

THE CHILDREN'S CHORUS
— *of San Antonio* —

VOICES
OF
HOPE
CONCERT

TRINITY
BAPTIST
CHURCH

11.14.20
12:30 PM & 4 PM

VIEW LIVESTREAM @ WWW.CHILDRENSCHORUSSA.ORG/CONCERTS/

*This performance is made possible in part by a generous grant from the
Russell Hill Rogers Fund for the Arts.*

Children's Chorus of San Antonio
presents

Voices of Hope

Saturday, November 14, 2020

12:30pm and 4:00pm

Trinity Baptist Church

Featuring

Preparatory | Prelude

Rebecca Juarez, Director

Chorale

Alyssa Avenatti, Interim Executive Director

Choristers

Allison Cavazos, Director

Chamber | Encore

Keith Martinez, Director

Allison Cavazos, Director

Karen Feazel, Concert Accompanist

Mary Lowder, Concert Accompanist

Seasonal support provided by:



Voices of Hope

November 14, 2020 | 12:30pm

Trinity Baptist Church

I | PREPARATORY AND PRELUDE

Rebecca Juarez, conductor

Quotes Read by: Emily Davis, Grace Weston, and Annie Myers

Wind on the Hill · Poem by A.A. Milne; Music by Victoria Ebel-Sabo

This beautiful poem about a child flying a kite was written by A. A. Milne, also the author of the Winnie the Pooh series. It serves as a reminder of the endless imagination in the heart of every child.

No one can tell me,
Nobody knows,
Where the wind comes from,
Where the wind goes.

It's flying from somewhere
As fast as it can,
I couldn't keep up with it,
Not if I ran.

But if I stopped holding
The string of my kite,

It would blow with the wind
For a day and a night.

And then when I found it,
Wherever it blew,
I should know that the wind
Had been going there too.

So then I could tell them
Where the wind goes...
But where the wind comes from
Nobody knows.

Round the Oak Tree · James Harding

Written to commemorate the planting of a new oak tree on an elementary school campus, this canon serves as a reminder of the spark we all have inside of us.

Hallelujah, Get on Board · Traditional Spiritual; Arr. Rollo Dilworth

Featuring: Violet George and Ariana Palacios

Two traditional spirituals, "Gospel Train" and "I'm Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table", are combined into this train-themed piece. These beautiful pieces serve as a reminder to all of us that rich, poor, black, white, we are all equal and welcome.

II | CHORALE

Alyssa Avenatti, conductor

Poetry Read by: Oryan Armstrong, Hannah Brogan, Aubrey Davis, and Violet Thornton

Sisi ni Moja • Jacob Narverud

We all laugh. We all cry. We all feel hunger, we all feel pain. In Jacob Narverud's "Sisi ni Moja", we acknowledge and celebrate that we have more in common than that which divides us. The Swahili phrase "Sisi ni Moja" is literally translated as "We are one."

Rise Up • Cassandra Batie and Jennifer Decilveo; Arr. Mac Huff

Soloists: Cadence Lunstrum, Lyla Drayna, and Lara Salcedo

This popular song was recorded in 2015 by Andra Day. She describes the inception of "Rise Up" as a sort of prayer, explaining "I thought about what I needed to hear to be able to get back on my feet". Over the last 5 years, the song has resonated with a wide audience and has become an anthem for hope, equality, unity and perseverance in times of difficulty and distress.

Dreamkeepers • Text by Langston Hughes, Music by Rollo Dilworth

Langston Hughes (1902-1967) is considered one of the most prolific and powerful African-American writers in 20th Century American literature. His verses often reflect the experiences that spoke directly to the contentious societal issues of his time. "The Dream Keeper" is part of a trilogy of texts that express a collective hope in the power of dreams.

Bring me all of your dreams,
You dreamers,
Bring me all of your
Heart melodies
That I may wrap them
In a blue cloud-cloth
Away from the too-rough fingers
Of the world.

III | CLOSING - ALL CHOIRS

Give us Hope • Jim Papoulis, Arr. Francisco Nunez

Soloists: Emma Brogan, Alibel McLendon, Olivia Olds-Martinez, Angelina Palacios, Grace Cox, and Veronica Takach

From the composer: "Give Us Hope" is from the project "Sounds of a Better World", a series of songs focusing on children, which examines their world and how small steps can be made to improve it. When this journey began for me almost five years ago, I was very disturbed to learn of various incidents around the world where children were subjected to adverse conditions. I began to feel that, as Dr. Martin Luther King said, 'we must ask ourselves how responsible we are for the well-being of others'. What I have come to understand is that we must send the best part of ourselves into the future through our children. If we want society to evolve, we need to understand the importance of childhood, and how vital our role should be in doing whatever we can to nurture every child. We should all be aware of our powerful influence on their minds. Through this work, I hope to have somehow addressed these issues and to have embraced the joy that children can bring to this world.

Voices of Hope

November 14, 2020 | 4:00pm

Trinity Baptist Church

I | OPENING - ENCORE

Keith Martinez, conductor

Poetry Read by: Emma Brogan, Bella Nasis, and Belyn Thompson

Song of Miriam · Elaine Hagenberg

Inspired by Rabbi Ruth Sohn's empowering poem, this piece describes the journey of a young woman who finds bravery amid uncertainty and fear. Middle Eastern harmonies paint an expansive desert landscape, while the singers voices search for faith, ultimately conquering their fear to find the song within their hearts.

I, Miriam, stand at the sea
and turn to face the desert
stretching endless and still.
My eyes are dazzled —
the sky brilliant blue,
sunburst sands unyielding white.
My hands turn to dove wings.
My arms reach for the sky
and I want to sing
the song rising inside me.
My mouth open
I stop.
Where are the words?
Where the melody?
In a moment of panic
my eyes go blind.
Can I take a step
without knowing a destination?
Will I falter?

Will I fall?
Will the ground sink away from under me?
The song still unformed —
How can I sing?

To take the first step —
to sing a new song —
to close one's eyes
and dive into unknown waters.
For a moment knowing nothing, risking all —
But then to discover
the waters are friendly.
The ground is firm
and the song rises again.
Out of my mouth
come words lifting the wind.
And I hear for the first time
the song that has been in my heart
silent, unknown, even to me.

II | CHORISTERS

Allison Cavazos, conductor

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning · Traditional Spiritual; Arr. Glenda Frankliln

It is often difficult to determine the composer and/or origin of African-American Spirituals. "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning" is thought to have had meaning connected to the Biblical parable of the ten bridesmaids, as well as serve as a song used in the under-ground railroad. Today the song serves as a reminder to stay vigilant in the work of creating a better world for all people each day.

Rise Up • Cassandra Batie and Jennifer Decilveo; Arr. Mac Huff

Soloists: Veronica Takach and Caleb Santos

This popular song was recorded in 2015 by Andra Day. She describes the inception of "Rise Up" as a sort of prayer, explaining "I thought about what I needed to hear to be able to get back on my feet". Over the last 5 years, the song has resonated with a wide audience and has become an anthem for hope, equality, unity and perseverance in times of difficulty and distress.

Prayer for Peace • Kate Gibbons Windorski

Soloist: Emma Brogan

Based on the Prayer of St. Francis, "Prayer for Peace" intertwines a beautiful melody with powerful and timeless text.

Make me an instrument of peace in the world,
one who sees all of life's beauty and joy.
Where there's hatred show love:
where there's darkness, shed light;
sadness, spread joy among those who weep.
Teach me to live in your peace.

Make of us instruments of peace in the world,
ones who seek freedom and justice for all.
Where despair, search for hope;
where there's doubt, search for truth;
injury search for their healing.
May we bring peace to the world.
Our prayer is peace for the world.

III | CHAMBER

Keith Martinez, conductor

The Storm is Passing Over • Charles Albert Tindley; Arr. Barbara Baker

"The Storm is Passing Over" is a traditional Black Gospel song that the composer notes "should be performed with enthusiasm and joy." The writer of the text speaks of remembering that the morning light will appear even though the night is dark, and that the storm, though great, will pass over.

I Will Sing You the Stars • Mark Burrows

"You are not alone, love will call you home." A theme of love and connection lies at the heart of this stunning piece with words written from father to daughter on the occasion of her graduation. The expressive vocal lines and warm choral harmonies perfectly embody the sincerity of the lyrics.

IV | ENCORE

Keith Martinez & Allison Cavazos, conductors

Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep • Laura Farnell

"...I am not there; I do not sleep. I am the thousand winds that blow. I am the diamond glints on snow..." Profound in its simplicity, this beautiful text speaks of hope beyond the grave, and an awareness of the beauty of our loved ones' lives.

Music Down in My Soul · Moses Hogan

Largely regarded as the greatest arranger of African-American spirituals, Moses Hogan was a pianist, conductor, and arranger of international acclaim. With a collection of over 80 published works for voice, his compositions and arrangements are foundational to high school, college and university choirs throughout the United States.

IV | PRESENTATION of FOUNDERS AWARD for EXCELLENCE

2020 Recipient of CCSA Founder's Award for Excellence: Dr. Gary Mabry



Dr. Gary Mabry retired in 2019 after nearly 30 years of service to the Department of Music at the University of Texas at San Antonio. His passion for music and high-quality music education drives him to continue his work throughout the San Antonio community, as the Artistic Advisor to the CCSA Artistic Team, Board president of the Opera Guild of San Antonio, and band member of *Down for the Count*. He has also served in a leadership capacity for the Texas Choral Directors Association and is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association, Texas Choral Directors Association, and National Association of Teachers of Singing. Dr. Mabry is a former Artistic

Director and Conductor of the San Antonio Choral Society and served several years as Chorus Master of the San Antonio Opera. His choirs have presented European performances in Salzburg, Vienna, and Prague and his Yellow Rose Singers performed in 2012 and 2017 at the International Festival of the Aegean in Syros, Greece, an event for which he also served as Chorus Master. This ensemble will perform in England and Ireland during the summer of 2019. With over forty years of leadership experience in church music, he also serves as Minister of Music for Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit in San Antonio.

V | CLOSING - ALL CHOIRS

Allison Cavazos, conductor

Give us Hope · Jim Papoulis, Arr. Francisco Nunez

Featuring: Erika Engh and Eshaan Sanka

From the composer: "Give Us Hope" is from the project Sounds of a Better World, a series of songs focusing on children, which examines their world and how small steps can be made to improve it. When this journey began for me almost five years ago, I was very disturbed to learn of various incidents around the world where children were subjected to adverse conditions. I began to feel that, as Dr. Martin Luther King said, 'we must ask ourselves how responsible we are for the well-being of others'. What I have come to understand is that we must send the best part of ourselves into the future through our children. If we want society to evolve, we need to understand the importance of childhood, and how vital our role should be in doing whatever we can to nurture every child. We should all be aware of our powerful influence on their minds. Through this work, I hope to have somehow addressed these issues and to have embraced the joy that children can bring to this world.

Special Thanks to our Guest Artists:

Sherry Rubins, Percussion

Eric Siu, Violin

Preparatory and Prelude

JohnPaul Acuña
Olivia Acuña
Mikaela Bluhm
Clair Cavazos
Paris Cloud
Sarah Cox
Emily Davis
Katy Davis

Arthur Eckman
Keira George
Violet George
Aislinn Gonzalez
Ciela Juarez
Hannah Liu
Annie Myers
Ariana Palacios

Bethsaida Rivera
Melanka Shanmugam
Jenna Standridge
Madison Thomas
Adelyn Watts
Grace Weston
Joymarie Youssef

Chorale

Oryan Armstrong
Caedmon Bailey
Henry Berkenhoff
Hannah Brogan
Layla Canales
Addison Clauser
Grace Cox
Aubrey Davis
Lyla Drayna
Claire Gabriel
Victoria Gass

Mateo Juarez
Dishitha Hannah Koshekay
Iris Kovac
Tarikua Kovac
Bethany Littel
Cadence Lunstrum
Nicole Mayer
Alibel McLendon
Kate Newman
Olivia Olds-Martinez
Angelina Palacios

Della Perez
Lara Salcedo
Carmen Schulze
Edith Setlik
Rachel Thompson
Violet Thornton
Neil Trivedi
Juliet Warner
Yin Ziruo

Choristers

Arwen Bailey
Shelby Balog
Emma Brogan
Marcus Cecconi
Erika Engh

Elisabeth Jackson
Emma Kilpatrick
Katherine Long
Ava Lopez
Eshaan Sanka

Caleb Santos
Veronica Takach
Lily Thomas
Erin Thompson
Lolita Trujillo

Chamber

Shara Alexander
Jewliet Cantu
Sophia Carranza
Riley Craig
Araine Dee
TJ Diemert
Maria Guerra

Sophie Hallam
Indigo Kovac
Jude Kovac
Samuel Larson
Chance Maher
Bella Nasis
Delicia Perez

Jolie Schmid
Hannah Sibille
Belyn Thompson
Michael Thompson
Bryan Vogler
Katherine Wooten
Julia Zamora

Encore

Elizabeth Arguelles
Carrie Armstrong
Loretta Garcia
Zofia Graham
Jacy Highsmith
Emily Huizar

Sara Knoy
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Brad West
Bonnie Zumwalt



Alyssa Avenatti

Interim Executive Director | Director of Chorale

Alyssa Avenatti is a doctoral candidate from Indiana University's world-renowned Jacobs School of Music in the final stages of completing her dissertation. She holds a Master of Music Education degree with a specialization in Kodály pedagogy, and additional certifications in Smithsonian Folkways World Music Pedagogy and the Orff Schulwerk approach. Prior to her pursuit of the Ph.D., Alyssa was a founding member of the San Antonio Chamber Choir, singing with the group for six seasons. Alyssa has presented academic research and practitioner workshops for music educators throughout the country, and has taught undergraduate and graduate students at Loyola University Maryland, Northwestern State University, and Indiana University. Alyssa also mentors music education student teachers at Texas State University.



Allison Cavazos

Director of Choristers | Co-Director of Chamber Choir and Encore

Allison Cavazos holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Texas State University and has taught both choral and elementary music in Northeast ISD for the past 13 years. Her ensembles have consistently received UIL Sweepstakes awards with many singers having been placed to Region Honor Choirs, as well as the Texas Choral Directors Association MS All-State Choir. An active clinician and judge, Allison greatly enjoys sharing her passion for choral music with students throughout the state. Allison has received the campus Trinity Prize, been chosen by former students as Summa Reception Honoree, and has served as a mentor teacher to several student teachers throughout her career.



Keith Martinez

Director of Chamber Choir | Co-Director of Encore

Keith Martinez is overjoyed to be joining the wonderful artistic team and dedicated singers of CCSA. He is head director at Clark High School in Northside ISD. Previously, he worked at Marshall High School, where his choral ensembles consistently earn UIL Sweepstakes ratings. During his tenure, Keith has worked diligently with individual singers, helping to propel them to both region and all-state choir placements. Keith also serves as the Minister of Music at University Presbyterian Church.



Rebecca Juarez

Director of Prelude and Preparatory Choirs

Rebecca Lakes Juarez is an elementary music specialist and Cluster Coordinator for Northeast ISD, providing professional development and mentorship to district music teachers. Rebecca has been teaching music in Texas public schools for 19 years. She has presented workshops across the country and at state and national music education conferences. Rebecca earned her B.A. and B.M.E. from Cedarville University, an M.M. from Belmont University, and her Principal certification from Schreiner University. She is fully certified in both the Kodály and Orff approaches to music education, and serves on the national board of the Organization of American Kodály Educators. In the summers, she instructs music teachers in Kodály certification programs at Northwestern State University and the Rio Grande Valley. This is her sixth season as a director with CCSA.

Russell Hill Rogers Fund for the Arts

The Children's Chorus of San Antonio proudly recognizes **The Russell Hill Rogers Fund for the Arts** as a lead sponsor for the 2020-2021 concert series. Their generous support of our organization and of the arts in San Antonio is integral to nurturing and sustaining a culturally vibrant and distinctive community.

Russell Hill Rogers, a San Antonio businessman, philanthropist and patron of the arts, had a long association with the arts in San Antonio. While in high school, he was the concertmaster of the San Antonio Youth Symphony, and at the age of 17, was chosen to be in the violin section of San Antonio's first Symphony Orchestra founded by Max Reiter in 1939.

For over 40 years, he was active in most San Antonio's arts organizations, serving on the Boards of the San Antonio Symphony Society, the San Antonio Museum of Art and the council of the McNay Art Museum. He was also a member of the Texas Watercolor Society and sang with the Symphony Mastersingers for a time, including the period during which they served as the opera chorus for the touring Metropolitan Opera productions presented annually in San Antonio from the 1940s to the 1960s. In 1979, a gift to the San Antonio Symphony from Mr. Rogers established the Annual Russell Hill Rogers String Residency, providing local string players of all ages with a unique opportunity to work with internationally renowned artists.

Shortly before his death in 1986, Mr. Rogers established the Russell Hill Rogers Fund for the Arts for the "support, encouragement, and preservation of the creative and performing arts including, but not limited to painting, sculpture, architecture, music, literature and drama." It's specific purpose is to benefit arts organizations and provide arts offerings to residents of Bexar County.

The Children's Chorus of San Antonio is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization providing educational and performance opportunities in choral music for children of the greater San Antonio area and surrounding communities. We rely on the generosity of our community. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law and may be forwarded to the address below or online at www.childschorussa.org. Thank you!

The Children's Chorus of San Antonio, Inc.
106 Auditorium Circle, Suite 115, San Antonio, Texas 78205-1346
210.826.3447 office@childschorussa.org

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Allison Cavazos, Choral Director

Karen Feazel, Accompanist

Rebecca Juarez, Choral Director

Patsy Lawry, Music Together Director

Elizabeth Logsdon, Office Manager

Mary Lowder, Accompanist

Keith Martinez, Choral Director

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