



# WINTER CONCERT

**December 14, 2024**



HANDEL+HAYDN SOCIETY  
YOUTH CHORUSES



# H+H YOUTH CHORUSES WINTER CONCERT

Sunday, December 14, 2024 at 3:00pm 2,660th Concert

Media Arts Center at Roxbury Community College  
1234 Columbus Ave, Boston

**H+H Youth Choruses**  
New Voices, Treble Chorus, Youth Chorale, Concert Choir,  
Chorus of Tenors + Basses, Chorus of Sopranos + Altos

## Concert Choir

**Michele Adams**, conductor  
**Becca Crivello**, associate conductor  
**Calvin Kotrba**, collaborative pianist

Snow by Morning	Joshua Shank (b. 1980)
Blow, blow thou winter wind	Sarah Quartel (b. 1982)

## Chorus of Tenors + Basses

**Dr. Kevin McDonald**, conductor  
**Kim Whitehead**, collaborative pianist

Ave Maria	Joshua B. Himes (b. 1987)
Ad Astra	Jacob Narverud (b. 1986)

## Treble Chorus

**Nurt Villani**, conductor  
**Leona Cheung**, collaborative pianist

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening	Audrey Snyder
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**Clara Vignon-Villano**, violin

Ave Maria	Giulio Caccini (1551-1618) arr. John Ross (1940-2006)
Take a Winter Walk With Me	Mary Donnelly (b. 1953) arr. George L.O. Strid

## New Voices + Treble Chorus

**Nurt Villani**, conductor  
**Leona Cheung**, collaborative pianist

Dormi, Dormi	Italian Lullaby arr. Mary Goetze
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## New Voices

**Nurt Villani**, conductor  
**Leona Cheung**, collaborative pianist

Bee! I'm Expecting you!	Emma Lou Diemer (1927-2024)
Velvet Shoes	Randall Thompson (1899-1984)
Snow	Teresa and Paul Jennings (b. 1956 & 1948-2022)

## Youth Chorale

**Michele Adams**, conductor  
**Becca Crivello**, associate conductor  
**Calvin Kotrba**, collaborative pianist

Alleluia	Wolfgang Amadè Mozart (1756-1791) arr. John Leavitt (b. 1956)
Star Light, Star Bright	Cherly Susanti (b. 1990)
Sesere Eeye	Traditional song of Torres Strait Islands

## Chorus of Tenors + Basses

**Dr. Kevin McDonald**, conductor  
**Kim Whitehead**, collaborative pianist

Good News, The Chariot's Comin'	Traditional Spiritual arr. Stacey V. Gibbs
Every Life Shall Be a Song	Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)

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Immediately following the performance, please join us for a reception in the cafeteria located on the first floor of the Academic Building (Building #3).

We ask for your help in creating a positive concert experience for the performers and those around you. Cell phones and other audible devices should be switched off during the concert. Food and beverages are not permitted in the hall.

Large print programs are available at the information table in the lobby.

The concert runs approximately 90 minutes with no intermission.

## Connect with H+H

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## Chorus of Sopranos + Altos

**Alyson Greer Espinosa**, conductor

**Andrew Milne**, associate conductor

**Dr. Pei-yeh Tsai**, collaborative pianist

*Aure Volanti*

Francesca Caccini (1587-1630)

A Winter Day

Quartel

*Er ist Gekommen*

Clara Schumann (1819-1896)

arr. Brandon Williams

What Happens When A Woman?

Alexandra Olsavsky

## All Choirs

**Michele Adams**, conductor

**Calvin Kotrba**, collaborative pianist

This Little Light of Mine

Traditional Spiritual

arr. Robert T. Gibson

## PROGRAM SPONSORS

The Learning and Education Program is funded in perpetuity by Karen S. and George D. Levy.

The Chorus of Tenors + Basses is endowed in perpetuity by Lucas Wegmann.

The H+H Youth Choruses program is supported in part by: Curtis L. Barnes, BPS Arts Expansion Fund at EdVestors, Mark C. Brockmeier & Kathleen Silva, Jeff & Jennifer Collins, Paul Corneilson & Beth Frasso, Sarah Cummer, Debbie & Bob First, Martin & Kathleen Jewell Fogle, The Mollie B. Foley Charitable Trust, Hamilton Company Charitable Foundation, Judith S. Howe, George Frederick Jewett Foundation East, Kingsbury Road Charitable Foundation, Heather Lechtman, Karen Secunda Levy, Liberty Mutual Foundation, Ann Marie Lindquist & Robert Weisskoff, Timothy & Deborah Moore, Nancy Nizel, Diane N. Palmer, Dana & Carolyn Pope, Penny Rossano, Emily F. Schabacker, Seth Sprague Educational and Charitable Foundation, Rebecca A. Silliman M.D., Dr. James B. Sprague, Judie & Norm Toti, Kathleen\* & Walter Weld, Jean Woodward, and three anonymous donors.

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*\*In memoriam*

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Council**

## TEXTS + TRANSLATIONS

### Shank: Snow by Morning

Text: May Swenson (1913-1989)

Some for ev'ryone,  
Plenty,  
And more coming

Over the city.

Dark, worn, noisy narrows made still  
Wide, flat, clean spaces;  
Streets will be fields, cars be fumbling  
sheep;

Transparent at first,  
Each faint slice  
Slow, soundlessly tumbling;

A deep bright harvest,  
Will be seeded,  
In the night.

Then quickly, thickly, a gracious fleece  
Will spread like youth, like wheat,

By morning we'll be children!

### Quartel: Blow, blow thou winter wind

Text: William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Blow, blow thou winter wind,  
Thou art not so unkind  
As man's ingratitude

Most friendship is feigning,  
Most loving, mere folly  
Then hey ho!  
The holly!  
This life, this life is most jolly.

Thy tooth is not so keen,  
Because thou art not seen,  
Although thy breath be rude.

Freeze, freeze, thou bitter sky,  
That dost not bite so nigh  
As benefits forgot.

Hey ho!  
Sing hey ho!  
Unto the green holly.

Though thou the waters warp,  
Thy sting is not so sharp,  
As friend remembered not.

### Himes: Ave Maria

Text: Gospel of St. Luke

Translation: Traditional

Ave Maria, gratia plena: Dominus tecum,  
benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jésus.

Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with thee,  
blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

Amen.

**Naverud: *Ad Astra***

Text: Adapted from the state motto of Kansas

Additional text: Jacob Narverud (b. 1986)

Translation: Narverud

Ad Astra per aspera,  
To the stars...  
Sursum.To the stars through hardships  
  
Upward.When you're tired and troubled and you  
have lost your way,  
Don't let hard times lead you astray.  
Though you may be weary, just know you're  
not alone,  
For the stars will guide you home.Movere, deinceps, sine cura, post omnes.  
Move forward, look upward, leave all cares  
behind.

Move forward, leave all cares behind.

**Snyder: Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening**

Text: Robert Frost (1874-1963)

Whose woods these are, I think I know.  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.He gives his harness bells a shake,  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.My little horse might think it queer,  
To stop without a farmhouse near,  
Between the woods and frozen lake,  
The darkest evening of the year.The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.**Caccini: *Ave Maria***

Text: Traditional

Translation: Traditional

Ave Maria

Hail Mary

**Donnelly: Take a Winter Walk With Me**

Text: Mary Donnelly (b. 1953)

When the sky gets cloudy and the snow  
flakes fall,  
There's just one place to be.  
Nevermind the storm. We can dress up  
warm.  
Take a winter walk with me.As we stroll along together,  
All the world is white with snow.  
We'll enjoy the wint'ry weather,  
We'll be nice and cozy from head to toe.There's a snowman standing by the old town  
hall,  
As proud as he can be.  
We can meet him there; in the icy air,  
Take a winter walk with me.There is nothing cooler than the great  
outdoors,  
I know that you'll agree.  
If you're by my side, I will be your guide  
Through a frosty fantasy.Let me take your hand  
Through the wonderland.  
Take a winter walk with me.**Italian Lullaby: *Dormi, Dormi***

Text: Traditional

Translation: Casey Wong (b. 2008)

Dormi, dormi, bel bambin.  
Re divin, Re divin.  
Fala nanna fantolino.Sleep, sleep, beautiful child.  
Divine King, Divine King.  
Go to sleep, little child,

Fa-la-la...

Fa-la-la...

Perché piangi, o mio tesoro.  
Dolce amor.  
Fala nanna, o caro figlio.  
Fan-to bel.Why are you crying, my darling.  
Sweet love.  
Go to sleep, dear child.  
Beautiful child.**Diemer: Bee! I'm Expecting You!**

Text: Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

Bee!  
I'm expecting you!  
Was saying yesterday to somebody you  
know  
That you were due!Birds mostly back,  
The clover warm and thick,  
Birds, clover, bee!The frogs got home last week,  
Are settled and at work.You'll get my letter by the seventeenth,  
Reply, or better, be with me!Yours,  
Fly.**Thompson: Velvet Shoes**

Text: Randall Thompson (1899-1984)

Let us walk in the white snow  
In a soundless space,  
With foot-steps quiet and slow,  
At a tranquil pace,  
Under veils of white lace.White as a white cow's milk,  
More beautiful than the breast of a gull.I shall go shod in silk  
And you in woolWe shall salk in velvet shoes.  
Wherever we go, silence will fall like dews  
On white silence below.  
We shall walk in the snow.

### Jennings: Snow

Text: Theresa and Paul Jennings (b. 1956 & 1948-2022)

I'm lookin' out my window and I see a lot of  
gray,  
Looks like it's gonna be another wintry day,  
Grab my coat, grab my hat, check my app.  
Yes there's gonna be some snow,  
And it's comin' all the way.

It looks like snow,  
I see the snow,  
Here comes the snow,

Just let it snow.

The Charlie Brown flakes are falling slowly  
from the sky,  
Right on my nose and on the lashes of my  
eyes.  
Floatin' down, to the ground, All around.  
Yes there's gonna be some snow,  
And it's really gonna fly.

### Mozart: Alleluia

Text: Traditional

Translation: Traditional

Alleluia

God be praised

### Susanti: Star Light, Star Bright

Text: Common nursery rhyme

Star! Star!  
Starlight, starbright,  
First star I see tonight.  
I wish I may, I wish I might,  
Have the wish I wish tonight.

Starlight, starbright, tonight.

### Traditional song of Torres Strait Islands: Sesere Eeye

Text: Traditional

Interpretation: Casey Wong/Various Moa folklore

Sesere eeye, sesere eeye  
Nar in ar in a roparte

Roparte marowski amma  
Te sesere eeye

*One translation claims that Sesere is a Kingfisher and the song tells the story of the bird diving down into the water to catch a fish. The beat and motion done by the singers' bodies describe the movements of the Kingfisher as it dives for dinner.*

*The other translation claims that the song is about the winds and the mountains of the Moa Islands. The beat and motion done by the singers' bodies show the different weather of the islands.*

### Traditional Spiritual: Good News, The Chariot's Comin'

Text: Traditional Spiritual

Good news, the chariot's comin'  
An' I don' wan' it to leave-a me behin'!

Dere are long white robes in the heav'ns I  
know,  
An' I don' wan' it to leave-a me behin'

Dere are starry crowns in the heav'ns I know,  
An' I don' wan' it to leave-a me behin'!

Good, good, good, good news,  
Lord I got news,

Dere are golden slippers in the heav'ns I  
know,  
Golden slippers, starry crown, long white  
robe,  
An' I don' wan' it to leave-a me behin'!

### Walker: Every Life Shall Be a Song

Text: John Addington Symonds (1840-1893)

Additional Text: Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)

These things shall be:  
A loftier race than e'er the world has known  
shall rise.  
With flame of freedom in our souls,  
And light of knowledge in our eyes.

We will be gentle, brave and strong,  
To speak no words of war, but dare,  
That all may plant our kinship firm on earth  
and fire and sea and air.  
These things shall be.

Nation with nation, land with land,  
Unarmed shall live as comrades free;  
In every heart and brain shall throb the pulse  
of our sweet unity,  
These things shall be.

Ah, I dream,

New arts shall bloom of loftier mold,  
And mightier music fill the skies,  
And every life shall be a song,  
When all the earth is paradise!

### Caccini: Aure Volanti

Text: Ferdinando Saracinelli (1583-1640)

Translation: Carolyn Raney (1918-2006)

Aure volanti, augei canori,  
Fonti stilanti, grazie a mori,  
Quinci d'intorno, fate più chiar' il sol,  
Più lieto il giorno.

Antri gelati, fulgido sole,  
Erbosi prati,  
Giglie viole,  
Quinci d'intorno, fate più chiar' il sol.

Wandering breezes, sweet warbles songbirds,  
Soft, trickling fountains, graces and pleasures,  
All here surrounding, make the sun brighter,  
Make the day much lighter.

Frozen caves, radiant sun,  
Green meadows,  
Lilies and violets,  
From this place, make the sun brighter and the  
day more pleasant.



### **Quartel: A Winter Day**

Text: Lucy Maud Montgomery (1874-1942)

Wide, sparkling fields snow vested lie,  
Beneath a blue, unshadowed sky.  
Like, life hath a jollity and zest,  
A poignancy made manifest;

Laughter and courage have their way,  
At the noontide of a winters day,  
A glistening splendor crowns the woods,

And bosky whistling solitudes,  
In hemlock glen and reedy mere,  
The tang of frost is sharp and clear;

Faint music rings in wold and dell,  
The tinkling of a distant bell,  
Where homestead lights with friendly glow,  
Glimmer across the drifted snow.

### **Schumann: *Er Ist Gekommen***

Text: Friedrich Rückert (1788-1866)

Translation: Brandon Williams

Er ist gekommen in Sturm und Regen,  
Ihm schlug bekloffen mein Herz entgegen.  
Wie konnt' ich ahnen, daß seine bahnen  
Sich einen sollten meinen Wegen?

Er ist gekommen in Sturm und Regen,  
Er hat genommen mein Herz verwegen.  
Nahm er das meine? Nahm ich das seine?  
Die beiden kamen sich entgegen.

Er ist gekommen in Sturm und Regen,  
Nun ist gekommen des Frühlings Segen  
Der Freund zieht weiter, ich seh' es heiter;  
Denn er bleibt mein auf allen Wegen.

He came in storm and rain,  
My anxious heart beat against his.  
How could I have known, that his path  
Should unite itself with mine?

He came in storm and rain,  
He boldly stole my heart,  
Did he steal mine? Did I steal his?  
Both came together.

He came in storm and rain,  
Now has come the blessing of spring.  
My love travels abroad, I watch and cheer,  
For he remains mine on any road.

### **Olsavsky: What Happens When A Woman?**

Text: Alexandra Olsavsky of Artemisia (b. 1990)

What happens when a woman takes power?  
What happens when she won't back down?  
What happens? What happens?

What happens when she wears the crown?  
What happens when she rules her own body?  
What happens when she sets the beat? Woah  
oh!

What happens when she bows to nobody?  
What happens when she stands on her own  
two feet?

Woah!  
We rise above!  
Woah!  
We lead with love!  
Woah!  
We have won!  
We are one!  
We've just begun!

### **Traditional Spiritual: This Little Light of Mine**

Text: Traditional

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

All day and all night, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

My God gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## CONDUCTORS



**Michele Adams** joined the Handel and Haydn Society Youth Choruses last season, conducting the Concert Choir and Youth Chorale. She is pleased to continue working with young artists, having previously served on the artistic teams of the Boston Children's Chorus and the Nebraska Children's Chorus.

A lifelong educator, musician, and administrator, Adams has worked for nonprofits and in education throughout her career. She is the Managing Director of Development of Veritas Christian Academy in Wayland, MA and conducts the Veritas Choir as well. Previously, Adams was the Executive Director of the Performing Arts Center of MetroWest. She is an active guest conductor, educator, and adjudicator.

Adams studied choral conducting, music education, and voice at the University of South Carolina, Florida State University, and the New England Conservatory of Music. Her greatest musical passion is choral conducting, especially children's choruses. She lives in MetroWest with her husband and two daughters.



**Alyson Greer Espinosa** is thrilled to be in her fourteenth season on the H+H Youth Choruses faculty where she is the conductor of the Chorus of Sopranos + Altos and the Chamber Choir. Most recently, Ms. Greer has prepared the HHYC Chamber Choir for performances at H+H's Baroque Christmas, with the H+H Chorus and Orchestra under the baton of Raphaël Pichon for Beethoven Symphony No. 9, collaborations with the American Spirituals Ensemble and the MIT Chorale, and for the 2023 performance on GBH Christmas Music Spectacular. Ms. Greer has prepared CSA and Chamber Choir for performances with Harry Christophers and the H+H Chorus and Orchestra for Bach's St. Matthew's Passion, Handel's Messiah and Saul, Vivaldi's Gloria, Mozart's Requiem, and Monteverdi's Vespers.

Other ensemble collaborations include the Back Bay Chorale, Harvard-Radcliffe Chorus, Cappella Clausura, Boston Musica Viva, MIT Concert Choir, Metropolitan Chorale, Heritage Chorale, the Eureka Ensemble Women's Chorus, Mother Caroline Academy, and the NEC Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorale. The former Young Women's Chamber Choir performed on From The Top and CSA was featured in BBC's Great American Railroad Journeys under her direction in 2017. Such collaborations and performances have afforded Ms. Greer and her singers inspire musical-educational performances with conductors such as Raphaël Pichon, Harry Christophers, Ian Watson, Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett, Dr. Anthony Trecek-King, Dr. Andrew Clark, Dr. Lisa Graham, John Finney, Dr. Lynnel Jenkins, George Steel, and Ismael Sandoval.



**Dr. Kevin J. McDonald** brings 30 years of teaching experience and a broad musical background to his position as Conductor of the Handel and Haydn Society Chorus of Tenors + Basses. McDonald joined the H+H Youth Choruses Faculty for the 200th Anniversary celebration in 2014. Under his leadership, the Chorus of Tenors + Basses have consistently delivered stellar music performances, engaged in special music projects, worked with guest artists, and collaborated with the professional orchestra and chorus in performances of the Mozart Requiem, Handel's Messiah, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 9. McDonald led the H+H Youth Chorus international tours of Canada in 2017 and Ireland in 2019.

In addition to his role with the H+H, McDonald is in his 20th year as Director of Choral Music at Wellesley High School, where he leads a thriving choral program consisting of 5 curricular choral ensembles and 4 a cappella groups. Under his direction, ensembles at Wellesley High School consistently perform in gold medal showcases and with professional organizations such as the Boston Pops Orchestra and the New York Voices. He is the Director of Music at Wellesley Village Church where he has served for 19 years. McDonald is frequently hired to guest conduct district, regional, and all state festival choirs in the United States and Europe. He is an active adjudicator and clinician at state and division music education conferences. McDonald is the 2023 recipient of the MMEA Lowell Mason Award for Excellence in Music Education and is currently a quarter-finalist for the 2024 Grammy Museum Music Educator Award. Dr. McDonald holds a B.M. in music education from the University of New Hampshire, a M.M. in low brass performance from the University of Idaho, and a DMA in music education with choral conducting emphasis from The Hartt School, University of Hartford.



**Nurt Villani** joined the faculty of the Handel and Haydn Society as conductor of the New Voices choir in 2019. After receiving her BA in music from the University of Cauca in Popayan (Colombia), she went on to study Choral conducting at the Conservatoire de Paris and Gregorian Chant conducting at the Conservatoire de Paris (France), where she was awarded the first prize. During that time, Nurt was assistant conductor of the Maitrise de Paris, and was invited to conduct the Maitrise of the Cathedral in Metz, France, two leading youth choral organizations. Nurt has founded and directed various ensembles including the training choir at Conservatoire Francis Poulenc, the choir of Palais de la Culture in Puteaux, the World Music choir in the Cite Internationale Universitaire, and the Popayán choir celebrating Latin-American music.

Her work in the Boston area after serving on the faculty of Project STEP, she teaches in the Andover Public Schools. She also regularly returns to Colombia to transmit her experience to the next generation of educators. In addition to Choral conducting, she holds diplomas in musical pedagogy from the Kodaly Institute in Esztergom, Hungary; Willems in Lyon, France; and Dalcroze in NY.

## ASSOCIATE CONDUCTORS



**Becca Crivello** is thrilled to be joining the Handel and Haydn Society faculty as the Associate Conductor of Youth Chorale and Concert Choir! She is currently the Choral Director at Hudson Memorial School, in Hudson, New Hampshire, where she works with students in grades 6, 7, and 8 curricular choirs, an extra-curricular audition-based choir, and an annual musical.

Crivello holds her B.M. in Music Studies (Education) with a minor in Italian Studies from UMass Lowell (summa cum laude) and her M.M in Music Education from Boston University. While at UMass Lowell, she was active in the a cappella community, having founded a female-identified a

cappella group called The Hawkettes and being their Music Director all four years. Upon graduation from Boston University, she received a Departmental Award in Music Education from the BU College of Fine Arts.

Her ensemble ventures include University Singers and Chamber Singers at UMass Lowell, BU Singers, Symphonic Chorus, and Graduate Vocal Ensemble at Boston University, New Hampshire Master Chorale, The Common Voice at UMass Lowell, and the Sarteano Chamber Choral Conducting Workshop. Her conducting ventures include the role of Conducting Intern for Cappella Clausura and conducting in Choral Chameleon's Conducting Institute.

Currently, she serves as the Secretary and Contemporary/Commercial Music R&R Chair for the NH ACDA chapter. She resides in southern New Hampshire with her husband.



An avid conductor, singer, and music educator based in Massachusetts, **Andrew Milne** is thrilled to be on the faculty of HHYC. He currently serves as Director of Choirs at Auburn High School in Auburn, MA, working with students in auditioned and non-auditioned ensembles, extra curricular ensembles, and theater. His students have been accepted to district, state, and national honor choirs as well as top college programs around the country. In addition to his conducting, Andrew is a regular chorister and has sung with choirs such as the internationally acclaimed choirs of Joyful Noise in Torrington, CT with Dr. Gabriel Lofvall, and the Worcester Chorus under Dr. Chris Shepard. His conducting teachers have included Dr. Vernon Huff, Dr.

Edward Bolkovac, and Dr. Julie Hagen.

In 2014 Milne was honored as the recipient of the Evangelyna Etienne Scholarship Award given by H+H to a member of the HHYC community for commitment and passion for vocal music; he is an alum of HHYC. Mr. Milne is passionate about community music making, sparking a joy and love of singing in his students, and helping singers understand and navigate the voice change. Andrew is an active member of NAFME, ACDA, and Pi Kappa Lambda. He holds a Bachelor's in Music Education from SUNY Fredonia and a Master's in Music Education: Choral Conducting from The Hartt School, University of Hartford.

## COLLABORATIVE PIANISTS



**Leona Cheung** is a Boston-based collaborative pianist. An expert in the vocal repertoire from art songs to opera, she is especially known for her musical leadership and responsiveness while collaborating with singers and conductors. Her collaborators include GRAMMY® Award Winning Handel and Haydn Society, Tanglewood Festival Chorus, Seraphic Fire. She has collaborated with Helmuth Rilling and Hong Kong SingFest in multiple choral-orchestral projects. Leona was a founding member and pianist with Cantoria Hong Kong, and can be heard on the Chinese choral music album entitled "Half Moon Rising", presented by the Edition Peters.

Leona is the recipient of the Graham Johnson Art Song XXI Prize 2024, an award named after one of the most respected pianists and Art Song scholars of our time. Her deep devotion to vocal-piano repertoire has brought her to perform extensively in many international festivals, including Aspen Music Festival, Oxford Lieder Festival, Leeds Lieder Festival, Toronto Summer Music, Franz Schubert Institut and Songfest, where she worked with many esteemed artists and scholars across the United States and Europe. Born and raised in Hong Kong, Leona earned her Master of Music and Graduate Diploma in Collaborative Piano from New England Conservatory.



**Calvin Kotrba** is a classical pianist dedicated to pursuing the true, the good, and the beautiful through music. Originally from Minnesota, he studies with Prof. Gila Goldstein at the Longy School of Music, where he is the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship. He began studying piano with his mother at age three, going on to earn degrees in piano performance and mathematics with highest honors as a student of Dr. Ksenia Nosikova at the University of Iowa.

As a soloist, Kotrba was the first-prize winner of the 2024 Thomas F. Hulbert International Piano Competition and the 2023 University of Iowa Concerto Competition. He has accompanied choirs and performed with ensembles from marching band to orchestra, and is currently a Collaborative Piano Fellow at Longy. Kotrba's love of music is sustained by his Christian faith. When not playing the piano, he enjoys traveling long distances by train and eating steak.





Born in Taiwan, pianist **Pei-yeh Tsai** has performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. Acclaimed by Yo-Yo Ma as “a powerhouse of a pianist who plays with incredible depth of soul,” Tsai has earned numerous prestigious international competition awards. Currently, Tsai serves on the faculty of Middlebury College’s Italian Vocal Program and is the pianist for both Coro Allegro and the New Bedford Symphony. She was with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for the Pixar film “Philharmonia Fantastique,” which won a Grammy for Best Engineered Classical. Her performance at the Ravinia Festival was broadcast on PBS’s “Great Performances” series. Tsai has collaborated

with renowned conductors such as Riccardo Muti, Marin Alsop, Edwin Outwater, Edward Gardner, and Ken-David Masur. Her performances have been featured on BBC Radio 4, WFMT, WTVF, and WGBH. Tsai holds a Master of Music from the Juilliard School and a Doctor of Musical Arts from Boston University.



**Kimberly Whitehead** is thrilled to join the Handel and Haydn Society Youth Choruses faculty team as collaborative pianist for the Chorus of Tenors + Basses with her esteemed colleague, Dr. Kevin McDonald. She graduated magna cum laude with a degree in piano and organ performance from the University of New Hampshire, and went on to complete her Master’s degree in organ performance at Boston University as a student of James David Christie.

Whitehead comes to HHYC with 35 years of experience accompanying choirs and musicians and has spent the last 25 years teaching piano and conducting. She currently

serves as Minister of Music at The First Congregational Church of Milford, NH and as collaborative pianist for Souhegan Valley Chorus and Milford (NH) High School. Passionate about handbells, she serves on the national committee for handbells/handchimes in schools and is recognized internationally. Whitehead loves photography, museums, the beach, travel, but most especially spending as much time as possible with her three amazing children including her youngest daughter who is in Youth Chorale!

FREE + OPEN TO ALL

## EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION CONCERT

TUE, DEC 31, at 1:00pm

TRINITY CHURCH, BOSTON

**Anthony Trecek-King**, *conductor*  
**Regie Gibson**, *spoken word artist*  
**H+H Orchestra and Chorus**



## CROSSING THE DEEP

FRI, JAN 17, at 7:30pm  
SUN, JAN 19, at 3:00pm

NEC’S JORDAN HALL

**Anthony Trecek-King**, *conductor*  
*and co-creator*  
**Reginald Mobley**, *countertenor*  
*and co-creator*  
**Regie Gibson**, *spoken word artist*  
**Brianna Robinson**, *soprano*  
**H+H Orchestra and Chorus**



# HANDEL+HAYDN SOCIETY

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# HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY YOUTH CHORUSES

## New Voices

**Nurt Villani**, *conductor*

**Leona Cheung**, *collaborative pianist*

Samantha Asencio	Aila Fisher	Hana Strobel
Una Brosa De Musis	Tegan Kuo	Fei Tan
Julián Calva	Amelia Lidano	Sarah Vinton
Aimee Chen	Gemma Martin	Meredith Zhang
Addie Clark	Lena Parham	Stanislaw Zielinski
Alexandre Da Silva Lopes	Mia Paxson Mazar	
Julia Fat	Aaron Shen	

## Treble Chorus

**Nurt Villani**, *conductor*

**Leona Cheung**, *collaborative pianist*

Samuel Asencio	Nathan Morris	Cora Suskin
Elsa Brinker	Sinclair Oliver	Ru Tan
Athena Evans	Sofia Portillo	Adam Werther-Lev
Zoe Kazakoff-Eigen	Mila Sanderson	
Maya Mitchell	Peter Sowa	

## Youth Chorale

**Michele Adams**, *conductor*

**Becca Crivello**, *associate conductor*

**Calvin Kotrba**, *collaborative pianist*

West Adar	Olivia Gabriel	Catherine Rentfrow
Aliyah Attar	Tanoshi Inomata	Declan Starosky
Ana Bleichmar	Esther Kraft	Ava Sweazy
Anoushka Chatterjee	Jala Lee	Elena Thatcher
Christine Choi	Lily Mohammadi	Anna Vinton
Lauren Colter	Avery Monnin-Browder	Auther Watson
Molly Donaruma	Linden Ochs	Olivia Werther-Lev
Hannah Fan	Elizabeth Oh	Marly Whitehead
Hayley Fan*	Luther Oliver	

## Chorus of Sopranos + Altos

**Alyson Greer Espinosa**, *conductor*

**Andrew Milne**, *associate conductor*

**Pei-yeh Tsai**, *collaborative pianist*

Kaushiki Banerjee	Nahar Keefe-Perry*	Maya Powers
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## Chorus of Tenors + Basses

**Dr. Kevin J. McDonald**, *conductor*

**Kim Whitehead**, *collaborative pianist*

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**Calvin Kotrba**, *collaborative pianist*

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Boston's Grammy-winning Handel and Haydn Society performs Baroque and Classical music with a freshness, a vitality, and a creativity that inspires all ages. Called "one of the most exciting ensembles of historically informed performances in the world" (OperaWire), H+H has been captivating audiences for 210 consecutive seasons (the most of any performing arts organization in the United States), speaking to its singular success at welcoming new audiences to this extraordinary music, generation after generation.

H+H performed the "Hallelujah" chorus from Handel's Messiah in its first concert in 1815, gave the American premiere in 1818, and ever since has been both a musical and a civic leader in the Boston community. During the Civil War, H+H gave numerous concerts in support of the Union Army (H+H member Julia Ward Howe wrote "The Battle Hymn of the Republic") and on January 1, 1863, H+H performed at the Grand Jubilee Concert celebrating the enactment of the Emancipation Proclamation. Two years later, H+H performed at the memorial service for Abraham Lincoln.

H+H's Orchestra and Chorus delight more than 76,000 listeners annually through concerts at Symphony Hall and other leading venues as well as radio broadcasts. Through the Karen S. and George D. Levy Learning and Education Program, H+H supports seven youth choirs of singers in grades 2-12, and provides thousands of complimentary tickets to students and communities throughout Boston, ensuring the joy of music is accessible to all. H+H has released 16 CDs on the CORO label and has toured nationally and internationally. In all these ways, H+H fulfills its mission to inspire the intellect, touch the heart, elevate the soul, and connect all of us with our shared humanity through transformative experiences with Baroque and Classical music.

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*Philip and Marjorie Gerdine  
President and CEO*

## Artistic

Jonathan Cohen  
*Artistic Director*  
Ian Watson  
*Associate Conductor*  
Aisslinn Nosky  
*Concertmaster*  
Scott Allen Jarrett  
*Resident Conductor, Chorus*  
Anthony Trecek-King  
*Resident Conductor, Chorus*  
Reginald Mobley  
*Programming Consultant*  
Harry Christophers  
*Conductor Laureate*

## Youth Chorus Conductors

Michele Adams  
*Youth Chorale and Concert Choir*  
Alyson Greer Espinosa  
*Chorus of Sopranos and  
Altos and Chamber Choir*  
Dr. Kevin McDonald  
*Chorus of Tenors and Basses*  
Nurt Villani  
*New Voices and Treble Chorus*

# HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY GOVERNANCE

## Board of Governors

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*Chair*  
Deborah S. First  
*Vice Chair*  
W. Carl Kester  
*Vice Chair*  
Karen S. Levy  
*Vice Chair*  
Judith Verhave  
*Vice Chair*  
Kathleen Weld\*  
*Vice Chair*  
David Weaver  
*Treasurer*  
Elizabeth Reza  
*Secretary*  
David Snead  
*Philip and Marjorie Gerdine  
President and CEO*

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Dr. Holly Maze Carter  
Dr. Frank Clark  
Gerard Cox  
Julia D. Cox  
Philip V. Gerdine  
Ellen Harris  
James S. Hoyte  
Patricia Kung  
Janina Longtine  
Joseph Mari  
Dr. Stephen Morrissey  
Michael Scott Morton  
Michael Oliveri  
Carolyn Pope  
Catherine Powell  
Brenda Gray Reny

Arthur G. Robins  
Mic Rosiello  
George Sacerdote  
Emily F. Schabacker  
Susan M. Stemper  
Jeffrey S. Thomas  
Elizabeth P. Wax  
Jean Woodward  
Christopher R. Yens

## Governors Emeriti

Todd Estabrook  
Joseph M. Flynn  
Mary Nada  
Timothy C. Robinson  
Janet P. Whitla

## Board of Advisors

Carrie L.T. Hammond  
Nicholas Dial  
*Co-Chairs*  
Giulio Batterman  
Cristina Blau  
Julian G. Bullitt  
Jane Carlson  
John S. Cornish  
Thomas B. Draper  
David Elsbree  
Kate S. Flather  
Melissa D. Gerrity

Pamela Goldberg  
Nancy Hammer  
Suzanne Hamner  
Frederick Ilchman  
Lauren Jones  
Paul V. Kelly  
Mark A. King  
Laura Lucke  
James F. Millea  
Nancy Nizel  
Dr. Winifred B. Parker

Prema P. Popat  
Robert H. Scott  
Richard F. Seamans  
Dr. John Tamilio III  
Dr. Terry G. Taylor  
Cecily W. Tyler  
Susan B. Weatherbie  
Jane Wilson  
John Winkleman

*\*In memoriam*

List current as of November 2024

HANDELANDHAYDN.ORG



# We seriously love singing!

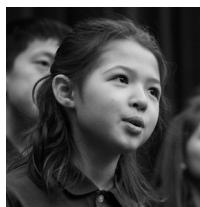
No matter where you are in your musical journey, we have a choir for you! No experience is necessary: All you need to bring is your whole self.

Through local performances and tours, HHYC provides a welcoming environment for musical and personal growth and a chance for everyone to find their voice and make unforgettable memories.

**We welcome singers of all ages to join us in January!**



**New Voices**  
Grades 2-4



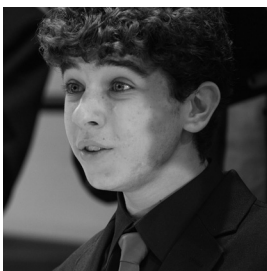
**Treble Chorus**  
Grades 4-6



**Youth Chorale**  
Grades 6-9



**Concert Choir**  
Grades 6-9



**Chorus of Tenors + Basses**  
Grades 6-12



**Chorus of Sopranos + Altos**  
Grades 9-12



**Chamber Choir**  
Grades 9-12

## HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY ADMINISTRATION

David Snead  
*Philip and Marjorie Gerdine  
President and CEO*  
Nichole Gregg  
*Executive Assistant to the CEO*

### Artistic

Ira Pedlikin  
*Vice President of Artistic Planning  
and Concert Production*  
Jon Linker  
*Senior Manager, Concert  
Operations and Booking*  
Jesse Levine  
*Music Librarian*  
Jason Fisher  
*Interim Personnel Manager*

Conducting staff and programming consultant are listed on page 5.

### Administration + Learning

Lilee  
Dethchan-Beltran  
*Chief Operating Officer*  
Mark Rugani  
*Executive Assistant to the COO*  
Katie Walsh  
*Controller*  
JongHun Kim  
*Associate Director of Learning*  
Lindy Noecker  
*Senior Manager of Archives  
and Administration*  
Brett Pond  
*Manager of Learning*  
Jandeirvy Sous  
*Bookkeeper*  
Kenneth Ngo  
*Data and Reports Analyst*  
Teresa M. Neff, PhD  
*Christopher Hogwood Historically  
Informed Performance Fellow*  
Ropes & Gray, LLP  
*Counsel*  
KLR  
*Auditors and Tax Preparers*

### Development

Rebecca W. King  
*Vice President of Development*  
Jackie Rocha  
*Major Gifts Officer*  
Marion Westgate  
*Major and Planned Giving Officer*  
Wesley Farnsworth  
*Annual Fund and Events Manager*  
Natsuko Takashima  
*Development Associate*  
Laura Sitterley  
*Grants Manager*

### Marketing + Patron Experience

Sarah L. Manoog  
*Vice President of Marketing  
and Communications*  
Emily Reed  
*Vice President of Strategic  
Partnerships*  
Chris Petre-Baumer  
*Director of Marketing and Creative*  
Carly Rockenhauser  
*Director of Patron Experience*  
Melissa Tompkins  
*Patron Experience Manager*  
Joseph Sedarski  
*Content Marketing Manager*  
Susan Baranyi  
*Public Relations and Program  
Book Manager*  
Jo-B Sebastian  
*Graphic Designer*  
Laurin Stoler  
*Calling Campaign Manager*  
Jerry Waldman  
*Assistant Calling  
Campaign Manager*  
Ben Lipkowitz  
*Telesales Representative*

### Learning Program Faculty

Youth Chorus conductors are listed on page 5.  
Andrew Milne  
*HHYC Associate Conductor  
for the Chorus of Sopranos +  
Altos and Chamber Choir*  
Becca Crivello  
*HHYC Associate Conductor for  
Youth Chorale and Concert Choir*

### Musicianship Faculty

Matthew Buono  
*Lead Musicianship Teacher*  
Mary Kray  
Hexing Ouyang  
Olivia Rich

### Collaborative Pianists

Leona Cheung  
Calvin Kotrba  
Dr. Pei-yeh Tsai  
Kim Whitehead

### Vocal Pedagogy Specialist

Hannah Klein

### Teaching Artists

Lorenzo Burnside  
*Mother Caroline Academy*  
Rachael Chagat  
*Winship Elementary School*  
Laura Nevitt  
*Mason Elementary School*



HANDEL+HAYDN SOCIETY  
**YOUTH CHORUSES**





HANDEL+HAYDN SOCIETY  
YOUTH CHORUSES



UPCOMING EVENTS

# H+H Youth Choruses

**DEC 19+22 H+H's Baroque Christmas**  
**Featuring the Concert Choir**  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**JAN 8 High School Soloists Winter Recital**  
NEC's Williams Hall

**MAR 15 New Voices + Treble Chorus**  
**with Worcester Children's Choir**  
United Parish in Brookline

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## But, that's not all!

Check out our full calendar online at  
[handelandhaydn.org/hhyc/calendar](http://handelandhaydn.org/hhyc/calendar).

