann Howard Jones is professor emerita of music at Boston University, where she was responsible for the highly regarded graduate program in choral conducting, and conducted the Chamber Chorus and the Symphonic Chorus. From 1981

to 1996, Jones was the assistant to the late conductor Robert Shaw with the Atlanta Symphony Chorus and the Robert Shaw Institute. Jones conducted the chorus of the Young Artists Vocal Program at the BU Tanglewood Institute from 1984 to 1993. She received the Robert Shaw Choral Award from ACDA (2011), the Distinguished Service to the Profession Award from Chorus America (2014), the Metcalf Teaching Award from Boston University (2003).



Jerry McCoy is regents professor of music emeritus for the University of North Texas, where between 2000 and 2015 he led the UNT choral program to national and international acclaim while serving as director of choral studies and

conductor of the A Cappella Choir. From 2007 to 2015, McCoy served as a member of the ACDA National Executive Committee and as national president from 2009 to 2011. He is currently in his eleventh season as artistic director of the Fort Worth Chorale. The 2013 winner of the TCDA's Choirmaster Award, McCoy was recently nominated for a \$10,000 grant as part of the national TIAA Difference Makers Program.



Albert McNeil is a living legend in the international choral community. Under his guidance, the Albert McNeil Jubilee Singers has garnered international acclaim and focused worldwide attention on the vast body of folk music termed "African-American." In 1968 the Singers undertook their first European tour, and today they are among the most honored singing ensembles in the world, having been selected three times to serve the U.S. State Department and USIS Cultural Exchange Program in areas of the world including East Germany, Hungary, Romania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Iran, India, North and West Africa, Egypt, and the United Arab Emirates.



Donald Neuen retired in 2014 after twenty years on the UCLA faculty. Prior to UCLA, he was director of choral activities for the Eastman School of Music for twelve years. In 1970, Neuen held choral positions with the Universities of Wisconsin, Tennessee, Georgia State, and Ball State. He authored *Choral Concepts*, a choral conducting textbook. In 2017, Neuen retired as the conductor of the internationally televised Hour of Power Choir.



Dale Warland has made an indelible impression on contemporary choral music, nationally and internationally. In a quarter-century with the Dale Warland Singers (DWS), he shaped an all-professional cappella ensemble lauded for its exquisite sound, technical finesse, and stylistic range. After disbanding the DWS in 2004, he served as music director of The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale and the Minnesota Beethoven Festival Chorale—both positions created for him. Warland's many honors include awards from ASCAP, the McKnight Foundation, Chorus America, and a Grammy nomination. In 2012 he was inducted into the American Classical Music Hall of Fame.

High School/Collegiate TTBB Honor Choir

Saturday 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm Helzberg Hall
(Available to Both Tracks)



Jefferson Johnson is director of choral activities at the University of Kentucky, where he conducts the University Chorale and Men's Chorus. He also teaches advanced choral conducting, choral methods and literature, and directs the graduate programs in choral music. Johnson has conducted honor choruses and been a clinician in thirty-five states and ten countries. In 2017, Johnson was named the third recipient of the "Distinguished Choral Alumnus Award" from the University of Colorado. The UK Men's Chorus was featured at the ACDA National Conventions in 2015 (Salt Lake City) and 2011 (Chicago), and at three Southern ACDA Region Conferences in 2018, 2012, and 2008.

High School/Collegiate SSAA Honor Choir

Saturday 5:15 pm - 5:45 pm Helzberg Hall
(Available to Both Tracks)



Sandra Snow is a conductor, teacher, and scholar whose work spans a wide variety of ages, abilities, and musics. She holds appointments in conducting and music education at the Michigan State University College of Music, where she conducts the MSU Women's Chamber Ensemble, a group that has appeared as featured performers at numerous ACDA conferences. Snow is author of the DVD "Conducting-Teaching: Real World Strategies for Success" (GIA, 2009), and she is the artistic director of the CME Institute for Choral Teacher Education, established by Founding Director Dr. Doreen Rao and produced at Michigan State University.

Legacy of Excellence Concert

Saturday 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Saturday 8:45 pm - 10:00 pm Helzberg Hall

Kansas City Chorale



Since their debut performance in 1982, the Kansas City Chorale has provided audiences with a high caliber of choral artistry, performing a diverse repertoire of new and traditional music. Under Charles Bruffy's leadership, the choir has garnered international recognition for artistic merit, having been praised for its refined sound, phrasing, and flawless intonation. Beyond the traditional season of local concerts, Bruffy has brought the choir's talent to the global stage. In 2009, the Kansas City Chorale was invited as one of four choral groups—and the only one from the United States—to perform at the prestigious Incheon Choral Festival in South Korea. The group also performed at Canada's Podium 2014 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, once again as the only American ensemble.

The Kansas City Chorale is conducted by Charles Bruffy. His photo and bio are on page 27.

Will Todd's *Passion Music*

Saturday 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm Helzberg Hall

(Open to Both Tracks)

Kantorei KC

Kantorei KC and their conductor, Chris Munce, will perform this concert. Their photos and bios are on page 21. This performance will include soloist Milly Edwards and students and alumni of UMKC Conservatory of music and dance.

Concert Session A

Wednesday 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm Helzberg Hall

Wednesday 3:45 pm - 5:45 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Cantible Youth Singers of Silicon Valley

Vocalise



Vocalise is the top treble ensemble comprising fifty middle and high school singers. Under the direction of Elena Sharkova and Jace Wittig, the choir presents seasonal concerts, collaborates with professional arts organizations of the San Francisco Bay Area, records, and tours internationally each year. Highlights include performances at the 2017 World Symposium on Choral Music in Barcelona, the 2016 Western ACDA Region Conference, and the 2018 California ACDA Conference. Vocalise singers appear annually with Symphony Silicon Valley and have performed with Kronos Quartet, Opera/Ballet San Jose, Cappella SF, British composer Will Todd, actor Ryan Gosling, and NYC-based visual artist Nene Humphrey.



Elena Sharkova's recent conducting engagements include performances of Sergei Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil* with the BBC Singers (London and Glasgow) and Cincinnati Vocal Arts Ensemble. In 2016 she was guest conductor of Houston Chamber Choir and Grammy-nominated Seraphic

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Fire and served as guest music director of the Grammy-winning Chanticleer in 2013. Artistic director of Cantabile Youth Singers since 2004, Elena Sharkova supervises all performances, develops Cantabile's world-class choral curriculum, conducts treble choir Vocalise, and leads international concert tours.

South Salem High School Symphonic Choir



The South Salem High School Choir Program annually serves over 325 students, with eight curricular ensembles, that accurately represent the school's demographic: 50% economically disadvantaged, 41% non-white, 32% speaking a language other than English as their first language, and academically outstanding in the state. From this comprehensive program, Symphonic Choir comprises musicians in grades 10-12 who are selected through a rigorous audition process. Symphonic Choir has represented South Salem High School in performances for NW ACDA, Oregon MEA, and the OSAA Oregon State Choir Championship. As a music department, South Salem has been recognized multiple times as a Grammy Signature School.



William McLean is in his fifth year serving as director of choirs at South Salem High School in Salem, Oregon, and in his eighth year of teaching. Under his direction, choirs have consistently been awarded superior ratings in district and state concert and sight-reading contests, and named best in class and best on site in regional and national festivals. Outside of the classroom, McLean has presented sessions at conferences of NW ACDA and OR ACDA, served as the Choral Chair for OMEA, and served on

the OR ACDA board. Before his time at South Salem, he taught at Coppell High School outside of Dallas, TX.

University of Missouri-Columbia University Singers



The University Singers is the most selective choral ensemble in University of Missouri's School of Music, performing regularly on campus and in the community. Each semester they present a full concert plus a major work with orchestra. They have performed at state, regional, and national conferences of ACDA, NCCO, and accepted an invitation to the White House in 2011. They take annual regional tours and regularly take international tours. This ensemble also frequently commissions works from prominent composers and frequently works with other prominent conductors. In 2015 and 2016 they hosted Chanticleer, and in October of 2018 they coached and performed with the Grammy-winning ensemble Roomful of Teeth.



R. Paul Crabb is director of choral activities and graduate choral studies at the University of Missouri. Crabb was the first American to serve as visiting professor at the Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, Hungary, and the University of Vienna's Universität für Musik und Darstellende Kunst choral department. In addition to being an active performer, in 2012 MU recognized Crabb for their top teaching award, selected from over 2000 faculty across the campus. Crabb is also conductor and artistic director of the professional choral ensemble Voices of Prometheus, comprising professional singers from the United States.

Lorelei Ensemble



Boston's Lorelei Ensemble is recognized nationally for its bold and inventive programs that champion the extraordinary flexibility and virtuosic capability of the human voice. Lorelei is an all-professional vocal ensemble comprising nine women whose expertise ranges from early to contemporary repertoire, and whose independent careers as soloists and ensemble singers across the globe lend to a rich and diverse vocal palette. Under the direction of founder and artistic director Beth Willer, Lorelei has established a remarkable and inspiring artistic vision, curating culturally relevant and artistically audacious programs.



Beth Willer is founder and artistic director of Lorelei Ensemble and has led them to become recognized as one of the country's most highly regarded vocal ensembles. Through her work with Lorelei,

Willer has initiated collaborations with composers from the United States and abroad, leading the ensemble in numerous world, U.S., and regional premieres while working to expose lesser-known works of the Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque periods. Willer is assistant professor and director of choral activities at Bucknell University, where she leads the Bucknell University Choirs. She holds a BA from Luther College and an MM and DMA from Boston University.

Concert Session B

Wednesday 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Wednesday 3:15 pm - 5:15 pm Helzberg Hall

Southwest Junior High School

Select Men



Southwest Select Men has been one of the finest young men's choirs in Northwest Arkansas for over twenty-five years. It comprises forty auditioned eighth- and ninth-grade singers. Membership is based upon musical ability, leadership, and work ethic. Among this group are All-Region Choir members, athletic standouts, academic achievers, and student leaders. Many members' families are proud immigrants from Mexico, Central America, and the Marshall Islands. Select Men has performed at the Arkansas All-State Music Conference three times.



Alan Showalter has been the director of choirs at Southwest Junior High School in Springdale, Arkansas, since 2005. Before that he was the director of choirs at Pulaski Academy in Little Rock for three years. He has bachelor's degrees in music

education and music performance from the University of Central Arkansas. He has served as a clinician in Arkansas and Missouri and was named SWJH Teacher of the Year in 2013. His choirs have performed at the Arkansas All-State Music Conference in Hot Springs, the U.S.S. Missouri docked at Pearl Harbor, and St. Mark's Basilica in Venice.



Ed Gay has been the assistant director of Choirs at Southwest Junior High School for six years and is in his twenty-first year of teaching. He holds both a BSE and master's in music education from the University of Arkansas.

Church. Swan received degrees from Concordia College, UT El Paso, and the University of Miami. He is a chapter author for three GIA books, participated in ACDA's 2014 China International Conductor Exchange Program, and currently serves as the National R&R Chair for Women's/SSAA Choirs.

Lawrence University

Cantala (Lawrence University Women's Choir)



Cantala (Lawrence University Women's Choir) is a select ensemble comprising women (mostly freshmen and sophomores) whose fields of study represent not only music but the broad diversity in a liberal arts education. Founded in the fall of 2000, the choir performs a wide range of unique and challenging literature that includes traditional women's literature, world, folk, and contemporary works, and they are proud to perform and record new compositions by established and emerging composers from around the world. In addition to its own repertoire, Cantala annually joins forces with all LU choirs and orchestra in performances of choral-orchestral masterworks.



Phillip A. Swan is co-director of choral studies at Lawrence University and musical director for LU Musicals. Swan directs Cantala and Hybrid Ensemble, and teaches courses in conducting and musical theater. He is active in the Appleton community, serving as artistic director and conductor for newVoices, and is choir director at Appleton Alliance

University High School

Concert Choir



The University High School Concert Choir is a passionate and energetic, auditioned mixed ensemble. The choir's most recent accolades are its inclusion into the 2018 Southern ACDA Region, 2017 FMEA President's Concert, 2016 Florida Vocal Association's Choirs of Distinction, and its selection as a 2016 and 2017 Disney's Candlelight Honor Choir. The choir consistently earns Superior ratings at District and State Music Performance Assessments, and its individual members have earned seats in ACDA honor choirs, FVA all-state ensembles, and all-county choirs.



Yelitza Greene is in her ninth year as the director of choral activities at University High School-Orlando. She received her bachelor's from Nyack College, NY, and her master's from the University of Central Florida. The Choral Department has consistently earned Superior ratings and has been recognized as a Disney's Candlelight Honor Choir. Greene received FMEA Music Demonstration School-Honorable Mention, Disney's Innovative Classroom Practices Award, and the honor of conducting China's Sias International University Women's Choir.



Jay Dunn is the associate director of choral activities at University High School in Orlando, FL. He earned his bachelor's and master's from the Florida State University. Dunn currently serves as the Clinics Chair for the Florida Vocal Association and has served as the FVA District-8 Chair. In addition to conference performances, Dunn was a session presenter at the FMEA Conference and has been a panel discussion participant at the FVA Summer Convention. He is a founding member of Voci del Cuore, under the direction of Jeffrey Redding and Christine Le.



Randall Bradley is deeply committed to the sense of community that develops when men sing together. Prior to becoming director of the Baylor University Men's Choir in 2000, he conducted Oklahoma Baptist University's historic Bison Glee Club. At Baylor he serves as the Ben H. Williams Professor of Music, director of the church music program, and the center for christian music studies. Bradley is a frequent conference leader and has served in various leadership capacities with ACDA, including the Oklahoma Choral Directors president-elect and Southwest Region R&R Chair for Male Choruses. His books are used as texts in many universities and seminaries.

Baylor University Men's Choir



The Baylor University Men's Choir (BUMC) has brought joy and musical excellence to Baylor's campus since 1895. The 100+-member choir represents diverse majors, states, and countries. The dynamic community of the BUMC includes dodgeball tournaments, intramural sports, campus events, local and global community outreach, and encouragement of young men who sing, all of which contribute to the distinct brotherhood of the group. The group maintains a strong commitment to international service through global tours and their support of education for girls in Kenya. They have performed for Southwest ACDA conferences in 2004 and 2017.

Concert Session C

Thursday 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Thursday 3:15 pm - 5:15 pm Helzberg Hall

Vancouver Youth Choir



Founded in 2013, the Vancouver Youth Choir provides a space for singers aged 14-24 to develop their artistry in a supportive community. Now in their sixth season, VYC has become known across Canada for their innovative programming and engaging, heartfelt performances. VYC has been featured on national public

radio (CBC) and recently won First Place in their category in the National Competition for Amateur Choirs. Last season, VYC presented a concert under the baton of conductor Charles Bruffy and performed as part of the Festival Choral International en Provence (FR) and the Alba Classical Music Festival (IT).



Carrie Tennant is the founder and artistic director of the Vancouver Youth Choir. For the past fifteen years, she has worked primarily with youth, developing leadership and artistry with young singers. In addition to VYC, Tennant has held conducting positions with Chor Leoni, the Coastal Sound Youth Choir (CSYC), and the Sarah McLachlan Youth Choir. Tennant choirs have been featured at Chorus America and Podium (Choral Canada) conferences and have twice been awarded first place in the National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs. Tennant is an affiliate conductor with the Vancouver Chamber Choir and a frequent clinician and adjudicator across Canada.

ty-two best in class awards, sixteen Grand Sweepstakes Awards, a featured performance in Carnegie Hall (2005, 2018), and performances at the National Middle School Conference (2012), the OAKE National Conference (2018), the Mississippi ACDA State Conference (2008, 2017), and the Southern ACDA Region Conference (2010, 2017).



J Reese Norris is director of choirs at Hernando Middle School and is co-founder and co-artistic director of CoroRio. Norris works with seven middle school choirs, a high school women's choir, and two adult ensembles: The Mississippi River Chorale and Ictus. Norris received degrees from Delta State University and the Florida State University. In 2005 he was named Delta State University Music Alumnus of the year. Norris was the 2017 recipient of MMEA's Music Educator of the Year and the Ernestine Ferrell Lifetime Achievement Award given by the Mississippi Chapter of ACDA. Norris has served in several leadership capacities for NAfME and ACDA.

Hernando Middle School Girls' Choir



Hernando, MS, nestled in the northwest corner of Mississippi, is a small 10,000 resident township often referred to as Mississippi's Front Porch. The twenty-two-year-old Hernando Middle School Choir program enrollment is 250 students and represents a quarter of the student population. Previous accolades include twenty-

Müller Chamber Choir (Taiwan)



Founded in 1999, Müller Chamber Choir is a thirty-strong male choir that aims to introduce the finest blend of male choral sound to the choral scene. Since 2013, the choir has been led by Meng-Hsien Peng and has achieved prestige as one of Taiwan's foremost choral groups. The choir creates a distinctive Taiwanese male voice repertoire by commissioning native composers. They won the international Johannes Brahms Choir Festival.



Meng-Hsien Peng, a native of Taiwan, is currently executive director of the Taiwan Choral Association, jury member for Interkultur choir competitions, artistic advisor of Fujian Association of Art and Education (China), artistic director and conductor of Müller Chamber Choir and NTU EMBA Chorus, and music director of Rong Shing Youth & Women's Choir. Peng completed her master's of conducting at NTNU in 2007. She has been engaged internationally as a conductor and adjudicator for choral competitions and events in Spain, Latvia, Germany, Russia, the United States, Singapore, Malaysia, and China.



James Rodde, the Louise Moen professor and director of choral activities at Iowa State University, Ames, conducts the Iowa State Singers, the 150-voice Iowa Statesmen, teaches choral conducting and literature, and oversees a program of roughly 400 undergraduate choristers. His choirs have toured internationally and have been honored with performances at six ACDA and two NCCO national conferences. An active clinician, he has led numerous festival ensembles, including two regional ACDA honor choirs and a number of all-state choirs. One of his students won the ACDA undergraduate conducting competition. Beyond his university duties, Rodde is the artistic director of the Des Moines Choral Society.

Iowa State University Iowa State Singers



The Iowa State Singers is Iowa State University's most select choral ensemble. Comprising freshmen through seniors, approximately one half of them music majors, the choir is one of four large choral ensembles in the department of music and theatre. The group annually presents a five-concert season, which includes a full-scale Madrigal Dinner and choral-orchestral masterwork. Concert tours have taken them around the world. The choir has been honored to perform at ACDA national conferences in 2005, 2009, 2015, and 2019, and NCCO in 2008 and 2011.

Concert Session D

Thursday 12:30 pm - 2:45 pm Helzberg Hall

Thursday 2:45 pm - 5:00 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Angelica Cantanti Youth Choir Treble Singers



The Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs—Treble Singers are sixty-five soprano and alto voices in grades 9–12 with members that represent twenty-nine high schools and communities from Minneapolis/St. Paul and surrounding suburbs. Since 1980, the Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs (ACYC) has been one of the Twin Cities' leading children's community music programs for boys and girls that provides high-quality choral music educa-

tion with excellence in performance. Led by conductors Philip Brown, Elizabeth Egger, Rachel Lucius, Michelle Gehrz, and Nancy Grundahl, there are five youth choirs with 320 singers in grades 2–12 and an adult/alumni choir with sixty members. Singers in ACYC performed at the 2018 Super Bowl.



Philip Brown conducts the Treble Singers with the Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs and is the director of choral activities at Thomas Jefferson Senior High in Bloomington, MN. He holds degrees from from Bethany College in Kansas and Northern Arizona University. His choral groups have performed at the CMEA Conference, CU-Boulder Madrigal Festival, MMEA Mid-Winter Conference, and ACDA-MN Fall Conference, NC-ACDA Conference, MSU-Mankato Choral Festival and ACDA-MN Choral Arts Finale. In 2013 he received the VocalEssence/ACDA-MN Creative Programming Award and won the Youth Choir Conducting Division for The American Prize in 2016.

Young Junior High School Concert Choir



Young Junior High, located in Southwest Arlington, Texas, is a two-year school with an enrollment of approximately 800 students. Around 250 students are enrolled in the choir program. The Concert Choir contains 105 students. The Varsity Girls and Boys meet separately but combine to prepare for special performances and UIL Contest. Under the direction of Christi Jones and Keith Daniel, the choirs at Young have performed at the Middle School/Junior High National Convention, Southwest ACDA, TMEA, and for the State Board of Education.



Christi Jones has been teaching for nineteen years, eighteen of which have been at Young Junior High in Arlington, Texas. She was named Teacher of the Year in 2011, and Runner-Up for the District's AWARE Award in 2011, 2014, and 2016. Jones has compositions published by Carl Fischer, BriLee Music, and RBC. She is also a worship ministry assistant at First Baptist Church in Arlington, directing the Children's and Youth Choirs. Jones studied under her mother, Toni Worley, at Lamar High School, where she was selected for the TMEA All-State Choir. She graduated from Wayland Baptist University.



Keith Daniel is in his twelfth year of teaching. He previously taught at Martin High School for two years, where he assisted in preparing the Varsity Women for their TMEA performance. Since he has been at Young, he and Christi Jones have taken choirs to the MS/JH National Convention, SWACDA, TMEA, and now ACDA. Daniel attended Trinity High School in Euless, Texas, and was selected for the TMEA All-State Choir. He graduated from The University of North Texas. He was honored to be named Teacher of the Year in 2015-2016.

Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy Treble Singers



The Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy is extremely proud of the Treble Singers. This ensemble consists of advanced vocalists in grades 9-12. GPFAA Treble Singers have won numerous Texas Sweepstakes Trophies at

UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contests, and several Best in Class, Most Outstanding, and Grand Champion trophies at choral festivals. The Treble Singers will be part of the GPFAA Mixed Choir as an invited ensemble at the Texas MEA Convention in spring 2019. They have performed locally, nationally, and internationally.



Joel Duarte is in his eighth year as a choral director in the Grand Prairie Independent School District. He graduated from Wayland Baptist University with his BMEd and is currently pursuing a master's at Southern Methodist University. His students consistently earn the highest ratings at contest and annually place in NATS, NAFME, TMEA district, region, and all-state choirs. Duarte clinics choirs across the nation and brings a wealth of experience to the stage by designing his own choral productions and performing with the Dallas Symphony Chorus.

Raymond Brock Competition by Professional Composers Award Performance

The Aeolians of Oakwood University

The Aeolians of Oakwood University and their conductor, Jason Ferdinand, are a part of Concert Session D. Their photos and bios are on pages 30 and 31. They will be performing the Brock Competition winning piece, *In the Middle*, accompanied by composer Dale Trumdore.

Concert Session E

Friday 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Helzberg Hall

Friday 4:45 pm - 6:45 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Artie Henry Middle School Varsity Treble Choir



The Artie Henry Middle School Varsity Treble Choir comprises girls in grades 7-8. The choir has consistently earned Sweepstakes at UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation, Overall Outstanding Choir at Festivals, and have been well represented at All-Region Choir auditions. The Artie Henry Middle School Varsity Treble Choir has also been invited to perform at the TMEA convention in 2008 and 2012 and the MS/JH National Conference for Choral Music in 2018. In addition to their involvement in choir, the students are active participants in other student groups, including National Junior Honor Society, Student Council, athletics, yearbook, art, cheerleading, dance team, and theater.



Amanda Ransom is in her eleventh year of teaching, all at Artie Henry Middle School, where she is the primary teacher of the Varsity Treble Choir, Varsity Men's Choir, sixth-grade Girls Choir, and co-teacher of the Nov-Varsity Treble Choirs. Choirs under her direction have earned consistent Sweepstakes at UIL Concert and Sight-Reading

and recognition at local and regional competitions. The Henry Middle School Varsity Treble Choir has been invited to perform at the 2018 MS/JH National Conference for Choral Music. She holds a bachelor's in choral music from the University of North Texas.

with his kids, Malley, Saffi, and August, are among his favorite pastimes. He is constantly finding inspiration and joy with his beautiful, supportive, and patient partner, Elyse.

Urbandale High School Urbandale Singers



Urbandale Singers is the premier Urbandale High School choir of students in grades 10-12 who exhibit developed musical skill, are young people of high integrity, and are committed to excellence in choral music. Membership is earned through an audition comprising solo singing, sight-reading, and tonal memory exercises. Urbandale Singers performs a wide variety of choral repertoire in multiple concerts throughout the school year, often sharing concerts with renowned collegiate choirs. Each singer participates in the department's solo contest. The choir's success has been recognized with invitations to perform for the 2016 North Central ACDA Region Conference, 2017 Iowa Choral Showcase, and 2018 Dorian Vocal Festival.



Ted Brimeyer is director of choirs at Urbandale High School in Urbandale, Iowa. He is part of an active vocal music program at UHS enrolling 350 students in six performing ensembles. He directs Urbandale Singers and the 100-voice

Concert Choir. He looks forward to every opportunity to make music with such hardworking, passionate singers. Brimeyer's professional training includes a master's from Michigan State University and a bachelor's from Iowa State University. Cooking, being outdoors, and playing

Texas Women's University Concert Choir



The Concert Choir at Texas Woman's University (TWU) in Denton, TX, is a fifty-voice, select treble choir consisting of undergraduate and graduate students majoring in a variety of disciplines. It is the premier choral ensemble at TWU, which is a co-educational, state institution primarily for women. In support of the university's initiative to feature women in the arts, music by female composers is frequently featured on the Concert Choir's programs, and a wide span of literature from masterworks to modern innovations. Since the founding of the TWU choral program in 1905, the choirs have presented at Texas MEA, Southwestern ACDA, NCCO, the Meyerson Symphony Center (Dallas), and at Carnegie Hall.



Joni Jensen is the director of choral activities at Texas Woman's University (TWU). She received degrees in vocal performance and pedagogy and choral conducting from Brigham Young University in Provo, UT, and the University of Arizona. The TWU Concert Choir, under her direction, has performed at the Southwest ACDA conference

(2012) and the NCCO Conference (2017). Jensen has several pieces published with Walton Music and is the editor of the *Joni Jensen Choral Series* for advanced treble choral music (Hal Leonard). Jensen is the associate musical director of the Millennial Choirs and Orchestras, a multi-location community organization.

under his direction have appeared by invitation at multiple conferences of ACDA and NAfME and have won top prizes in international competitions. Crane serves as editor of his own choral series through Walton Music, as president-elect of Utah ACDA, and as a member of ACDA's standing committee for Composition Initiatives.

Brigham Young University Singers



The Brigham Young University Singers (BYU) is an exciting choir with impressive voices and a wide range of styles. The group performs pieces from nearly every musical genre and many original works written or arranged for the ensemble. The choir has performed in some of the most prestigious concert halls in the world, including Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the Sydney Opera House, the Musikverein in Vienna, the Hanoi Opera House, and Walt Disney Concert Hall. They have traveled throughout the United States and to twenty-seven countries. Since its founding in 1985, the choir has performed regularly at conferences of ACDA, NCCO, and NAfME.



Andrew Crane (BM, MM: Brigham Young University; DMA: Michigan State University) is associate professor of choral conducting and ensembles at Brigham Young University, where he conducts the BYU Singers and administers the graduate program in choral conducting. Choirs

Concert Session F

Friday 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Friday 4:15 pm - 6:15 pm Helzberg Hall

Del Webb Middle School Concert Choir



The Del Webb Middle School Concert Choir has been performing in and around the Clark County School District and the state of California since the school opened in 2005. They have consistently earned superior ratings at the Clark County School District Advanced Choral Festival. In 2012 they were asked to perform at the NAfME Nevada All-State Host concert representing other middle school choirs from around Las Vegas. Students participate in honor choirs, all-state choirs, regional honor choirs, and solo & ensemble every year. In 2014 they were selected to perform at the Western ACDA Region Conference.



Jennifer Lowry has been teaching in the Clark County School District for twelve years and has spent the last nine years as choir director at Del Webb Middle School. Before moving to Henderson, Nevada, Lowry earned her bachelor's from Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington. In 2015 she was a guest conductor for the Middle School Honor Choir in Casper, Wyoming. Since 2016 she has been the co-chair for the Nevada Middle School All-State Choir. Lowry is committed to helping her students learn to express their emotions through music in a safe and respectful environment.



Daniel Knight is in his fourteenth year as the head choral director at Plano East Senior High School. He graduated from the University of North Texas. In 2014 he was selected Teacher of the Year for Plano East Senior High. Knight is an active vocalist in the DFW area and has held section leader positions at Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church, Christ the King Catholic Church, East Dallas Christian Church, and Christ Church of Plano. Knight is currently a member of the professional ensemble Orpheus Chamber Singers.

Plano East High School Varsity Male Chorus



The Plano East Senior High School Varsity Male Chorus is an auditioned group comprising students in grades nine through twelve. The Varsity Male Chorus is one of seven vocal ensembles within the Plano East Choral program. The members of the Male Chorus are also enrolled in either of the two eighty-voice mixed choirs. The Varsity Male Chorus has a tradition of excellence with consistent Superior ratings awarded in both concert and sight-reading at Texas UIL competitions. The Plano East Varsity Male Chorus was honored in 2015 to sing at the Southwestern ACDA Region Conference in Kansas City.

Vandergrift High School Chorale Women



Vandergrift High School is a young school in Leander ISD and is just starting its tenth year. The thirty-two members of the Vandergrift High School Chorale Women's Choir were selected by audition and represent grades ten through twelve. The ensemble meets every other day for ninety minutes as a varsity mixed ensemble and ninety minutes each week outside of school hours. Many of the singers participate in the Texas All-State audition process and solo & ensemble contest. The VHS Chorale Women were invited to perform at both TMEA and SWACDA conferences in 2016.



Michael Zook taught five years at Twin Creeks Middle School feeding into Spring High School. In 2011 he was hired to be the head choir director at Vandergrift High School (Leander ISD) in Austin, Texas. He earned a bachelor's

from Texas Tech University and a master's from Concordia University. In 2016 the Vandegrift High School Chorale Women were selected as an invited performing choir for both TMEA and SWACDA conferences.

Kantorei of Denver



Kantorei of Denver, Colorado, frequently performs at major choral conventions, has toured around the world, and has worked with composers and conductors of international renown. Naxos released Kantorei's recording "Infinity: Choral works of Kim André Arnesen" in 2018, which climbed to the #2 best-selling classical album on iTunes, #6 on the Traditional Classical Billboard Charts, and #19 on the overall Classical Billboard charts. Kantorei's mission is "to elevate the human experience through choral excellence." Santa Barbara publishes The Kantorei Choral Series.



Joel M. Rinsema joined Kantorei of Denver in 2014, becoming the second conductor in its history. During his tenure, Kantorei has experienced tremendous growth of its audiences, nearly tripled its budget size, and launched an ambitious recording strategy. A frequent collaborator and champion of new works for chorus, Rinsema has commissioned and premiered work of many of today's leading composers. He is a recipient of the Louis Botto Award for "Innovative Action and Entrepreneurial Zeal" from Chorus America. He holds music degrees from Arizona State and Whitworth Universities and serves as the North American Choral Promotion Manager for Oxford University Press.

Concert Session G

Saturday 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm Muriel Kauffman Theater

Saturday 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Helzberg Hall

Spire Chamber Ensemble



Spire Chamber Ensemble is a virtuoso choir and orchestra comprising distinctive solo artists who are committed to the highest level of ensemble performance. These musicians travel to Kansas City to perform together, providing audiences with a rare level of choral music making found anywhere else in the country. The Spire Baroque Orchestra joins our world-class singers for concerts of unmatched artistic excellence. Established in 2010 and led by founder and artistic director Ben A. Spalding, Spire performs repertoire ranging from Baroque and Classical masterpieces with period instruments to newly commissioned works.



Ben A. Spalding has quickly established himself as an exemplary conductor, creative programmer, composer, keyboard artist, and arts entrepreneur. He has led the Spire Chamber Ensemble and Baroque Orchestra to acclaimed success, receiving rave reviews for his work with the music of contemporary composers, and historically informed interpretations of Baroque and Classical repertoire. Spalding was a student of Z. Randall Stroope and studied conducting and church music in Cambridge. Spalding is also director of music and the arts at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mission, Kansas, where he has built a prestigious concert series and arts programs.

North Penn High School Chamber Singers



The North Penn High School Chamber Singers are a mixed ensemble chosen by audition from among the members of the North Penn High School Chorus. The Chamber Singers were the 2016 grand prize winner of the 101.1 MoreFM Christmas Choir Competition with their recording of *The Christmas Song*, and they have had the honor of performing with the Philly POPS on multiple occasions. Recent conference performances include the 2016 ACDA-PA Conference at Susquehanna University, the 2017 NafME All-Eastern Conference in Atlantic City, and the 2018 Eastern ACDA Region Conference in Pittsburgh.



Matthew Klenk is currently in his tenth year of teaching at North Penn High School. He is responsible for directing all of the NPHS Choral Ensembles, which include the 275-voice mixed curricular Chorus, and the extra-curricular groups: Men's Choir, Women's Choir, and Chamber Singers. He has also been the music director for North Penn Theatre's annual spring musical production, and serves as director of music ministries at Corpus Christi Church in Lansdale, Pennsylvania. Klenk is a graduate of Central Bucks HS East and holds a bachelor's from Duquesne University and a master's from the University of the Arts.

Miami University Men's Glee Club



The Miami University Men's Glee Club, founded in 1907, is among the oldest and largest collegiate glee clubs in the nation. In recent years the group has toured nineteen states and ten countries, and has appeared in concert at numerous conferences of professional choral organizations. As advocates for the creation and performance of new repertoire, the Glee Club established an annual commission series in 2013. Its first commercial recording (*Veiled Light*) was released in 2016 with Albany Records. A second recording on the same label will be released in 2019.



Jeremy D. Jones, Associate Professor of Music and Naus Family Faculty Scholar at Miami University, conducts the Men's Glee Club, Collegiate Chorale, and teaches choral conducting. Representing ACDA's International Conductors Exchange Program, he debuted in Beijing, China, in 2014. He is a contributing author of *Conducting Men's Choirs* (GIA, 2019). He serves on the IMC National Board of Directors; ACDA Standing Committee on International Activities; and as the ICEP Central Region Representative. He holds degrees from University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, East Carolina University, and Middle Tennessee State University.

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Westminster Choir



The Westminster Choir is composed of students at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ. The ensemble's 2018-2019 season includes a concert tour of the Texas, performances in Beijing, its annual residency at the Spoleto Festival USA, and the release of a new recording. The Westminster Choir has been hailed for its creative programming and ability to deeply engage listen-

ers. The Westminster Choir also forms the core of the Westminster Symphonic Choir, which has performed and recorded with the leading conductors and orchestras of our time.



Joe Miller is the director of choral activities at Westminster Choir College, where he conducts the Westminster Choir and the Westminster Symphonic Choir. He is also artistic director for choral activities for the Spoleto Festival USA and director of the Philadelphia Symphonic Choir. His 2018-2019 season with the Westminster Choir includes the release of a new recording, a concert tour of Texas, performances in Beijing, and their annual residency at the Spoleto Festival USA. Miller is also artistic director of the Westminster Summer Choral Festival for professional-level choral and vocal artists.



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