

# CHILDREN' S CHORUS of San Antonio

## SIMPLE GIFTS

November 20, 2021 · 4 PM Trinity Baptist Church 319 E.Mulberry Ave

### Children's Chorus of San Antonio presents

#### Simple Gifts

Saturday, November 20, 2021 4:00 pm Trinity Baptist Church

#### **Featuring**

Preparatory | Prelude Rebecca Juarez, Director

#### Chorale

Alyssa Avenatti, Executive Director

#### **Choristers**

Emily Jodon, Director

#### Chamber | Encore

Dr. Gary Mabry, Artistic Advisor Emily Jodon, Director Keith Martinez, Director Olivia Wehrung, Choral Intern

Karen Feazel, Concert Accompanist Mary Lowder, Concert Accompanist Katie Shaw-Meadow, Concert Accompanist

#### Seasonal support provided by:













#### SIMPLE GIFTS

#### I | OPENING

**Simple Gifts** · Shaker Hymn adapted by Aaron Copland; transcribed by Irving Fine Paris Cloud, soloist

**Festival Sanctus** · John Leavitt *Featuring Encore singers* 

#### II | PREPARATORY AND PRELUDE

A Gift for Me · text and arr. Rebecca Juarez and Katie Shaw-Meadow Soloists: Isabella Almendarez, Dylan Bissell, Sarah Cox, Rocco Salas

Carol of the Cuckoo · Carolyn Jennings

#### III | CHORALE

Dodi Li · text from Song of Solomon; music by Nira Chen; arr. Doreen Rao Solo group: Oryan Armstrong, Aubrey Davis, Hannah Brogan, Alessandra Campos, Victoria Gass, Mateo Juarez, Bethany Littel, Emilia Rojas, Lara Salcedo, Edith Setlik, Rachael Thompson, Saith Vazquez

Sing to Me · Andrea Ramsey

**Sing** · words and music by Joe Raposo; arr. John Leavitt *Featuring Prelude singers* 

#### IV | CHAMBER

Awake My Soul and Sing · adapted from Psalms; music Victor C. Johnson ¡Cantar! · Jay Althouse

#### V | SPECIAL PRESENTATION

#### 2021 Marguerite McCormick Founder's Award for Excellence

Dr. John Silantien, 2021 Recipient Marguerite McCormick, Founder and Artistic Director Emeritus

#### VI | ADVANCED ENSEMBLES

Cantate Domino · based on traditional Latin text; music by Laura Farnell

In the Bleak Midwinter  $\cdot$  text Christina Rossetti; music by Shawn Kirchner  $Dr.\ Gary\ Mabry,\ Artistic\ Advisor$ 

This is the Day · Laura Farnell

Facy Highsmith, soloist

Featuring Encore singers

#### VII | CLOSING

**Lean on Me with We Shall Overcome** · arr. Mark Hayes *Olivia Wehrung, Conductor* 

Baraka Na Wewe · Victor C. Johnson Percussion: Bethany Mabry

#### **Translations**

#### Dodi Li

From Song of Solomon, 2:16, 3:6, 4:9, 4:16

Dodi li, va'ani lo Haro'eh bashoshanim

Mi zot ola min hamidbar Mi zot ola M'kuteret, mor ulevona Mor ulevona.

Libavtini achoti kala Libavtini kala.

Uri tzafon uvo'i teiman.

Refrain: My beloved is mine and I am his, the shepherd grazing his flock among the lilies.

Verse 1: Who is this, rising up from the desert? Who is she, rising up Perfumed with myrrh and frankincense?

Verse 2: You have captured my heart, my sister, my bride.

Verse 3: Awaken, north wind, and come, south wind.

#### **Baraka Na Wewe**

Baraka na wewe Napenda furaha Napenda matumaini Napenda amani Napenda upendo Blessings to you
We wish you joy
We wish you hope
We wish you peace
We wish you love

#### ¡Cantar! (Sing!)

Cantar una canción alegre. Sing alleluia! Cantar, cantar, cantar con una voz. Sing alleluia, alleluia! Sing a happy song.
Sing alleluia!
Sing, sing, sing
with one voice.
Sing alleluia, alleluia!

## 2021 Recipient of CCSA Founder's Award for Excellence:

#### Dr. John Silantien

Dr. Silantien served as the Director of Choral Activities at the University of Texas at San Antonio for several decades, and was instrumental in both the development and success of the Children's Chorus of San Antonio. He, is celebrating his 38th season as the Music Director of the San Antonio Symphony Mastersingers, and recently announced he will retire from this position in June 2022 following the group's tour to Scotland, Wales, and England. Dr. Silantien has taught and conducted choirs on the secondary and collegiate levels in Texas, the Washington, DC, area, and on the faculty of the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Illinois. His awards include a Rockefeller grant for choral conducting at Aspen,

Colorado, and a Fulbright award for research in London, England.



Between 1992 and 1998, he served as Editor of the Choral Journal, the official publication of the American Choral Directors Association, with a circulation of over 18,000. Choirs under his direction have been invited to perform before the Music Educators National Conference, the American Choral Directors Association, the Texas Choral Directors Association, and the Texas Music Educators Association. They have sung in New York City's Lincoln Center and London's Royal Festival Hall. His orchestral conducting credits include performances with the San Antonio Symphony, the San Antonio Pops, and New York's West Side Chamber Orchestra, as well as CD recordings of three Mozart piano concertos with the Moscow State Radio Orchestra. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in May 1994 conducting Mozart's *Requiem*, returning in 2008 for a performance of Mozart's *Solemn Vespers*.

Dr. Silantien serves frequently as adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor. During the summer of 1999, he lectured at an international conference of choral musicians held in Brasilia, Brazil. He is listed in the International Who's Who in Music and Who's Who among America's Teachers.

#### **Faculty**

#### **Dr. Gary Mabry**

**Artistic Advisor** 

Dr. Mabry is Professor Emeritus of the UTSA music department, having served 28 years as a choral director, voice teacher, and conducting instructor. During his tenure as Interim Artistic Director of CCSA (2019-2020), he successfully arranged for CCSA singers to perform with the All-State Choir and Orchestra at the 2020 Texas Music Educators Association TMEA) convention. This opportunity helped the singers expand their amazing experiences, build their artistic excellence, and introduced CCSA to music educators across the state. At UTSA, he founded and conducted both the Women's Choir and Men's Glee Club. He has served on the Executive Board of the Texas Choral Directors Association as Vice President of the Church Music Division and is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association. He has served as the Repertoire and Standards Chair for Women's Choirs for TCDA and has been a conducting mentor for the TCDA Student Conductors Symposium. From 1993 to 2006 he was the Artistic Director and Conductor of the San Antonio Choral Society and served several years as Chorus Master of the San Antonio Opera. His continuous mentoring of San Antonio musicians and music educators is still building on his wonderful legacy.

#### Alyssa Avenatti

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 purquit of the Rh D. Alvee

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, Midwestern State University, and Indiana University. Alyssa also mentors music education student teachers at Texas State University.

#### **Emily Jodon**

Director of Choristers | Co-Director of Encore Emily Jodon holds a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Texas San Antonio, and Kodály certification from Texas State University. She has taught both middle school and high school choir in Northside ISD for the past 7 years, and currently serves a choir director at Emily is a dedicated choral music educator and a leader in her field, serving as past Region chair. She is ecstatic to join the wonderful artistic team and dedicated singers of CCSA.



#### Rebecca Juarez

Director of Prelude and Preparatory Choirs
Rebecca Lakes Juarez is an elementary music specialist
and Lead Elementary Music Coordinator for Northeast ISD,
providing professional development and mentorship to
district music teachers. Rebecca has been teaching music
in Texas public schools for 20 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 Midwestern State University and the Rio Grande Valley.

#### **Keith Martinez**

Director of Chamber Choir | Co-Director of Encore Keith Martinez is overjoyed to be a part of 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.



#### **About CCSA**

The Children's Chorus of San Antonio was founded in 1983 by Marguerite McCormick. As a resident company of the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, CCSA is organized in collaboration with San Antonio schools and music programs throughout greater San Antonio. Six citywide community choruses and an extensive early-childhood program provide inspirational and transformative musical experiences for hundreds of children from birth through young adulthood. Through singing and the art of choral music, CCSA develops the musical and personal potential of children and youth through a culturally diverse repertoire and a commitment to inclusion. Our young musicians are empowered through the pursuit of artistic excellence as a way of knowing themselves and the world around them.

CCSA's programs include: Core Ensembles--training and performance ensembles for boys and girls ages 5-18; Music Together®--early childhood classes for infants, toddlers, and young children through age 4 and their families; and Neighborhood Choirs--tuition-free hyper-local programs for San Antonio and Harlandale ISD students.

CCSA's advanced choirs sing regularly with the San Antonio Symphony, Opera San Antonio, YOSA and the San Antonio Chamber Choir and have traveled across the state and around the world with featured performances at regional and national music conferences. They have toured Scotland, Italy, Ireland, England, Canada and France and have been featured on NBC-TV's *Today Show* and NPR's *Performance Today*.

As our young singers rehearse and perform throughout the city and around the world, they grow into disciplined young artists and concerned musical citizens. Through the study and performance of diverse and distinctive musical traditions, public concerts and social outreach, the children develop leadership skills, cultural sensitivity and a form of social consciousness that guides their journey into the future.

#### **CCSA Leadership**

#### **Faculty and Staff**

Alyssa Avenatti, Executive Director Selena Davila, MT Intern Karen Feazel, Pianist Emily Jodon, Choral Director Rebecca Juarez, Choral Director Patsy Lawry, Music Together Director Elizabeth Logsdon, Office Manager Mary Lowder, Pianist Dr. Gary Mabry, Artistic Advisor Keith Martinez, Choral Director Katie Shaw-Meadow, Pianist Nicole Smith, MT Instructor Olivia Wehrung, Choral Intern

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#### **Advisory Council**

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Rick Hotard
Marguerite McCormick
Dr. Julie Nadeau
Dr. Diane Persellin
Dr. John Silantien

#### **CCSA Choirs**

#### **Preparatory and Prelude**

Isabella Almendarez Forest Avenatti Beckett Bachran Claire Bain Joseph Bathen Dylan Bissell Quinn Bissell James Bradley

Sarah Belle Camarillo

Aidan Casey
Austin Casey
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Cara Colburn

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Samuel Ji

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Paula Salas Rocco Salas

Melanka Shanmugam

Annabeth Smith Emren St. Paul Adelyn Watts Bernard Williams Eliana Youssef

#### Chorale

Elijah Almendarez Oryan Armstrong Ryan Ballinger Edie Barloco Mikaela Bluhm Reagan Breeding Hannah Brogan Alessandra Campos

Paris Cloud
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Aubrey Davis
Emily Davis
Victoria Gass
Aislinn Gonzalez
Charlie Hudson
Mateo Juarez

Iris Kovac Tarikua Kovac Shayna Lauterstein

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Cadence Lunstrum
Lourdes Macias
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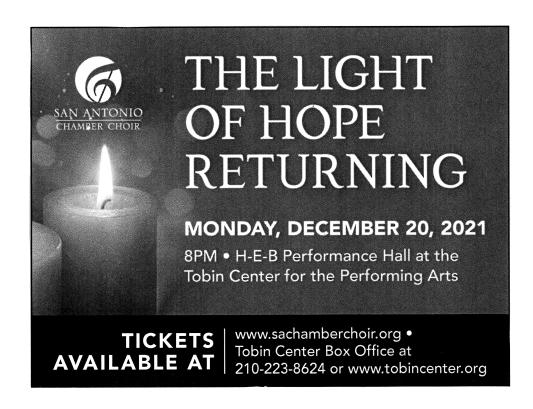
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Bella Nasis

Olivia Olds-Martinez Sophia Pelaez Delicia Perez Lorenzo Ramirez Aviana Ramos Marianna Robledo Isabella Romero Eshaan Sanka Hannah Sibille Jack Stanton Madeleine Stanton Veronica Takach Lily Thomas Erin Thompson Michael Thompson Olivia Wineberg Katherine Wooten

#### **Encore**

Shara Alexander Sophia Carranza Riley Craig Mia Garcia-Gray Loretta Garcia-Wones Zofia Graham Jacy Highsmith Emily Huizar Estefania Leon Jenna Lindsey Campbell Lueck Sarah Malik

Emma Martinez
Jordan Oravits
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www.childrenschorussa.org/donate

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OCTOBER 31, 2021 AT 3:00 PM Tobin Center for the Performing Arts

# Pictures at an Exhibition

JANUARY 23, 2022 AT 7:00 PM
TOBIN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



# Scheherazade

WITH THE SAN ANTONIO YOUTH BALLET

MAY 8, 2022 AT 7:00 PM

TOBIN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



PURCHASE TICKETS AT MUSIC. YOSA. ORG/ CONCERTS