

North Shore Choral Society



Ring in the Holidays!

November 23, 2019
First Presbyterian Church
Evanston, Illinois



Julia Davids, Music Director

Ring in the Holidays!

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come George J. Elvey, arr. Joel Raney

North Shore Choral Society

I Was Glad C. Hubert H. Parry
Sharon Rich Peterson, organ

Ave Maria R. Nathaniel Dett
Tierra Whetstone, conductor
Robb Geiger, soloist

Sing to the Lord of Harvest Healey Willan
Sharon Rich Peterson, organ

Chicago Bronze

Rondo Passacaglia Cynthia Dobrinski
Autumn Leaves arr. Andrea Handley
Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals arr. Andrea Handley

North Shore Choral Society

Gloria Randol Alan Bass
Sharon Rich Peterson, piano

~ Intermission ~

Ceremony of Carols Benjamin Britten
Onella Piyatilake, soprano; Tierra Whetstone, mezzo soprano; Ben Melsky, harp

1. **Procession**
2. **Wolcum Yole!**
3. **There is no Rose**
- 4a. **That yongë child**
- 4b. **Balulalow**
5. **As dew in Aprille**
6. **This little Babe**
7. **Interlude**
8. **In Freezing Winter Night**
9. **Spring Carol**
10. **Deo Gracias**
11. **Recession**

Chicago Bronze

A Holly Jolly Christmas arr. Joel Raney
Impressions on “Veni, Emmanuel” Kathy Moklebust
Ríu, Ríu, Chíu arr. Sondra Tucker

North Shore Choral Society and Chicago Bronze

Carol of the Bells Mykola Leontovich
arr. Peter Wilhousky, arr. for handbells Andrea Handley
Sing We Now of Christmas French carol, arr. Kevin McChesney
Joy, Joy, Joy based on Antioch and Jungst, arr. Andrea Handley

North Shore Choral Society explores, studies, and performs a wide range of choral music for the enrichment and enjoyment of its singers and audiences, and pursues opportunities for educational outreach and engagement in the community through various partnerships.

North Shore Choral Society is a welcoming, inclusive community for all participants and patrons. We respect, value, and celebrate the unique attributes, characteristics, and perspectives that shape each individual.

TEXT AND TRANSLATION

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come *George J. Elvey, arr. Joel Raney*

Come, ye thankful people, come;
raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in
ere the winter storms begin.

God, our maker, does provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

I Was Glad *C. Hubert H. Parry*

I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is builded, is builded as a city, that is at unity in itself.
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

Ave Maria *R. Nathaniel Dett*

Ave Maria, Gratia plena,
Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus.
Et benedictus fructus ventris tui,
Jesus.

Sancta Maria, mater Dei,
Ora pro nobis
peccatoribus.

Ave Maria, ora pro nobis,
Nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.
Ave Maria, Sancta Maria,
Ave Maria, gratia plena,

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is
with you.

Blessed are you among women and
blessed is the fruit of your womb,
Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God,
pray for us
sinners.

Hail, Mary, pray for us now and at
the hour of our death.
Hail Mary, Holy Mary,
Hail Mary, full of grace,

Ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
In ora mortis nostrae,
Ora pro nobis.
Amen.

Pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death,
Pray for us.
Amen.

Sing to the Lord of Harvest *Healey Willan*

Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise;
With joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise.
By Him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;
Sing to the Lord of harvest, a song of happy love.

By Him the clouds drop goodness, the deserts bloom and spring;
The hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
He filleth with His fullness all things with large increase;
He crowns the year with goodness, with plenty, and with peace.

Heap on His sacred altar the gifts His goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest, the souls He died to save.
Your hearts lay down before Him when at His feet ye fall,
And with your lives adore Him who gave His life for all.

Gloria *Randol Alan Bass*

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Et in terra pax hominibus bonae
voluntatis.

Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis.
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe.

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Jesu, Filius Patris.

Glory to God in the highest.
And on earth peace to all those of
good will.

We praise Thee. We bless Thee.
We worship Thee. We glorify Thee.
We give thanks to Thee
according to Thy great glory.

Lord God, Heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.
Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten
Son.

Lord God, Lamb of God,
Jesus, Son of the Father.

Christe, Filius Patris.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,
Miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,
Suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
Miserere nobis, Jesu.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus.
Tu solus Dominus.
Tu solus altissimus,
Jesu Christe
Cum Sancto Spiritu,
In gloria Dei Patris.
Amen.

Christ, Son of the Father.

Who takest away the sins of the
world, have mercy upon us.
Who takest away the sins of the
world, receive our prayer.
Who sittest at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy upon us, Jesus.

For Thou alone art holy.
Thou alone art the Lord.
Thou alone art the most high,
Jesus Christ
With the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

~ *Intermission* ~

Ceremony of Carols *Benjamin Britten*

1. Procession

Hodie Christus natus est:
Hodie Salvator apparuit:
Hodie in terra canunt angeli:

Laetantur archangeli:
Hodie exsultant justi dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: Anon., Traditional Vespers

Today Christ is born;
Today the Saviour has appeared;
Today the angels sing.

The archangels rejoice;
Today the righteous rejoice, saying,
Glory to God in the highest.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. Wolcum Yole!

Wolcum, Wolcum, Wolcum be thou hevenè king,
Wolcum Yole! Wolcum, born in one morning,
Wolcum for whom we sall sing!

Wolcum be ye, Stevene and Jon; Wolcum, Innocentes every one,
Wolcum, Thomas marter one; Wolcum be ye, good Newe Yere,
Wolcum, Twelfthe Day both in fere; Wolcum, seintes lefe and dere,
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum Yole, Wolcum!

Candelmesse, Quene of bliss,
Wolcum bothe to more and lesse.
Wolcum be ye that are here,
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum alle and make good cheer.

Wolcum alle another yere, Wolcum Yole, Wolcum!

Text: Anon., 14th century

3. There is no Rose

There is no rose of such vertu as is the rose that bare Jesu.
Alleluia, alleluia.

For in this rose containèd was heaven and earth in litel space,
Res miranda, res miranda. (Miraculous thing)

By that rose we may well see there be one God in persons three,
Pares forma, pares forma. (In parent's image)

The aungels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gaudeamus, gaudeamus. (We rejoice.)

Leave we all this werldly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth.
Transeamus, transeamus, transeamus. (We cross to Christ's world.)
Alleluia, res miranda, pares forma, gaudeamus,
Transeamus, transeamus, transeamus.

Text: Anon., 14th century

4a. That yongë childe

That yongë child when it gan weep with song she lulled him asleep:
That was so sweet a melody it passèd alle minstrelsy. (merrily)

The nightingale sang also: Her song is hoarse, and nought thereto:
Whoso attendeth to her song and leaveth the first, then doth he wrong.

Text: Anon., 14th century

4b. Balulalow (Lullaby)

O my deare hert, young Jesu sweit, Prepare thy creddil (place) in my spreit,
And I sall rock thee to my hert, And never mair from thee depart.

But I sall praise thee evermoir with sanges sweit unto thy gloir;
The knees of my hert sall I bow, And sing that richt Balulalow.

Text: James, John, and Robert Wedderburn, 1548,1561

5. As dew in Aprille

I sing of a maiden that is makèles: (mateless)
King of all kings to her son she ches
He came also stille there his moder was,
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the grass.

He came also stille to his moder's bour,
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the flour. (flower)
He came also stille there his moder lay,
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the spray. (branches)

Moder and mayden was never none but she:
Well may such a lady Goddes moder be.

Text: Anon., circa 1400.

6. This little Babe

This little Babe so few days old, is come to rifle Satan's fold;
All hell doth at his presence quake, though he himself for cold do shake;
For in this weak unarmed wise the gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field, His naked breast stands for a shield;
His battering shot are babish cries, His arrows looks of weeping eyes,
His martial ensigns Cold and Need, and feeble Flesh his warrior's steed

His camp is pitch in a stall, His bulwark but a broken wall;
The crib his trench, haystacks his stakes; of shepherds he his muster makes;
And thus, as sure his foe to wound, the angels' trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight; stick to the tents that he hath pight.
Within his crib is surest ward; this little Babe will be thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy, then flit not from this heavenly Boy.

Text: Robert Southwell, c.1561-95

7. Interlude

8. In Freezing Winter Night

Behold, a silly (helpless) tender babe, in freezing winter night,
In homely manger trembling lies. Alas, a piteous sight!

The inns are full; no man will yield this little pilgrim bed.
But forced he is with silly beasts in crib to shroud his head.

This stable is a Prince's court, this crib his chair of State;
The beasts are parcel of his pomp, the wooden dish his plate.

The persons in that poor attire His royal liveries wear;
The Prince himself is come from heaven; this pomp is prized there.

With joy approach, O Christian wight (being), do homage to thy King,
And highly praise his humble pomp, wich he from Heaven doth bring.

Text: Robert Southwell

9. Spring Carol

Pleasure it is to hear iwis (always), the Birdés sing,
The deer in the dale, the sheep in the vale, the corn springing.

God's purvayance for sustenance, it is for man, it is for man.
Then we always to him give praise, and thank him than.

Text: William Cornish, 14th-15th centuries

10. Deo Gracias

Deo gracias! Deo gracias! (Thanks to God!)
Adam lay ibounden, bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter thought he not to long.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
And all was for an appil, an appil that he tok,
As clerkès (clerics) finden written in their book.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
Ne had the appil takè ben, the appil takè ben,
Ne haddè never our lady a ben hevenè quene.

Blessed be the time that appil takè was.
Therefore we moun singen.
Deo gracias! Deo gracias! Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
Text: Anon., 15th century

11. Recessional

Hodie Christus natus est:	Today Christ is born;
Hodie Salvator apparuit:	Today the Saviour has appeared;
Hodie in terra canunt angeli:	Today the angels sing.
Laetantur archangeli:	The archangels rejoice;
Hodie exsultant justi dicentes:	Today the righteous rejoice, saying,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.	Glory to God in the highest,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!	Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: Anon., Traditional Vespers

Carol of the Bells *Mykola Leontovich, Bells arr. Andrea Handley*

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

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

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

Merry, Merry, Merry, Merry Christmas! On, on they send, on without end,
their joyful tone to ev'ry home. Ding, dong, ding, dong.

Sing We Now of Christmas *French Carol arr. Kevin McChesney*

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here!
Hear our grateful praises to the babe so dear.

Refrain: Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!
Angels called to shepherds, "Leave your flocks at rest,
Journey forth to Bethlehem, find the child so blest." *Refrain*

In Bethlehem they found him; Joseph and Mary mild,
Seated by the manger, watching the holy child. *Refrain*

Joy, Joy, Joy *based on Antioch and Jungst, arr. Andrea Handley*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king:
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing.

While by my sheep, I watched at night,
Glad tidings brought an angel bright.
How great our joy!

Joy, joy, joy!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

This gift of God we cherish well,
That ever by our hearts shall fill.
He comes to make his blessings flow,
How great our joy!

Joy, joy, joy!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

Repeat the sounding joy!
Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
How great our joy!

PROGRAM NOTES

North Shore Choral Society welcomes you to Ring in the Holidays! We are excited to welcome back Andrea Handley and the Chicago Bronze English Handbell Ensemble to help us ring in the holidays with our first concert of the 2019/2020 season. We have a wide variety of repertoire for you today including a lush interpretation of Ave Maria by R. Nathaniel Dett conducted by Apprentice Conductor Tierra Whetstone and a world premiere arranged by Andrea Handley. We hope you enjoy this glorious music in the beautiful space of First Presbyterian Church!

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (*St. George's Windsor*) is a favorite Thanksgiving hymn. The text moves from words of gratitude for earthly harvest to a longing for our "final harvest home." This arrangement, by Joel Raney, a Chicago-based composer/arranger, features a bright and rhythmic handbell and organ opening with a closing choral introit based on the first verse of the hymn.

Julia Davids

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918) studied at Eton and at Oxford and began publishing songs, church music and piano music in the 1860's. He taught at the Royal College of Music from 1863 (succeeding Sir George Grove as its director in 1894) and was professor at Oxford from 1900 to 1908. Parry's setting of **I Was Glad** is a large-scale and grand work employing full choir and brass ensemble (today, with organ). It was written in 1902 and has been performed at all of the coronations since then, being sung at the arrival of the monarch.

© *Fine Arts Brass Ensemble*

Canadian native, R. Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943), is one of the greatest black musicians known today. Dett was a composer, writer, poet, teacher, pianist, and organist. He was mostly known for his soloistic piano works. He only composed a few choral pieces in motet form; **Ave Maria** is among the most beautiful arrangements to be heard. "Suddenly it seemed I heard again the frail voice of my long departed grandmother calling across the years; and in a rush of emotion which stirred my spirit to its very center, the meaning of the songs which had given her soul such peace was revealed to me." (R. N. Dett)

Tierra Whetstone

Healey Willan (1880-1968) was a Canadian composer and organist who served a number of high profile churches in Toronto during his lifetime. Best known for his sacred organ and choral pieces, he composed over 800 works and was named a Companion of the Order of Canada in 1967. **Sing to the Lord of Harvest** is a straight forward setting of the Thanksgiving text by J.S.B. Monsell, featuring largely homophonic writing for the choir and an exuberant organ accompaniment.

Julia Davids

Rondo Passacaglia, written by well-known handbell composer Cynthia Dobrinski, combines two compositional forms – the rondo, and the passacaglia. The rondo form features a principal and repeating theme, alternated with contrasting episodes. The passacaglia form is reflected in the repeated bass line throughout the entire piece.

Andrea Handley

Autumn Leaves was made famous by singer Nat King Cole, with lyrics by Johnny Mercer: “The falling leaves drift by the window, the autumn leaves of red and gold ... Since you went away the days grow long and soon I’ll hear old winter’s song. But I miss you most of all, my darling when autumn leaves start to fall.”

Andrea Handley

Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals was written by Sigfrid-Karg Elert, a German composer, in 1909. Originally written for harmonium, and later for organ, it references Psalm 150:5: “*Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!*” It’s an exciting fast-paced piece with antiphonal sections that offer dynamic variety. It was recently arranged for handbells by Andrea Handley and published by the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc.

Andrea Handley

Randol Alan Bass is an American composer and arranger who resides in Austin, Texas. With hundreds of compositions and arrangements to his credit, he continues to compose for a variety of mediums including chorus, orchestra, and wind ensemble. **Gloria** is one of his most famous works and was premiered in 1990 at Carnegie Hall by the New York Pops Orchestra and

the Boston Pops Orchestra. It utilizes exciting rhythmic motives and lyrical melodic material to create a challenging and moving setting of the Latin text. The North Shore Choral Society will perform this work with the Evanston Symphony at their concert on December 8th as well.

Julia Davids

In 1942, Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) set sail to return to England from America. Britten actually intended to use the month-long voyage to complete what would become his well-known *Hymn to St. Cecilia*, but these early sketches were confiscated by customs authorities who feared that the music was in fact a secret code. En route, he stopped in Nova Scotia, where he came upon *The English Galaxy of Shorter Poems*, a collection of medieval texts. These later became the collection we know as ***A Ceremony of Carols***.

Shortly before departing the U.S., Britten had received a commission to compose a harp concerto, and in the meantime, he had begun to familiarize himself with the instrument. This provided the basis and probably the inspiration for his choice of harp to accompany the vocal parts in *A Ceremony of Carols*. Although the first published edition of the work recommended that boy sopranos sing the three treble lines that comprise the chorus, Britten's early manuscripts show that he originally conceived of them as women's parts. Some years later, Britten authorized an arrangement of the piece for four-part mixed voices (possibly at the suggestion of his publisher).

A Ceremony of Carols consists of eight polyphonic settings of mostly anonymous 15th- and 16th century poems, which Britten had discovered in a handbook called *The English Galaxy of Shorter Poems* that he found in Nova Scotia while the ship was in port. These eight carols are bookended by statements of the Gregorian chant "Hodie Christus Natus Est" and midway through the set is an astounding interlude for harp solo that features this same plainchant tune. The carols themselves show a remarkable diversity of styles, from the jubilant exultations of "Wolcume Yule" and "Deo Gracias", to the pastoral solos of "That yongë child" and "Balulalow," to the martial urgency of "This Little Babe"'s expanding canon -- and whose vivid "holy war" between the infant and Satan must surely have been inspired by the real-life world war.

Ryan Turner (emmanuelmusic.org/notes)

A Holly Jolly Christmas was made famous by Burl Ives in his 1965 recording. And has become one of the top 25 most-performed holiday songs of all time. This arrangement by Joel Raney features not only numerous handbell techniques but also the combination of keyboard and handbells.

Andrea Handley

Impressions on Veni, Emmanuel by Kathy Moglebust expresses the mystery of the incarnation in its opening of random ringing and handchimes. It expresses the humanity of the incarnation in a lively 7/8 section, building to a climax of grandeur, and then returns to a statement of mystery at the conclusion.

Andrea Handley

Ríu, Ríu, Chíu is a Spanish carol derived from a 15th century dance form in the Iberian peninsula. This lively arrangement by Sondra Tucker features numerous handbell rhythmic techniques and builds to a breathtaking conclusion, involving an accelerando and a workout for the bass bells ringers!

Andrea Handley

Carol of the Bells was written by Mykola Leontovych (1877-1921) in 1904, with lyrics written later by Peter Wilhousky (1902-1978). It is based on a Ukrainian folk chant and, long before the 20th century, was associated with New Year's celebrations and the Feast of Epiphany. The beautiful melody inspired Peter Wilhousky to write original lyrics and arrange the music into "Carol of the Bells" in 1936. Wilhousky was of Czechoslovakian heritage, received his B.A. from the Damrosch Institute of Musical Arts (Julliard), and was an eminent music educator. "Carol of the Bells" was brought to American audiences by the Ukrainian Republican Cappella Choir in the mid-twentieth century. Each section of the choir imitates different bells. This handbell arrangement by Andrea Handley begins and ends with an unusual technique called the singing bell – using a wooden dowel to produce a sustained sound somewhat like a Tibetan singing bowl.

Julia Davids

Sing We Now of Christmas is a French carol which is often heard at two holy days in the liturgical year, as it has a Christmas text and an Easter text ("Now the Green Blade Riseth"). As with many Christmas carols, each verse tells a

different piece of the Christmas story, from the angels to the shepherds, to the manger, and the visit of the three kings. This arrangement, by Kevin McChesney, features the use of mallets with the handbells which provide a driving rhythm throughout.

Julia Davids

Joy, Joy, Joy combines two joy-filled Christmas carols – ‘Joy to the World’ (*Antioch*) and ‘How Great Our Joy’ (*Jungst*). It is written especially for this occasion by Andrea Handley, and features handbells, organ, chorus, and percussion.

Andrea Handley

PROFILES



Dr. Julia Davids is in her eleventh season as Music Director of the North Shore Choral Society. She enjoys a thriving career as a versatile musician. She is Professor and the Stephen J. Hendrickson Chair of Choral Activities at North Park University, Chicago, where she directs the choirs and teaches conducting and music education. Julia also serves as Director of Music Ministries at Trinity United Methodist Church, Wilmette. Julia has been the Artistic Director of the Canadian Chamber Choir, Canada’s national professional chamber choir, since 2004. She has led the CCC on concert and workshop tours from coast to coast and conducted their Juno-nominated recording, *Sacred Reflections of Canada – A Canadian Mass*. The CCC has recently released their latest recording, *Seasons of Life and Landscape*.

Julia is co-author with Stephen LaTour of the book *Vocal Technique – A Guide for Conductors, Teachers, and Singers* published by Waveland Press and winner of Choral Canada’s award for Best Choral Publication. The second edition of the book will be published in the spring of 2020. Julia is in demand as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor. She holds degrees in Education, Conducting, and Voice Performance from the University of

Western Ontario (London, Ontario), the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Michigan), and a D.M. from Northwestern University. Julia resides in Skokie with her husband, baroque violinist Martin Davids, and their two children, Judith and Solomon.



Andrea Handley has been directing handbell ensembles for 35 years and is a published handbell composer. She is currently Organist and Director of Handbells at Trinity United Methodist Church in Wilmette. She was organist and directed multiple handbell ensembles at First Presbyterian Church of Evanston for over 20 years. She has been Musical Director of the Chicago Bronze since September of 2010.



Dedicated to connecting audiences to the music of the 20th and 21st centuries, Chicago-based **Ben Melsky** is Executive Director and harpist of the internationally-acclaimed Ensemble Dal Niente. In close collaboration with composers and performers, he encourages the creation of new work to break pre-conceived notions of the harp's capabilities, activating new techniques, sounds, and performance practices. Ben's concert activities include international appearances in solo and chamber ensemble configurations.

Most recently he has performed at Radialsystem (Berlin), Walt Disney Concert Hall for the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Festival Noon to Midnight, Foro Internacional de Musica Nueva (Mexico City), the Library of Congress, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Ecstatic Music Festival (NYC), Darmstadt Summer Courses for New Music (Germany), and Art Institute of Chicago. Upcoming engagements include the Big Ears Festival (Knoxville), National Sawdust (NYC), Philips Collection (Washington D.C.), Clarice Performing Arts Center (Washington D.C.), Centro Experimentación at the Teatro Colón (Buenos Aires).

Ben is a core member of the Grossman Ensemble, the resident ensemble of

the University of Chicago's Center for Contemporary Composition, comprised of thirteen of the country's leading contemporary music specialists. And since 2011, Ben has served as principal harpist of the Joffrey Ballet.



Pianist for the Chicago Symphony Chorus since auditioning as a college student in 1978, **Sharon R. Peterson** continues as Rehearsal Pianist for the CSC as well as the North Shore Choral Society. She is Staff Accompanist at Northwestern University, North Park University, and DePaul University. Sharon served as Accompanist for several years for Chicago Symphony

Singers and CSC's ensembles. During the seven years spent living in Sweden and Norway, Sharon developed a specialty in Scandinavian Piano and Organ Repertoire and worked as Staff Accompanist at The Royal Academy of Music in Oslo, Norway.

Sharon studied with Elizabeth Buccheri at North Park College, BM degree, and Robert Weirich at Northwestern University, MM degree. The Frederick L. Hemke Saxophone Institute used Sharon as its only pianist for the seventh season in June 2019, at the Snow Pond Center for the Arts, Sydney, ME. Sharon coaches voice privately as well, specializing in Swedish and Norwegian languages and repertoire.

After serving as Organist at North Park Covenant Church and Guest Organist in the Chicago area, Sharon is Organist at Southminster Presbyterian Church (Arlington Heights), and North Park Theological Seminary. She remains on the Board of the North Shore Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.



Onella Piyatilake holds a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from North Park University. This Sri Lankan born soprano began her training at age six with the Mary Anne Singers Academy of Music (Colombo, Sri Lanka) and continued with the academy until 2010, when she and her family immigrated to the United States. Between 2000 and 2010, Onella was an eight-time titleholder for Sri Lanka's All Island Music Competition, an award

issued by the British Federation of Music. Onella has also had the privilege of appearing on Sri Lankan radio and television. Onella has performed the roles of First Spirit in *Die Zauberflöte*, and *le Rossignol* and La Chauvre- Souris in *L'Enfant et les sortilèges*. In 2014, Onella placed third at the NATS competition and received honors at the 2016 NATS. In the 2018 Performance Awards at North Park University, Onella was awarded second place in the Graduate division. She had the honor of performing BWV 82 and Rachmaninoff's "Vocalise" with the NPU Orchestra in 2018. Ms. Piyatilake is the Co- Founder of Thousand Mile Choir for refugees and Immigrants and hopes to dedicate her life to using her experience as a child of war to help others from similar communities.



Chicago native and member of Chicago's Henry Hendricks Weddington School for the Performing Arts Vocal Arts Ensemble since 2006, opera singer **Tierra Whetstone** has apprenticed and performed with Yo-Yo Ma, Roderick Dixon, Jared Dixon, Catherine O'Connell, and Kathleen Battle. Tierra was privileged to have

won 2nd place at the North Park University's performance and 1st place in service. She enjoys the state of excitement that comes upon others when a song is involved. Tierra recently completed her Bachelor of Arts in Music at North Park University, where she studied conducting and voice.

Tierra began her training at Gallery 37, where she appeared in numerous productions. She has collaborated with the Chicago Opera Theater for teens, the Chicago Fringe Opera, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Savannah Philharmonic Chorus, and has sung the national anthem at U.S. Cellular Field. Tierra also enjoys the theater, and in 2013 she was nominated for the Black Theater Alliance award for best supporting actress in a play. In May 2019, she appeared as a soloist in Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* with NSCS and the Evanston Symphony Orchestra.

This past summer, Tierra was grateful and humbled to perform in an art song festival in Orvieto, Italy. Her future dream is to become an orchestral and

choral conductor and she believes that with God and her passion she can achieve that goal.

About the NSCS Choral Scholars

The Choral Scholars program targets university students who have a desire to pursue choral singing in their community. Choral Scholars have strong backgrounds in music and choral singing and are auditioned for this program by Music Director Dr. Julia Davids. North Shore Choral Society provides Choral Scholars with music and waives their membership dues to enable their participation. Choral Scholars work directly with Music Director Dr. Davids and the Board of Directors on special assignments related to the operations of the Choral Society.

The Choral Scholars' experiences provide students with an understanding of both the musical and business aspects of the choral organization. Participation in the program demonstrates that choral singing can be a lifelong pursuit.

We are currently accepting applications for Choral Scholars. Please contact General Manager Karen Rigotti at 773-741-6727 for more information.

Ring in the Holidays! **INSTRUMENTALISTS**

Sharon Rich Peterson, *piano & organ*

Ben Melsky, *harp*

Tina Laughlin, *percussion*

Ring in the Holidays!

SINGERS

Soprano

Pam Anderson	Jane Kenamore	Donna Nitahara
Marcia Maus Bollo	Martha Kinzel	Catherine Porter
Cristina Brown	Laura Koroski	Claudette Rasmussen
Debbie Buesing	Showling Liao-Le	Sally Ryan
Meg Egan	Masters	Karen Fish Schurder
Sheran Fiedler	Melissa Lindner	Sarah Schwartz
Betsy Gladfelter	Elise Marren	Dorothy Scott
Maria del Rosario Gomez	Michelle Marvin	Phoebe Segal
Anne Harkonen	Julie McDowell	Roxann Specht
Christine Hoffmeyer	Mande Mischler	Carli Uphill
Mary Johnson	Colleen Moeller	Tiffany Williams-Cobleigh
Jean Joslyn	Kathy Murphy	Anna Zahm

Alto

Barbara Brantigan	Julie Hoffman	Kay Rossiter
Pam Coster	Jill Horwitz	Jo Ann Seager
Arlene Cwynar	Lynn Kendall	Caitlin Sellnow
Else-Britt DeLong	Marilyn Leipsiger	Nancy Slichenmyer
Barbara Dershin	Marjorie Lundy	Loretta Smith
Antje Draganski	Stephanie McDaniel	Joan Soper
Chris Erenberg	Joan Merchan	Barbara Struthers
Fusayo Errico	Lorena Neal	Erica Sufritz
Fran Faller	Myrna Orenstein	Judy Taylor
Linda Faller	Mindy Pierce	Jan van Straaten
Nancy Friday	Elena Repp	Amy Weller
Debbie Geismar	Alicia Resnick	Tierra Whetstone
Jo Anne Gerules	Erin Rice	Trish Winter
Sally Hakes	Karen L. Rigotti	Julie Wygodny
Anne Heider		

Tenor

David Betzold	Theresan Kaefer-Kelly	Kevin McCaughey
David Crumrine	Brian Keady	Tom Olkowski
John Darrow	Carl Kettler	Milly Silverstein
Bill Erenberg	Jeff Kinzel	Gary Slutsky
Chris Jensen	Nicholas Krupp	David W. Taylor
Eric Johnson	Sanna Longden	

Bass

John Arpan	Gary Hendrickson	Scott Paine
Eric Carty-Fickes	John Howard	Eric Robison
Terry Duchow	Andy Hullinger	John Summerhays
Andrew Fisher	David Hunt	Dirk Walvoord
Robb Geiger	Ron James	Steve Warner
Bruce Gladfelter	Thomas Keller	Stephen Young
John Haynor	Jim Miller	

Chicago Bronze is a community handbell ensemble established in 1999 by a group of directors and advanced ringers who were seeking a challenging ringing experience. Membership in Chicago Bronze is by audition. The group is dedicated to musical excellence, sharing technical knowledge of the handbell instrument, and fostering greater understanding and enjoyment of handbell music. Through performances, workshops, and even flashmobbing, Chicago Bronze has brought the art of handbell music to the Chicago area and surrounding states.

Chicago Bronze performs with seven octaves of handbells and five octaves of handchimes. In concert, we highlight the versatility of our instrument. Our repertoire features classical literature transcribed for handbells, sacred and secular music, as well as original compositions.

An active supporter of the Handbell Musicians of America, Chicago Bronze, is a registered 501 (c)(3) Illinois corporation. For more information, visit chicagobronze.org.

Ring in the Holidays!

RINGERS

Kelly Buckman
Amy Calderone
Denise Caliendo
Angie Chiesa
Holly Evans

Jayne Griesse
Michele Harbeck Haley
Anne Kivikko
Kathy Murray
Laura Olsen

Bill Ondratschek
Cheryl Ondratschek
Derrick Sanders
Cynthia Seputis
Martha Swanson

North Shore Choral Society engages in our community with ...

... other performing groups. NSCS is pleased to welcome the Chicago Bronze English Handbell Ensemble, Andrea Handley, conductor, as collaborators in today's concert. On Sunday, December 8, NSCS will join the Evanston Symphony Orchestra in their traditional holiday program, *An Evanston Symphony Christmas*. Chicago women's trio Artemisia will perform with NSCS in our February 9th, 2020 concert, *What Happens When She Sets the Beat*. And NSCS has been invited to join the Highland Park Strings in a performance of Beethoven's 9th Symphony on Sunday, May 17, 2020.

... the arts community. This season, NSCS welcomes Apprentice Conductor Tierra Whetstone. You will see Tierra as a choral singer, soloist, and conductor throughout our concert season. NSCS continues to be an active participant in the Evanston Arts scene, meeting in a variety of settings with local arts organizations who continue to address racial inequity in Evanston with the goal of improving the diversity and inclusiveness of our respective organizations.

... talented young Chicago singers. The Donald Chen Young Artist Award, established to reward talented young singers with a solo role in one of our concerts, is given each season. Onella Piyatilake, soprano, our Donald Chen Young Artist for 2019, is featured in today's concert. Public competitions to select the award winners are held bi-annually. A competition will be held on Sunday, April 5, 2020, and community members are invited to come listen to a wonderful group of competing singers!

... the Evanston community. NSCS continues to facilitate an interactive music and arts activities program, *Arts Reach Evanston*, for students in the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center afterschool program. Millen Hardware, Wilmette, graciously provided the bucket drums to complement the assortment of rhythm instruments NSCS purchased for the program. We thank our enthusiastic NSCS volunteers who recently welcomed Dru Smith, from Mudlark Theater, and worked with Dru and the Fleetwood-Jourdain students in an 8-week theater and improv residency.

... music lovers in retirement communities. NSCS will present one of our favorite events, a holiday concert, on Sunday, December 16, 2017, at Three Crowns Park Retirement Community.

... music students. The NSCS Choral Scholars program targets students who have a desire to actively pursue choral singing. In recent seasons, the Choral Scholars program has included and given musical opportunities to high school seniors, college students, and graduate students.

For information about any of these community engagement programs,
please call 773-741-NSCS (773-741-6727) or email
northshorechoral@gmail.com

Support NSCS, at no cost to you, when you are shopping online! **www.iGive.com** is a shopping portal with over 1000 stores. Once you've registered we get a donation every time you use the portal to shop. Amazon will also give us a rebate if you shop through **<http://smile.amazon.com>** and designate NSCS as your charity of choice. We have direct links for both of these on our website, www.northshorechoral.org.

The North Shore Choral Society thanks Andrea Handley, Musical Director of Chicago Bronze.

Thank you to Janice Dobschuetz and Hannah Dixon McConnell, Director of Worship and Music/Choir, at First Presbyterian Church of Evanston.

Thank you to The Saints – Lynn A. Bowers, Audrey Campbell, Mary Korte, Susan M. Levand, Sandy L. Nowarita, and Sally Wenckus – for ushering at today's concert.

Don't miss the excitement!

Hear a recital by outstanding young singers as they compete for cash awards and an appearance with the NSCS next season!

***Donald Chen Young Artist Award Competition
Trinity United Methodist Church
1024 Lake Avenue, Wilmette
Saturday, April 5, 2020, 4 P.M.***

Cover: *Street in Sainte-Adresse*, by Claude Monet, 1867

From The Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA:

Monet grew up in Le Havre, Normandy, and in later years, he often painted the beach at Sainte-Adresse, a small fishing village nearby. In this scene, he turns his attention to the town itself. A woman and child look down a sloping street, which draws our eyes to other figures disappearing around a corner. Light plays off cobblestones, walls, and roofs, revealing curling plumes of blue-gray smoke rising from chimneys into the air.



North Shore Choral Society is partially funded by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

OUR THANKS ...

... to our friends whose financial support helps make possible the presentation of our concerts and ensures the continuation of our choral tradition. The contributions listed were received between **May 23, 2018 and November 5, 2019**. Contributions received after **November 12, 2019** will be acknowledged in our next concert program.

Contributions can be made on the NSCS Website, northshorechoral.org,
or by mail to NSCS, P.O. Box 103, Evanston, IL 60204-0103.

PRINCIPAL BENEFACTORS (\$1,000 and above)

Anonymous	Alicia & Myron Resnick
John Darrow*	Karen L. Rigotti
Frances M. Faller	Kay & Peter Rossiter
Ron James	Dr. Barbara Struthers
Linda & Tom Keller*	Jean Thompson
Melinda Kwedar	Henry and Karen Vroegh
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Miller	Amy & R. Jason Weller

GUARANTORS (\$500 to \$999)

Linda Faller	Thomas & Lolotte Olkowski
Anthony R. Green	Roxann & Jerry Specht
Julie & Herb McDowell	R. Stephen Warner & Anne Heider
Michael & Christine McGuire	

SUSTAINING MEMBERS (\$250 to \$499)

Sheila & David Crumrine	Bruce & Jane Kenamore
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John & Sally Hakes*	Loretta & Stephen Smith*
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Pam & Ruud Coster	Karen Fish Schurder
Dr. & Mrs. Micheal Cwynar	& Andy Fish Schurder
Else-Britt DeLong	Dorothy Scott
Barbara & Harvey Dershin	Jo Ann Seager
Romayne Fargo	Louis & Eleanor Skydell
Sheran Fiedler	Nancy Slichenmyer & George
Marilyn Fish	Weissler
Louise & William Foy	Patricia Slichenmyer
Lynda & Bill Frillman	William L. Stribling
Deborah Geismar & Leonard Koroski	Jason Sun
Bruce & Betsy Gladfelter	Dorothy & Casmir Szczepaniak
Anne Harkonen	Careen Taylor
Jill Horwitz*	Phebe Tinker
David W. Hunt	Linda Turner
Debi Johnson/The Hair Loft	Kirsten Vogeley
Eric & Mary Johnson	Rich Warren
Pamela Krupp	Stacey Watson
Marilyn & Richard Leipsiger	Birgit Werth
Dr. Myrna Orenstein	Julie & Jay Wygodny
Eva & George Parker	Anne Zald

DONORS (\$50 to \$99)

D. Kevin & Sharon F. Carroll	Jerry Levine & Una Malkinson
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Marianne Kaiser	Dan & Joan Woodard

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Marshall & Sharon Rasof

Sherwin & Ellen Strauss

Linda Valenti

* Indicates a donation eligible for a **Matching Gift** program. We are grateful to those who have initiated these donations. Many companies donate funds through employee matching gift and charitable donation programs. You can increase the impact of your gift by contacting your employer or patronizing businesses with charitable donation programs.

ANONYMOUS GIFTS

We have received donations from several people who want to remain anonymous. We appreciate all such gifts—thank you! If you have given us a gift (such as a cash donation) which you did not intend to be anonymous, and do not see your name acknowledged in the program booklet, please let us know. We do not post names of individual sponsors on our website.

LEGACY GIFTS

Leave a lasting legacy to singers and audiences of the future by providing for the North Shore Choral Society through a bequest in your will or trust, or in an IRA beneficiary designation. You can honor or memorialize a loved one and help build an endowment to carry us forward into the future. Among our members are specialists in estate and charitable gift planning.

Call the Society at 773-741-NSCS (773-741-6727) to arrange a confidential discussion.

GRANTS, FOUNDATION, and CORPORATE SUPPORT

NSCS is grateful for support from the following institutions and organizations:

Faller Insurance Company; Illinois Arts Council

Matching Gifts: The Northern Trust Company; The Pfizer Foundation; The Saints

GIFTS IN KIND

Copying and Printing: Mid-Central Printing and Mailing, Inc., Wilmette
Trim-Tex, Inc., Lincolnwood

Facilities: First Presbyterian Church of Evanston
Trinity Lutheran Church, Evanston Trinity United Methodist Church, Wilmette

Art and Graphic Design: ODA Creative Partners

Ushers: The Saints

Website and Database Maintenance: Debbie Buesing, Gary Hendrickson,
Andrew Hullinger, Jim Miller, Ellen Pullin

DONALD CHEN YOUNG ARTIST AWARD

NSCS Music Director Donald Chen retired at the end of our 72nd season after over twenty-four years with the Choral Society. To honor Dr. Chen, the North Shore Choral Society established the Donald Chen Young Artist Award which rewards talented young singers with solo roles in one of our concerts each season. Donations may be made directly to this fund.

RUTH GOCKEL MEMORIAL FUND

This fund was established in 2002 with a bequest by Ruth A. Gockel, a long-time singer, Principal Benefactor, and former Society president. Ruth was the daughter of the long-time pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Wilmette, where the NSCS Board used to hold its monthly meetings. Ruth's intent was that this fund be used in any way the Board decided. Donations may be made directly to the fund.

DAVID DYNES LARSON MEMORIAL FUND

This fund was established to honor the memory of David Dynes Larson, Music Director of the North Shore Choral Society from 1973 to 1984. Donations and memorial gifts to the fund are to be used for activities that improve the performance and musicianship of the North Shore Choral Society. The following people have made donations in his name: William A. Aki, Friedrich A. Family, Paula L Larson, and Jason Sun. Donations may be made directly to this fund.

HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE

William A. Aki in memory of Margaret Montgomery Larson & David Larson
Pam Anderson in honor of the NSCS Board
Anonymous in memory of Anita Darrow
Roselyn Chrenka & Ralph Maffucci in memory of Margaret Larson
James D. & Bannia Darrow in honor of John Darrow
Cary & Carol Davids in honor of Dr. Julia Davids
Barbara & Harvey Dershin in honor of Milly Silverstein
Friedrich A. Family in memory of Margaret Montgomery Larson & David Larson
Frances M. Faller in honor of Julia Davids
Linda Faller in honor of Karen Rigotti
Romaine Fargo in memory of Joseph Fargo
Marilyn Fish in honor of Karen Fish Schurder
Claire Goulding in honor of our dear friend and beautiful baritone, Scott Paine
Jan Johnson in honor of Lori Smith
Marianne Kaiser in memory of Anita Darrow
Pamela Krupp in honor of Nicholas Krupp
Paula L. Larson in memory of Margaret Larson
Marilyn & Richard Leipsiger in honor of Dr. Julia Davids
Pauline Michael in honor of Amy Weller
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Miller in memory of Anita S. Darrow
Charles & Janice Olson in honor of Sharon Rich Peterson
Mary & Scott Paine in honor of Eric Robison
Eva & George Parker in honor of Inge Kistler
Bill & Ellen Pullin in honor of Marcia Maus Bollo
Marshall & Sharon Rasof in honor of Harry Vroegh
Bonifacio & Carole Rivera in honor of Jonathan & Emily Rivera
Nancy Oft Rose & Mike Rose in honor of Barbara Struthers
Sherwin & Ellen Strauss in honor of Marj Lundy
Jason Sun in memory of Margaret Larson
Mr. & Mrs. John Thomas in honor of Harry Vroegh
Phebe Tinker in honor of William Stribling
Linda Turner in honor of Linda Faller
Linda Valenti in honor of Linda Faller
Kirsten Voageley in memory of Susan Demaree
R. Stephen Warner & Anne Heider in honor of Julia Davids
Stacey Watson in honor of Lori Smith
Jacqueline L. Willrich in honor of Julie McDowell
Julie & Jay Wygodny in honor of Julia Davids

“What Happens When ...”
North Shore Choral Society’s 84th Season Continues!
What Happens When She Sets the Beat?

The NSCS is honored to welcome female guest conductors for a program of music by prominent female composers including a commissioned work by Chicago's Diana Lawrence: a concert that celebrates female musical leadership! Artemisia, Chicago's most versatile women's trio, will join NSCS and inspire singers and audience alike.



**Artemisia Vocal Trio: Diana Lawrence, Alexandra Olsavsky, Kaitlin Foley,
and Music Director Julia Davids**
will be joined by guest conductors Anne Heider, Felicia Patton, and Tierra Whetstone.
Saturday, February 29, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church of Evanston - 1427 Chicago Avenue - Evanston, Illinois

What Happens When Beloved British Composer John Rutter Turns 75?
Happy Birthday, John Rutter!

The NSCS hosts a musical birthday bash! Join us for a celebration of the works of John Rutter including his much-loved Requiem, featuring Sharon R. Peterson, organist, and guest instrumentalists. And don't miss the world premiere of a commissioned work about transformational healing by Canadian composer Hussein Janmohamed.

Sunday, June 7, 2020, 3:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church of Evanston - 1427 Chicago Avenue - Evanston, Illinois

***NSCS will sing with the ESO in the Evanston Symphony Holiday Concert: Handel's Hallelujah
Chorus, Santa with elves, sing-a-long. Sunday, December 8, 2019, 3 p.m.***
evanstonsymphony.org – 847-864-8804

And, NSCS will perform Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the Highland Park Strings
Sunday, May 17, 2020, highlandparkstrings.org – 847-831-3622

North Shore Choral Society – Info 773-741-6727 – Tickets 847-956-8400
northshorechoral.org – P.O. Box 103, Evanston, IL 60204-0103