



THE
WASHINGTON
CHORUS

Select Dates: Dec. 15-22, 2023

Music Center at Strathmore &
Kennedy Center Concert Hall



A Candlelight Christmas 2023

The beloved holiday experience!





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A
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Christmas 2023

Select Dates: Dec. 15 – 22, 2023

The Music Center at Strathmore
Kennedy Center Concert Hall

Featuring:

Eugene Rogers, Conductor
Aaron Myers, Guest Artist

National Capital Brass and Percussion

Nathaniel Gumbs, Organ and Piano (Dec. 15 & 16)

Paul Byssainthe, Jr., Organ and Piano (Dec. 20–22)

GenOUT Youth Chorus (Dec. 15 & 16)

Paul Heins, Director

Takoma Academy Camerata (Dec. 20–22)

Lulu Mwangi Mupfumbu, Director



The Washington Chorus is pleased to be joined by GenOUT Youth Chorus and Takoma Academy Camerata as a part of its Side-by-Side high school education program.

This performance is an external rental presented in coordination with both the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and Strathmore and is not produced by the Kennedy Center or Strathmore.

Program

Sing along with The Washington Chorus! Sing-alongs are marked with a 🎵

FANFARE J. David Moore

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY H. J. Gauntlett, arr. David Willcocks

Deena Tumeh, soprano (Dec. 15, 16 & 20), Chantal Davis, soprano (Dec. 21),
& Rebekah Bridges, soprano (Dec. 22)

🎵 **HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING**.....Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Julian Wachner
A WINTER BLUE JAY..... Jonathan Kolm, Text by Sarah Teasdale

Maureen Hanes, soprano (Dec. 15, 16 & 20) & Julia Dowling, soprano (Dec. 21 & 22)

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER Becky McGlade, Words by Christina Rossetti

🎵 **O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL** J. F. Wade, arr. David Willcocks

WHAT IS THIS LOVELY FRAGRANCE Chester L. Alwes

SOV! SOV! SOV! J. David Moore

MARY HAD A BABY arr. Roland Carter

Elisha Miller, alto (Dec. 16 & 21) & Brian Duckworth, bass (Dec. 15, 20, & 22)

CHRISTMAS MEDLEY Chester L. Alwes

December 15 & 16:

GRAND FANTASIA ON JOY TO THE WORLD Marc Cheban

Nathaniel Gumbs, organ

STILL, STILL, STILL arr. Victor C. Johnson

WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER arr. Mac Huff

GenOUT Youth Chorus; Paul Heins, Director

December 20–22:

TOCATA ON VENI EMMANUEL Adolphus Hailstork

Paul Byssainthe, Jr., organ

CAROL OF THE BELLS/WAYFARING STRANGER... arr. May and Savannah Shaw

SWEET LITTLE JESUS BOY arr. Raymond Wise

Takoma Academy Camerata; Lulu Mwangi Mupfumbu, Director

THE CHRISTMAS SONG arr. Aaron Myers
LOVE ALL YEAR Aaron Myers

Aaron Myers, piano

THE DREAM ISAIAH SAW Glenn L. Rudolph
♪ **SILENT NIGHT** Franz Gruber

Alexandra Desaulniers, soprano (Dec. 15, 16, & 22)
& Wesley Fields, tenor (Dec. 20 – 21)

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMASPaul Johnson, arr. J. David Moore



Texts & Translations

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID’S CITY
H. J. Gauntlett, arr. David Willcocks

Once in royal David’s city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
through His own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above;
and He leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and His shelter was a stable,
and His cradle was a stall;
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see Him; but in heaven,
set at God’s right hand on high;
where like stars His children crowned
all in white shall wait around.

For He is our childhood’s pattern,
day by day like us He grew,
He was little, weak and helpless,
tears and smiles like us He knew.
And He feeleth for our sadness,
and He shareth in our gladness.

**Underwritten by TWC’s
Board of Trustees**
“For Kara, with gratitude from your
fellow trustees for your leadership,
perseverance, and dedication.”

Sing-Along

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Julian Wachner

Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies,
with th' angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail, th' incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!

Mild he lays His glory by
born that man no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Ris'n with healing in his wings,
light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail, the heav'n born Price of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!

A WINTER BLUE JAY

Jonathan Kolm, Text by Sarah Teasdale

World Premiere and TWC Commission

Crisply the bright snow whispered,
crunching beneath our feet;
behind us as we walked along
the parkway,
our shadows danced,
fantastic shapes in vivid blue.
Across the lake the skaters
flew to and fro,
with sharp turns weaving
a frail invisible net.
In ecstasy the earth
drank the silver sunlight;
In ecstasy the skaters
drank the wine of speed;
in ecstasy we laughed
drinking the wine of love.

Had not the music of our joy
sounded its highest note?
but no,
for suddenly, with lifted eyes you said,
"Oh look!"
There, on the black bough of a snow-
flecked maple,
fearless and gay as our love,
a blue jay cocked his crest!
Oh who can tell the range of joy
or set the bounds of beauty?

Underwritten by TWC's Tenor Section

"I'll have a blue crest-mas without you.
Happy holidays from our tenor
family to yours!"

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

Becky McGlade, Words by Christina Rossetti

In the bleak midwinter
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone,
snow had fallen snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter
long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when He comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

What can I give Him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb,
if I were a wise man
I would do my part,
yet what I can I give Him,
give my heart.

**Underwritten by National
Philharmonic Chorale Alums**

Sing-Along

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

J. F. Wade, arr. David Willcocks

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold Him, Born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Underwritten by TWC's Alto Section

"In celebration of one of the rare times
when we get to sing the melody."

WHAT IS THIS LOVELY FRAGRANCE

Chester L. Alwes

What is this lovely fragrance wafting,
stealing our senses all away.
Never the like did come a-blowing,
shepherds in flow'ry fields in May?

What is this light so brilliant breaking,
here in the night across our eyes?
Never so bright the day star walking,
started to climb the morning skies!

Bethlehem, there in manger lying,
find your Redeemer, haste away.
Run ye, with eager footsteps hieing,
worship the Savior born today.

Praise to the Lord of all Creation,
Glory to God, the Fount of Grace.
May peace abide in ev'ry nation,
goodwill to people of ev'ry race.

Underwritten by Lloyd & Claudia Randolph

"A prayer for goodwill and peace—
including in the very region where the
events recounted in this carol occurred."

SOV! SOV! SOV!

J. David Moore

MARY HAD A BABY

arr. Roland Carter

Mary had a Baby, Oh, Lord!
My Lord!
Where was He born?
Born in a manger.
What did they call Him?
"King Jesus"
He was called "King Jesus."

Mary had a Baby, oh, yes!
He is called "King Jesus,"
"Mighty Counselor,"
"King Emanuel,"
"Mighty God,"
"Everlasting Father,"
"Prince of Peace."
Mary had a Baby. My Lord!

Underwritten by Susanne and David Baker

"In honor of Alex Baker."

CHRISTMAS MEDLEY

arr. Chester L. Alwes

DECK THE HALLS

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
'Tis the season to be jolly,
Don we now our gay apparel,
Troll the ancient yuletide carol,

See the blazing trail before us,
Strike the harp and join the chorus,

Follow me in merry measure,
While I tell of yuletide treasure.

Fast away the old year passes,
Hail the new ye lad and lasses,
Sing we joyous, all together,
While I tell of Christmas treasure.

JINGLE BELLS

Dashing through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh,
o'er the fields we go, laughing all the way.
Bells on bobtail ring, making sprits bright,
what fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight.

Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh.

A day or two ago I thought I'd take ride
and soon Miss Fanny Bright was sitting by my side.
The horse was lean and lank, Misfortune was our lot,
we fell into a drifted bank and there we got up sot!

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

You better watch out! You better not cry!
You better not pout, I'm tellin' you why:
Santa Claus is coming to town!

He's makin' a list, checkin' it twice,
gonna find out who's naughty and nice,
Santa Claus is coming to town!

He knows when you are sleepin',
he knows when you're awake.
He knows if you've been bad or good,
so be good for goodness sake.

WHITE CHRISTMAS

I'm dreamin' of a white Christmas,
just like the ones I used to know.
Where the treetops glisten
and children listen
to hear sleighbells in the snow.

Oh, I'm dreamin' of a white Christmas,
with ev'ry Christmas card I write.
May your days be merry and bright,
and may all your Christmases be white.

JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world, the Lord is come;
let earth receive her King.
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing!

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love!

Underwritten by Shulman Rogers

"In honor of Nancy Ortmeyer Kuhn."

GenOUT Youth Chorus (Dec. 15 & 16)

STILL, STILL, STILL

arr. Victor C. Johnson

Still, still, still,
one can hear the falling snow.
For all is hushed,
the world is sleeping,
radiant stars, their vigil keeping
still, still, still,
one can hear the falling snow.

Sleep, sleep, sleep,
lie still in slumber deep.
The night is peaceful all around you,
close your eyes,
let sleep surround you.
Sleep, sleep, sleep,
lie still in slumber deep.

Dream, dream, dream,
of the joyous day to come,
while guardian angels without number
watch you as you sweetly slumber.
Dream, dream, dream,
of the joyous day to come.

Underwritten by the Morrissey Family

"Dedicated with love to Fitz,
Seraphina, and Cecelia."

WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER

Elyssa Samsel and Kate Anderson, arr. Mac Huff

Sure, it's nice to open a gift that's tied up with a perfect bow.
But the greatest present of all was given to me long ago.
It's something I would never trade,
it's the family that we've made.

'Cause when we're together, I have ev'rything on my list.
And when we're together, I have all I wish.
Ah Christmas tree, there'll be dreams coming true.
But when we're together, then my fav'rite gift is you.
I would travel miles and miles and I would follow any star.
I'd go almost any place if it's any place you are.

'Cause when we're together, I'll forever feel at home.
And when we're together, we'll be safe and warm.
Doesn't matter where we are if you're there with me.
'Cause when we're together, that's my fav'rite place to be.

'Cause when we're together it's a holiday ev'ry night.
And when we're together then the season's bright.
I don't need the bells to ring, I'll know when it's here.
'Cause when we're together, I could stay forever.
And when we're together, it's my fav'rite time of year.

Underwritten by TWC's Board of Trustees

"In recognition of our dedicated artistic and administrative staff: Anthony, Bobby,
Dolhathai, Emma, Eric, Eugene, Jennie, Nathan, and Wei-Han.
Thank you for enabling us to make beautiful music when we're together!"

Takoma Academy Camerata (Dec. 20 – 22)

CAROL OF THE BELLS/WAYFARING STRANGER

arr. McKay Crockett

Hark how the bells, sweet silver bells,
all seem to say, throw cares away.
Christmas is here, bringing good cheer,
to young and old, meek and the bold.

Oh how they pound, raising the sound,
o'er hill and dale, telling their tale.
Gaily they ring while people sing
songs of good cheer, Christmas is here.

Ding dong ding dong, that is their song
with joyful ring all caroling.
One seems to hear words of good cheer
from everywhere filling the air.

Merry, Merry, Merry, Merry Christmas.
Merry, Merry, Merry, Merry Christmas.
On, on they send, on without end,
their joyful tone to every home.

I am a poor wayfaring stranger
While traveling through
this world of woe
There's no sickness, toil or danger
In that bright land to which I go
I'm going there to see my mother
She'd said she'd meet me
when I come
I'm just a goin' over Jordan
I'm just a goin' over home

I'll soon be free, from earthly trial
(Hark how the bells, sweet silver bells, all seem to say, throw cares away)
My body sleep, in the church yard
(Christmas is here, bringing good cheer, ding dong ding dong,
that is their song, with joyful ring, all caroling)
I'll drop the cross of self-denial
(Hark how the bells, sweet silver bells, all seem to say, throw cares away)
And enter on my great reward
(On on they send, on without end, their joyful tone, to every home)

I'm going there to see my Savior
To sing His praise forever more
I'm just a goin' over Jordan
I'm just a goin' over home

I'm just a goin' over home (To every home)
Over home (Hark how the bells)
Over home (To every home)

Underwritten by Mary Chopard

"In Honor and Memory of Vincent Chopard - Caroling with us always in spirit."

SWEET LITTLE JESUS BOY

arr. Raymond Wise

Sweet little Jesus boy,
born 'long time ago.
Sweet little Holy child,
they didn't know who you were.

Sweet little Jesus boy,
wrapped in a swad'aling clothes.
Sweet little Jesus boy,
born long time ago.
Sweet little holy child,
they didn't know who you were.

Sweet little Jesus boy,
wrapped in a swad'aling clothes.
Sweet little Jesus Boy,
born in a manger.
Sweet little holy child,
they didn't know who you were.

Sweet little Jesus boy,
so sweet was the baby boy.
Didn't know you come to save us Lord,
to wash our sins away.
Our eyes were blind we could not see,
we didn't know who you were.

Sweet little Jesus boy,
so sweet was the baby boy.
Oh Lord you showed us how,
we been a tryin', tryin'.
Master you done showed us how,
even when you's dyin'.

Sweet little Jesus boy,
so sweet it just seems like we
can't live right.
Look how we treated you.
But please Sir forgive us Lord,
we didn't know who you were.

Sweet little Jesus boy,
so sweet the world treat you mean Lord,
treat me mean too.
But that's how it is down here,
they didn't know who you were.

THE CHRISTMAS SONG

Robert Wells and Mel Tormé, arr. Aaron Myers

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire,
Jack Frost nipping at your nose,
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir,
And folks dressed up like Eskimos.
Everybody knows a turkey
and some mistletoe
Help to make the season bright.
Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow
Will find it hard to sleep tonight

They know that Santa's on his way.
He's loaded lots of toys and goodies on his sleigh.
And every mother's child is gonna spy
To see if reindeer really know how to fly.

And so I'm offering this simple phrase
To kids from one to 92—
Although it's been said,
many times, many ways,
"Merry Christmas to you!"

LOVE ALL YEAR

Aaron Myers

What are the holidays,
without a little cheer?
Snugglin' closer,
to the one you love dear.
Take a little time,
show them you love them,
Let it last all year.

Some may be far away,
some may be near,
Just a little phone call
so your voice they will hear.
Take a little time,
show them you love them,
Let it last all year.

Nothing could be better
than a call or letter
from that special one
and the thought of affection
can make a connection
shine brighter than the sun.

To those who have gone away,
don't shed a tear,
love knows no distance,
so there's no need to fear.
Take a little time,
show them you love them,
Let it last all year.

THE DREAM ISAIAH SAW

Glenn L. Rudolph

Lions and oxen will sleep in the hay,
leopards will join with the lambs as they play,
wolves will be pastured with cows in the glade,
blood will not darken the earth that God made.
Little child whose bed is straw,
take new lodgings in my heart.
Bring the dream Isaiah saw:
life redeemed from fang and claw.

Peace will pervade more than forest and field:
God will transfigure the Violence concealed
deep in the heart and in systems of gain,
ripe for the judgment the Lord will ordain.
Little child whose bed is straw,
take new lodgings in my heart.
Bring the dream Isaiah saw:
justice purifying law.

Nature reordered to match God's intent,
nations obeying the call to repent,
all of creation completely restored,
filled with the knowledge
and love of the Lord.
Little child whose bed is straw,
take new lodgings in my heart.
Bring the dream Isaiah saw:
Knowledge, wisdom, worship, awe.

Underwritten by Joanne Kelly

"In honor of her parents and sister and all
of the unexpected adventures that we
have had together this year! I love you all!"



Sing-Along

SILENT NIGHT

Franz Gruber, arr. David Willcocks

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin Mother and Child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night,
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

Artists

A *Candlelight Christmas* would be not be possible without the following musicians.



National Capital Brass & Percussion

- Adrian Holton, Trumpet
- William Berue, Trumpet
- David Murray, Trombone & Ensemble Contractor
- James Nickel, Horn
- Seth Cook, Tuba
- Jason Niehoff, Timpani
- Don Johns, Percussion

National Capital Brass are represented by the Metropolitan Washington, DC, Federation of Musicians, AFM Local 161-710.



The Washington Chorus Handbell Ensemble

- Lara Abiona
- Alison Combes
- Kelly Heatwole
- Nancy Kuhn
- Leif Neve
- Leigh Anna Reichenbach
- Christine Wahlquist



Dr. Eugene Rogers, Artistic Director

A two-time Michigan Emmy Award winner, a 2017 Sphinx Medal of Excellence recipient, and a 2015 Grammy Award nominee, TWC Artistic Director Eugene Rogers is recognized as a leading conductor and pedagogue throughout the United States and abroad. In addition to being the founding director of EXIGENCE, Dr. Rogers is the director of choirs and an associate professor of

conducting at the University of Michigan.

At the University, Rogers leads the graduate choral conducting program, conducts the chamber choir, and administers the program of over eight choral ensembles. His choirs have toured throughout China, South Africa, the United States, and have appeared at national and regional conferences. In December 2017, Musical America named Rogers one of the top 30 “Movers and Shapers” professionals in North America. His past appointments include being the director of the University of Michigan Men’s Glee Club, Macalester College (St. Paul, Minnesota), the Boys Choir of Harlem, Waubonsie Valley High School (Aurora, Illinois), and Anima Young Singers of Greater Chicago (formerly the Glen Ellyn Children’s Choir). In 2016, Rogers’ passion for issues of social justice and music was featured in the award-winning documentary *Love, Life and Loss* which highlights Joel Thompson’s powerful *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed*.



Aaron Myers, Piano

Aaron Myers, whose life story is anything but typical, is originally from Goodlow, Texas where Myers found his passion for performing at an early age while playing music in the church, eventually choosing the piano as his instrument of choice. His soulful baritone voice, second-to-none stage presence and captivating personality make him one of the most exciting up-

and-coming acts in jazz!

His credits include 4 albums: *Leo Rising*, *The Lion’s Den*, *The Pride Album*, and the holiday album *Snowing in Vegas*. He is a Governor & voting member with the Recording Academy. Since 2018 he has also been the host of “Jazz Stories” on WPFW 89.3FM.

Mr. Myers is a stout advocate for Mental Health and LGBTQI Rights. As part of his advocacy, he chairs the Board of Directors for the Capitol Hill Jazz Foundation as well as serves as Interim President & CEO of Crittenton Services of Greater Washington. He sits as a member of the board of directors for CTE Vision Foundation and Covenant Full Potential Development Center. During the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, he has led the DMV Music Stakeholders cohort as they share resources, offer relief, and advocate for community needs to help strengthen and preserve Washington's music ecosystem.

Awarded best Jazz Artist by the International Music and Entertainment Awards in 2016, he was awarded the Wammie Award (presented by The Musicianship) for Advocacy 2019 & 2020 and also awarded Best Jazz Artist & Best Jazz Song by the Wammies in 2022.



Paul Byssainthe, Jr., Organ & Piano

Currently working as Music Director for the Pre-Broadway National Tour of *The Wiz*, Paul Byssainthe, Jr. is an accomplished organist, conductor, and composer. A native of New York, he has been involved in music since a young age. He was a multiple winner in the International Concert Alliance Piano Competition, as well as the Piano Teachers' Congress of New York Piano

Competition. He is a graduate of Andrews University, where he earned the Bachelor of Arts degree in Music and the Master of Music Degree in Orchestral Conducting. His major teachers were Kenneth Logan in Organ, and Claudio Gonzalez and Stephen Zork in Conducting. During his time at Andrews, he served as a Graduate Conducting Assistant, conducting works by Tchaikovsky, Barber, Brahms, and Operatic scores of Verdi. He recently served as Organist and Choir Director at St. Martin de Porres Parish in Brooklyn, NY, and as Piano Instructor for the Lang Lang International Music Foundation's Keys of Inspiration Program at PS 46 in Harlem, NY. As a Composer, he has written several short pieces, and works extensively as an Arranger and Orchestrator for various recording projects.



Nathaniel Gumbs, Organ & Piano

Nathaniel Gumbs is a native of the Bronx, NY and has performed throughout the United States and abroad, including Antigua, St. Thomas, Ghana, Paris, and Munich, and is consistently gathering new fans and followers. *The New York Times* described Nathaniel's playing in their review of his recording with bass-baritone Dashon Burton, as "mature, lyrical, accurate and energetic," and that his performance was presented "deftly and with feeling."

Dr. Gumbs currently serves as Director of Chapel Music at Yale University where he works with students, faculty, and guests to coordinate music for three worshipping communities: the University Church in Battell Chapel, and at Yale Divinity School in both Marquand Chapel and at Berkeley Divinity School. He earned his undergraduate degree from Shenandoah Conservatory in Virginia, his Master of Music degree from Yale University, and his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Eastman School of Music. Nathaniel's principal teachers include Steven Cooksey, David Higgs, and Martin Jean.

Prior to his position at Yale, Dr. Gumbs served as Director of Music and Arts and Church Organist at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, NC, where he led several hundred volunteer musicians and staff in four choirs and other ensembles. Nathaniel currently serves as the Interim Minister of Music and Fine Arts at the historic Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, NY.

Side-by-Side Choruses



GenOUT Youth Chorus

The GenOUT Youth Chorus is the Washington, DC, area's only vocal ensemble for LGBTQ+ and allied youth. An outreach ensemble of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, GenOUT operates under the two-fold mission: (1) to give LGBTQ+ and allied youth a voice through song, and (2) to connect that voice to community. The ensemble is open to all self-selected

singers 13-18 who love to sing, who want to use their voice in service of social justice, and who enjoy working with others. Since its debut in spring 2015, the GenOUT Chorus has performed at the Lincoln Theatre, the Kennedy Center, Washington National Cathedral, the White House, the Library of Congress, the GALA Choruses Festival, and the national conference of the American Choral Directors Association, in addition to numerous outreach performances at faith communities, schools, and public events. Nearly 140 singers from over 80 schools have participated in GenOUT; this fall, 22 singers from 16 schools in and around the DC metro area are singing in GenOUT. The ensemble will accept new singers again on January 6. For more information, and to pre-register to sing with GenOUT, please visit gmcw.org/outreach/genout.

Soprano

Maysen Bedsole
Ben Biggs
Maddy Dean
Vivienne Lyons
Iris Maas
Asher Wise

Alto

Cal Ausema
Mia Cary
Mia Garcia
Logan Lipshultz
Anjali Murthy
Ailsa Ostovitz

Tenor

Victor Coleman
Victor Kidwell
Ziv Stuart

Bass

Zach Briskin-Watson
Lawrence Florio
Lucas Olivo
Duncan Shaw-Rose
Ezra Thomas



Takoma Academy Camerata

The Takoma Academy Camerata, under the direction of Lulu Mwangi Mupfumbu, consists of students enrolled in the music program at Takoma Academy. The program's goal is to pursue excellence through training in music performance, literacy, technical skill, music history, multicultural music, general musicianship, and music in worship and ministry.

The choir has an active schedule throughout the academic year, providing as many as 30 performances. Appearances include participation in various functions at churches, community events, and concerts nationally and internationally. The choir performed at the White House for the First Lady Michelle Obama, as well as in programs where they have shared the stage with notable artists such as CeCe Winans, Take Six, The Washington Chorus at the Kennedy Center, Wintley Phipps, the Czech National Symphony Orchestra, The Jeremy Winston Chorale, and others.

An award-winning choir, this group of dynamic young people seeks to inspire and uplift their community in song. The choir aims to make the world a better place through spreading a message of love and unity through music and the sacrifice of service.

Soprano

Chinyere Cuffy
Ayanna Ewan
Lauryn Gandy
Moriah Gardner
Raissa Jei Labrador
Samantha McKenzie
MySha Miller
Sarai Starling
Chandler Sterling

Alto

Amore Burge
Gabrielle Evans
Jasmine James
Gabrielle Julien
Kara Nangle
Zyon Starling
Cheyenne Thorpe
Laila Vidal

Tenor

Jalen Andrews
David Atterberry
Dylan Crawford
Owen Gardner
Graham Spencer
Justice Hagler
Kenneth Jarrett
Lawrence Martin

Bass

Jason Ashman
Lysle Follette
Timothy Danticat
Malachi George
Robert Kennedy IV
Gabriel McLean
Kaelan Smith
Rory Thompson
Evan Watson

The Washington Chorus 2023-24



The Washington Chorus (TWC), now in its 63rd season, is one of the foremost symphonic choruses in the nation. Noted for the superb artistry of its performances and recordings of the entire range of the choral repertoire, TWC is widely recognized as a cultural leader in the nation's capital.

A three-time nominated and two-time Grammy Award winner, the 180-voice Washington Chorus presents an annual series at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, regularly performs at the invitation of the National Symphony Orchestra, and appears annually at the Music Center at Strathmore in Maryland. TWC has appeared at the invitation of leading orchestras including the National and Baltimore Symphony Orchestras. TWC is proud to have sung with the NSO in more than 300 performances, under the direction of many of the world's greatest conductors, including Gianandrea Noseda, Christoph Eschenbach, Leonard Slatkin, Mstislav Rostropovich, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Seiji Ozawa, Sir Neville Marriner, Kent Nagano, Marin Alsop, Gustavo Dudamel, Sir Andrew Davis, and many others. TWC has sung for numerous prestigious events throughout its history—inaugurations, papal visits, with the Rolling Stones during their 50th anniversary tour, and at the White House in 2013 and 2014 for the President and First Lady.

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Interested in becoming more involved with TWC? Contact us at staff@thewashingtonchorus.org.

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Chiara Alvisi
Dana Boyle*
Catie Brooks
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Lisa Chensvold
Molly Childers
Alexandra Desaulniers
María Lucía García de
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Amber Griffin
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Leikny Johnson
Amelia Kelly
Jennifer Kiehl
Daphne Kiplinger
Catherine Law
Kaelyn Lowmaster
Kara Morrissey
Teresa Paterson
Raquel Perez-Arroyo
Gillian Priddy
Faith Schmitt
Hannah Sparrow
Deborah Sternberg‡
Madeline Twomey
Melissa Woolverton

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Jennifer Adams
Claudia Adjou-Moumouni
Nathalie Agnant
Allison Annick
Aria Austin
Cynthia Nikas Berecz
Kristen Blackman
Rebekah Bridges
Alicia Brown
Lois Ceccarini*
Nora Connor
Alison Cooper
Adele Crawford
Deepa Dhume Datta
Chantal A. Davis
Mary Dohrmann
Julia Dowling
Marie Gatien
Natalia Guerra Flores
Lisa Wickman Harter
Kristin Hayes
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Akemi Herrick
Kloy Intawong
Lola Moore Johnson
Mimi Kuester
Nancy Ortmeyer Kuhn. 🎵
Sofia Laguarda
Malina Markova
Mae McDermott
Annie Hopengarten
Anne Buckland Murphy

Becca Newman
Kathy Peery
Lauren Savoy
Lisa Shea*
Griha Singla
Amelia Smith
Ann Thompson Cook
Anna Troutman
Deena Tumeih
Alison Valtin
Corinne Vance
Christine Wahlquist
Margaret Marbella Woods

Alto I

Emily Baranski
Marie Colturi
Alison Combes
Claire Conley
Faith Coutier
Nicol DeCarli
Sheri Economou
Christie Garton
Isabel Gross
Malaika Hall
Sandra Hoffmann
Ellie Jorling
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Haruko Koide
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Abigail McNeill
Chloe McPherson
Elisha Miller
Julia Moore
Sarah A. Morgan
Bethany Bray Patterson*
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Jeanne Romilly
Katherine Schneider
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Elizabeth Solem
Connie Soves*
Lynne Stein Benzion
Larami Stephan
Jennifer L. Taylor
Grace Todd
Karen Toth
Cindy Williams
Carole Wysocki
Megan Yingst
Jan Zimmeck

Alto II

Lara Abiona
Eno Aquaowo
Ellen Bonnell
Latricia Brown
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Karen Coda
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Marina Dauer
Anna Doorenbos*
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Courtney Rizzo
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Monique Simmons-Dupree
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Tenor I

Mike Adam*
Alexander Carré
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Wesley Fields
Matthew Gaudette
Jesse Hernandez
Brian Hill
Jerry Kavinski‡
James Leathers
Patrick Lovelace
Matthew McCartney Waggle
David Miranda‡
Arthur Paterson
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Tenor II

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Alex Baker
Tyler Best
Alejandro Chirinos
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Ryan Farhat-Sabet
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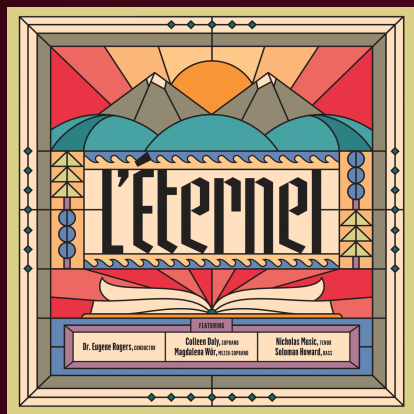
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What's next for TWC...



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Music Center at Strathmore



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