



JUNE 29 – JULY 4, 2024

INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL OF
COLLECTIVE
SINGING
TRADITIONS



Atlantic Canada
Opportunities
Agency

Agence de
promotion économique
du Canada atlantique



2024/2025 ORCHESTRA
SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS
ON SALE NOW



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www.harbourvoices.ca



HarbourVOICES! respectfully acknowledges the island of Ktaqmkuk (Newfoundland) as the unceded and unsundered ancestral homelands of the Mi'kmaq and the Beothuk. We also acknowledge our neighbours to the North: the Innu of Nitassinan and the Inuit of Nunatisavut and NunatuKavut, in what is colonially known as Labrador. We acknowledge with respect the diverse histories and cultures of the Mi'kmaq, Innu, and Inuit and give appreciation for their ongoing stewardship of these lands on which we work, play, grow, and learn together.



ABOUT HARBOUR VOICES

Our Festival is focused on celebrating diversity and inclusion through the encouragement of diverse voices and cultures. We are interested in prioritising collaboration and the reciprocal sharing of collective singing traditions. We hope to celebrate together the many and diverse traditions and powers of the human voice as shared through singing and song in the uniquely vibrant City of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.

In addition to performing concerts and events, HarbourVOICES! will provide spaces for collaboration, reciprocal learning, and diversity through the sharing and authentic experiencing of varied musical traditions and cultures. Our Festival is focused on celebrating diversity and inclusion through the encouragement of diverse voices and cultures. We are interested in prioritising collaboration and the reciprocal sharing of collective singing traditions. We hope to celebrate together the many and diverse traditions and powers of the human voice as shared through singing and song in the uniquely vibrant City of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.

Collective Singing

Collective Singing is the act of multiple individuals producing vocal sounds simultaneously. Collective Singing traditions are rooted in diverse musical – social – cultural practices, traditions, and/or rituals, may be performative and/or ceremonial, and are embedded in communities around the world. Collective Singing often serves as a means of expressing identity, disseminating social commentary, transmitting musical and cultural heritage, and celebrating shared values and experiences that may lead to individual and cultural transformation.

For more information on all Festival events, see our website

www.harbourvoices.ca



Harbour
VOICES!
International Festival of
Collective Singing Traditions



Message from The Lieutenant Governor



It is my pleasure to welcome you to the inaugural HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions. How exciting for all of us to host this event to celebrate the Year of The Arts.

This year, we put a special emphasis on all facets of the arts.

The power of the human voice is profound. It can capture our souls and our hearts. During this festival you will use your voices to celebrate the rich artistry and vibrant diversity of our province.

Best wishes to all the performers, organizers, crew, and everyone involved in bringing the festival to life. I hope the festival is a success for all, and I know that you will all build stronger bonds together through the power of song.

Joan Marie J. Aylward, O.N.L.

Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador



MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

As Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador, I am thrilled to extend a warm welcome to participants and attendees of the 2024 HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions.

Our province has a rich history of choral music and collaborative festivals. As we come together with diverse voices through the sharing of music and cultures, we celebrate the traditions of participants through singing and song in our uniquely vibrant City of St. John's. Through our children's involvement, choir plays a big role in our family life and we see firsthand the benefits it provides.

With concerts, a variety of presentations, workshops, sessions and events, this festival is a fantastic opportunity to learn, share and enjoy choral music.

I hope you take some time over these next few days to immerse yourself in our culture, find inspiration and appreciate all Newfoundland and Labrador has to offer.

Thank you for joining us in our beautiful province.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Furey'.

Honourable Dr. Andrew Furey
Premier

gov.nl.ca





YEAR OF THE ARTS

NEWFOUNDLAND
& LABRADOR 2024

In support of Newfoundland and Labrador's artists
and in celebration of the rich, vibrant arts and
cultural sector they create.

gov.nl.ca/tcar

Newfoundland
& Labrador



HarbourVOICES! International Festival
of Collective Singing Traditions
June 29 to July 4, 2024

Festival international de traditions de chants
collectifs HarbourVOICES!
Du 29 juin au 4 juillet 2024

Hi friends,

Welcome to this year's HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions, which brings together international, national, and local choirs and singing groups right here to St. John's for a one-of-a-kind six-day musical celebration.

Newfoundlanders and Labradorians know that music brings us together - through rhythm, passion, and storytelling. Singing together is a proud part of our history and who we are as a people.

Your federal government, through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, is celebrating diversity and inclusion and storytelling, through the joy of music, while putting local musicians, artists and businesses on a global stage.

Congratulations to the HarbourVOICES! team for organizing this world-class festival. And to all the musicians and guests participating in this week's celebration, I hope your time here leaves you with memories to last a lifetime and sends you home filled with the magic of storytelling from Newfoundland and Labrador. Have fun, best wishes, and enjoy the festival!

The Honourable Gudie Hutchings, P.C., M.P.

Bonjour chers amis,

Bienvenue au festival international de traditions de chants collectifs HarbourVOICES!, qui réunit des chorales et des groupes de chant internationaux, nationaux et locaux ici même à St. John's pour une célébration musicale de six jours unique en son genre.

Les habitants de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador savent que la musique nous rassemble - par le rythme, la passion et les récits. Chanter ensemble fait partie de notre histoire et de notre identité en tant que peuple.

Votre gouvernement fédéral, par l'intermédiaire de l'Agence de promotion économique du Canada atlantique, célèbre la diversité, l'inclusion et la narration, grâce à la joie de la musique, tout en plaçant les musiciens, les artistes et les entreprises de la région sur la scène internationale.

Félicitations à l'équipe de HarbourVOICES ! pour l'organisation de ce festival de classe mondiale. Et à tous les musiciens et invités qui participent aux célébrations de cette semaine, j'espère que le temps que vous passerez ici vous laissera des souvenirs inoubliables et que vous rentrerez chez vous remplis de la magie des récits de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador. Amusez-vous bien, recevez mes meilleurs vœux et profitez du festival !

L'honorable Gudie Hutchings, C.P., députée



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Welcome to the HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions.

This festival encapsulates the Year of the Arts by sharing and experiencing the rich musical traditions and cultures from around the world, all in our province where music holds such an important place.

One of Newfoundland and Labrador's very best cultural tourism products is our unique singing traditions found within our province, which is showcased on a global scale during this week for all to experience.

We are proud to support this festival and the innovative week of choral events, collaboration spaces and diversity through the sharing of traditions and cultures that come with it.

Enjoy your visit and take some time to explore our scenic province.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Crocker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steve" and last name "Crocker" clearly legible.

Hon. Steve Crocker
Minister of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation

Message from the Mayor



On behalf of the City of St. John's, welcome to HarbourVOICES! This innovative six-day celebration unites diverse singing traditions from around the globe. St. John's, with its rich cultural heritage and warm hospitality, provides the perfect backdrop for this unique festival. HarbourVOICES! isn't just a festival; it's a celebration of diversity, inclusion, and the extraordinary power of the human voice.

Through concerts, collaborative spaces, and interactive events, we'll explore the beautiful and varied musical traditions each group offers. The sharing and reciprocal learning during this festival will enrich us all, fostering a deeper understanding of our collective cultures.

To our guest choirs and groups, who've traveled from near and far, a heartfelt welcome! Your performances are the heart of this festival, showcasing incredible talent and cultural diversity. And to our invited participating groups and choirs, your presence and engagement will contribute to the festival's spirit of community and learning.

Enjoy the festival, explore our vibrant city, and connect through the universal language of music!

Danny Breen
Mayor



Message from the
Executive Director

On behalf of Celebrate NL, I welcome the HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions.

Music takes center stage in Newfoundland and Labrador, a province where it is deeply cherished and integral to our culture and community.

HarbourVOICES! is a homegrown festival that celebrates diversity, inclusion and the power of the human voice.

The festival fosters collaboration and enhances our event landscape during the provincial planned celebration Year of the Arts.

Enjoy the festival and celebration!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caroline Orsborn".

Caroline Orsborn
Executive Director
Celebrate NL



celebratenl.ca



Artistic Directors: Ki Adams, David Buley
Andrea Rose, and Kellie Walsh
Festival Director: Angela Warren
Festival Manager: Kerri MacPhee

On behalf of HarbourVOICES! Festival of Collective Singing Traditions, we extend warm greetings to festival participants including singers, conductors, guest artists, session leaders and presenters, solo together registrants, and students. We are so excited to host 1400 festival participants representing 25 countries: Hong Kong, Spain, Serbia, Venezuela, Philippines, Switzerland, Germany, United States, The Netherlands, Ireland, Norway, Ghana, Russia, Slovenia, Indonesia, Guatemala, Japan, Malaysia, Argentina, Iran, Taiwan, Kazakhstan, Sweden, Iceland, and Canada!

HarbourVOICES! has been imagined as ways of opening spaces for collaboration, reciprocal learning, and diversity through the sharing and celebration of varied musical traditions and cultures. *Collective Singing* - the act of multiple individuals producing vocal sounds simultaneously - is rooted in unique cultural histories and practices. As we each experience multiple singing traditions over our six days together, the phenomenon and power of singing and song will surely reveal itself in unique ways!

Festival participants will engage in a series of presentations and unique 'collaborative singing projects' led by invited choral-singing leaders. Cultural exchange sessions will bring groups together to share songs, stories and traditions. A core feature of the festival is performing for and with each other. Concerts presented throughout the festival week include a series of afternoon, evening, and lunchtime pop-up concerts. Our Festival Gala Concert features 6-time GRAMMY® winner Jacob Collier, 44 choirs/groups, and guests. The festival's final festival concert event HarbourSING! is an open-air moveable feast of song taking place in the vibrant downtown core of St. John's.

HarbourVOICES! has been made possible by the support of our primary funders - NL Year of the Arts, Dept. of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, Celebrate NL, and Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. We are very grateful for their support in helping us realise our dream to create a new and innovative model of international choral festivals. What better place to reveal this new vision of choral festivals than in this province - our home - a place where the singing of welcomes and collective singing practices have been integral aspects of the living cultures in this land for thousands of years.

We extend thanks also to our amazing festival staff (small in numbers but mighty in strengths and dedication!), community supporters, 80+ volunteers, and our Artistic Advisory Board. We feel truly fortunate and honoured to be working with such talented and committed individuals.

We hope you enjoy your stay in St. John's and other areas of the province to which many of you are travelling. We look forward to meeting you at the varied festival events where we will have many opportunities to share music, traditions, ideas, experiences, friendships, food... and lots of fun!



Andrea Rose, Ki Adams, and David Buley
Co-Directors, The Singing Network
Faculty of Education, Memorial University



photo by Yu Hang Tan

Welcome to HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions. The Singing Network, hosted at Memorial University, is honoured and proud to be partners in presenting this inaugural festival that celebrates a diversity of choral and group singing traditions. We have created an exciting array of performances, workshops, cultural exchange sessions, presentations, and dialogues. The festival welcomes 41 groups representing Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, and 25 countries from around the world. We are delighted also to host our festival headliner, 6-time GRAMMY® winner Jacob Collier, as well as our guest clinicians Dr. André de Quadros, Dr. Hussein Janmohmed, and Andrew Balfour.

The Singing Network is thankful for support from NL 2024 Year of the Arts, Celebrate NL, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), and its partnerships with Music NL and Shallaway Youth Choir to create and host HarbourVOICES! We are grateful for financial contributions to the Festival through Memorial University's Office of Public Engagement, the Bruneau Centre for Excellence in Choral Music, and the support of Dean Pamela Osmond-Johnson, office staff, and student assistants in the Faculty of Education.

We are pleased to host also students participating in our graduate course Singing Traditions and Practices taught by Dr. Kati Szego and offered in collaboration between HarbourVOICES! and Memorial University. Memorial University is excited to welcome approximately 500 festival participants to its residences - our Festival's "Singing Village" - as well as the 2024 alumni session of the World Youth Choir.

Established as a memorial to the Newfoundlanders who lost their lives on active service during the First and Second World Wars, Memorial University draws inspiration from these shattering sacrifices of the past as we help to build a better future for our province, our country, and our world. At Memorial University, we celebrate our unique identity through the stories of our people – the work of scholars and educators, the ingenuity of students, the achievements of alumni – and the impact we collectively make. Memorial University is a natural place where people and ideas 'become'. We sincerely hope that your time amongst us will, in some small way, contribute to the ongoing making of your own personal and professional stories.

Lastly, The Singing Network welcomes you to St. John's - North America's oldest and most easterly city. We hope you will find at least some time during your stay here to explore some of our city's meandering alleyways and breathe our fresh air. Take time to listen for our seagulls and other city musicians and notice the colourful streetscapes and glorious vistas. We know you will want to taste some of the local food fare and have a chat with people you meet. They might want to know a little about you, and maybe they will have a tale or two to tell you. They will want you to know that you are welcome here.

We hope you enjoy your experiences at HarbourVOICES! Festival. It promises to be exciting and rich in its diversity and collaborative spirit. We look forward to seeing you and 'networking' (formally and informally) throughout our week together.



Our Culture Sings

Message from Shallaway Youth Choir:

Welcome to HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions. Shallaway Youth Choir was founded in response to the 1992 moratorium on the Northern Cod fishery, serving as a beacon of hope, perseverance, and pride in the rich cultural heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Shallaway's nearly 400 choristers from St. John's and its surrounding areas sing in nine developmentally sequenced ensembles. The choir is dedicated to empowering young voices through excellence in choral art, channelling this dynamic medium to cultivate leadership, nurture personal growth, drive social impact, and celebrate the cultures of Newfoundland and Labrador and the world. Committed to exploring, developing, and celebrating cultural expression, Shallaway nurtures young voices to become the best version of themselves, fostering the growth and leadership potential of each member. By centering equity and a sense of belonging, the choir empowers the next generation of artistic and cultural innovators in Newfoundland and Labrador, striving to create a positive social impact within and beyond the community.

Shallaway Youth Choir is overjoyed to be a part of this inaugural festival, featuring a vibrant mix of choral and group singing traditions. Our festival is set to celebrate a wide variety of performances, workshops, cultural exchanges, and meaningful presentations. With participants from Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, and 25 countries around the globe, HarbourVOICES! is a magnificent convergence of voices that will infuse our community with the unique power of collective singing and sharing.

This festival would not be possible without the generous support from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador 2024 Year of the Arts, Celebrate NL, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), and Memorial University. We offer a heartfelt thank you to these funding partners for their immeasurable vision and support.

Welcome to HarbourVOICES!, where our culture sings!

Warm regards,

Executive Director, Jennifer Neary

Artistic Director, Kellie Walsh

MUSICNL



MusicNL is proud to be partner in the inaugural season of the HarbourVOICES! Festival. As the music industry association of Newfoundland and Labrador, we are so thrilled to be able to support the many thriving and diverse choral and singing groups in our beautiful province. Singing together is a tradition that is woven into our cultural tapestry. We are proud to put arms around the singing community and support one of our longest lasting provincial traditions.

MusicNL is the second largest music industry association in Canada with over 1000 members. This truly speaks to the amount of talent in our province and the growth of the of the music sector. Founded in 1992, MusicNL's mandate has been the promotion, encouragement, and development of the music industry of Newfoundland and Labrador in all its forms, whether written, recorded, or in live performance. We lead the music industry of Newfoundland and Labrador through Advocacy, Education, Connections, Programs, and Services and Partnerships. We hope you will celebrate our amazing music sector at Music Celebration Week 2024 from September 4-7 in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. Come enjoy showcases, award shows, and more to celebrate our extraordinary music sector.

Our province's musical traditions have emerged from singing, playing, and sharing stories in a small outport kitchen and have evolved and grown to include diverse musical genres from cultures all over the globe. The ethos of HarbourVOICES! Festival, sharing diverse cultures and traditions, aligns clearly with the values of MusicNL. We could not be more thrilled to be a partner in this one-of-a-kind collective singing Festival experience.

Sarah Newell,
Marketing & Communications
MusicNL



celebrate **nl**

Celebrate NL is a Crown corporation with a focus on event attraction and the delivery of special celebrations in Newfoundland and Labrador.

celebratenl.ca


Newfoundland
&
Labrador

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FESTIVAL GALA CONCERT

MARY BROWN'S CENTRE - TUESDAY JULY 2

Land Acknowledgement

Song of the Whale

music by Deantha Edmunds and Bill Brennan
text by Deantha Edmunds, arr. Bill Brennan

Deantha Edmunds, soloist (NL)

Ullugiagâtsuk Youth Choir and Holy Heart Chamber Choir

Robert Colbourne, conductor; Annie Corrigan, oboe

Harbour Voices

text/music by Leslee Heys (commissioned for HarbourVOICES!)

Massed Choir

Kellie Walsh, conductor; Leslee Heys, piano

Miessi

Jan Sandström (based on a yoik by Johan Mäarak)

Molytva

Hannah Havrylets

World Youth Choir (24 countries)

Cecilia Rydinger (Sweden), conductor

Nou La

Sydney Guillaume with text by Lloyd Reshad Jr.,
Frédéricka Petit-Homme, and Sydney Guillaume

Massed Choir featuring

Phoenix Chamber Choir and **Nathaniel Dett Chorale** (Canada)

Frédéricka Petit-Homme, soloist; Rob Power, percussion

Nicholle Andrews, conductor

Moeder Aarde, aardse moeder

text/music by Franco Prinsloo (inspired by the poem
Mother Earth and Father Time by Panda van Proosdij)

Massed Choir

David Buley, conductor

Circle of Life

Elton John, arr. Anna Abelada-Piquero

Philippine Madrigal Singers (Philippines)

Mark Anthony Carpio, conductor

Mo Ghille Mear

Irish lament by Seán Clárach Mac Domhnaill, arr. Michael McGlynn

Bitter Wind

Irish poem set by Michael McGlynn

M'ANAM (Iceland/Ireland)

Sing the World Better

Maureen Ennis and Perry Chafe, arr. Leslee Heys
Soloists: Charla Woodford, Maggie Furey, Emmajane Donnan, Lunden Goobie

Shallaway Youth Choir (NL)

Kellie Walsh, conductor; Leslee Heys, piano

Heather Kao, violin; Rob Power, percussion

World, O World

text/music by Jacob Collier

Massed Choir

Jacob Collier, conductor

INTERMISSION

HarbourVOICES! Featured Artist: **Jacob Collier** (UK)

FESTIVAL GALA CONCERT

MARY BROWN'S CENTRE - TUESDAY JULY 2

Texts and Translations

Miessi : translation of a yoik by Johan Mäarak

Now the small reindeer calves are already grumbling.

So they pile around the small interest rates.

Surely there is no danger as long as the calf growls.

They are already so many, I am delighted when they grin.

Molytva : translation from Ukrainian

Blessed Virgin Mary, hear us; Blessed Virgin Mary, be our intercessor;
with your all-powerful hand, help us defeat the enemies who attacked us.

Nou La

text by Lloyd Reshard Jr., Frédéricka Petit-Homme, and Sydney Guillaume

Koute nou! Tande, tande! Listen up! Hear our voices!

Nou la! Wi, nou la! We're here! Yes, we are here!

N ap chante! We are singing!

Nou tout kanpe! We are taking a stand!

Nou kanpe avèk yo! We stand with them!

Di mwèn, kisa m ye pu ou? Tell me, what am I to you?

If I cross your borders, am I a thief or a profit?

If I do your labour, am I skilled or a nuisance?

If I assimilate your ways, am I an imposter or a brother?

If I serve my time, am I redeemed or rebuked?

**Nous témoignons du fantôme de l'esclavage
dans la forme contemporaine.**

We witness the ghost of slavery in its contemporary form.

Di mwèn poukisa! Tell me why?

Why is it only culture if you observe it?

Why is it only history if you write it?

Why is it only important if you say it?

Why is it only relevant if you are interested?

Why is it only inclusive if you make a profit?

It has to stop! Enough! Enough!

Hear the frustration in our voices.

Feel the heart in our words.

How can you be complacent at the sound of our plight?

March and let the weight of our heels crush inhumanity.

Stomp and let the sound ignite our souls to make a difference.

Let us sing and let our voices bring compassion to the oppressed.

Listen. Understand. Have compassion. **Koute. Tande. Pran konsyans.**

How can you be complacent at the sound of our plight?

Moeder Aarde, aardse moeder : translation from Afrikaans

She gives life, new and clean, and feeds those who inhabit her womb.

On green hills in the breeze her soul and spirit can once more twirl.

Mother Earth, earthly mother, hear the whole world sing!

●●● FESTIVAL HEADLINER JACOB COLLIER

Jacob Collier, a 6-time GRAMMY® winner and 12-time nominee, stands as one of the most pioneering voices in the music industry right now. Hailing from Britain, Jacob made history as the first British act to receive a GRAMMY® award for each of his first four albums, surpassing records previously held by David Bowie and The Beatles. With an impressive roster of collaborations including Chris Martin (Coldplay), SZA, John Legend, Tori Kelly, Joni Mitchell, Brandi Carlile, Shawn Mendes and many more, Jacob's work spans diverse genres from jazz and acapella to folk, electronic music, classical, gospel, and soul. Renowned for his intricate harmonies, polyrhythms, and mastery of multiple instruments, Jacob epitomizes musical excellence and innovation. His workshops provide invaluable insights into his creative process, offering hands-on learning opportunities for aspiring musicians and enthusiasts. With his ambitious project *Djesse*, a 4-volume album series featuring artists from around the world, Jacob continues to inspire musicians worldwide, pushing the boundaries of music production and performance.

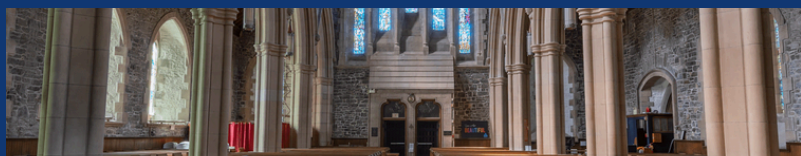


We are fortunate in being able to host Jacob Collier at HarbourVOICES! for two days, at the special Gala Concert, during a short break from his *Djesse* World Tour. "For as long as I can remember, I have had a deep, spiritual fascination with the human voice. To lend mine to an event that brings together such a spectrum of collective singing groups from all

over the world is a total dream from me. I cannot wait to perform and exchange energies with such a diversity of voices on this unprecedented scale." Known for his energetic live performances, Jacob recently showcased his talent at the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Kennedy Center with the National Symphony Orchestra, at Glastonbury Festival with a choir of 30,000 audience members, and at the Grammys ceremony alongside Joni Mitchell. Jacob has also performed on Saturday Night Live, Jimmy Kimmel Live!, The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, and The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. Jacob... welcome to Newfoundland and Labrador!



... OUR VENUES



Anglican Cathedral of St. John the Baptist



The Rooms



Arts and Culture Centre



Basilica Cathedral of St. John the Baptist



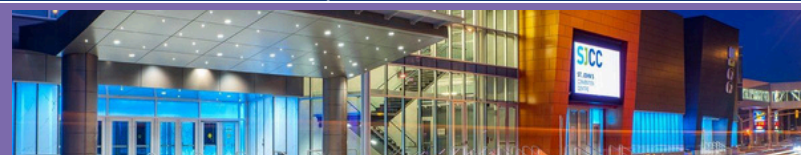
First Light Centre for Performance and Creativity



Gower Street United Church



Mary Brown's Centre



St. John's Convention Centre

SESSION & REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

All sessions and locations at the St. John's Convention Centre – open to all festival participants

Time / Day		29 June Saturday		30 June Sunday		1 July Monday
		Day 1		Day 2		Day 3
9:00	10:15	SESSIONS		SESSIONS		Free Morning
	75 mins sessions	OPENING CEREMONY ROOM: Ballroom Land Acknowledgement Welcome and Introduction of HV Team Introduction of all choirs and singing groups along with Solo Together participants and Guest Presenters and Collaborative Project Leaders First 'collective singing' in the festival Harbour Voices Moeder Aarde		PLENARY SESSION ROOM: Ballroom André de Quadros Andrew Balfour (Canada MB), Hussein Jannmohamed (Canada BC) Interactive Session <i>Strengthening community and justice through collective singing</i>		
10:15	10:45	Break		Break		
10:45	11:45	SESSIONS		SESSIONS		
	60 mins sessions	Brainerd Blyden-Taylor (Canada ON) ROOM: Victoria — Demonstration Presentation <i>Brainerd Blyden-Taylor and The Nathaniel Dett Chorale: 25 years of Afrocentric choral music Representation</i>		Yu Hang Tan (Malaysia) & Emily Sung (USA CA) ROOM: Churchill — Workshop <i>Teaching Southeast Asian music: Embracing a collective singing tradition in the choral classroom</i>		Afternoon Rehearsal at SJCC (1:00-5:30)
		James Daugherty (USA KS) ROOM: Churchill Research-Practice <i>How to see inter-singer spacing to enhance group sound and vocal efficiency in collective singing. A practical primer for singers and singing leaders</i>	Ryan McDonald (Canada ON) ROOM: Churchill <i>Coming home: Fostering queer identity in choral singing spaces</i>	Stephanie Martin (Canada ON) ROOM: Victoria Research-Practice <i>Bless pair of poems: Poetry and music in collaborative creation</i>	Diane Murray-Charrett (Canada ON) ROOM: Victoria Research-Practice <i>Coming back to song: Women who return to group singing</i>	
		EXCHANGE: Spectrum Queer Choir (Canada NL) - Atlanta Youth Singers Youth Chorale (USA GA) ROOM: Ballroom 1+3		EXCHANGE: Philippine Madrigal Singers (Philippines) - Phoenix Chamber Choir (Canada BC) ROOM: Ballroom 1+3		
		EXCHANGE: Holy Heart Chamber Choir (Canada NL) - Cantabile Chamber Singers (Canada ON) ROOM: Ballroom 2+4		EXCHANGE: Korora Choir (Canada AB) - Silvern Voices (Canada NL) - Beyond Youth Choir (Canada NL) ROOM: Ballroom 2+4		
		Solo Together Choir Session/Rehearsal ROOM: Pippy Doug Dunsmore (Canada NL), conductor		Solo Together Choir Session/Rehearsal ROOM: Pippy Doug Dunsmore (Canada NL), conductor		
11:45	13:00	Lunch Break Festival Pop-Up Concerts Convention Centre and The Rooms		Lunch Break Festival Pop-Up Concerts Convention Centre and The Rooms		
	75 mins	COLLECTIVE SINGING SESSIONS		COLLECTIVE SINGING SESSIONS		
13:00	15:30	REHEARSAL for <i>Now Let World, O World; Moeder Aarde; and Harbour Voices</i> . ROOM: Ballroom		REHEARSAL for <i>Now Let World, O World; Moeder Aarde; and Harbour Voices</i> ROOM: Ballroom		
	14:40 - 15:30	Collaborative Singing PROJECTS		Collaborative Singing PROJECTS		
		Andrew Balfour (Canada MB) ROOM: Ballroom 1	<i>Body, Soul, Mind, Space: Collective and improvisational singing based on the Empowering Song approach that challenges typical stage-based performance</i> André de Quadros ROOM: Ballroom 2	<i>Transcultural collective creation</i> Hussein Jannmohamed (Canada BC) ROOM: Ballroom 1	<i>Sipukewag Katapokewinik'e - Voices of the River, Miawpukek First Nation, NL, with special guest, Eastern Owl</i> Lisa Gillam (Canada NL) ROOM: Ballroom 4	
		<i>All hail King Jesus!</i> <i>Gospel collective singing traditions</i> Geraldine Ankrah (Canada NL) ROOM: Ballroom 3	<i>Sing around this one: Songs of this place</i> Jean Hewson (Canada NL) ROOM: Ballroom 4	<i>Awaken and Quicken vocal treasures: A journey through song</i> Patricia Abbott (Canada QC), Nadine Hebert (Canada NB) ROOM: Ballroom 3	<i>Sing together!</i> <i>South African singing traditions</i> Scott Leithead (Canada AB) ROOM: Ballroom 2	
Free Evening						

SESSION & REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

2 July Tuesday		3 July Wednesday		4 July Thursday	
Day 4		Day 5		Day 6	
Free Morning	SESSIONS		SESSIONS		
	Andrew Balfour (Canada MB) ROOM: Victoria — Interactive Presentation <i>Choral creativity: Unique cooperations and collaborations</i>		André de Quadros ROOM: Victoria — Workshop <i>Song and story</i>		
	Sarah McDonald Moores (Canada NL) ROOM: Churchill — Workshop <i>Humans in harmony: Exploring relational accountability in choral music to inform holistic restorative justice</i>		EXCHANGE: Inuksuk Drum Dancers (Canada NU) - Jeunes chanteurs d'Acadie (Canada NB) - Saskatoon Children's Choir (Canada SK) ROOM: Ballroom 1+3		
	Catherine Robbins (Canada MB) ROOM: Pippy — Creative Works Presentation with Singing and Discussion <i>Honouring gratitude: Examining the nature of choral publications related to oral traditions</i>		EXCHANGE: Vancouver Youth Choir (Canada BC) - World Youth Choir (24 countries) ROOM: Ballroom 2+4		
	Break		Solo Together Choir Dress Rehearsal - Basilica Doug Dunsmore (Canada NL), conductor		
	SESSIONS		Break		
	Bruce Kotowich (Canada ON) ROOM: Churchill — Demonstration Presentation <i>(Revisiting the) Flipped rehearsal: Bringing flexibility to the rehearsal process</i>		SESSIONS		
	Mark Anthony Carpio and Philippine Madrigal Singers (Quezon City, Philippines) ROOM: Victoria — Workshop <i>Sixty of plenty: The Philippine Madrigal Singers' 60 years of song and choral tradition</i>		Hussein Janmohamed (Canada BC) ROOM: Churchill — Interactive Presentation <i>Collaborative creation as a struggle for togetherness</i>		
	EXCHANGE: Acabella (Canada NL)- SIUE Treble Choir (USA IL) ROOM: Ballroom 1+3		Nicholle Andrews (USA CA), Sydney Guillaume (USA OR), Frédérique Petit-Homme (Canada QC), Phoenix Chamber Choir (Canada BC) ROOM: Victoria — Panel <i>New La: The journey from commission to premiere</i>		
	EXCHANGE: Projekt Chamber Voices (Canada NL) - M'ANAM (Reykjavik, Iceland/Dublin, Eire) ROOM: Ballroom 2+4		EXCHANGE: Cantaré Children's Choir (Canada AB) - Ullugiagatsuk Youth Choir (Canada NL) ROOM: Ballroom 1+3		
	Solo Together Choir Session/Rehearsal ROOM: Pippy Doug Dunsmore (Canada NL), conductor		EXCHANGE: Philharmonic Choir of the NSO (Canada NL) - Holy Heart of Mary Alumnæ Choir (Canada NL) - Ottawa Celtic Choir (Canada ON). ROOM: Ballroom 2+4		
	Lunch Break Festival Pop-Up Concerts Convention Centre and The Rooms		EXCHANGE: Philharmonic Choir of the NSO (Canada NL) - Holy Heart of Mary Alumnæ Choir (Canada NL) - Ottawa Celtic Choir (Canada ON). ROOM: Ballroom 2+4		
	COLLECTIVE SINGING SESSIONS		Lunch Break Festival Pop-Up Concerts Convention Centre and The Rooms		
	REHEARSAL for HarbourSING! - performing groups including <i>Voices! Round and a special surprise ending!</i> ROOM: Ballroom		COLLECTIVE SINGING SESSIONS		
REHEARSAL for HarbourSING! - performing groups including <i>Voices! Round and a special surprise ending!</i> ROOM: Ballroom		REHEARSAL for HarbourSING! - performing groups including <i>Voices! Round and a special surprise ending!</i> ROOM: Ballroom			
Collaborative Singing PROJECTS		Collaborative Singing PROJECTS			
Andrew Balfour (Canada MB) ROOM: Ballroom 1	Body, Soul, Mind, Space: Collective and improvisational singing based on the Empowering Song approach that challenges typical stage-based performance André de Quadros ROOM: Ballroom 2	Transcultural collective creation Hussein Janmohamed (Canada BC) ROOM: Ballroom 1	Sing around this one: Songs of this place Jean Hewson (Canada NL) Room: Ballroom 4		
All hail King Jesus! Gospel collective singing traditions Geraldine Ankras (Canada NL) ROOM: Ballroom 3	Siponkeway Katopokewinim'ke - Voices of the River, Miawpukek First Nation, NL, with, Eastern Owl Lisa Gillam (Canada NL) ROOM: Ballroom 4	Acadian and Québécois vocal treasures: A journey through song Patricia Abbott (Canada QC), Nadine Hebert (Canada NB) ROOM: Ballroom 3	Sing together! South African singing traditions Scott Leithead (Canada AB) ROOM: Ballroom 2		
Afternoon Rehearsal at Mary Brown's Centre (12:30-5pm)					
Gala Concert 8pm with a 7:30 call					

AFTERNOON & EVENING CONCERT SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JUNE 29
DAY 1

AFTERNOON CONCERTS
4:00-5:30PM

CONCERT 1	CONCERT 2
FIRST LIGHT CENTRE FOR PERFORMANCE AND CREATIVITY	ANGELICAN CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Phoenix Chamber Choir (BC) Beyond Youth Choir (NL) Jeunes chanteurs d'Acadie (NB)	Newman Sound Men's Choir (NL) Korora (AB) Vancouver Youth Choir (BC)

EVENING CONCERTS
8:00-10:00PM

CONCERT 3	CONCERT 4	CONCERT 9
FIRST LIGHT CENTRE FOR PERFORMANCE AND CREATIVITY	ARTS AND CULTURE CENTRE	ANGELICAN CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Inuksuk Drum Dancers (NU) Quintessential Vocal Ensemble (NL) Cameo: Eastern Owl & Spukewaq Ketapekwewinuk	Saskatoon Children's Choir (SK) Philippine Madrigal Singers (Philippines)	Holy Heart Chamber Choir (NL) MYANAM (Iceland/Ireland)

SUNDAY, JUNE 30
DAY 2

AFTERNOON CONCERTS
4:00-5:30PM

CONCERT 5	CONCERT 6	CONCERT 7
GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH	ARTS AND CULTURE CENTRE	FIRST LIGHT CENTRE FOR PERFORMANCE AND CREATIVITY
Spectrum Queer Choir (NL) SUE Treble Choir (Illinois, USA) Projekt Chamber Voices (NL)	Acadella (NL) Cantare Children's Choir (AB) Philharmonic Choir of the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra (NL)	Inuksuk Drum Dancers (NU) Ullugagatsuk (NL) Shalloway Youth Choir (NL)

EVENING CONCERTS
8:00-10:00PM

CONCERT 8	CONCERT 10
ANGELICAN CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST	ARTS AND CULTURE CENTRE
Lady Cove (NL) Nathaniel Dett Chorale (ON)	Vancouver Youth Choir (BC) MYANAM (Ireland/Iceland) Cameo: Black Heritage Interdenominational Massed Choir

TUESDAY, JULY 2
DAY 4

SPECIAL EVENT
8:00PM

GALA CONCERT
MARY BROWN'S CENTRE

featuring all Festival Choirs and Singing Groups
with Headliner Jacob Collier!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3
DAY 5

AFTERNOON CONCERTS
4:00-5:30PM

EVENING CONCERTS
8:00-10:00PM

CONCERT 11

BASILICA CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Holy Heart Chamber Choir (NL)
Saskatoon Children's Choir (SK)
Nathaniel Dett Chorale (ON)

CONCERT 12

ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Silvern Voices (NL)
Cantabile Chamber Singers (ON)
Inuksuk Drum Dancers (NU)

CONCERT 13

GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH

Jeunes chanteurs d'Acadie (NB)
Holy Heart of Mary Alumnae Choir (NL)
Atlanta Young Singers Youth Chorale (Georgia, USA)

CONCERT 14

ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Korora (AB)
Phoenix Chamber Choir (BC)

CONCERT 15

BASILICA CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Ulluglagdtsuk (NL)
World Youth Choir (24 countries)
Shalloway Youth Choir (NL)

THURSDAY, JULY 4
DAY 6

AFTERNOON CONCERTS
4:00-5:30PM

CONCERT 16

BASILICA CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

M'ANAM (Iceland/Ireland)
World Youth Choir (24 countries)
Philippine Madrigal Singers (Philippines)
Cameo: Solo Together Choir



HARBOURSING!

THURSDAY, JULY 4

7:00-8:15PM

Our final evening performance event will be HarbourSING! which will be an open-air moveable feast of sound taking place in the downtown of St. John's. Eight primary performance venues are planned where singing groups will present their music—all located along part of the historic and working St. John's harbour front, and in areas throughout our vibrant downtown Water Street pedestrian mall, and the famous George Street.

The 'audience' will visit various venues as collective moving groups led by very playful sea creatures that have been specially created for HarbourSING! by Terri Thomson, Gary Green, Evelyn Osborne, and Jan Buley. Join us to meet and follow **Sirius the Starfish, Hilda the Humpback, Olive the Octopus, Tuffy the Turtle, Francis the Fish, Paolo the Puffin, Julien the Jellyfish, Sophia the Seagull, and Sedgewick the Seagull.**

To be part of an organized audience grouping, free tickets are necessary and can be obtained through the Arts and Culture Centre Box Office, St. John's.

If the weather turns out to be too wet, cold, and blustery to be comfortable and safe, we will move HarbourSING! to the St. John's Convention Centre. Ticket holders will be notified of any change through an email. We will also update any changes on our website: www.harbourvoices.ca.

But... if we only have mauzy weather (i.e., light rain—not enough to move inside), we will have HarbourVOICES! PONCHOS for sale at the St. John's Convention Centre. The best way to ensure good weather is to purchase a poncho well in advance!

VOICES!ROUND

Doh is A

David Buley

① S_i S_i l_i l_i f_i S_i l_i S_i ② t_i t_i r r d t_i l_i t_i

Sing this song a - long_ with me. We will sing a - long by the sea!

③ r r f f m r d r ④ r_i r_i r r d t_i l_i S_i

Sing in coast - al har - mo - ny. Sing to - geth - er hap - py and free.

S_i l_i t_i d r r r_i r_i ⑥ r d r m f f r r

la, la la la la la la la, la, la la la la la la la,

t_i l_i t_i d r r t_i t_i ⑧ S_i l_i S_i f_i l_i l_i S_i S_i

la, la la la la la la la, la, la la la la la la la



Shelley Neville
welcomes
Jazz East to
O Holy Night



Dec 18 & 19 at
the St. John's ACC
Tickets on sale September 1

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HARVEY'S TRAVEL

We would like to extend our very best wishes to all participants and patrons of the Harbour Voices Festival.

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ACABELLA

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Founded in 2005, AcaBella is a female, acappella vocal ensemble based in Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador. After creating friendships and discovering a common love of singing and performing through community musicals, choirs, and dance, its members joined

together to create a small a cappella group – and quickly fell in love with the medium. Over the past 19 years, AcaBella has performed many professional concerts; participated in Festival 500 *Sharing the Voices* festivals, including the Small Vocal Ensemble program in 2011 and 2013; donated countless performances to support local fundraisers, other local performing groups, charities, and non-profit organizations; performed as special guests at the Tails, Trails and Tunes Festival and several Camber Arts (formerly Gros Morne Summer Music) events; recorded and released a CD *Christmas Bella* (2015); and are currently working on new recordings. In 2015, AcaBella was the recipient of the Corner Brook Achievement in Community Excellence “Overall Artist of the Year” Award. Throughout the past two decades, AcaBella has performed a wide variety of musical styles from medieval madrigals to international folk songs. Recently, their focus has been on contemporary music, often incorporating vocal percussion within their soundscape.

Darlene Steeves is a graduate of Mount Allison University (BMus), Memorial University (BMusEd), and University of Victoria (MEd). After teaching music in schools for 30 years, she is now enjoying retirement! In addition to her involvement with AcaBella, Darlene has been musical director with Corner Brook’s Off-Broadway Players (*We Will Rock You*, *Rock of Ages*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Chicago*, *Cabaret*) and has been a member of various community performing groups including Jazz West and Bay of Islands Musical Arts.



DARLENE STEEVES
CONDUCTOR

ATLANTA YOUNG SINGERS

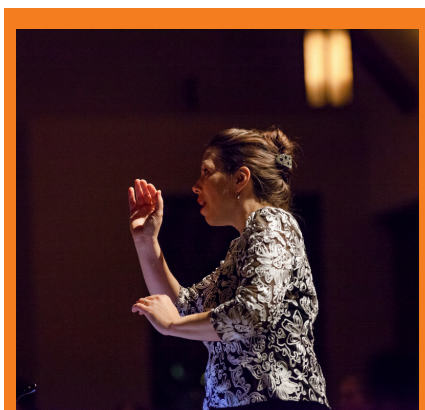
GEORGIA, USA



Atlanta Young Singers (AYS) was founded in 1975 to provide a diverse, challenging environment that inspires intelligent thought, artistic creativity, and personal growth for Atlanta youth. AYS includes 110 singers ages 7-18 representing 80+ school environments. They have performed with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and

Chorus, at the Closing Ceremonies of the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games, and at numerous events sponsored by nationally recognized organizations. The choir has traveled extensively, performing at international choral festivals such as Llangollen International Eisteddfod in Wales, International Choral Kathaumixw in British Columbia, Festival 500 *Sharing the Voices* in Newfoundland and Labrador, and Melodia! in Brazil and Argentina. In 2010, AYS travelled to Ireland and, in 2011, they toured Finland, Estonia, Latvia, and Sweden participating in Europa Cantat Junior. AYS choirs received gold diplomas at the 2012 World Choir Games in Cincinnati and a gold medal at the 2014 World Choir Games in Latvia. In 2016, AYS choirs worked with choirs across the United States to premiere a new work by Cristian Grases at Carnegie Hall. In 2017, the AYS Youth Chorale appeared on the nationally broadcasted NPR radio program *From the Top* with Host Christopher O'Riley. Most recently, they traveled to South Africa in 2018 to participate in the Ihlombe! South African Choral Festival and celebration of Nelson Mandela's 100th birthday.

Paige Mathis, music director of Atlanta Young Singers (AYS), is a PhD candidate in music education at Texas Tech University. She has earned a reputation for championing the work of living composers and for programming music that expands the artistic reach of children and youth. Most recently, AYS appeared on NPR's *From the Top*, a nationally broadcast radio show showcasing America's top young talent in classical music performance. Paige has served as an instructor in the Kodály levels program at Westchester University, has conducted numerous honour choruses in the United States, and has fostered several creative partnerships between choirs in the United States and abroad. Paige spent many years singing with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and Chamber Chorus under the baton of Robert Shaw, Robert Spano, Donald Runnicles, and Norman Mackenzie.



PAIGE MATHIS
CONDUCTOR

AURORA WOMEN'S CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA

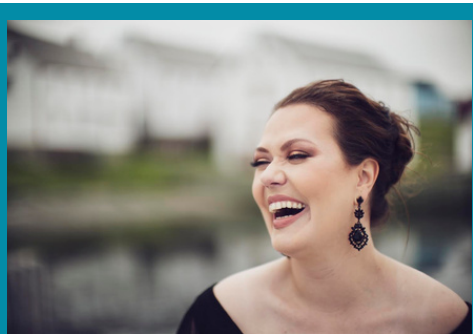


Aurora Women's Choir, conducted by Abra Whitney, was formed in September 2014 in Conception Bay South, Newfoundland and Labrador. It is an auditioned ensemble that performs both a cappella and accompanied repertoire of varied styles and in many languages. While seeking to perform a range of choral music, Aurora has a special interest in Canadian repertoire. The choir presents at least two concerts and a fundraiser each season, as well as performing at various special events, shared concerts, workshops, festivals, and church services throughout the year. In 2016, Aurora had the distinct pleasure of representing Newfoundland and Labrador at the national UNISONG Choral Festival and at the 100th Anniversary Beaumont-Hamel Commemoration in Ottawa. They have been proud to perform at both Canada Day and Remembrance Day Ceremonies for the Town of Conception Bay South. In Spring 2018, Aurora was invited to perform in a special Equinox Concert at the Manuels River Centre, sharing the

stage with the Young Virtuosi of the Newfoundland and Labrador Suzuki Talent Education Program. Aurora was also honoured to support the opening Gala for Teen Challenge NL, a residential addictions rehabilitation center for women. In 2018, Aurora participated in Choral Canada's national choral conference and festival, *Podium on the Edge: Singing from Sea to Sea to Sea* in St. John's.

Abra Whitney is a very active member of the local arts scene in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. She holds a BMus degree in vocal performance and a MMus degree in choral conducting, both from the University of Alberta. Abra is a singer, actor, clinician, conductor, arts administrator, production manager, producer, and educator and enjoys a variety of professional careers. Recent credits include chorus master/ensemble for *Shanawdithit* and *The Phantom of the Opera* (Opera on the Avalon), Mary in *Only Young* (RCA), musical director for *Jack and the Cat* (School Zone Productions), Florinda in *Into the Woods*

(OOTA), alto soloist in Handel's *Messiah* (Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra and Bay of Islands Musical Arts Chorus), and alto soloist in *Stabat Mater/Gloria* (Lady Cove Women's Choir and NSO). Upcoming performances include *Frosty Festival* (TaDa! Productions), *The Armed Man* (NSO) and *Not (For Me)*. As a producer/performer, Abra has created her own shows celebrating the music of Edith Piaf, Nina Simon, and Gladys Knight and the Pips. Previously a member of Lady Cove, Shallaway, QVE, and ProCoro, Abra is now singing with Projekt Chamber Voices. She is currently teaching voice, piano, and Kindermusik at Intervals Music Studio where she is also the assistant studio manager.



ABRA WHITNEY
CONDUCTOR

AVALON VOICES

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Established in 2010, Avalon Voices is a non-auditioned women's choir based in Conception Bay South, Newfoundland and Labrador. Performing primarily in 3-part harmony, their repertoire consists of folk, pop, easy listening, and light rock songs. Avalon Voices participates annually at the Kiwanis Music Festival and presents three concerts each year as part of the Musically Inclined

recital series, the music studio in which they are based. In 2023, Avalon Voices initiated its biggest undertaking yet; they auditioned for and were accepted to perform and compete at MusicFest Canada The Nationals. They were very proud to receive a Silver Award. This year, the choir decided that all their repertoire would be composed and/or arranged by either Canadian or Newfoundland and Labrador artists. They are proud to sing music reflective of their culture and music that represents where they live.

Keri Kao is a music educator who has been teaching privately for over 30 years. She holds four degrees from Memorial University of Newfoundland: BA, BMus, BMusEd, and MEd. Keri is the founder of Musically Inclined, a music store and teaching studio in Conception Bay South, Newfoundland and Labrador. She opened the business in 1995 and has been operating the store/studio with her husband Andy since 2001. Together, they have grown the business into a successful and thriving music studio. Keri and Andy have won many awards over the years, including the Consumer Choice Award and the Community Votes Award for best music school. They have also won several CBS Bright Business awards, including Community Pride and Partnership as well as the Established Business of the Year. Keri is the founder and director of Avalon Voices, a women's choir she established in 2010. Keri teaches piano, voice, clarinet, saxophone, flute, as well as several group classes. For the past five years, Keri has also been a part-time substitute teacher. She is passionate about what she does and believes that music education is an essential part of a child's learning and well-being.



KERI KAO
CONDUCTOR

AVALONIA

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Founded in 2002, Avalonia is a women's choir of 10 singers who live on the Avalon Peninsula on the northeast coast of Newfoundland and Labrador. With repertoire consisting of popular and gospel music, Avalonia presents two shows of their own each year, in the spring and at Christmas, and have performed in multiple fundraising events for various charities, conventions, churches, community senior citizens' homes, as well as with other local choirs.

Kathy Mahoney says that she is not a professional musician, but that she is an enthusiastic choral singer! Throughout her school years, she participated in all the glee clubs available to her as she studied piano and voice. In nursing school, she sang in the nursing choir and, following graduation, continued to sing in an alumni nursing choir. As an adult in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Kathy joined a local community choir, St. John's Choir, and it was from this choir that Avalonia came into being. All ten singers in Avalonia are, or have been, singers with the St. John's Choir. Celebrating their 20th anniversary in 2023, Avalonia performs for various fundraisers, telethons, dinners, business meetings, Christmas events, and collaborates in performances with other choirs. And, of course, they love to sing for the residents of local long-term care facilities and personal care homes. Each year, Avalonia presents their own two annual events, at Christmas and in the spring. Kathy also sings in a mixed quartet and has founded a community choir in the town in which she now resides.



KATHY MAHONEY
CONDUCTOR

BEYOND YOUTH CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Beyond Youth Choir is a treble voice youth choir that was established by Leslie Hewlett, music director of Beyond the Overpass Theatre Company, as a part of the organization's Youth Arts Programming. Beyond the Overpass Theatre Company is a not-for-profit arts organization in Gander, Newfoundland and Labrador, dedicated to the development of the arts and young artists in central Newfoundland and Labrador. Consisting of singers ages 10-18, Beyond Youth Choir's goal is to encourage a cappella singing, ear training, and vocal technique, while fostering a love for choral music.

A piano performance graduate from Memorial University's School of Music, **Leslie Hewlett** has worked as a teacher, performer, composer, and music director for almost two decades. Originally from St. John's Newfoundland and Labrador, she now lives in Gander and has been working to develop the music and theatre scene in central Newfoundland over the past ten years. Leslie is currently the manager of the Arts and Culture Centre in Gander, music director for Beyond the Overpass Theatre Company, artistic director of Beyond Youth Choir, and organist/choir director at St. Martin's Anglican Cathedral.



LESLIE HEWLETT
CONDUCTOR

BLACK HERITAGE NL CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Black Heritage NL Choir is a group of passionate Christian musicians of diverse nationalities that performs gospel/black spirituals. From the choir's first rehearsal in 2021, their goal has been to further enrich and diversify the music ecosystem in Newfoundland and Labrador, and across Canada, with a distinct, uplifting gospel sound. The fusion of distinct

cultures and nationalities produces varying musical perspectives which are blended in their performances. However, rather than only perform, the Black Heritage NL Choir aims to offer ministrations through which they minister in song to Jesus and to the souls of their listeners. The choir recently released their first EP, *Road to Freedom*, dedicated to people struggling with mental health and addiction. Geraldine Ankrah is the convener/music director of the Black Heritage NL Choir, and Precious Familusi is its manager. The ten vocalists are from Nigeria, Jamaica, Zimbabwe, and Ghana.

Geraldine Ankrah is the convener/music director of the Black Heritage NL Choir in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. Originally from Ghana, West Africa, Geraldine was introduced to multiple musical genres by her parents who, though not musicians, were avid music lovers. A member of choirs since high school, she has always had an ear for music, despite having no formal training. Geraldine's style combines the musical depth and discipline of her Wesleyan Methodist roots with the joyous melodies that gospel music is famous for. In 2009, upon arrival in the Russian Federation to pursue her dentistry degree, Geraldine established a gospel choir which became a group loved by all, including the university where they sang at most graduation events. This was the same vision Geraldine brought to Newfoundland and Labrador when she came to Memorial University to pursue her master's degree. As delighted as she was about the vibrant music scene here, she noticed a scarcity of gospel music and thus gathered the amazing members of the Black Heritage NL Choir together in December 2021. As well, Geraldine directs the choir at her home church (Christian Missionary Fellowship International, Newfoundland), Racquel Thomas Music, and Rhythms from Ghana.



GERALDINE ANKRAH
CONDUCTOR

BURLINGTON WELSH LADIES CHORUS

ONTARIO, CANADA



Burlington Welsh Ladies Chorus (BWLC) was founded in 2017 with nine members which has now grown to over 40. Since its beginning, the main goal of the Chorus has been to provide engaging entertainment for the City of Burlington, Ontario, and beyond. The Chorus has performed at various venues throughout the area, including the Atrium at the Royal Botanical Gardens, St. Augustine's in Dundas, St Matthew on the Plains, Culture Days in Burlington, various retirement homes, Oakville Performing Arts Center, Concerts in the Park – Burlington, Benares Historic House in Mississauga, Kincardine, and a fundraiser with the Canadian Friends of Hôpital.

Janice Beninger began working with the Burlington Welsh Male Chorus in 2008 and, thus, began a love affair with the Welsh *hnyl* - that 'feeling' of deep expression and meaning in traditional Welsh singing. This vibrant relationship has continued and expanded as Janice now directs also the Burlington Welsh Ladies Chorus, which formed in 2017. Janice received her MMus from the University of Western Ontario. She has worked at several church organist/music coordinator positions, served as pianist/keyboard player for Symphony Hamilton, and directed numerous vocal ensembles including community, church, university, and school choirs. Currently, Janice maintains an active piano/theory teaching studio in Dundas, Ontario (jbeningerstudio.ca) and performs as a pianist with the concert organ/piano duo, Four Hands Two Feet (fourhandstwoet.ca), with her husband, Simon Irving.



JANICE BENINGER
CONDUCTOR

CANTABILLE CHAMBER SINGERS

ONTARIO, CANADA



With an emphasis on fostering new talent and an inclusive choral community, Cantabile Chamber Singers is committed to attracting a new generation of Canadians to choral music through a combination of informed interpretation, awareness of social causes, audience engagement, and innovative programming.

The choir believes in setting high artistic standards amongst the singers, engaging in cultural diversity through programming, and promoting music written by living and young composers (with a focus on female composers). As well, the choir is committed to commissioning new Canadian music and has premiered over 100 new works. Composers-in-residence include Laura Sgroi and Cecilia Livingston, and commissioned composers include Matthew Emery. Their repertoire focusses on a cappella music and includes the works of living composers such as Marie-Claire Saindon, Katerina Gimón, Jacqueline Teh, Stuart Beatch, Imogen Hall, Shruthi Rajasekar, Cui Wei, and Sydney Guillaume. In 2024, as part of their regular season programming, Cantabile Chamber Singers will premiere two new Canadian works by composers Saman Shahi and Kevin Lau. The choir continues to push the limits of choral music and musical excellence by engaging in new works while still remaining firmly grounded in the rich musical history that has made choral chamber music so desirable.

Cheryll Chung contributes to Toronto's vibrant music community as a conductor, educator, vocal coach, and pianist. She is a two-time recipient of the Elmer Iseler Fellowship in Conducting and is founder and artistic director of the Cantabile Chamber Singers. Cheryll is known for her innovative and diverse programming and for supporting the music of living Canadian composers. Cheryll is on faculty at The Royal Conservatory of Music, teaching in The Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists, The Glenn Gould School, and The Oscar Peterson School. Most recently, Cheryll joined the Canadian Children's Opera Company as conductor of the intermediate and youth choruses. Cheryll holds degrees from the University of Toronto (BMus, BEd, MMus in conducting). Her mentors are Doreen Rao and Raffi Armenian. Cheryll has worked with Lydia Adams, Helmuth Rilling, Simon Carrington, Matthew Halls, Julia Davids, and David Hayes.



CHERYLL CHUNG
CONDUCTOR

CANTANDO WOMEN'S CHOIR

ONTARIO, CANADA



Cantando Women's Choir is a community choir from Halton Hills, Ontario, that consists of treble voice singers who gather weekly in friendship and song. The choir started as a casual gathering of friends just prior to the global shutdown and began in its current form in the fall of 2022. Some members have recently returned to singing after years away; others have been singing their whole life. Some are trying choir for the first time; others sing concurrently in one or two other choirs. Many have spent years transporting their children to various activities and joined the choir to actively seek an opportunity for their own artistic growth. Some are co-workers, and some are mother-and-daughter pairs. All come together for the pleasure of community through song. In addition to two main concerts each season, Cantando also shares their eclectic music selections in the community through various outreach programs.

Hailing originally from the Canadian prairies, **Diane Murray-Charrett** is a PhD student in music education at the University of Toronto. She holds a MMusEd degree from the University of Toronto, a BMusEd degree from Brandon University, and Orff Certification from the University of Manitoba. Diane was the founding conductor of the Gaudeamus Choirs of Halton Hills and now conducts the Cantando Women's Choir. Over a 30-year career as an elementary music educator, Diane has developed a great passion for teaching young people to sing, working to help thousands of students find their voice. Her choral conducting experience encompasses community children and adult choirs, including previous positions with the Oakville Children's Choir and the Hamilton Children's Choir, public school choirs at the local and regional level, musical theatre programs, as well as community and church choirs. Diane was honoured to share her research on singer identity in children at PODIUM 2022 and at The Singing Network's EXchange! during the International Federation for Choral Music's 2022 World Choral EXPO in Lisbon, Portugal. In her doctoral studies, Diane continues to examine how social, cultural, and political dynamics influence participation in group singing.



DIANE MURRAY-CHARRETT
CONDUCTOR

CANTARÉ CHILDRENS CHOIR

ALBERTA, CANADA



Founded in 1997 by Catherine Glaser-Climie, Cantaré Children's Choir is widely known as one of Calgary's premier performing arts institutions. Their central tenet, "More Than Music," stresses using collective singing to help young people develop into sensitive, creative, and

engaged artists who are passionate justice-seekers and informed global citizens. Singers develop a comprehensive musical foundation at an early age so they can thoughtfully engage with numerous musical styles from around the world in their youth. Choristers become comfortable undertaking masterworks of the Renaissance, Baroque, and Romantic periods along with contemporary gems (including 18 commissioned works). The choir extensively explores global political and musical history in rehearsals, connecting a budding worldview with their increasing sophistication of musical expression. Cantaré's award-winning program has received a host of accolades including first prize in the National Music Festival. In its vibrant musical community, Cantaré is the proud partner of Calgary Opera and the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, producing over 60 productions with the two companies across the choir's 26-year history. The choristers are the Resident Artist of the Field of Crosses Memorial Project, singing on GlobalTV's National Remembrance Day Broadcast every year, and stewarding the Act of Remembrance in their own communities. Cantaré continues to nurture a network of alumni excellence across the world in all career fields: alumni have gone on to represent and sing together in the National Youth Choir of Canada, the World Youth Choir, and in a host of amateur and professional choirs across Canada. The ensemble has performed across Canada (Newfoundland, 2011) and have also toured internationally to Austria, Belgium, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, and the United States.

Catherine Glaser-Climie has nurtured and inspired singers of all ages through her acclaimed work, earning national awards and performances with Calgary Opera and the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. Choirs under her direction perform at prestigious events and tour extensively throughout Canada, the United States, and Europe. As founder and artistic director of Cantaré Children's Choir, Catherine created a comprehensive curriculum of music instruction for children ages 6-18 and for preschool children through Kodály Music Explorers. In demand to share her expertise and known for her captivating warmth and enthusiasm, invitations to appear as adjudicator, lecturer, and clinician take Catherine across North America and Europe. Catherine's leadership has earned awards from Choral Canada, Choir Alberta, Alberta Kodály Association, and the City of Calgary, including Choir Alberta's Richard Eaton Award given for exemplary service to the choral community.



CATHERINE GLASER-CLIMIE
CONDUCTOR

COASTAL SOUNDS COMMUNITY CHOR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Coastal Sounds Community Choir, conducted by Abra Whitney, was originally formed in 2007 as a project of The Music Corner in Manuels, Conception Bay South, Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2011, the choir became an independent not-for-profit community arts organization administered by an elected executive committee. Having begun with just eight courageous singers, membership has grown to 50-60 singers with new members joining every year. The choir is composed of members living in Conception Bay South and the surrounding areas, all coming from different musical backgrounds and experiences. Coastal Sounds presents at least two concerts each season and performs at various special events, fundraisers, retirement homes, and church services throughout the year. The choir has participated in Rotary and Kiwanis Music Festivals and has performed in various venues in the Conception Bay South region. Coastal Sounds invites new members to join in September and January. No prior singing experience is necessary as anyone enthusiastic about singing and willing to learn is welcome to join.



ABRA WHITNEY
CONDUCTOR

bio on p. 29

HOLY HEART CHAMBER CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Holy Heart Chamber Choir is an auditioned SATB ensemble consisting of students ages 15-18 at Holy Heart High School in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. With a strong choral tradition established by the Presentation Sisters and the Sisters of Mercy who built the school, choral singing continues as a focus of the school's arts programming. In recent years, under the leadership of music teacher Robert Colbourne, Holy Heart Chamber Choir has achieved many accomplishments, including winning CBC's Music Class Challenge, winning first place in the National Musical Festival of Canada, and being named "Canada's Top Choir" in FeelitLIVE's first virtual competition. The choir has toured in Europe, the United States, and across Canada. Most recently, Holy Heart Chamber Choir performed at PODIUM 2024 in Montreal, Choral Canada's national choral conference and festival.

Robert Colbourne is a proud Memorial University alumnus who holds BMus, BMusEd, and MEd degrees. The choral director at Holy Heart High School, Robert conducts five choirs, teaches Advanced Placement Theory, International Baccalaureate Music, and Applied Music. His choirs have received provincial, national, and international first place awards along with being featured in print, radio, and national television media. In addition to the school program, Robert is an associate director with Shallaway Youth Choir where he conducts the Nobile ensembles. He maintains an active private studio in voice, piano, and theory through the Royal Conservatory of Music curriculum, and he is an active examiner with the College Board and International Baccalaureate (IB) where he shares his love of music with teachers worldwide as an IB workshop leader. In addition to his choral and academic endeavours, Robert enjoys working with students in musical theatre and has been the vocal director for numerous high school and community theatre productions. A winner of the Jamie Wilkinson Award for Teaching Excellence, Robert has been featured on the provincial NLTA Teachers Change Lives ad campaign and, in 2011, was awarded the Queens Diamond Jubilee medal for his contribution to music education in rural Newfoundland.



ROBERT COLBOURNE
CONDUCTOR

HOLY HEART OF MARY ALUMNAE CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Holy Heart of Mary Alumnae Choir (HHMAC) was formed in 1999 as part of the 40th anniversary celebration of Holy Heart of Mary Regional High School. HHMAC is a non-auditioned choir, and, as such, the only prerequisite is that members are all former students of Holy Heart. The choir has grown from its 30 members in 1999 to the current membership of over 100. Through their benefit performances and guest appearances, the continued joy for making music through singing together is evident in the choir members, the director Barbara O'Keefe, and the high music caliber of the choir.

Barbara O'Keefe is a retired music teacher who, throughout her formal career, shared her love of choral music with students in many corners of the province including Deer Lake, Cape St. George, Avondale, Grand Falls, St. John's, St. Alban's, and Corner Brook. Her teaching career in Newfoundland and Labrador was followed by several years teaching in Nunavut. With a BA degree from St. Francis Xavier University (Nova Scotia) and a MMus degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (Wisconsin, USA), Barbara also holds professional certificates from the College of Cape Breton (Nova Scotia), Trinity College (Ontario), and Westminster Choir College (New Jersey, USA). A highlight of her conducting career was being the director of the 1000-voice Papal Choir for the liturgical celebration in St. John's by His Holiness, Pope John Paul II (1984). In addition to conducting choral and instrumental ensembles throughout her teaching career, Barbara has been an active chorister herself, singing with the Philharmonic Choir of the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra, Les Ms Women's Chorus, and the Holy Heart of Mary Alumnae Choir which she now conducts. Barbara was also a founding member of the Tickles and Sounds (2005) which became the Red Island Resettlement Girl Trio.



BARBARA O'KEEFE
CONDUCTOR

INUKSUK DRUM DANCERS

NUNAVUT, CANADA



Inuksuk Drum Dancers, founded and directed by Mary Piercey-Lewis, is a performing arts ensemble from Inuksuk High School in Iqaluit, Nunavut. The group performs traditional Inuit music, which includes throat singing, drum dancing, and contemporary Inuit songs from across Nunavut. Throat singing, historically a game played by women during the long and cold hours spent in the iglu, involves the creation of sounds deep within the throat that usually emulate the sounds of nature, such as the wind, birds, dog teams, snow crunching, polar bears, wolves, and mosquitoes. Drum dancing includes drumming, dancing, and singing songs that carry stories of personal experiences, humorous anecdotes, and traditional Inuit morals and values. At times, the group veers away from tradition to create innovative musical renditions that incorporate both traditional and contemporary musical styles.

Mary Piercey-Lewis holds degrees from the University of Toronto (BED, MMus in music education, PhD in ethnomusicology). Her research explores how the Inuit of Arviat, Nunavut, use their musical practices to negotiate what it means to be *inummariit* (real Inuit) in response to massive sociocultural changes since three distinctive groups were resettled there in the 1950s. Presently, Mary lives in Nunavut where she has taught music for over 21 years. Mary's newest publications, *Inuit Inngiusingit: A collection of Inuit choral music I and II*, are songbooks for students, teachers, and musicians who are interested in learning Inuit music. The collections include many songs which have been transcribed from Inuit musicians and arranged for classrooms and home use with an accompanying CD. It is Mary's hope that *Inuit Inngiusingit: A collection of Inuit choral music* "empowers students to develop musicianship, to enjoy the opportunities to perform great music, and to participate in Inuit culture through singing." Mary received the Musiccounts "Music Teacher of the Year Award" at the Junos (2021). She won the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence in the same year. A special *qujannamiik*: thank you to all who support music education initiatives in the north.



MARY PIERCEY-LEWIS
CONDUCTOR

JEUNES CHANTEURS D'ACADIE

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA



Since 1969, Les Jeunes chanteurs d'Acadie choir has built an international reputation: initially under the direction of its founder, Sister Lorette Gallant, and more recently under the direction of her great-niece, Nadine Hébert. Since its inception, the choir has gained national and international recognition in competitions and high-profile events throughout Canada, Cuba, the United States, and Europe. Most recently, the choir performed with other distinguished Canadian choirs at the *Canada at Carnegie* event in New York City (2023). Now consisting of more than 40 singers ages 11 to 18, the choir continues to strive for musical excellence and boasts a multilingual repertoire of classical, traditional, and modern arrangements. The variety of musical genres explored is a testament to the versatility of this young choir in its 50 years of existence. Jeunes chanteurs d'Acadie continues to spread the Acadian *joie de vivre* by singing songs from the traditional Acadian repertoire. Their performances can be heard on the *Pommier doux* and Radio-Canada *Chœurs d'ici, chansons d'ici* recordings.



Il y a eu, au-delà de 50 ans, sœur Lorette Gallant donnait à l'Acadie un immense cadeau, celui de former un chœur de jeunes voix qui sauraient porter le drapeau et la voix de l'Acadie aux quatre coins du monde. Fondée en 1969, cette chorale s'est bâtie une réputation internationale. Au fil des ans, la chorale s'est distinguée lors de nombreux concerts au Canada, aux États-Unis, au Cuba et dans plusieurs capitales européennes. Les Jeunes chanteurs d'Acadie se sont notamment produits sur la scène du Carnegie Hall l'an dernier à New-York à l'occasion de l'événement *Canada at Carnegie*. Depuis 2005, la chorale des Jeunes chanteurs d'Acadie est sous la direction de Nadine Hébert, soit la petite nièce de sœur Lorette. La chorale compte aujourd'hui plus de 40 jeunes choristes âgés de 11 à 18 ans et possède un répertoire multilingue et varié comprenant des compositions classiques, traditionnelles et modernes. On peut entendre les Jeunes chanteurs d'Acadie sur leur album *Pommier doux* et une compilation réalisée par Radio-Canada *Chœurs d'ici, chansons d'ici*.

JEUNES CHANTEURS D'ACADIE

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA

For nearly three decades, **Nadine Hébert** has been deeply involved with Les Jeunes chanteurs d'Acadie. As a former member of the choir and as the great-niece of its founder, Sister Lorette Gallant, Nadine embraced the family tradition when she became the choir's conductor in 2005. At the time, Nadine also assumed leadership of the children's choir, Les Amis de la Chanson. With a BMus degree from the Université de Moncton, Nadine's enduring passion for singing has been a driving force behind her achievements. Having established her

presence in the Acadian arts scene, Nadine is a member of the vocal quartet Les Muses and the ensemble Troiselle. Over the years, Nadine's leadership has broadened the choir's horizons by performing in multiple festivals and events in Cuba, Louisiana, New York, and throughout Canada. Her reputation is not only based on her steadfast commitment to choral singing but also on her ability to inspire and mentor young singers.



NADINE HEBERT
CONDUCTOR

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Un Canadien Errant
for SATB choir and piano

arr. Mark G. Sirett

KORORA CHOIR

ALBERTA, CANADA



Founded in 1996, Korora is in its 28th season in 2023-2024. The choir's focus is centred on building community and creating a learning experience for young singers while providing audiences with exciting and innovative musical performances. Korora has received first and second place rankings consistently on the Canadian national festival stage.

The choir placed first in their division in the CBC/Choral Canada Competition for Amateur Canadian Choirs in 2015. Awards have been received for Korora's work with youth, music education, and its African Projects Fund. Korora has been a featured ensemble at many events both nationally and internationally, including Rocky Mountain National Music Festival, PODIUM (Choral Canada's biennial national conference and festival), Canadian Music Educators National Conference, regional conferences of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), International Society of Music Educators (ISME) conference, and others. In addition to performances in many North American cities, the choir has toured to Italy, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Malaysia, Namibia, South Africa, Botswana, Eswatini, and Zambia.

Scott Leithead is founder and artistic director of Edmonton's Korora Choir Association and TIME Association. He has been invited to conduct provincial and state honour choirs on 26 occasions, as well as to adjudicate at the Tampere Vocal Music Festival (Finland), International Choral *Kathaumixw* (2014, 2016, 2023), and Choral Canada's National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs. In the summer of 2019, Korora was invited to perform at the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) World Choral EXPO in Lisbon, Portugal, where they represented Canada on the world stage. Also in 2019, Korora was featured on an episode of CTV's *The Amazing Race Canada*. In 2008–2009, Scott was on sabbatical in Namibia where he worked with the Mascato Youth Choir and many other choirs.

Scott's passion for innovative and unique choral music experiences has shaped the direction of the Korora Choir Association. In 2023, Scott conducted the International Schools of Southern and Eastern Africa (ISSEA) Massed Choir in Johannesburg, South Africa, featuring singers from schools from across the African continent. Scott has received Choir Alberta's top honour, the Richard S. Eaton Award (2015), as well as Edmonton's Salute to Excellence Award (2016), and the Suncrude Award for Innovative Direction.



SCOTT LEITHEAD
CONDUCTOR

LA ROSE DES VENTS

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Founded in 1996, the only French adult choir in Newfoundland and Labrador, La Rose des vents is a community choir of Francophones and Francophiles who meet for the pleasure of speaking and singing in French. The choir is a project of the Francophone Community Association of Saint-Jean; for fifteen years, it has been directed by Claire Wilkshire (conductor) and David Green (pianist). This ensemble, known for their joie de vivre, performs a varied repertoire of drinking songs, sacred hymns, traditional Franco-Newfoundland songs, and melodies of the great singers from the Renaissance to the present.

Claire Wilkshire joined the Francophone Association choir as a singer in 1999 and became interested in conducting. In 2008, she was asked to become the choir's regular conductor. What Claire lacks in formal training she makes up for in enthusiasm. She attended the Choralies Edmonton in July 2012 and the Chœur du Bout du Monde (Gaspé) in 2016, completed the Alliance des Choraes du Québec's Programme de formation des chefs de chœur (conductors' training program) in 2009 and 2019, and participated several times in Festival 500 *Sharing the Voices*. In 2023, Claire celebrated 15 years with the choir as conductor and as co-artistic director (with David Green, the group's collaborative pianist). Music, French, and the cheery gang at La Rose des vents never fail to boost Claire's spirits on a Monday night!

Fondée en 1996, la seule chorale française d'adultes à Terre-Neuve et Labrador, La Rose des vents, est un chœur communautaire de francophones et francophiles qui se rencontrent pour le plaisir de parler et chanter en français. La chorale est un projet de l'Association communautaire francophone de Saint-Jean; depuis quinze ans, sa direction est assurée par Claire Wilkshire (cheffe) et David Green (pianiste). Cet ensemble connu pour leur joie de vivre interprète un répertoire varié de chansons à boire, cantiques sacrés, chants traditionnels franco-terreneuviens et mélodies des grands chanteurs, de la Renaissance jusque'au présent.



CLAIRE WILKSHIRE
CONDUCTOR



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LADY COVE CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Founded in 2003 by Kellie Walsh, Lady Cove Women's Choir was named after the remote community of Lady Cove on Newfoundland's rugged yet beautiful east coast. The name Lady Cove is representative of the spirit and philosophy of the Choir: a community and a haven where woman-identified members come, not only to explore their own musicianship but to share their lives and experiences in a sisterhood. Lady Cove Choir is a highly respected member of a vibrant and diverse arts community, both in Newfoundland and Labrador and across Canada. Lady Cove's programming spans a wide variety of musical genres including Renaissance, gospel, traditional, world, jazz, contemporary choral theatre, and classical music. The choir strives to strike a delicate balance between performing/sharing accessible works and creating new musical experiences that challenge both audiences and choir members alike. Lady Cove is an internationally award-winning ensemble that has garnered a national and international reputation for excellence, not only for its high performance standards but also for its innovation and creativity.



KELLIE WALSH
CONDUCTOR
bio on p. 105



ICELAND AND IRELAND



M'ANAM ('my soul' in the Irish language) is an eight-voice group of men based in Iceland and Ireland that combines the shared heritages of these two ancient cultures. Their music fuses the words of Icelandic and Irish writers: ancient texts from the Viking Hávamál and medieval Irish poets sit

alongside contemporary songs and music created by Irish composer Michael McGlynn. M'ANAM's music and performances evoke landscapes of sound rooted in the dramatic natural landscapes of both countries. M'ANAM released their debut album M'ANAM in 2019, followed in 2021 by the EP *smidiríni*. They have brought their atmospheric concerts to Dublin and Glasgow's Tradfest and Celtic Connections, both of which they headlined. In 2022, they sold out IDNÓ in Reykjavík and headlined at Les Nuits des Choeurs in Belgium, singing to 14,000 people. 2024 began with the first public showing of the award winning feature-length documentary *M'ANAM: Between Two Worlds*, premiered at Bíó Paradís cinema in Reykjavík in 2024. M'ANAM have featured on the soundtrack of the animated feature by Blizzard Entertainment entitled *Warbringers: Jaina*, part of a series of short films serving as a prelude to *World of Warcraft: Battle for Azeroth* and currently boasting 14M streams. Japanese jazz fusion band, mouse on the keys, collaborated with them on "Clarity," the opening track from their highly successful album *tres*.

Michael McGlynn, artistic director of M'ANAM, is a composer, filmmaker, and the creative mind behind and founder of the vocal ensembles ANÚNA, M'ANAM, and Systir. His compositions, integral to ANÚNA's ethos since 1987, blend Irish modality with medieval and contemporary colours. Michael's collaborations span a range of artists, including Elvis Costello, Rodney Crowell, and The Wiggles. Crowell's 2017 album *Close Ties* features a song co-written with Michael and a duet with Sheryl Crow. In 2023, he penned the lyrics for the title song of the Platinum/Nintendo video game *Bayonetta Origins*, performed by his daughter Lauren McGlynn. Michael has had music commissioned and works performed by Chanticleer, Rajaton,



MICHAEL MCGLYNN
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Chor Leoni, and Voces8, among many others. He has produced and recorded 20 albums, some charting on Billboard. ANÚNA's album *Deep Dead Blue* was nominated for a Classical Brit Award and reached the top five in the UK Classical Charts. In 2017, Michael directed the Noh Theatre/ANÚNA performance *Takahime* in Tokyo alongside Japanese National Treasure Gensho Umewaka. His film documentaries have received widespread distribution and acclaim. Michael's innovative fusion of film and music, along with his expansive musical language, continues to push artistic boundaries.



THE NATHANIEL DETT CHORALE

ONTARIO, CANADA

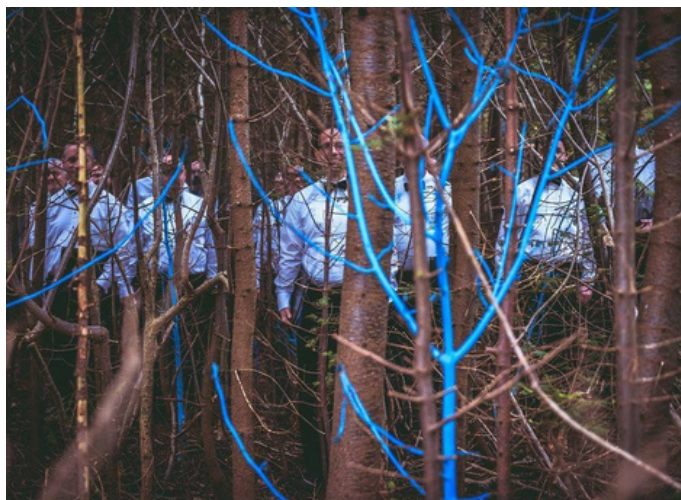


The Nathaniel Dett Chorale is Canada's first professional choral group dedicated to the creation, performance, and preservation of Afrocentric music of all styles and genres. Its vision is to be a premier performer of Afrocentric composers and a touchstone for the education of audiences regarding the full spectrum of Afrocentric choral music. The Chorale's mission is to build bridges of understanding, appreciation, and acceptance between communities of people through the medium of music. Founder D. Brainerd Blyden-Taylor named the ensemble after internationally renowned African Canadian composer R. Nathaniel Dett, drawing attention not only to Dett's legacy but also to highlight the wealth of Afrocentric choral music and to create a professional choral ensemble where persons of African heritage are well represented. Since its inception in 1998, The Nathaniel Dett Chorale has honoured the memory of its namesake by carrying audiences on a journey through the beauty and intricacies of Afrocentric music from around the world. The Chorale's 20+ classically trained, multi-faceted singers perform all styles and genres of music as appropriate to the traditions of Africa and its Diasporas. The Chorale has performed its jubilant and uplifting repertoire in extended tours to the Maritimes, Quebec, Western Canada, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and the United States. The Chorale has also garnered international attention, accepting invitations to perform at Polyfollia (France), 7th World Symposium on Choral Music (Japan), and the prestigious chamber music series at the U.S. Library of Congress, appearing there again at the National Symposium on American Choral Music. Currently in its 25th Season, The Nathaniel Dett Chorale is Artist-in-Residence at The Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on Africa and its Diasporas at York University. In 2017, the Chorale launched North Star Festival in collaboration with Harriet Tubman Institute and Yale Alumni Chorus.

Brainerd Blyden-Taylor is the founder and artistic director of The Nathaniel Dett Chorale, Canada's first professional chamber choir dedicated to the creation, preservation, and performance of Afrocentric choral music. Brainerd is in demand as a guest conductor, clinician, adjudicator, and lecturer, and is an active and dedicated church musician.



BRAINERD BLYDEN-TAYLOR
CONDUCTOR



Pride, musical versatility, and camaraderie best describe Newman Sound Men's Choir. Founded in 2005, Newman Sound is named after a rugged yet scenic region in Terra Nova National Park. The choir has realized an ever-growing loyal audience and a high local, national, and international reputation, having established an exciting

and eclectic repertoire across the genres of classical, pop, and folk including some outstanding arrangements and original compositions by several singers within the choir. A true community choir of more than 30 dedicated singers, choir members span all ages and walks of life, bringing with them a wealth of experiences, perspectives, and, most importantly, a love of making music together. In 2006, the choir was awarded the Galaxie Rising Star Award for Most Promising New Choir in Canada at the National CBC Choral Competition. Living up to its rising star status, the choir made it to the final round of the National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs in 2008. In 2015, 2017, and 2019, Newman Sound placed second in the Equal-Voice Men's category in this national choral competition. In 2011, their debut CD *The Green and Salty Days*, a collection of traditional music from Newfoundland and Labrador, was named Classical Album of the Year by MusicNL and was subsequently nominated for an East Coast Music Award (2012). That same year, Newman Sound was named Champion Male Chamber Choir at the World Choir Games held in Cincinnati, Ohio, USA. In 2016, the choir travelled to the Basque Country in Spain to partner with one of Europe's leading men's choruses, Coro Easo, to undertake a choral project exploring the shared history of Basque whalers and fisherman in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Jennifer Hart is a graduate of Memorial University's School of Music where she received a MMus degree in choral conducting, a BMus degree in piano, and a BMusEd degree. A passionate music educator and established choral conductor, Jennifer is currently a music specialist with Newfoundland and Labrador English School District and artistic director of Newman Sound Men's Choir. Proudly representing Newfoundland and Labrador locally, nationally, and abroad, she was a core member of Shallaway Youth Choir's artistic team in various roles over the span of 18 years and has been associate conductor of Lady Cove Women's Choir and assistant conductor of Quintessential Vocal Ensemble. In her spare time, Jennifer is the co-creator and co-host of the podcast "Tales, Tunes, & Toutons" where she explores her love of her home province's history, stories, folk music, and, of course, toutons!



JENNIFER HART
CONDUCTOR

••• NORTH PEACE COMMUNITY CHOIR •••

BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA



North Peace Community Choir has been a beacon of musical excellence in the Fort St. John community for over two decades. The choir is composed of 25-30 dedicated adults, many of whom are seniors, who are united by their love for choral music and the arts. The choir's roots in our northern British Columbia community can be traced back to the mid-1990s when it was founded by former members of the

Northern Lights College music program and chamber choir. Then, as it has remained to this day, it was the singers' collective shared desire to continue creating choral music in a small town that fueled the founding of the North Peace Community Choir. Prior to the pandemic, the choir had the privilege of receiving invitations to perform on celebrated stages, including an unforgettable opportunity to sing at the renowned Carnegie Hall in New York City through Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY). Collaborating with international choirs and a full orchestra, North Peace Community Choir presented Handel's *Messiah*, a performance highlight that resonates deeply within the choir's history. In the wake of the pandemic, North Peace Community Choir has faced unprecedented hurdles. However, they remain resolute in their commitment to providing a vibrant choral experience to their members, one that includes opportunities for travel and performance

Alice Maundrell is a music educator and conductor based in Fort St. John, British Columbia, Canada. She holds degrees from the University of Victoria (BMus in music education and MED in special education) where she performed in ensembles such as Wind Symphony, Symphonic Winds, the UVic Chorus, Philomela Women's Choir, and various other small ensembles. For the past three years, Alice has conducted the North Peace Community Choir where she continues to learn and grow alongside the singers. Their collective dedication and enthusiasm inspire Alice to strive for excellence in every rehearsal and performance. Alice also co-conducts the Northern Lights Youth Choir and sings with a new women's a cappella quintet, Cantus Astra. she is an educator at Bert Bowes Middle School where she teaches band and general music. Alice is also a civilian music instructor with Cadets Canada where she has the privilege of teaching military band to cadets from across the province of British Columbia. Alice values community and inclusivity in the music room, passionately creating inclusive spaces for all members of her ensembles. In addition to teaching, Alice currently serves on the executive of the British Columbia Music Educators Association as editor of the organization's professional journal.



**ALICE MAUNDRELL
CONDUCTOR**

OTTAWA CELTIC CHOIR

ONTARIO, CANADA



Ottawa Celtic Choir is a non-auditioned women's community choir in the city of Ottawa, Ontario, that sings songs from the seven Celtic nations, as well as repertoire from strongly Celtic-influenced areas in Canada (such as the Atlantic provinces, Quebec, and Ontario). The choir has acquired a reputation in the Ottawa Valley and abroad for singing in the six Celtic languages as well as English, French, and various other languages. The Ottawa Celtic Choir participates in various Celtic festivals and competitions and collaborates regularly with other choirs to bring a wide diversity of Celtic music to Ottawa audiences. In 2015, the choir became an affiliate choir of Carleton University, welcoming music students to its ranks each year.

Ellen MacIsaac received her PhD in ethnomusicology at University College Dublin, Ireland, with a specialization in the traditional singing style and repertoire in Irish and English. After returning to Canada, she became involved in traditional singing in Ottawa, giving guest lectures on *sean-nós* (old style) Irish singing and performing at local *céilís* and sessions, as well as further afield. In 2012, Ellen won first place in the *sean-nós* competition at Canada's first Irish-language festival and competition, the Oireachtas Gaeilge Cheanada. She then represented Canada at the 2012 Oireachtas na Samhna, Ireland's Gaelic-speaking festival. Ellen currently performs regularly in Ottawa as a Celtic-style vocalist. She lectures at the University of Ottawa in the Modern



ELLEN MACISAAC
CONDUCTOR

Languages Department as part of the minor in Celtic Studies and is a vocal instructor at Carleton University's Music Department in Celtic-style singing. Ellen established the Ottawa Celtic Choir in 2007 and, as its musical director, regularly arranges Celtic music for the choir.

PHILHARMONIC CHOIR OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



The Philharmonic Choir of the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra (PCNSO) is an auditioned community choir based in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. Founded in 1987 as an oratorio choir specifically to perform Handel's *Messiah* with the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra (NSO), the PCNSO has expanded its mandate substantially and now performs several concerts each season with a wide variety of repertoire. At the same time, the PCNSO continues to be dedicated to working cooperatively with the NSO to foster and perform symphonic choral music. The choir has attended UNISONG Choral Festival in Ottawa, toured Ireland, and participated regularly in Newfoundland and Labrador's Festival 500 *Sharing the Voices* biennial choral festival from 1997 to 2013.

Stephen Candow holds BMus and BMusEd degrees (1998) from Memorial University and a MMus degree from the University of Toronto (2001). In addition to his Canadian education, he studied choral conducting and organ in Dublin, Ireland; at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, England; and at the International Summer Academy in Göteborg, Sweden. In 2011, Stephen returned to St. John's from Ottawa where he was director of music and conductor for the prestigious Choir of Gentlemen and Boys at St. Matthew's Anglican Church. Previous posts include Guinness organ scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, Ireland, and assistant director of music at Canada's 'Methodist Cathedral':

Metropolitan United Church, Toronto. A well-known choral accompanist, Stephen has accompanied the Anglican Chorale of Ottawa, Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir, Newfoundland Symphony Youth Choir (Shallaway), Toronto's Voices, and Ottawa's Seventeen Voyces. Stephen enjoys working with singers as a conductor, vocal coach, and accompanist. As organist, he has performed in celebrated venues such as Carnegie Hall (USA), St. Paul's Cathedral (England), Meistersinger Hall (Germany), St. Patrick's Cathedral (Ireland), and St. Mary's Cathedral (Scotland). Stephen is currently artistic director and conductor of the Philharmonic Choir of the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra and artistic director of the St. John's Choir.



STEPHEN CANDOW
CONDUCTOR

PHILIPPINE MADRIGAL SINGERS

QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES



Recognized by the UNESCO as Artists for Peace for “putting their fame and influence to promote cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace,” the Philippine Madrigal Singers is one of the most awarded choral groups in the world. They have won top prizes in most of the world’s most prestigious choral competitions, including the Grand Prix in the 2016 Concorso Internazionale di Guido d’ Arezzo in Arezzo, Italy. They hold the distinction of being the first choir in the world to win the prestigious European Grand Prix for Choral Singing twice (1997 and 2007), and they are the first Asian choir to be awarded the BrandLaureate Premiere Award by the Asia Pacific Brands Foundation (2012). Madz, as they are known in the choral world, perform in a distinctive set-up of sitting in a semi-circle without a conductor. With the group’s virtuosity across a vast repertoire range, its continuing promotion of Filipino choral works, and the rousing and deeply emotional impact that each performance has had on their audiences, the choir has established their reputation as a pioneering force in choral music and an inspirational role model for other choirs.

Mark Anthony Carpio is currently on faculty of the University of the Philippines College of Music Conducting and Choral Ensemble Department, where he earned his master’s degree in choral conducting and his bachelor’s degree in piano. In 2001, Mark succeeded Professor Andrea O. Veneracion, Philippine National Artist for Music and founder of the Philippine Madrigal Singers (Madz), as choirmaster. He continues to lead the choir to even greater heights by winning several international choral competitions. Known for his collaboration with emerging composers, innovative programming, and approachability, Mark is a much sought-after choral clinician, giving workshops all over the Philippines and around the world. He is invited frequently as a guest conductor and adjudicator in local and international choral competitions. Nurturing young singers is Mark’s passion. Mark also conducts the Consortium of Voices, a choral society of young choristers, and the Pansol Choir, a church-based community choir. He also serves as conductor of Madz Schola Cantorum, a program in which 20-25 outstanding students across the Philippines are awarded full scholarships to study singing and instrumental/choral music. Mark is an accompanist, vocal coach, and a countertenor soloist.



MARK ANTHONY CARPIO
CONDUCTOR

PHOENIX CHAMBER CHOIR

BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA



Founded in 1983, the award-winning Phoenix Chamber Choir is one of Canada's finest vocal ensembles. Phoenix is renowned for its diverse and eclectic programming, from the Renaissance to the contemporary, commissions from Canadian and international composers, and North American

premieres of significant new works. Part of what makes Phoenix unique is its commitment to performing modern choral music at the highest level, exclusively with amateur singers. With its long-standing history of success in national and international choral competitions and the talent and training of its members, Phoenix Chamber Choir is enriching and extending its earned reputation as an elite-level ensemble.

Originally from Newfoundland and Labrador, **Nicholle Andrews**, PhD, is director of choral studies at the University of Redlands (California, USA) and artistic director of the Phoenix Chamber Choir (Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada). Under her direction, University of Redlands choirs have been invited to perform at national and international festivals and conferences as well as with legendary rock group The WHO, Sarah Brightman, and Josh Groban. Nicholle is a licensed body mapping educator, and her research includes the study of performance anxiety in musicians, pitch perception, and awareness of the body through conducting. Her publications can be found in publications such as the *Journal of Research in Music Education*, and she is currently the Collegiate

Research and Repertoire Coordinator for the Western Division American Choral Directors Association. Nicholle has received recognition for her outstanding university teaching as the recipient of Advisor of the Year, Professor of the Year, and Faculty Outstanding Service Award. In 2013, Nicholle created the University of Redlands Youth Choir as a training program for children from surrounding communities and music education students at the university. Now in its seventh year, the program has expanded to include a training chorus (ages 5-8) as a feeder ensemble for the youth choir (ages 9-16).



NICHOLLE ANDREWS
CONDUCTOR

PROJÈKT CHAMBER VOICES

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Projèkt Chamber Voices is a mixed-voice adult choral group based in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, dedicated to performances of acapella contemporary choral music. Singers are drawn from numerous backgrounds: music teachers and educators, researchers, professional musicians, and choir directors in their own right, with experience in musical theatre to church music, as well as instrumental and solo musical careers. Projèkt Chamber Voices aims to offer experienced choral musicians a venue to hone and explore their creativity and craft in a flexible yet challenging music-making environment. Led by their founding director Amy Henderson since 2018, they now comprise a group of 24 or so regular members, who work together in a project-based fashion rather than in a traditional choral season.

Amy Henderson (BMus, BEd, MMus) is from a family of teachers and is drawn to choral music for its capacity to build community, teach, connect people to and with their voices, and to make beautiful music. Amy has worked with choirs of all sizes and descriptions, including children's choirs (Choeur des Enfants de Montréal), youth choirs (McGill Conservatory Choirs), women's choirs (Concerto Della Donna, Les Muses Chorale), chamber choirs (Seraphim, Cantata Singers of Ottawa), and symphonic choirs (St. Lawrence Choir). Here in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Amy is the artistic director of Projèkt Chamber Voices, executive director of Business and Arts NL, and director of the Bruneau Centre for Excellence in Choral Music at Memorial University.



**AMY HENDERSON
CONDUCTOR**

QUINTESSENTIAL VOCAL ENSEMBLE

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Celebrating its 30th season, the Quintessential Vocal Ensemble (QVE) has become recognized as one of Canada's most accomplished amateur choirs, bringing together singers from the thriving musical community of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. Founded in 1993, its members encompass a range of experienced singers, instrumentalists, music teachers, students, and professionals of diverse backgrounds with a love for eclectic and engaging repertoire and an exceptional standard of performance. Known especially for its a cappella repertoire of many styles and periods, QVE has also performed major classical works and collaborated in large-scale productions for symphony and stage. QVE has amassed more than 20 awards in competitions, including Llangollen International Eisteddfod (Wales), Florilège Vocal de Tours (France), Cork International Choral Festival (Ireland), National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs, and the National Music Festival of Canada. Notable performances include PODIUM, Canada's national choral conference/festival; MusicFest, Canada's national choral showcase; and Carnegie Hall (USA) featuring "As on Wings" by Canadian composer Leonard Enns, commissioned by QVE to commemorate the response of the province to the thousands of airline travellers diverted there after the attacks of 9/11. To complement the choir's three albums, QVE's recent projects include recording works by NL songwriters Dolores Hynes and the late Ron Hynes and producing the video documentary *Mery* with filmmaker Roger Maunder which recounts the profound legacy of the Sisters of Mercy in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Susan Quinn is from St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, where she is artistic director of the Quintessential Vocal Ensemble (QVE) and choral director at St. Bonaventure's College. For nearly 30 years she taught music and led the award-winning choirs at Holy Heart of Mary High School. Susan received her early musical education from the Sisters of Mercy and has BMus and BMusEd degrees from Memorial University, with a major in violin, and a MMus degree in choral conducting from the University of Maine. Susan is in demand across Canada as an adjudicator, guest conductor, clinician, and expert in choral intonation. She is a recipient of the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence and the Arts in Education Award from the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council. Susan's

choirs have recorded six CDs and have received numerous national awards and honours at international competitions in Austria, Wales, Ireland, France, and Canada.



SUSAN QUINN
CONDUCTOR

SASKATOON CHILDREN'S CHOIR

SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA



The Saskatoon Children's Choir was founded in 1996 by Phoebe Voigts and has developed an international reputation for artistic excellence, creative performances, and their commitment to initiatives that promote international understanding. They have appeared on choral stages in Europe, Asia (where they participated in the IFCM sponsored Songbridge Project), USA, South Africa, Ireland, UK, and across Canada. Past performance/study projects include *For Sake of Life* (in support of the international Campaign to Ban Landmines), opera *Brundibár*

(first performed in the Terezín concentration camp), *Still We Rise* and *Sing Africa!* (in support of the international fight against HIV/AIDS), *Welcome Home* refugee sponsorship, and the *Don't Laugh at Me* project with an anti-bullying theme. The choir has commissioned two compositions focused on conflict and international understanding. They are the recipient of the City of Vienna Award from the Summa Cum Laude Vienna Music Festival, the Elmer Iseler and Choir of the World Awards from International Choral Kathaumixw, the Isabel Mills Choral Award, and the National Leslie Bell Award for Choir. Recording credits include feature performances on national and international radio and television broadcasts.

Kerry Agnew, performer and educator, brings a wealth of experience to the Saskatoon Children's Choir. Working with singers from the piano and the podium, Kerry has taught school music, conducted youth and adult choirs, coached voice and opera students, and directed musicals and operas. She holds bachelor's degrees in music education and piano performance from the University of Saskatchewan and both a MMus degree and an artist diploma from McGill University. While in Montreal, Kerry was a sought-after collaborative pianist for voice and opera students in undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs. She has held positions with McGill University, University of Saskatchewan, National Theatre School, École FACE, and Marianopolis College. Kerry's passion of singing and language led her to perform/study across Canada and Europe. Her ability to create musical experiences that are engaging, meaningful, and educational for students and peers is central to her musical philosophy. Kerry is well-known for her commitment to excellence, her energy and enthusiasm, and her passion for creating rich artistic experiences. She continues to enjoy performing with local organizations including the Saskatoon Children's Choir, the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, University of Saskatchewan Ensembles, Saskatoon Opera, and Little Opera on the Prairie.



KERRY AGNEW
CONDUCTOR

SHALLAWAY YOUTH CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Shallaway Youth Choir was founded in response to the 1992 moratorium on the Northern Cod fishery, serving as a beacon of hope, perseverance, and pride in the rich cultural heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador. The choir is dedicated to empowering young voices through excellence in choral art, channelling this dynamic medium to cultivate leadership, nurture personal growth, drive social impact, and celebrate the cultures of Newfoundland and Labrador and the world. Committed to exploring, developing, and celebrating cultural expression, Shallaway Youth Choir nurtures young voices to become the best version of themselves, fostering the growth and leadership potential of each member. By centring equity, inclusion, diversity, and a sense of belonging, the choir empowers our next generation of artistic and cultural innovators in Newfoundland and Labrador, striving to create a positive social impact within and beyond the community. Shallaway Youth Choir's artistic excellence has been recognized both nationally and internationally. They are proud recipients of the prestigious Healey Willan Grand Prize, awarded by the Canada Council for the Arts, in the 2002 Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) National Competition for Amateur Choirs. Shallaway Youth Choir has been honoured to receive invitations to international choral events such as the International Federation for Choral Music's World Symposium on Choral Music (2008) and World Choral EXPO (2022) as well as the biennial world conference of the International Society of Music Education (2000). Shallaway Youth Choir has proudly represented Canada, winning numerous awards at various international competitions such as the Cork International Choral Festival (Ireland), Seghizzi International Choral Singing Competition (Italy), and Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod (Wales), where the choir was awarded the title of Children's Choir of the World.



KELLIE WALSH
CONDUCTOR
bio on p. 105

SILVERN VOICES

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Graham Academy's Silvern Voices is western Newfoundland's newest youth choir, carrying forward a longstanding legacy of choral music in the region. With leadership from Katie Barrett, the group experienced several resounding successes in their first year, performing with some of the province's finest musical artists, including Brian Way, Bob MacDonald, Wendy Woodland, Petrina Bromley, David Pomeroy, and the Ennis Sisters. In their inaugural year, Silvern Voices was selected for the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals National Music Festival and was awarded first prize in their category. The choir plans to carry forward choral performances in the region for many years to come.

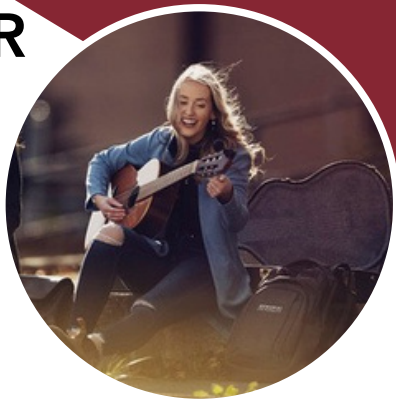
Katie Barrett was born and raised in a thriving music scene in Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador. With a BMus degree in trumpet performance and a BMusEd degree from Memorial University, she holds a MEd degree from Mount Saint Vincent University. Currently the music teacher at Corner Brook Intermediate School, Katie teaches a wide range of instrumental courses within the school's music program. In 2021, she joined the talented team at Graham Academy where she is the music director for the junior and senior programs. Katie has performed and worked with several orchestras, bands, and choirs over the years, including Shallaway Youth Choir, Lady Cove Women's Choir, Bay of Islands Musical Arts, Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra, Long Island Youth Orchestra, Jazz East Big Band, Jazz West, The Halliday Band, along with playing in the pit for countless musicals. Believing that music is an integral part of a culture and community, Katie is excited to continue leading the Graham Academy's Silvern Voices Youth Choir.



KATIE BARRETT
CONDUCTOR

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SIPUKEWAQ KETAPEKIEWINU'K – VOICES OF THE RIVER

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Sipukewaq Ketapekiewinu'k – Voices of the River is a multi-generational women's choral ensemble from Miawpukek First Nation (Conne River), Newfoundland and Labrador. Established in February 2024 in preparation for the HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions, Sipukewaq Ketapekiewinu'k performs a wide range of music from pop, rock, and country to traditional and contemporary Mi'kmaw songs. The women of Voices of the River are honoured to participate in the HarbourVOICES! Festival in collaboration with Eastern Owl, an Indigenous-led all-nations vocal ensemble, also from Newfoundland and Labrador. Voices of the River members look forward to sharing Mi'kmaw songs and traditions with friends, old and new, throughout 2024 and far beyond.

Lisa Gillam (BMus, BMusEd) is a music educator and business owner from Stephenville, Newfoundland and Labrador. A teacher with more than 30 years experience, Lisa has taught in private and public schools in Canada, Thailand, and Taiwan. She now spends most of her time creating original teaching and learning songs and resources for young learners which are available through her website The Music Classroom (themusicclassroom.com) and her YouTube Channel of the same name. Lisa is the musical director of Sipukewaq Ketapekiewinu'k - Voices of the River Women's Choral Ensemble – proud participants in the HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions.



LISA GILLAM
CONDUCTOR

SIUE TREBLE CHOIR

ILLINOIS, USA



For over 60 years, the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) Department of Music has been preparing musicians for fulfilling careers. The SIUE Treble Choir is the newest music ensemble in the Department of Music beginning in fall of 2021. The ensemble is non-auditioned, open to the community, and welcomes women and persons who sing in a treble register. The ensemble focuses on the development of each singer's voice, as well as striving for a beautiful choral tone. An emphasis is placed on developing individual musicianship. SIUE Treble Choir performs a variety of repertoire from various historical periods and works towards performing primarily repertoire by female composers, marginalized populations, and composers who write primarily for treble voices. Additionally, they collaborate with a variety of vocal ensemble types including the SIUE Gospel Choir and other local treble and women's choirs.

Alicia Canterbury Vorel serves as an assistant professor in music education in the Department of Music at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville where she teaches undergraduate and graduate music education majors and conducts the SIUE Treble Choir. Alicia earned degrees at Mercer University (BMusEd), Texas Tech University (MMus in music education), and University of Mississippi (PhD). Alicia is an experienced educator focusing primarily on general music and choirs in a variety of settings from early childhood to adult. She has presented at numerous state, regional, and national conferences on topics related to treble choir identity, assessment, and repertoire. Alicia's research interests include feminist music education pedagogy, early career expertise development, and the turn of the 20th-century singing schools. Her publications can be found in journals such as the *Journal of Historical Research in Music Education*, *International Journal of Music Education*, and *Choral Journal*.



ALICIA CANTERBURY VOREL
CONDUCTOR

SOLO TOGETHER CHOIR

HarbourVOICES! offers an opportunity for individuals to participate in all festival activities and events as 'solo together' registrants. We are pleased to welcome 70 Solo Together participants to this festival!

Solo Together participants can also experience choral/group singing as a member of the Solo Together Choir. This choir, led by Doug Dunsmore, will rehearse four times during the festival and will be featured as a cameo performance at the July 4 Concert at the Basilica, 4pm. We are pleased to welcome 40 singers to the Solo Together Choir!

Douglas Dunsmore began his professional choral career in Saskatchewan working with school, community, and church choirs and earning postgraduate degrees in choral conducting and music education. Since coming to Newfoundland and Labrador in 1979, he has worked as professor and director of choral activities at Memorial University's School of Music. During his tenure at Memorial University, Doug earned a PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, undertook leadership positions in local and national organizations, and initiated a MMus degree in choral conducting at Memorial University. Founder of the Philharmonic Choir of the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra, co-founder of Newman Sound Men's



Choir, and director of choral music at Gower Street United Church (1982-2023), Doug is currently conductor of the Anchormen Barbershop Chorus. He was a founding co-artistic director of Festival 500 *Sharing the Voices* and founding director of the Bruneau Centre for Excellence in Choral Music. He continues to be the principal conductor/clinician of *Come All Ye*, an outreach project of Festival 500 *Growing the Voices*. Doug's outstanding leadership in choral activity within the province and across the country is celebrated by his being inducted into the NL Arts Hall of Honour (2017) and appointed to the Order of Canada (2023).

SOUNDBONE FOLKSONG CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Soundbone Folksong Choir (SFC) is a non-auditioned choral group for adults who share a love of traditional and contemporary folk songs of Newfoundland and Labrador and beyond. Established in the winter of 2020, the choir had to shut down after only three rehearsals due to the pandemic and subsequent lockdown. During the 2021-2022 season, SFC had two successful 10-week sessions with a combination of online and in-person rehearsals and returned to in-person rehearsals in 2022-2023. SFC was founded and is directed by traditional musician/music educator Jean Hewson with the help of assistant director Madison Moulard. Each year, the choir has two ten-week sessions with each session culminating in a final concert. During the last two years, SFC has had the opportunity to work with guest musicians Christina Smith, Brian Cherwick, and Dave Panting. Singers have also enjoyed workshops presented by Linda Byrne, Sally Goddard, Shay Black, and Paul Wilson, all expert traditional singers from Ireland, England, and here at home.

Jean Hewson believes that a community's soul can be revealed, in part, through its folksongs. These folksongs provide a glimpse into tragedies and triumphs of the past, diversions and entertainments of the present, and visions and dreams of the future. For more than 40 years, Jean has collected, arranged, and performed the folk music of Newfoundland and Labrador. She is grateful for the many opportunities the music has given her. Jean has had the good fortune to play and tour with some of the province's best-known traditional musicians, and she has spent most of her life teaching and working with organizations focused on music education and the passing on of the local folk music traditions. Soundbone Folksong Choir is an extension of her work with the Vinland Music Camp: a



JEAN HEWSON
CONDUCTOR

unique annual camp devoted to the traditional arts of Newfoundland and Labrador. Jean's hope is that the choir will feel like a gathering of old friends gathered around a campfire, enjoying good company, laughter, and some great music.



Spectrum Queer Choir is a non-auditioned community choir that creates a place of celebration, belonging, and safety for 2SLGBTQIA+ people and their unique voices and needs. The choir welcomes all who wish to join regardless of musical experience, ability, identity, or financial means. Together the choir seeks justice, growth, and connection through their music-making to enrich lives and the culture of Newfoundland and Labrador. Spectrum Queer Choir was founded by conductor Alice Hietala as part of her graduate studies in choral conducting at Memorial University's School of Music. Forty people showed up to the first rehearsal, and the choir has not looked back since. More recently, Alice's leadership has been augmented by a volunteer Board of Directors resulting in the choir's incorporation as a not-for-profit in 2021, along with joyful organizational and community growth. Over the past twelve years, the choir has enjoyed many opportunities to sing, educate, and celebrate queer voices, including with such organizations as St. John's Pride, TEDx St. John's, PODIUM, and the Egale OUTShine GSA Youth Conference. Most recently, the choir traveled to Halifax in May 2023 for the Unison Festival where they joined 2SLGBTQIA+ choruses from across Canada.

Alice Hietala is Toronto-born choral musician, leader, and queer activist who holds a BMusEd degree from Western University and a MMus degree in choral conducting from Memorial University. She is the founder and artistic director of Spectrum Queer Choir, the first 2SLGBTQIA+ community choir in Newfoundland and Labrador. Following a strong draw to social justice and community, Alice completed a diploma of Social Service Work from George Brown College and currently works as an educator with Planned Parenthood - NL Sexual Health Centre. Alice's work seeks to empower queer voices by building spaces of joy, belonging, and support. Grounded in a belief that all people have a right to their own voice, Alice works to dismantle the barriers and pressures that alienate people from their own voice and creates a space where all can experience the power and connection of collective singing.



ALICE HIETALA
CONDUCTOR

TORBAY FOLK ARTS CHORAL GROUP

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Torbay Folk Arts Choral Group is a vibrant and community-engaged ensemble that has quickly become a cornerstone of musical life on the Northeast Avalon. Led by artistic directors Michael Davis and Jenn Hanley, this non-auditioned singing group of 57 members has delighted audiences since 2022. The choral group has long been a dream of the

Torbay Folk Arts Council, which is dedicated to preserving cultural heritage while embracing musical diversity. Song selections span the rich traditions of Irish and Newfoundland music, songs from Labrador, timeless classics, pop, and rock. Torbay Folk Arts Choral Group takes pride in showcasing the talents of members with solo and small group performances, plus original songs and recitations composed and performed by members. The singers are committed to sharing their music and giving back to the community, e.g., coordinating concerts and presenting performances for seniors, Tree Lighting Ceremonies, and local churches, as well as fundraising for the Northeast Avalon Food Bank. The group performed for a movie, *Sweet Angel Baby*, by SAB Productions and are looking forward to delivering a Kitchen Party at an international convention for Memorial University's School of Nursing. They further delight audiences with guest performances by some of Newfoundland's finest musicians, including nine-year-old Jack Davis-Hanley. Most of all, members enjoy the supportive, generous, and fun atmosphere at practices and concerts.

Jenn Hanley, devoted music educator and accomplished saxophonist from Torbay, Newfoundland and Labrador, is the conductor of Torbay Folk Arts Choral Group. With degrees in music and music education from Memorial University and nearly three decades of large-ensemble experience, Jenn brings a rich blend of knowledge and artistry to her role. As a performer, Jenn shines as lead alto saxophonist with Jazz East Big Band, a group she has performed with for over a decade. She can regularly be found on stage playing baritone, tenor, alto, and soprano saxophones along with piano and backup vocals for various local groups. Beyond her captivating stage presence, Jenn's dedication to music education extends to community. In addition to being conductor and co-music director of Torbay Folk Arts Choral Group, Jenn has served as youth coordinator for Jazz East Big Band since 2018. An unwavering commitment to musical excellence and education have established Jenn as a guiding force, leaving a lasting impact on the hearts and minds of students and collaborators. In quiet moments, Jenn enjoys sitting by a fire with her family and two cats, knitting needles clicking as she creates wearable masterpieces one stitch at a time.



JENN HANLEY
CONDUCTOR

TORONTO BEACHES CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CHORUS

ONTARIO, CANADA



The Toronto Beaches Children's and Youth Chorus was founded in 2006 by artistic director Bronwen Low with the invaluable contribution of Joanne Mitchell, director of drama. The choir has grown from an initial membership of 30 to over 150 members, made up of children and youth ages 4-18 from all over Scarborough and Toronto's East End. The choir welcomes all, regardless of ability and aims to give choristers a high quality musical and dramatic experience within an atmosphere where hard work and fun coexist. Each year, the choristers are involved in many concerts and events throughout the city. Past highlights include concert with the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir; participation in the GTA Junior and Senior Treble Festivals; several musicals at the Berkeley Street Theatre; Toronto City Hall Christmas Concerts, Distillery District's Christmas Market Concerts; joint concert with the Cathedral Bluffs Orchestra; and participation in TrypTych Concert Opera as members of the chorus for a production of *Hansel and Gretel*. Past musical productions include: *Alice in Wonderland*, *Grease*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Into the Woods*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *The Lion King*, *Oliver*, *Robin Hood*, *Shrek Jr.*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Past touring experiences include: Crossroads Children's Chorus Festival (Nashville, 2014), DCINY Festival (Carnegie Hall, NYC, 2016), and Serenade! International Choral Festival (Kennedy Center, Washington, DC, 2019).

TORONTO BEACHES CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CHORUS

ONTARIO, CANADA



BRONWEN LOW-SCOTT
CONDUCTOR

Bronwen Low-Scott has been singing in stage and concert productions since she was a child. This passion for the arts led her to the University of Western Ontario where she completed her BMus degree in voice. She furthered her studies at the Royal Conservatory and at Sir Wildred Laurier University with Kimberly Barber. Bronwen also continued her studies in education and has a master's degree in Orff Music. She taught music for 24 years for the Toronto District School Board and was excited to be the new lower school music teacher at Crescent School last fall. Bronwen has also worked with the Education and Outreach Department of the Canadian Opera Company in programs weaving the joy of singing with drama, Orff pedagogy, and the world of opera. She is the proud founder and artistic director of the Toronto Beaches Children's and Youth Chorus, which she has led since 2006.

Jessica Riley was raised in Toronto and Winnipeg and performed with the Toronto Children's Chorus and the Canadian Children's Opera Company. She studied theatre and languages at the University of Manitoba and obtained her DMus from Indiana University with a major in vocal performance and a minor in music education and stage direction. Before returning to Canada, Jessica taught various music courses at universities in Indiana, Washington, and Wisconsin. For the past 12 years, Jessica has worked as associate conductor for the Toronto Beaches Children's and Youth Chorus. She also serves as volunteer music director for a community outreach youth drama club and as music itinerant with the Toronto District School Board.



JESSICA RILEY
CONDUCTOR

ULLUGIAGÂTSUK YOUTH CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



Ullugiagâtsuk Youth Choir is an auditioned choir with choristers in grades 7-12 from the four Nunatsiavut communities: Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, and Rigolet. Prior to performances, the singers practice in their own communities and have group workshops. Their performances are in both Inuktitut and English and are highlighted by drum

dancing and throat singing. Ullugiagâtsuk Youth Choir members were proud to participate in the 2017 UNISONG Festival in Ottawa to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday. Their commissioned work, "Music of the Land", with poetic words of Gary and Barbara Mitchell set to music by Kathleen Allen, was sung by over 600 singers from across Canada, accompanied by the National Arts Centre Orchestra. It was with great pride that the Ullugiagâtsuk Youth Choir performed during the Residential School Survivors' Official Apology Ceremony on November 24, 2017. Performances at PODIUM 2018 included *Come and I Will Sing You* Opening Gala and ...float... on Canada Day in which they performed "Song of the River" by Deantha Edmunds. During the pandemic, the choir had two virtual performances: the Arctic Inspiration Awards (2020) followed by virtual and video collaborations with choristers across Newfoundland and Labrador. Most recently, Ullugiagâtsuk Youth Choir was honored to participate and share in personal reflections through the choral experience of *Nagamo* with Andrew Balfour and musica intima.



ROSIE PIERCY
DIRECTOR

Ilitannamek, my name is **Rosie Piercy**, a retired Indigenous teacher from Hopedale, Labrador. I have been involved with the school choir for a number of years. When asked to be a member of the Ullugiagâtsuk Youth Choir as the Inuit Tradition Bearer, I was deeply honored. I love contributing my knowledge of our Inuktitut language through song. Over the years, we have been broadening the choir's repertoire by including Moravian church hymns. I enjoy guiding and giving my input to our younger generation so they can learn and pass on Inuit traditions and practices. It has been my pleasure to share musical events such as UNISON Choral Festival, PODIUM, and ...float... with the choristers of Nunatsiavut. *Nakummek*.

ULLUGIAGÂTSUK YOUTH CHOIR

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, CANADA



JANET WISEMAN
DIRECTOR

Janet Wiseman is a retired educator who has had a varied teaching career, from her first job as multi-grade teacher to Director of Schools/Human Resources. In between, she had the privilege of being the educational liaison for the foreign military, traveling to England, Germany, and The Netherlands. Beginning her teaching career in Hopedale, Labrador, provided the foundation for her appreciation of the Inuit culture, the need to indigenize the curriculum, and the importance of giving students a voice. Music had been a way of life for Janet from an early age that evolved into teaching her own classroom music

and co-directing school choirs. Janet founded the Ullugiagâtsuk Youth Choir with Kellie Walsh, after coordinating the Pan-Labrador Experience for many years and holding executive roles on provincial and regional arts boards. The choir was created to showcase the choral and cultural abilities of the youth of Nunatsiavut. It is indeed a great privilege for Janet to share this talented group of choristers with HarbourVOICES! participants.



KELLIE WALSH
CONDUCTOR
bio on p. 105

VANCOUVER YOUTH CHOIR

BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA



Founded in 2013 by Carrie Tennant, the Vancouver Youth Choir provides a space for promising young singers to develop their artistry in a creative and supportive community. In ten years, the organization has grown to more than 400 members, ages 5-24, in seven separate ensembles, including the brand-new VYC Kindred – a free choral program where newcomers and refugee youth learn about Indigenous music and culture. In 2023, members of VYC singers traveled to New York to perform at Carnegie Hall for a concert of all-Canadian choral music with choirs from across Canada. Also in 2023, the Senior Choir represented Canada as one of ten choirs from around the world invited to perform at the 2023 World Symposium on Choral Music in Istanbul, Türkiye.

Carrie Tennant is the founder and artistic director of the Vancouver Youth Choir (VYC). For the past 20 years, she has worked primarily with youth, developing leadership and artistry with young singers. She is a firm believer in the power of group singing to create spaces of belonging and connection for singers of any age. Carrie's choirs have been featured at national choral conferences (Chorus America, Choral Canada, and ACDA) and have received first place awards in the National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs. In 2023, VYC was featured at the World Symposium on Choral Music in Istanbul, Türkiye, and in New York City at a concert co-conducted by Carrie titled *Canada at Carnegie*. In addition to her work with VYC, Carrie is an affiliate conductor with the Vancouver Chamber Choir. She is the editor and curator for two choral series: *Vancouver Youth Choir Choral Series* (Cypress Publishing) and *Carrie Tennant Choral Series* (Hal Leonard). Carrie is proud to be the recipient of the 2023 YWCA Women of Distinction Award for Arts and Culture. In a past life, Carrie also toured, performed, and recorded with her husband as a member of Vancouver-based indie pop group, The Salteens.



CARRIE TENNANT
CONDUCTOR

WORLD YOUTH CHOIR

24 COUNTRIES



The World Youth Choir (WYC), an international, project-based ensemble, is composed of some of the best young choral singers from all over the world. Established in 1989, each year the World Youth Choir Foundation, in partnership with a host presenter, brings together up to 100 remarkable young talents ages, 17-26, for a session and tour. During the past 35 years, the WYC Foundation has brought together over 1100 singers from 70+ countries for 35+ sessions conducted by 47 internationally renowned conductors. While the singers, conductors, and locations change with each session, the spirit of the WYC always remains intact: intercultural understanding, high-level musicianship, and international friendship and professional networking. It is a educational, artistic, and social program that contributes to the nurturing of new generations of global citizens. The WYC has become a global symbol for peace, unity, and harmony. They have been recognized as a UNESCO Artist for Peace (1996-1998) and have performed at the Olympic Games (1992, 2008) and Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony (2011). The choir is created fresh each year through a series of competitive national and online auditions. With the support of the Foundation's three patrons (International Federation for Choral Music, European Choral Association, and Jeunesses Musicales International), each year a session of the program is organized in a different country. Regular WYC sessions take place over the course of three weeks, during which singers rehearse for up to ten days and present a concert tour. This session at HarbourVOICES! will be an alumni session: one week of rehearsals with multiple performances during the Festival. The 2024 WYC Alumni Choir is comprised of 32 singers from 24 countries: **Argentina, Canada, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hong Kong SAR, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Norway, Philippines, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Taiwan, United States of America, and Venezuela.**

WORLD YOUTH CHOIR

Cecilia Rydinger is a leading figure in Swedish musical life. A member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Music, Cecilia held the position as Vice-Chancellor/Principal at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm from 2012 to 2019. Since 2008, Cecilia has been the conductor and artistic director of the male choir Orphei Drängar, with whom she regularly performs on international tours and recordings. Between 1988 and 2009, Cecilia was the conductor of the mixed choir Allmänna Sången, during which time the choir won a number of international choral competitions, including the 2005 European Choral Grand Prix, and performed at the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize dinner. Cecilia was the principal conductor of the Värmland Opera (1994–1998) with noted Wagner productions. She has been in demand as a jury member for choir competitions around the world and was president of the jury at the international choir conductor's competition Eric Ericson Award in 2021. She has also been engaged to teach international master classes in choir conducting, including sessions together with Professor Ericson in 2006. In 2005, Cecilia received the medal *Litteris et Artibus* by Sweden's H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf for her contribution to Swedish musical life.



**CECILIA RYDINGER
CONDUCTOR**

**the only thing
better than singing
is more singing.**

– Ella Fitzgerald

Best of luck to everyone
performing at
Harbour Voices 2024!



SYDNEY GUILLAUME

Now La - arranged for HarbourVOICES!



Praised by the *Miami Herald* for their “impressive maturity and striking melodic distinction,” Sydney Guillaume’s compositions are known to be intricate, challenging, and yet highly spirited. Many of his choral works, most with original poetry by his father Gabriel T. Guillaume, have fostered an awareness of the beautiful Haitian culture and continue to serve as an ambassador for his native country. Sydney’s compositions have been featured at numerous national conferences and international festivals. In 2017, Sydney was honored by the top music school in Haiti for his “great contribution in the

expansion and the promotion of the music and culture of Haiti around the world.” Sydney has also written original film and documentary scores for the Los Angeles-based company Loyola Productions. Originally from Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Sydney currently resides in Portland, Oregon (USA), working as a full-time composer, conductor, and frequently presenting workshops on his music with universities and high schools throughout North America. Since 2013, he has been the conductor of Imbroglia Sextet, a group of musicians from Haiti, Spain, and the United States. Sydney’s recent activities as conductor include the 2024 ACDA Southern Region Conference Advanced SATB Honor Choir, 2022 Georgia All-State Senior Treble Choir, 2019 Florida All-State Middle School Treble Chorus, 34th annual Idaho State University Choral Invitational Festival, 2018 Maine All-State High School Mixed Chorus, an all-Guillaume concert at the Lincoln Center in NYC, and concerts with the Imbroglia Sextet at Carnegie Hall and at the 2018 ISME World Conference in Baku, Azerbaijan.



LESLEE HEYS

Harbour Voices - commissioned for HarbourVOICES!

Leslee Heys is a multi-faceted musician living and working in Newfoundland and Labrador. She is very honoured to be included in the dazzling array of musicians participating in HarbourVOICES! Leslee is the collaborative pianist for three award-winning choral ensembles: Shallaway Youth Choir, Lady Cove, and Newman Sound Men's Choir. Having recently retired from her dynamic private piano studio, Leslee is a sought-after accompanist and adjudicator. Her skills as coach/accompanist have led to international performances in more than a dozen countries, as well as participation in many

Canadian musical events. At the half-century mark, Leslee tentatively thought she had absorbed enough by playing the music of other composers that she might give writing a whirl. In this past year, her original works and arrangements have been performed by Texas All-State Honor Choir, Amadeus Choir, UNISON Choral Festival, Universities of Florida and Toronto and by her first loves: Shallaway Youth Choir, Lady Cove, and Newman Sound Men's Choir. Recent highlights include a CD of original collaborative works with Inuk soprano Deantha Edmunds and the Atlantic String Quartet; *Tâsijot ikumait* (Dancing Lights) for Shallaway and Ullugiagâtsuk, incorporating throat singing, traditional drumming, and water phone; and two new works composed for Lady Cove's spring 2024 concert with Mark Fewer for SSAA and solo violin. Several of Leslee's works will be featured on an upcoming Lady Cove CD - stay tuned! Leslee holds a BMus degree in performance from the University of Toronto, a MMus degree from Western University, and an Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music (ARCT) diploma in performance. She subsists mostly on peanut butter and makes a deceptively tasty margarita!



●●● GALA CONCERT SOLOISTS

Deantha Edmunds



Deantha Edmunds is Canada's first Inuk professional classical singer. She was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in December 2023 for her activity as a performer, writer, composer, and mentor - work which seeks to empower Indigenous people and share their stories. Her work has international reverberation as well as community integrity. She brings a level of professional excellence to Canada's Indigenous art scene that is unique and important. Notable appearances include singing at the opening ceremony of the Frankfurt Book Fair in 2021, performing for His Holiness, Pope Francis in Iqaluit at the official apology to Inuit residential

school survivors in 2022, and singing the Nunatsiavut anthem for King Charles III at the St. John's welcome ceremony of the 2022 Canadian Royal Tour which focused on Reconciliation. Creating original music, collaborating with other musicians, contributing to Indigenous productions, and mentoring young artists, Deantha shares her voice and vision with her whole heart, and is drawing accolades from across Canada and the world.



deantha.ca

Frédéricka Petit-Homme embodies artistic citizenship. Trained as a classical singer and choral conductor, her eclectic career path reflects a passion for exploring the full spectrum of music making. From chorus work with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and contemporary opera with Musique 3 Femmes, to cross-cultural collaborations with local ensembles, Frédéricka's journey demonstrates how non-linear careers can fuel personal and musical growth. As the visionary behind Ensemble Nigra Sum, she champions Afrocentric music, enriching Canada's cultural tapestry and demonstrating the power of embracing diverse musical traditions. Her commitment to community engagement, particularly through the More than a Song: Gospel Music Workshops hosted by McGill University, fosters meaningful connections within the wider Montreal community.

Frédéricka's academic activities, which began in 2005 as a course lecturer at the Schulich School of Music, and her pursuit of a PhD in music education focusing on resilience, cultural production, and leadership in community gospel music, mirror her hands-on experience. Frédéricka also brings the world of choral music to a wider audience through her CBC Music radio program, *Choral Concert*, showcasing diverse choral works. Join her every Sunday morning as we celebrate the power and beauty of choral music together, coast to coast.

Frédéricka Petit-Homme



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●●● GUEST SESSION LEADER

ANDREW BALFOUR

Of Cree descent, Andrew Balfour is an innovative composer, conductor, singer, and sound designer with a large body of choral, instrumental, electro-acoustic, and orchestral works. Andrew's works have been performed and/or broadcast locally, nationally, and internationally. He has been commissioned by the Winnipeg, Regina, and Toronto Symphony Orchestras, Ensemble Caprice, Groundswell, Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra, Winnipeg Singers, Kingston Chamber Choir, Roomful of Teeth, Tafelmusik, and Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, among others. Andrew is also the founder and Artistic Director of the innovative vocal group Dead of Winter (formerly Camerata Nova), now in its 25th year of offering a concert series in Winnipeg. With Dead of Winter, Andrew specializes in creating 'concept concerts', many with Indigenous subject matter (*Wa Wa Tey Wake* [Northern Lights], *Medieval Inuit*, *Fallen*). These innovative offerings explore a theme through an eclectic array of music, including new works, arrangements, and inter-genre and interdisciplinary collaborations. Andrew has become increasingly passionate about music education and outreach, particularly on northern reserves and inner-city Winnipeg schools where he has worked on behalf of the National Arts Centre, Dead of Winter, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra (WSO), and various Winnipeg school divisions. Andrew was curator and composer-in-residence of the WSO's inaugural Indigenous Festival. In 2017, he was awarded a Gold Medal by the Senate of Canada for his contribution to Canada's Indigenous and music communities.



●●● GUEST SESSION LEADER

HUSSEIN JANMOHAMED

Hussein Janmohamed, PhD, is a champion of pluralism with over three decades of working with diverse communities globally. A Canadian-based artist, he is a fourth generation Kenyan of Ismaili Muslim South Asian Gujarati ancestry. Inspired by a mission to build community, unleash creativity, and cultivate dialogue, Hussein provides choral clinics, artistic curation, professional development, and group composing workshops for choirs and educators. He holds a doctorate in music education from the University of Toronto and master's degrees in choral conducting and opera production. His doctoral research focussed on Muslim youth identity and belonging in Canada through choral music participation. Hussein has sung with Chor Leoni, Phoenix Chamber Choir, Elmer Iseler Singers, and the National Youth Choir of Canada. He has led University of British Columbia choirs, Nai Syrian Children's Choir, Vancouver Peace Choir, Canadian Ismaili Muslim Youth Choirs, and global music ensembles. He has curated cross-cultural vocal collaborations for Nuit Blanche Toronto, University of Toronto Faculty of Music, Luminato Festival, and MABELLEarts. Incorporating his multicultural influences, Hussein's evocative choral compositions tell stories and invite reflection, offering a unique perspective on inclusiveness. Recent projects include work with Dead of Winter on a new choral work and community collaboration and a co-creation commission with the Canadian Chamber Choir. Hussein has been recognized for his inspirational leadership and twice awarded the University of Toronto Irene Miller and Koshkish Fellowship in music for his research in music as a language for dialogue and peace.



●●● GUEST SESSION LEADER

ANDRÉ DE QUADROS

André de Quadros, EdD, has been described as “one of the most inspiring human rights educators of our time” by the Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights. He is a human rights activist, conductor, ethnomusicologist, music educator, and writer. His work has taken him to the most diverse settings in 40 countries including professional ensembles, projects with prisons, psychosocial rehabilitation, refugees, and victims of sexual violence, torture, and trauma. Using music for peacebuilding, reconciliation, and empowerment, André focuses on race and mass incarceration, peacebuilding, forced migration, LGBTQ+, public health, and Islamic culture. In addition to conducting three international choirs - Manado State University Choir (Indonesia), Muslim Choral Ensemble (Sri Lanka), and VOICES 21C (USA) - André directs a peacebuilding project, Common Ground Voices (Israel, Palestine), and a forced migration project, Common Ground Voices / La Frontera (Mexico-USA border). A professor of music at Boston University, André holds affiliate faculty positions in African, African American and Black Diaspora, American and New England, Asian, Jewish, and Muslim studies, as well as Center for Antiracist Research, Center on Forced Displacement, and Prison Education Program. In addition to directing The Choral Commons, a justice-focused media platform, André has numerous publications, including ten books, several book chapters and articles, and 50+ choral editions.



●●● WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

All registered choristers and Solo Together participants are welcome to attend an exciting series of presentations throughout the mornings of the festival. These presentations are led by invited clinicians, choral/singing leaders, and conductors of several festival choirs/singing groups. There is a diversity of presentation formats including workshops, demonstrations, and panel dialogues. Come along and share your experiences, ideas, and insights with presentation leaders and festival participants.

Plenary Session

Sunday, June 30, 9:00-10:15 Room: Bowring Ballroom 1-2-3-4

Presenters: André de Quadros, Andrew Balfour, Hussein Janmohamed

In this interactive and participatory session, André, Andrew, and Hussein intend to present alternative ways of thinking about the future of choir. Based on their own experiences with First Nations, Muslim cultures, refugees, prisons, and in war zones, they will inspire participants to reframe their singing and musical agency in the cause of justice through creating meaningful repertoire. This session will advocate for a new future for choral music.

André de Quadros (bio on p. 84)

Andrew Balfour (bio on p. 82)

Hussein Janmohamed (bio on p. 83)

Panel Dialogue

Thursday, July 4, 10:45-11:45 Room: Victoria 1+2+3

Presenter: Nicholle Andrews

Nou La: The journey from commission to premiere

Conductor Nicholle Andrews will moderate a panel dialogue exploring the process of creating *Nou La* from the commission to the premiere performance. Panelists will include composer Sydney Guillaume, soloist Frédéricka Petit-Homme, singers from Phoenix Chamber Choir, and others.

Nicholle Andrews (bio on p. 56)

Sydney Guillaume (bio on p. 77)

Frédéricka Petit-Homme (bio on p. 79)

Phoenix Chamber Choir (bio on p. 56)

... WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Interactive Presentation

Wednesday, July 3, 9:00-10:15 Room: Victoria 1+2+3

Presenter: Andrew Balfour

Choral creativity: Unique cooperations and collaborations

Tapwe is the Cree word for truth. But that hardly describes the true meaning in our English language as the English language is one of the newest languages in Mother Earth. My presentation is about collaboration and breaking down barriers that prevent so much artistic creativity. There is so much in the choral world on Turtle Island that is meant for sharing and contemplating listening. Yet, the choral world always is trying to say something like collectively singing songbird choirs. How are we in this infantile country called Canada presenting our choral identity across Mother Earth? My experience in the 25 years working with Indigenous songkeepers and Elders is not about making resumes and CVs. It is trying to help start a choral conversation and, simultaneously, learning continuously. We are now listening to different voices from a unique perspective, but we need to accept and embrace unique cooperations and collaborations.

Andrew Balfour (bio on p. 82)

Demonstration Presentation

Saturday, June 29, 10:45-11:45 Room: Victoria 1+2+3

Presenter: Brainerd Blyden-Taylor

25 years of Afrocentric choral music representation

Conductor Brainerd Blyden-Taylor will share a brief history of The Nathaniel Dett Chorale's namesake, R. Nathaniel Dett, and the work of The Nathaniel Dett Chorale. The ensemble will also demonstrate some of the choral repertoire performed over its past 25 seasons, including pieces commissioned from featured Haitian American composer Sydney Guillaume.

Brainerd Blyden-Taylor (bio on p. 50)

Demonstration Presentation

Wednesday, July 3, 10:45-11:45 Room: Victoria 1+2+3

Presenter: Mark Anthony Carpio

Sixty of plenty: The Philippine Madrigal Singers' 60 years of song and choral tradition

Step into the semicircle and experience how the Philippine Madrigal Singers continue to touch hearts and souls of those who come to their performances. The 'Madz' is recognized as Artist for Peace by the UNESCO - bringing music that is transformational and socially relevant. More than merely performances, the Madz continues to create various programs to nurture and develop future generations of conductors and choral singers all over the world.

Mark Anthony Carpio (bio on p. 55)

... WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

How to use inter-singer spacing to enhance group sound and vocal efficiency in collective singing: a practical primer for singers and singing leaders

Research – Practice

Saturday, June 29, 10:45-11:15 Room: Churchill 1+2

Presenter: Jim Daugherty

All collective singers, regardless of styles of group music-making, have in common larynges, ears, and human brains. Scientific research indicates how these organs can interact and coordinate differently depending on the spatial distance between and among singers in particular venues. This session explores various ways to use and experiment with inter-singer spacing as a practical, science-backed strategy for achieving your group's best sound.

James F. Daugherty, PhD, is professor emeritus at the University of Kansas (USA) School of Music, where he inaugurated and coordinated innovative, cross-disciplinary graduate programs (master's, PhD) in vocal pedagogy and choral pedagogy. He is founding editor of the *International Journal of Research in Choral Singing*, a founding executive board member of the Pan American



Vocology Association, and a member of the International Circle of Advisers for The Singing Network. Widely published in the premier research journals in voice, choral singing, music education, and acoustics, James holds a Certificate in Voice Performance from the Staatliche Hochschule fuer Musik Berlin (Germany) and graduate degrees from University of Virginia, Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University, and Florida State University.

Collaborative creation as a struggle for togetherness

Workshop

Thursday, July 4, 10:45-11:45 Room: Churchill 1+2

Presenter: Hussein Janmohamed

This interactive presentation invites participants to explore Muslim cultures, sounds, and ways of knowing, which are too often misrepresented in today's world. In musical environments where choral directors seek respectful and reciprocal approaches to programming diverse traditions, I will offer an artistic perspective rooted in creativity, curiosity, and community as a pathway forward. I will share co-relational approaches that will provide new entry points into encountering Muslim experience. I build a case for pluralistic knowledge sharing that honours the best of diverse cultures to create something new that creates heartfelt connection and benefits all. Please join me in this exploration of reimagining our relationships with Muslim ways of knowing and being. Bring your questions and ideas!

Hussein Janmohamed (bio on p. 83)

... WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Demonstration Presentation

Wednesday, July 3, 10:45-11:45 Room: Churchill 1+2

Presenter: Bruce Kotowich

(Revisiting the) Flipped Rehearsal: Bringing flexibility to the rehearsal process

Since the first use of the term, Flipped Classroom in articles in the *New York Times* and the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (2012), educators have been challenged to present materials in new, meaningful methods. This has become more evident since the COVID-19 pandemic and has given us the opportunity to re-examine choral music pedagogy and recognize individuals' learning behaviours. In this session, we examine how introducing varied methods of information sharing can be added to traditional choral techniques. We agree that choristers must prepare music for performance in rehearsals, but many times we become limited by focusing on music survival ideas of learning notes, rhythms, and text. By setting broadened outlooks to include style and musicality in the primary music learning stages we provide the chorister a deeper rehearsal experience and enrich their ownership of the score. In this demonstration presentation, we will discuss application of a flipped classroom and experiential learning ideas to formulate rehearsal techniques and strategies that encourages the chorister to develop musical awareness of the style and sensitivity to the composers' intention through individual and group activities. Participants will have the opportunity to participate through sharing ideas, developing strategies, and leading the group in singing activities to reinforce the responsibilities of becoming an active chorister through full, active participation in the ensemble.

Bruce J. G. Kotowich, DMA, is acting director of the School of Creative Arts and associate professor of music/director of choral activities at the University of Windsor where he directs the University of Windsor Chamber Choir and USingers and teaches courses in choral techniques. In the Windsor-Essex community, Bruce is the chorus master for the Windsor Symphony Orchestra Chorus and artistic director of the Windsor Classic Chorale and the Windsor Choral Festival. His choirs have performed throughout North



America, Europe, and China. He has presented many conferences including the International Symposium on Singing and Song, PODIUM (Choral Canada), American Choral Directors' Association (ACDA) conventions, and the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) World Choral EXPO in Lisbon, Portugal. Bruce is published in the *Choral Research Memorandum Series* through Chorus America. He is the former editor-in-chief of *Anacrusis*, the professional journal of Choral Canada.

●●● WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Research – Practice

Sunday, June 30, 10:45-11:15 Room: Victoria 1+2+3

Presenter: Stephanie Martin

Blest pair of sirens: Poetry and music in collaborative creation

Choral music is, in its very essence, collaborative. The collective creativity generated between singers and conductors, conductors and composers, and composers and poets is a collaborative chain connecting a work's development, from conception to fruition. A composer's relationship to poetic texts molds the creative process, shaping rhythm, melody, harmony, and the spirit and meaning of the work. This presentation examines a composer's approach to pre-existing poetic texts, as well as the trials and triumphs of fashioning new words and music from scratch. Primary source material revealing creative relationships from the past can be a helpful source of inspiration. Archival gems from the Library and Archives Canada, as well as more recent and personal experiences will be shared in this presentation. Reflecting on the process of composing oratorios with newly written libretti for *Water: an environmental oratorio*, and *The Sun, the Wind and the Man with the Cloak*, this presentation attempts to observe the process somewhat objectively, taking into consideration practical performance constraints, time management, and expectations of socially responsible action in the arts. Examining correspondence between composers and librettists piece together a perspective on both current and historical collaborations in Canadian music. What elements are required for sustainable relationships between creative people in our present-day communities? What has changed since the early 20th-century in Canadian collaborations, and what has stayed constant? This presentation addresses these questions and welcomes thoughts from the audience.

Composer, educator, and researcher **Stephanie Martin** is associate professor at York University. Past conductor of Pax Christi Chorale and former music director at the historic Church of Saint Mary Magdalene (Toronto), she keeps her choral chops in shape singing alto with Cantabile Chamber Singers. Committed to creative collaborations that highlight current issues, Stephanie's *Water: an environmental oratorio* was premiered in 2023 with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony and the Grand Philharmonic Choirs. Her opera *The Llandovery Castle* is a testament to Canadian nurses during the First World War and the ongoing heroism of health-workers. "Nothing Gold Can Stay" was featured with



the National Youth Choir of Canada on their recent tour. A life-long advocate for community music-making, Stephanie's choral music is published through Cypress (Vancouver), Renforth (New Brunswick), Encore (UK), and Selah (USA). For a complete catalogue of works, recordings, videos, and blog, please visit www.stephaniemartinmusic.com.

●●● WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Interactive Session

Saturday, June 29, 11:15-11:45 Room: Churchill 1+2

Presenter: Ryan McDonald

Coming home: Fostering queer identity in choral singing spaces

Through a narrative-led approach, Ryan will share their personal story of self discovery and acceptance, revealing the ways collective choral singing spaces fostered this journey. Additionally, this session will examine the ways choral singing spaces can be an effective method for trans and non-binary singers to find their 'voice'. Participants will be invited to share the ways in which these shared community spaces have strengthened, informed, and empowered their own sense of identity. Together we investigate the ways we can continue to make bolder spaces for queer singers.

Originally from St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, **Ryan McDonald** is a multifaceted performer and artist now based in Toronto, Ontario. An award-winning countertenor, Ryan has appeared as a soloist with notable orchestras such as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra. His operatic repertoire includes Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Britten's *Turn of the Screw*, Du Yun's



Angel's Bone, Ravel's *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, and Blow's *Venus*. Noted by *Opera Canada* for his portrayal in *Dido and Aeneas*, Ryan's countertenor voice has been acclaimed as a "voice of luminous, fresh colour, combined with natural musicality and an exciting sense of narrative drama." Ryan is also an active professional chorister with groups such as the Toronto Mendelssohn Singers and the Elora Festival Singers. Beyond performance, Ryan actively works as an artistic producer and arts administrator and continues to facilitate workshops on exploring one's own identity through music. Additionally, he co-founded OperaQ, dedicated to showcasing queer theatre, which earned a nomination at the 2023 Opera America Digital Excellence in Opera Awards. Currently pursuing a DMA in historical performance at the University of Toronto, Ryan's research focuses on the life of Klaus Nomi and investigating the ever-expanding queer performance practice guide.

Workshop

Thursday, July 4, 9:00-10:15 Room: Victoria 1+2+3

Presenter: André de Quadros

Song and story

André leads a creative workshop moving between songs and storytelling focusing on peaceful and joyful engagement. He will demonstrate how creative storytelling can be based on repertoire. Experience the joy! Share your story!

André de Quadros (bio on p. 84)

●●● WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Workshop

Wednesday, July 3, 9:00-10:15 Room: Churchill 1+2

Presenter: Sarah McDonald Moores

Humans in harmony: Exploring relational accountability in choral music to inform holistic restorative justice

What can be discovered at the intersection of choral music and restorative justice? In this dynamic workshop, we will explore the inherent trust, mutual respect, and empathy found in collective singing to deepen our understanding of relational accountability. Collective singing offers a profound human experience. From the first breath to the final fermata, group singing is a shared journey where individual voices merge to create a resonance unattainable alone. This collective endeavor cultivates a sense of belonging and unity in a world where such feelings are often scarce. Similarly, this sense of belonging can be fostered through a holistic approach to restorative justice when we understand that it is more than a practice, it is a collaborative way of being. With roots in the criminal justice system, restorative justice is sometimes misinterpreted or mis-implemented. When embraced holistically, restorative justice provides a lens through which we can nurture human connections and honor the inherent dignity of all. Together, we will explore the possibilities that arise when we combine a deep understanding of belonging and relational accountability within choral communities with the supportive and expectant ethos of a worldview grounded in holistic restorative justice.

Sarah McDonald Moores, a

graduate of Memorial University's BMus, BMusEd, and MEd in leadership studies programs, is deeply interested in holistic restorative justice in education and the

transformative power of

music. Currently seconded to Relationships First

Newfoundland and Labrador (RFNL) from her role as a

public school music educator, Sarah has been teaching since

2006. As a sessional lecturer at Memorial University, she teaches the graduate course: Relationships First: Rethinking Educational Engagement. In her current position as Restorative Justice Education Coordinator with RFNL, Sarah aims to promote restorative justice as a foundational approach across all levels of education. Sarah is also a founding member of Lady Cove Women's Choir and Projëkt Chamber Voices, where she has served as a featured soloist. Additionally, Sarah has traveled extensively around the world with choral and instrumental groups, further enriching her experience as both chorister and conductor.



●●● WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Creative Works Presentation with Singing and Discussion

Wednesday, July 3, 9:00-10:15 Room: Pippy 1+2

Presenter: Catherine Robbins

Honouring gratitude: Examining the nature of choral publications related to oral traditions
“Gratitude” is a song dedicated to reconciliation and healing. It is one example of the many meaningful Indigenous collaborations that have taken place in the Canadian choral world in recent years. This presentation shares the journey of developing a reconciliatory song project in relationship with Anishinaabe traditional drummer and singer, Cory Campbell, in Manitoba. More specifically, the presentation will focus on the revelatory process of coming to publish the song on a public website through video excerpts rather than producing a written score. This collaboration raised provocative and timely questions regarding the current practice of publishing choral scores from oral traditions and illuminated how current practices perpetuate and reinforce the White Possessive (Moreton-Robinson, 2015). The project pushed collaborators to question whether the voices of collaborators, arrangers, composers, and Knowledge Keepers writing from oral traditions are truly heard and credited in the publication process and whether current publication methods are in fact ethical in nature. How can choral publishing fully acknowledge the situatedness and relational nature of our collaborative projects? How does the nature of publication dictate the rehearsal process? In the presentation, attendees will learn the song through this publication method and engage in discussion that addresses the questions raised through the collaborative process. The presentation will expand on how publishing through an online video-excerpt method inspired subsequent outreach projects, influenced those who performed the piece through this publication process, and ideas for future projects from other cultural and oral traditions.

Catherine Robbins, PhD, is a dynamic music educator known especially for her work in vocal techniques and choral pedagogy for developing voices. Currently associate professor of choral studies and music education at the University of Manitoba Desautels Faculty of Music, Catherine teaches courses in conducting, choral methods and literature, vocal pedagogy for choirs, and directs the University of Manitoba Concert Choir. She has twice been honoured with University of Manitoba Merit Awards in the areas of teaching and service. Her primary research centres on applications of anatomical awareness and fascia science to the voice. Her creative works projects have focused on respectful, responsible, and reciprocal commissioning and publishing of choral music with Indigenous collaborators, as well as working with Indigenous languages and exploring new ways of thinking about publishing works from oral traditions. Catherine is always looking to collaborate with community members and fellow choral colleagues.



●●● WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Workshop

Sunday, June 30, 10:45-11:45 Room: Churchill 1+2

Presenter: Yu Hang Tan & Emily Sung

Teaching Southeast Asian music: Embracing a collective singing tradition in the choral classroom

This workshop explores the vibrant sound world of Southeast Asian (SEA) collective singing, delving into teaching and performance techniques that honor its cultural and pedagogical intricacies. Participants will uncover the common musical characteristics of SEA music, including vocal timbre, rhythmic patterns, and melodic structures while discussing strategies for culturally sensitive teaching. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the historical and social contexts that shape SEA musical traditions. Additionally, the workshop will examine the role of the conductor or music teacher in interpreting and performing this genre of music, promoting cultural authenticity and respectful representation. Through interactive discussions and practical demonstrations, attendees will gain insights and pedagogical approaches to effectively teach and perform SEA choral music, fostering cultural understanding and appreciation in the process.

From Malaysia, **Yu Hang Tan** is a DMA candidate in choral music from the University of Southern California. As an active member of the Atlantic Canada choral scene, he directed the Suara Chamber Choir and St. John's Gospel Choir and co-directed the Memorial University of Newfoundland choirs, Atlantic Boychoir, and Cantus Vocum Chamber Choir. Performing and presenting nationally and abroad, Yu Hang is an alumnus of the 2022 EuroChoir and the 2018 and 2020 World Youth Choir. He has presented his research at the World Symposium on Choral Music (2023), World Choral EXPO (2022), and Western Division ACDA (2022). Yu Hang is currently co-artistic director of the Suara Southeast Asian Choir and artistic director of the Ebells of Los Angeles Chorale, the oldest continuously-running treble choir in Los Angeles. He recently published his arrangement of "Ikan Kekek," which has been performed worldwide by over 130 choirs to date.



●●● WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Emily Sung is an assistant professor of practice at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, where she teaches courses in choral literature, conducting, and choral development. Emily previously served as the director of the Chamber Choir and Choral Society at the University of Pennsylvania, associate director of choral activities at Princeton University, and assistant chorus master at Opera Philadelphia where she helped prepare choruses for the company's groundbreaking Festival O and numerous mainstage productions. Emily also previously served as assistant to the music director of the Pennsylvania Ballet, director of the Singing City Children's Choir, music director of Opera Philadelphia's Teen Voices of the City Ensemble (T-VOCE), singer and co-conductor of the Chestnut Street Singers, and member of the Temple University conducting faculty.



Emily earned her DMA in choral music at the University of Southern California, her MMus in choral conducting at Westminster Choir College, and her bachelor's degree in history at Princeton University where her research focused on American legal history. Emily is the co-director of Suara Southeast Asian Choir with Yu Hang Tan.

Research – Practice

Sunday, June 30, 11:15-11:45 Room: Victoria 1+2+3

Session Host: Diane Murray-Charrett

Coming back to song: Women who return to group singing

The Cantando Women's Choir began as a small group of singing friends in a suburban community who gathered casually between 2018 and 2020 to sing together. To ascertain if there was further community interest in the choir, in 2022 a single notice was placed in a Facebook group of local moms. This one and only outreach resulted in a dramatic growth in numbers. Many interested singers were returning to singing after years away. This session explores the emerging themes resulting from the answers women gave when asked about their reasons for joining the choir at this point in their lives and at this point in time. Highlights of conversations with the women, including some who will be present, as well as emerging themes from the discussions will be shared.

Diane Murray-Charrett (bio on p. 36)

●●● COLLABORATIVE SINGING PROJECTS

An integral feature of HarbourVOICES! is the inclusion of Collaborative Singing Projects, which provide a unique platform for singing groups/choirs seeking to engage in a collective experience that celebrates and honours shared singing traditions. The purpose of these projects is to foster connections and harmonious interactions among participating groups. The experience of singing together will emphasize a collaborative environment that encourages spontaneous singing without the expectation of pre-prepared music.

Acadian and Québécois vocal treasures: A journey through song

Sunday, June 30, and Thursday, July 4, 2:40-3:30

Room: Bowring Ballroom 3

Presenters: Patricia Abbott & Nadine Hébert

Come learn and sing some favourite popular and traditional songs from Acadia and Quebec, guaranteed to leave you humming, singing in French, and smiling. **Patricia Abbott** from Montreal (Quebec) and **Nadine Hébert** from Shediac River (New Brunswick) look forward to sharing and singing some time-honoured favorites from these unique traditions.

Nadine Hébert (see p. 43)

Patricia Abbott has been sharing choral music from Quebec and French Canada for the past 30 years in numerous conferences and festivals across Canada and in the United States as well as in France, Belgium, and Argentina. She has been active as a conductor, singer, teacher and arts administrator for more than 40 years in Montreal where she conducts the Chorale du Gesù women's choir, the English Montreal School Board Chorale, and l'Ensemble vocal Cantivo. Host of a weekly show on choral music for the Radio VM network in Quebec, Pat is also a course lecturer at the Université de Sherbrooke and also taught at McGill University for 16 years. She served as Artistic Director of the CAMMAC Music Centre in the Quebec Laurentians for seven years, after serving for 16 years as Executive Director of Choral Canada (formerly ACCC). She is the recipient of a National Choral Award for Distinguished Service from ACCC, the Ordre du mérite choral from the Alliance des chorales du Québec, and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. Pat also holds undergraduate degrees in history from Carleton University (Ottawa) and in journalism from Concordia University (Montreal) and a master's degree in voice performance and vocal pedagogy from McGill University.



●●● COLLABORATIVE SINGING PROJECTS

All hail King Jesus! Gospel collective singing traditions

Saturday, June 29, and Wednesday, July 3, 2:40-3:30

Room: Bowring Ballroom 3

Presenter: Geraldine Ankrah

If you have ever wondered why gospel music penetrates the innermost parts of our souls, it is because it is more than carefully arranged harmonies. It is about Jesus Christ, the King of kings! Oh the joy, peace, and feelings of warmth whenever and wherever gospel music is sung - the souls of listeners resonating with praise to their Maker. Gospel means good news: the good news about Jesus Christ. What better way to proclaim the good news about Jesus Christ than through music and singing, in different styles and tongues! Join us for a glimpse into the inspiration behind gospel music and participate in a soul-lifting singing experience!

Geraldine Ankrah (bio on p. 33)

Collaborative Singing Project with Andrew Balfour

Saturday, June 29, and Wednesday, July 3, 2:40-3:30

Room: Bowring Ballroom 1

Presenter: Andrew Balfour (bio on p. xx)

Andrew Balfour (bio on p. 82)

Sipukewaq Ketapekiewinu'k - Voices of the River, Miawpukek First Nation, Newfoundland and Labrador with special guests, Eastern Owl

Sunday, June 30, and Wednesday, July 3, 2:40-3:30

Room: Bowring Ballroom 4

Presenter: Lisa Gillam

Join Voices of the River Women's Vocal Ensemble and Eastern Owl in an exploration of traditional and contemporary Mi'kmaw songs and dances. Experience the rich musical culture of the Mi'kmaw people by learning about Indigenous regalia, singing a Mi'kmaw song, and participating in a traditional dance. This promises to be a truly immersive experience for all!

Lisa Gillam (bio on p. 64)

●●● COLLABORATIVE SINGING PROJECTS

Sing around this one: Songs of this place

Saturday, June 29, and Thursday, July 4, 2:40-3:30

Room: Bowring Ballroom 4

Presenter: Jean Hewson

Jean Hewson, traditional singer and director of the Soundbone Folk Song Choir, will provide a brief, informal overview of the British and Irish-based song traditions of Newfoundland and Labrador and will then plunge participants straight into that tradition by teaching them a song or two. Participants will also explore harmonies, some pointers on the stylistic elements of traditional singing, and aspects of storytelling through song. Links to repertoire, recordings, artists, publications, and other Newfoundland and Labrador folk song resources will be provided.

Jean Hewson (bio on p. 67)

Transcultural collective creation

Sunday, June 30, and Thursday, July 4, 2:40-3:30

Room: Bowring Ballroom 1

Presenter: Hussein Janmohamed

I grew up in mixed Gujarati Indian, Kenyan Swahili, Ismaili Muslim, and British cultures. Part of that mashup of cultures included garba songs from India. Garba was always part of my life. I loved doing garba with my parents, grandparents, family, and community. Sometimes my school friends and I would do garba even at dance clubs! Can you believe it? Whatever it was, at the heart, garba was about community, spiritual connection, fun, and love. Musicians around the world have interpreted garba songs through new musical vibes. Their arrangements honour the traditions while presenting them in modern ways. It makes me wonder what garba songs would sound like in a place like Canada. Composing for choirs is one way that I use to express these songs without losing their spiritual essence. I take the best of what choral music offers and combine it with the best of my ancestral traditions to make something new. What I love even more is including my friends and neighbours in the building process. It is really fun for me when everyone in the room can bring their unique cultural experiences and ideas to make something new. The spirit of exploration, honouring, learning, curiosity, and openness comes alive; and, when this happens, I feel like the heart of our unique cultures can creatively become part of each others' lives too. That is when my soul really sparkles, and I am excited to share this way of thinking about music with you! Oh, and yes... get ready to dance the garba!

Hussein Janmohamed (bio on p. 83)

Sing together! South African singing traditions

Sunday, June 30, and Thursday, July 4, 2:40-3:30

Room: Bowring Ballroom 2

Presenter: Scott Leithead

Over the past two years, high schools and community youth programs in Edmonton, Alberta, have been invited to attend sessions where the only requirement is to show up and learn several songs on the spot. This simple yet powerful approach fosters community spirit through the collective power of youth raising their voices in song.

Led by Scott Leithead and Korora, this session will immerse participants in several pieces designed for community building. One highlight of the session will be an African song taught by Korora's current South African exchange student, Travis Fick, which we are excited to share.

Scott Leithead (bio on p. 44)

Body, soul, mind, space

Saturday, June 29, and Wednesday, July 3, 2:40-3:30

Room: Bowring Ballroom 2

Presenter: André de Quadros

André has developed his own choral pedagogy called Empowering Song. He shows the deep connection between all dimensions of our humanness. In this session, collective and improvisational singing will be based on the Empowering Song approach that challenges typical stage-based performance. Discover new and imaginative ways of using your body and connecting body to spirit.

André de Quadros (bio on p. 84)



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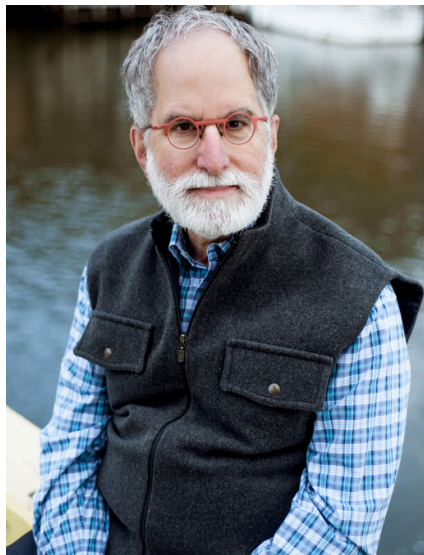
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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

In 1974, **Ki Adams** moved from the USA to Canada for a teaching adventure in Newfoundland and Labrador. He never returned. Instead, like many others who come to the island for a visit, he decided to stay. With a BMusEd (Evangel College) and MMus Organ (Northwestern University), he was the first music teacher at Eugene Vaters Academy/Collegiate, an all-grade school in St. John's. There he developed a comprehensive K-12 classroom/choral program with award-winning choirs. After 13 years teaching, Ki became music consultant with the provincial Department of Education where he worked with music teachers across the island to design and implement the music education curriculum for the province. In 1995, he accepted a tenure-track position at Memorial University



(MUN) Faculty of Education, cross-appointed to the School of Music, where he taught graduate/undergraduate courses in music education and organ. Keenly aware of the importance of life-long learning, Ki completed specialist diploma programs in both Kodály methodology (University of Calgary) and Orff-Schulwerk (Hamline University). In addition to teaching at MUN, Ki taught at Western University and Acadia University in Kodály summer programs. Ki's research and writing range from his career-long involvement in the publication of music education curriculum documents/resources, many specifically related to choral music education, to papers and presentations on choral music education at national and international conferences. Ki has been an active choral conductor and organist for over 50 years. From 1992-2006, he was founding associate conductor/accompanist for Shallaway Youth Choir (formerly Newfoundland Symphony Youth Choir). Ki has held executive positions with provincial, national, and international choral professional organizations: Choral Canada, International Kodály Society, Kodály Society of Canada. Currently, he is International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) board member, World Youth Choir Foundation president, and The Singing Network co-founder/co-director. He is music director at St. Thomas' Anglican Church.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

David Buley, PhD, is an associate professor of music education in the Faculty of Education at Memorial University as well as the director of music at St. Mary's Anglican Church in St. John's. Originally from Prince Edward Island, David studied at the University of Kings' College and St. Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, with further graduate degrees in choral conducting,



sacred music, liturgical studies, and musicology through study at Westminster Choir College and Drew University, New Jersey. Former positions include organist and assistant conductor of the Touring Choir of Princeton Theological Seminary, rehearsal accompanist for the School of the American Repertory Ballet, and music director of St. George's Round Church in Halifax, Nova Scotia. David has offered organ recitals across Canada and in New Jersey, New York, the UK, and Sweden, and his music theatre director credits include R. Murray Schafer's *Zoroaster* produced by Soundstreams Canada and *The Enchanted Forest* and *Princess of the Stars* for Patria Music Theatre Productions. David has also conducted university opera productions and led numerous choral singing tours to Europe and the USA. A Dalcroze Eurhythmics specialist, David enjoys a happy career of choral directing, singing, playing keyboard and various other instruments, and is consistently humbled through his work and play with music as a means of social equilibrium. He serves on the board of directors of Strong Harbour Strings and of the Bruneau Centre for Excellence in Choral Music and is a co-director of The Singing Network. Current community partnerships that David enjoys being part of include the Lullaby Project-NL; the SSHRC-funded project: *Community Music Literacy in Coastal Labrador*; *Her Majesty's Penitentiary (HMP) Sings*, and the *HMP-Phoenix Garden Project*, the 2022 recipient of the Memorial University President's Award for Public Engagement. Devoted to Jan, he is also owned by a border collie, Nellie, who doesn't like chocolate as much as he does.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Andrea Rose, PhD, enjoys an active role in music/arts at local – international contexts as a musician, educator, scholar, and organizational leader. She holds undergraduate degrees in music and music education (Memorial University), and MMus and PhD in curriculum and instruction (University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA). Following a ten-year period as music teacher at Holy Heart High School in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Andrea began her career as professor, Memorial University.

Upon her recent retirement, Andrea was awarded the prestigious designations of professor emerita and honorary research professor. She is also the recipient of awards including the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, President's Award for Distinguished Teaching (MUN), Honorary Life Member (Canadian Music Educators' Association, Founders' Award for Achievement in the Arts (HHM), and the designation of 3M National Teaching Fellow by the Canadian Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Andrea has served in leadership roles with organizations including the International Society for Music Education, Debut Atlantic, Action Canada, and Teach for Canada. She is currently Director of Higher Learning with the Canadian Music Educators' Association, and Director/Advisor for Education and Outreach Programs, Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra. A past co-artistic director of Festival 500 Sharing the Voices International Choral Festival and founding co-director of The Phenomenon of Singing International Symposia, Andrea is the co-founder/director of The Singing Network (TSN). The TSN has hosted Choral Canada's national festival and conference PODIUM on the EDGE: Singing from Sea to Sea to Sea and has partnered with the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) to present The EXchange! components of two World Choral EXPOs in Lisbon, Portugal (2019/2022). Andrea is delighted to be a part of creating and presenting HarbourVOICES! and looks forward to our harbours and shores being filled with singing and song as we share cultures, traditions, and stories!



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Kellie Walsh is the Artistic Director of the internationally celebrated youth chorus, Shallaway Youth Choir, the founder and Artistic Director of the internationally award-winning Lady Cove Women's Choir, the co-founder and now Artistic Director Emeritus of Newman Sound Men's Choir, has most recently co-founded the Inuit Youth Choir Ullûgiagatsuk from Nunatsiavut, Labrador, and is the immediate Past President of Canada's national choral organization, Choral Canada. She is an active guest conductor, speaker, member, collaborator, and innovator. Kellie's work has brought her across Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, the United States, South America, Europe, and Asia. As acclaimed as the choirs she conducts, Kellie's true

passion is most profoundly understood by the use of choral music as a medium to unite people and cultures, transcending geography and societal, political and economic circumstances. From deep and proud roots in Newfoundland and Labrador, she has become known in Canada, and internationally, for embracing the medium of choral singing as an opportunity to explore leadership potential, sociocultural identity building, reciprocal respectful cultural collaborations, and the transformative impact of choral singing and sharing.



FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Angela Warren is the K-9 classroom music teacher, choir director, and drama specialist at Lakecrest Independent School in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador; a member of the Shallaway faculty; and the owner and operator of Cantabile Vocal Enrichment Studio. Receiving a MA degree in music education with a concentration in choral conducting and a Mastery Certification in Orff Pedagogy from the University of St. Thomas (Minnesota, USA), Angela also received her BMus and BMusEd



degrees from Memorial University. As active presenter and clinician for national, provincial, and local music conferences, Angela is passionate about offering workshops in the Orff-Schulwerk pedagogy to music teachers in the K-6 setting. Angela is also the co-author of two music education resource books for the elementary music classroom: *The Book Tree* and *Riddle I Day*. In her free time, Angela enjoys hiking, travelling, cooking, spending time with her puppy, Molly, as well as singing in the internationally acclaimed Lady Cove Choir. Angela is very excited to be working with HarbourVOICES! this year as Festival Director and looks forward to welcoming the choral world to Newfoundland and Labrador.

FESTIVAL MANAGER

Kerri MacPhee, DMA, is a musician, conductor, teacher, and administrator who holds degrees from Texas Tech University, Memorial University, and Mount Allison University. Kerri was the first RBC Emerging Artist Resident Conductor of the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra and is a founding-member and current Communications Officer for the Newfoundland and Labrador Band Association. She is currently the Musical Director for the Tenacious String Orchestra in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. An avid administrator and project manager, Kerri enjoys the multifaceted challenges of large scale arts projects. In 2018, she was the producer and project manager for ...float... Sight & Sound, an immersive outdoor arts experience with visual installations, live actors, and exquisite choral music, administered by Choral Canada, Jillian Kieley, and Shawn Kerwin, co-creators. In her musical life, Kerri has enjoyed many conducting and adjudicating placements, particularly during her time completing her doctorate at Texas Tech University and as a staff member of the 400-person Goin' Band from Raiderland marching band. She is also a Lieutenant (Navy) in the Canadian Armed Forces and is an active leader in the cadet music and marching band programs. Kerri has also been an Aide-de-Camp to the Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador since 2016.



MARKETING/COMMUNICATIONS

Sarah Newell is a musical artist originally from Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador. She is a Memorial University alumna, having completed her BMus degree in 2018 and her BMusEd degree in 2020. Sarah has been working in the music sector for over seven years and is currently the co-lead vocalist and saxophonist of the alternative pop band, With Violet. Sarah's history in the arts paired with her passion for business gives her a unique approach to any project.



PRODUCTION MANAGER

Steve Power has been part of the local music scene here in St. John's for more than 25 years, both onstage and behind the scenes. As a singer, guitar player, and technician, he has been involved in multiple aspects of performing and production in hundreds of shows, concerts, and musicals all around the province. Steve is currently the production manager for the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra and is absolutely chuffed to be involved with this wonderful festival and to work alongside such unbelievably talented people to help welcome the world to the province.



TECHNICAL MANAGER

Steve Lilly began his career in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, and has been working as a freelance audio engineer for the last 18 years. He is constantly building strong relationships with artists and helping to create fantastic aural experiences for audiences. He has worked as recording and mastering engineer on many award-winning and award-nominated albums for local, national, and international artists. Always striving for the best possible product, Steve works alongside the artist to achieve the best performance possible, recorded or otherwise. Steve is trained in the Tonmeister traditions of audio recording. He is a graduate of the MMus degree program in sound recording at McGill University and is currently working with the conference and events services branch of Memorial University. Steve is extremely excited to be working with the incredible staff and musicians during this inaugural HarbourVOICES! festival.



●●● HARBOURVOICES! STAFF

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Collaborative Singing Project Coordinator: Ryan MacDonald

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Technical Director: Steve Lilly

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Gala Stage Manager: Crystal Laffoley

Gala Lighting Design: Brian Kenny

Stage Managers: Heather Bridal, Dawn Pear, Lori Shortall,
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Denim Duo Live Music 9:30 - 12:30

Monday, July 1 Open Mic Night hosted by Mike Hickey 9:30 - 12:30

Tuesday, July 2 Drag Night 8:00 - 10:00

Wednesday, July 3 Black Horse Bingo, free to play 7:00 - 9:00

Live Music with Randy Matthews 9:30 - 12:30

Thursday, July 4 Live Music with Nick Earle 9:30 - 12:30

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Bella Nova Choir

Invites You!

Saturday, October 19, 2024
2PM St. John's, Newfoundland 2PM



Sing together. Unite the world.
WorldSingingDay.org

Join Bella Nova for this Global Sing-a-Long, directed by **Elizabeth Brennan**, highlighting our commonalities over our differences.

We Are the World and need to **Imagine** ourselves as **ONE**.

Salvation Army Citadel
25 Adams Avenue

Follow us here for updates:

Web: bellanovachoir.wixsite.com/bella-nova-choir

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bellanovachoir

Youtube: www.youtube.com/@bellanovawomenschoir4152

Congratulations to Harbour Voices

Strength in Connections

By working together, our diverse voices become more powerful.



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NOTES

NOTES

THANK YOU

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HarbourVOICES! would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who gave their time and energy to help make the Festival such a great success! Without your commitment and dedication, this Festival would not have been possible. You make our Festival sing!

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S



Accommodations

- 1 Alt Hotel
- 2 Bannerman Park Suites
- 3 Blue on Water Hotel
- 4 Courtyard by Marriott
- 5 Delta St. John's
- 6 DoubleTree Harbourview
- 7 Duxie Inn
- 8 Duckworth Hotel
- 9 Georgetown Inn
- 10 Hilton Garden Inn
- 11 JAC Boutique Hotel
- 12 JAC Boutique Hotel
- 13 Murray Premises Hotel
- 14 Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland

Attractions

- 1 Bannerman Park
- 2 Battery Neighbourhood Walk
- 3 City Hall
- 4 Colonial Building
- 5 Commissariat Provincial Historic Site
- 6 Confederation Building
- 7 Crow's Nest
- 8 George Street
- 9 Government House
- 10 Harbourfront Park
- 11 John's Gas Centre
- 12 Mary Brown's Centre
- 13 Memorial University Botanical Garden

Services

- 1 Visitor Information Centre
- 2 Church/Cathedral
- 3 Grocery
- 4 Pharmacy
- 5 Hospital

15 National War Memorial
16 NL Pharmacy Museum
17 Newman Wine Vault
18 O'Brien Farm
19 Piers, Boat Tours
20 Pipery Park & Campground
21 Guidi Vidi Artisan Studios
22 Railway Coastal Museum
23 The Rooms
24 Signal Hill National Historic Site
25 Signal Hill's Convention Centre
26 Terry Fox Memorial

HARBOUR VOICES

words and music by Leslee Heys

May we a-wak - en to a ri - sing dawn, One where we're safe to

sing our tru - est song. In ev-ery note, a sto - ry told, in ev-ery

voice, a yearn-ing soul for the dawn in a safe har- bour where we be - long.

From whis-pered dreams, a cho - rus will grow. From ev - ery

vil-lage and ev-ery shore let our voi - ces rise, and our spi - rits soar.

May we a-wak - en to a ri - sing dawn, One where we're safe to

sing our tru - est song. In ev-ery note, a sto - ry told, in ev-ery

voice, a yearn-ing soul for the dawn in a safe har - bour, for the

peace of a safe har - bour, for the dawn in a safe

har - bour where we be - long.



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