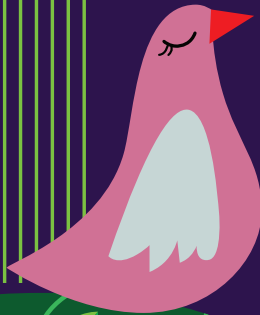


NORTH SHORE CHORAL SOCIETY ~ OUR 87TH SEASON



HeartStrings

Songs to Connect Us!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of EVANSTON

From Julia Davids, NSCS Music Director,
Welcome to **Heartstrings - Songs to Connect Us!**

This is a bit of an unorthodox collaboration - a young, hip Indie/Folk band and a large, "seasoned" Choral Society! But when you look a little closer, you'll find we have much to connect us. On the surface, we share a love of singing and storytelling. Deeper down - an abiding belief in the power of music to connect us all. And, at our hearts, to our families and friends.

NSCS is very honored to collaborate with The Heartstrings Project - we know you're going to be thrilled and moved by their talent, but even more so, by their genuine and generous sharing of their stories. They're also passionately dedicated to children and supporting the mental health and wellness of young people through arts experiences and creativity. On Tuesday, Heartstrings led a workshop with the kids at the Fleetwood Jourdain Center in Evanston, as part of NSCS's program to offer arts programming for the kids at the afterschool program.

On Saturday, we created a new community here with a free intergenerational workshop combining movement, music, and mindfulness. If you hear someone in the audience start singing with the Heartstrings and NSCS, they were part of that amazing workshop! We'll welcome all workshop participants to officially join us on stage to sing with Heartstrings at the end of the concert.

We leave space in this concert for spontaneity - there may be friends who will join us on stage, the song list might change, you may feel compelled to sing along to "Big Yellow Taxi"! We are excited and privileged to be part of the storytelling and music making that connects us together as families and communities.

A huge personal thanks and expression of my admiration to brothers Luke and Elias, such amazing talents and phenomenal musicians and incredible people. They are so very kind, with deep wells of compassion and intelligence that they share with all they know. Their mother Julie and their grandmother Marilyn Kaplan have both sung with the NSCS. And now, Marina will be joining the family! I'm grateful to the Wygodny's for welcoming me into their family soon after I moved to the United States. What a joy to make music together again.

Cover Art

Andy Hullinger designed the poster and the booklet cover for our concert today,
Heartstrings - Songs to Connect Us

Heartstrings - Songs to Connect Us The Heartstrings Project



Sam Quiggins, Elias Wygodny, Marina Pires, Luke Wygodny, Peter Spero

The Heartstrings Project is an indie folk/american group from the woods of New York's Hudson Valley. The band is comprised of Luke Wygodny, Marina Pires, Elias Wygodny, Samuel Quiggins, and Peter Spero. Heartstrings was up for consideration at the 64th Grammy Awards 2022: Best Americana Album of the Year and Best American Roots Song. They performed at Yusuf/Cat Stevens' 50th Anniversary of Tea for the Tillerman with Dave Matthews Band, HAIM and more. They've also been Deepak Chopra's Monthly Featured Artist Pick on Spotify. Through multiple instruments and voices the group balances careful craftsmanship to seamlessly move between harmonies, creating textural landscapes that range from ethereal cinematic ballads to traditional foot stomping folk anthems. The result is an intentional performance capturing in-the-moment chemistry of longtime friends making music - on a mission to carry out the tradition of truth telling.



**Julia Davids, Music Director,
And The Heartstrings Project**

Heartstrings, Songs to Connect us

Sharon Rich Peterson, Pianist

The Heartstrings Project

AM Marina Pires

Of the Sea Luke Wygodny, Marina Pires, Elias Wygodny

North Shore Choral Society

Will the Circle Be Unbroken Traditional Appalachian, arr. David Moore

The Water is Wide Scottish Folk Song, arr. René Clausen

Traci Bowering, *clarinet* **Sam Quiggins**, *cello*

Teach Your Children Well Graham Nash, arr. Dirk Walvoord

On Children Ysaye Barnwell Kahlil Gibran, lyrics

Tierra Whetstone Christian, *conductor*

Barrett's Privateers Stan Rogers Sean Carroll, transcription

Luke and Elias Wygodny, *soloists*

Big Yellow Taxi Joni Mitchell, arr. Greg Gilpin

Bridge Over Troubled Water Paul Simon, arr. Kirby Shaw

Tierra Whetstone Christian, *soloist*

North Shore Choral Society and The Heartstrings Project

One Voice Ruth Moody, arr. Marceline Moody

~Intermission~

The Heartstrings Project

Hello Luke Wygodny and Marina Pires

Trees Luke Wygodny and Marina Pires

At Least the Bed is Made Marina Pires and Luciana Pires

The Line Marina Pires and Luke Wygodny

30 Luke Wygodny

Run Marina Pires

Hello Truth Luke Wygodny

Just a Lil Bit Luke Wygodny and Marina Pires

Sorrow Luke Wygodny

Bird Song Marina Pires

Heartstrings with NSCS and Workshop Participants

The Waves Luke Wygodny

PM Marina Pires

Don't Forget About Me Luke Wygodny, Elias Wygodny,
Marina Pires, Julie Wygodny

Heartstrings Saturday Workshop Committee

Cristina Brown David Crumrine Fran Faller Linda Faller
Jane Kenamore Karen Rigotti Emily Rivera
Elizabeth Weismehl Carli Witt

North Shore Choral Society thanks St. Lambert Church in Skokie, our weekly rehearsal space, for their help. Thanks to **Janice Dobschuetz**, Senior Administrator at First Presbyterian Church of Evanston, along with **Hannah Dixon McConnell**, Evan Peters, Jim Teague, Andy Wallgren, Jason Allen, Aaron Budorf, and Joe Sickles.

Thanks to The Saints who ushered today: Anna Fedyshyn, Jacqueline A Grossmann, Ken Hallas, Bob Herling, Patricia M Slawniak, Dena Weisbard, and their coordinator, Lynn Bowers.

North Shore Choral Society's Mission

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.

The North Shore Choral Society is partially supported by a grant from the Evanston Arts Council and the Illinois Arts Council Agency through federal funds provided by the National Endowment for the Arts.



PROGRAM NOTES

The music you'll hear today represents a wide variety of "folk" music, all telling stories that are important to us as humans. **Will the Circle Be Unbroken** is a Traditional Appalachian hymn, originally appearing in Alexander's Gospel Songs. The lyrics talk about singing with our brothers, sisters, and friends, "And we all can sing together, 'cause the circle never ends," perfectly encapsulating our concert and NSCS community.

The Water is Wide is a Scottish/English folk song, derived from "Waly, Waly" (Woe Is Me), with lyrics that date back to the 1600s. It is also related to the Northern Irish song Carrickfergus. Covered by great artists, this lyrical lament talks about the many sides of love. There are many variants of the song, with the modern version being introduced and made popular by Pete Seeger in the late 1950s.

Over the years, NSCS chorus member Dirk Walvoord has shared some of his arrangements and musical experiences so I knew he was the PERFECT person to do a custom arrangement for this concert. We discussed a number of possibilities but kept coming back to Graham Nash's **Teach Your Children Well**. Its poignant melody simply expresses some of the complexity and the love between parents and children. We're so grateful to Dirk for his creativity in composing this arrangement for us.

Another piece that explores parent/child relationships is Ysaye M. Barnwell's setting for upper voices of Kahlil Gibran's poetry, **On Children**. This is a powerful anthem proclaiming the independence of children and the need for parents to support but not control them. Ysaye Barnwell is well known for her singing and workshops with Sweet Honey In The Rock, a performance ensemble rooted in African American history and culture.

Barrett's Privateers is representative of the sea chanty - this one by the great Stan Rogers. A strophic song, the simple melody unfolds into lush harmonies carried by the lower voices as the soloists lead us through the tragic tale of the ship the Antelope and her crew of fishermen from Halifax, Canada. For many communities throughout history, singing was the prime vehicle to share history and keep it alive for future generations.

Big Yellow Taxi unites storytelling with environmental protest, lamenting that we've "paved paradise and put up a parking lot." The catchy rhythms and simple melody combined with Joni Mitchell's soulful delivery made this a huge hit for her, and an enduring song that continues to resonate.

All of us go through hard times - as individuals and as communities. Paul Simon's **Bridge Over Troubled Water** perfectly expresses how alone we can feel and how our communities can be there to support and elevate us. This really resonates with the singers of the North Shore Choral Society; after a full year of distanced rehearsals over Zoom, we're grateful to be back singing together.

One Voice by Ruth Moody of the Wailin' Jennys, musically depicts how one voice can share a song and little by little, gather us into a community "Singin' with love and the will to trust."
Julia Davids

LYRICS

North Shore Choral Society and The Heartstrings Project

AM *Marina Pires*

Sunshine rise over me

Keep my hands steady as I play the part.
Keep my eyes open as my steady heart and
Keep my heart open wide wide.

Of the Sea *Luke Wygodny, Marina Pires, Elias Wygodny*

Can you take me away from here?
Can you take me away from here?
I need your face to face my fears

Chorus

Oh, it's you my love
It's you my love
It's you my love who helps me breathe

Take my hand and run with me ...
Fear not love we're of the sea
chorus

When do we listen
When do we listen to our hearts ...

Don't grow away from me
Oh it's you my love
It's you my love who brings me peace.

Will the Circle Be Unbroken *text, Cathy Winter, Betsy Rose, Marcia Taylor*
music, Traditional Appalachian

Will the circle be unbroken by and by, Lord, by and by.
There's a better home a-waitin' if we try, Lord, if we try.

I was singing with my sisters and my brothers, I was singing with my friends.
And we all can sing together 'cause the circle never ends.
Oh, will the circle be unbroken by and by, Lord, by and by.
There's a better home a-waitin' if we try, Lord, if we try.

I was born down in the valley where the sun refuse' to shine;
But I'm climbing up to the highland, gonna make that mountain mine!
Oh, will the circle be unbroken by and by, Lord, by and by.
There's a better home a-waitin' in the sky, Lord, in the sky.

The Water Is Wide *arr. René Clausen, Traditional Folk Song*

The water is wide, I cannot get o'er,
And neither have I wings to fly.
Give me a boat that can carry two,
And both shall row, my love and I.

Down in the meadow the other day,
A'gath'ring flow'rs both bright and gay
A'gath'ring flow'rs both red and blue
I little thought what love can do.

I leaned my back up against an oak.
I thought it was a trusty tree,
But first it swayed, and then it broke,

And so my false love, did unto to me.

Oh love is warm when it is new,
And love is sweet when it is true,
But love grows old and waxes cold,
And fades away like morning dew.

Teach Your Children *Graham Nash, arr. Dirk Walvoord*

You, who are on the road
Must have a code that you can live by
And so, become yourself
Because the past is just a goodbye.

Teach your children well
Their father's hell did slowly go by
And feed them on your dreams
The one they pick's the one you'll know by

Don't you ever ask them why
If they told you, you would cry
So just look at them and sigh
And know they love you.

And you (Can you hear) of tender years (And do you care)
Can't know the fears (And can you see)
That your elders grew by (We must be free)
And so, please help (To teach your children)
Them with your youth (What you believe in?)
They seek the truth (Make a world)
Before they can die. (That we can live in.)

And teach your parents well
Their children's hell will slowly go by
And feed them on your dreams
The one they pick's the one you'll know by.

Don't you ever ask them why
If they told you, you will cry
So just look at them and sigh
And know they love you.

On Children *text, Kahlil Gibran music, Ysaye M. Barnwell*

Your children are not your children;
They are the sons and daughters of life's longing for itself.
They come through you, but they are not from you,
And though they are with you, they belong not to you.

You can give them your love, but not your thoughts,
They have their own thoughts..
You can house their bodies but not their souls,
For their souls dwell in a place of tomorrow,
Which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.

You can strive to be like them, but you cannot make them just like you.
Strive to be like them, but you cannot make them just like you!

Barrett's Privateers *Stan Rogers, transcription Sean Carroll*

O, the year was Seventeen Seventy-Eight.
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
A letter of marque came from the king
To the scummiest vessel I've ever seen

Chorus

God damn them all!
I was told we'd cruise the seas for American gold,
We'd fire no guns, shed no tears,
I'm a broken man on a Halifax pier,
The last of Barrett's Privateers.

Well, Elcid Barrett cried the town
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
For twenty brave men all fishermen
Who would make for him the Antelope's crew.

chorus

The Antelope sloop was a sickening sight
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
Went a-list to the port and her sails in rags
And the cook in the scuppers with the staggers and jags.

chorus

On the King's birthday we put to sea
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
We were ninety-one days to Montego Bay
Pumping like madmen all the way.

chorus

On the ninety-sixth day we sailed again
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
When a bloody big Yankee hove in sight
With our cracked four-pounders we made to fight.

chorus

The Yankee lay low down with gold
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
She was broad and fat and loose in stays
But to catch her took the Antelope two whole days.

chorus

At length we stood two cables away
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
Our cracked four-pounders made an awful din
But with one fat ball the Yank stove us in.

chorus

The Antelope shook and pitched on her side
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
Well Barrett was smashed like a bowl of eggs
And the main truck carried off both me legs.

chorus

So here I lay in my twenty-third year
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
It's been six years since we sailed away
And I just made Halifax yesterday.

chorus

Big Yellow Taxi *Joni Mitchell, arr. Greg Gilpin*

They paved paradise, put up a parking lot
With a pink hotel, a boutique, and a swingin' hot spot

Refrain

Don't it always seem to go
That you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone?
They paved paradise, put up a parking lot.
Shoo bop, bop, bop. Shoo bop, bop.

They took all the trees put 'em in a tree museum
And they charged the people a dollar an' a half just to see 'em.

refrain

Hey farmer put away that DDT now.
Give me spots on my apples, but leave me the birds and the bees.
Please.

refrain

Late last night I heard the screen door slam.
And a big yellow taxi took away my old man.

Bridge Over Troubled Water *Paul Simon, arr. Kirby Shaw*

I'll be your bridge o'er troubled water, when you're down,
I will carry you like a bridge o'er troubled water,
I will lay me down.

When you're weary, feelin' small,
When tears are in your eyes, I will dry them all; I'm on your side.
Oh, when times get rough and friends just can't be found,
Like a bridge over troubled water I will lay me down.

When you're down and out, when you're on the street, my Lord,
When evening falls so hard, I will comfort you. I'll take your part.
Oh, when darkness comes, and pain is all around,
Like a bridge over troubled water I will lay me down.

Sail on silver girl, sail on by.
Your time has come to shine.
All your dreams are on their way, see how they shine.

Oh if you need a friend, look around, I'm sailing right behind.
Like a bridge over troubled water I will ease your mind.

I'll be your bridge o'er troubled water, when you're down,
I will carry you like a bridge o'er troubled water,
I will lay me down.

One Voice *Ruth Moody*

This is the sound of one voice,
One spirit, one voice,
The sound of one who makes a choice
This is the sound of one voice.

This is the sound of voices two,
The sound of me singin' with you.
Helping each other to make it through
This is the sound of voices two.

This is the sound of voices three,
Singing together in harmony,
Surrendering to the mystery
This is the sound of voices three.

This is the sound of all of us
Singing with love and the will to trust.
Leave the rest behind, it'll turn to dust
This is the sound of all of us.

This is the sound of one voice,
One people, one voice.
A song for ev'ry one of us,
This is the sound of one voice.

~Intermission~

Hello *Luke Wygodny and Marina Pires*

Hello Hello
Don't that sky seem to glow this time of day?
Hello Hello

Don't be shy, I wanna know ya.
What's your name?

Chorus

I am always in amazement
That these guns won't go away
Maybe it's time that we stop praying and say
Hello

Hello hello
Good to see you my friend, this drink's on me.
Hello hello
You've got something inside the world don't see.
chorus

Hello Hello You have seen it all those years ago
Hello Hello mmm those big brown eyes
I love them so
chorus

Hello ...

Trees *Luke Wygodny and Marina Pires*

The buds start to sprout
In the spring the sun comes out
Let it all release into the air

As the sea is green on land
let our hair down - understand
pixelated summer blues

Chorus

Everyone tries to heal me
Everyone tries to tell me why

Oh the fall comes again
The colors of an autumn land
Ooo echo the changes as our own

And when that winter comes to town
The leaves all float down
Leaving me naked as they go

chorus

Time is always a rushin'
The trees know somethin' we can't find

So I vow to try and find
A belief without really tryin
Hear the sweet and gentle sound
And when they finally sprout again
I'll do my best to understand
A secret deep beneath the ground

At Least the Bed Is Made *Marina Pires and Luciana Pires*

Everything is out of place
It's raining and the day is gray
I miss my home, it's hard to wait
but at least my bed is made

The world is a cold, cold place I know
But at least the bed is made
My body's changed. When I wake I ache
It's hard to dream on such a day
The sun is hiding and the sky is gray
My hands are hurting as the pencil is tracing

The world is a cold, cold place I know
But at least the bed is made

My car was taken
My dreams are breaking
At least the sheets are soft

My toes are painted
My hands are not
At least my food is hot
At least the bed is made

The Line *Marina Pires and Luke Wygodny*

How? How do you know?

That this is the end, the end of the line?

Don't. Don't you forget

At the end of it all, we head back to the start?

Soon. Soon we will plan

To make it ok. To work it all out

Lest. Lest we forget

That the truth means nothing. Without doubt

Holding on. Holding on to nothing

Holding on. Holding onto quiet in my head

Time has passed on by

Told me where to go. Told me who to be

But now. Now I know

That chasing time, won't set me free

Fear. Fear has a plan

To make me ask myself all the reasons why

But how? How do you know that this is the end

The end of the line?

Holding on, holding on to nothing

Holding on, Holding onto quiet in my head

you.

Now I should probably know

Should probably know better than to hold on tight

The grip round my heart

Was put there by a woman, blind.

To stay would be a sin

Much greater than the choice to go

This line is ending soon

And the reason is ...

That now I know

Holdin on holdin onto nothin,
Holdin on Holdin on to something

30 *Luke Wygodny*

Maybe we're all just asleep
When asleep we're awake
Dreamers all just believe
Reality is the mistake

Let it all go man
Counting a piece of some puzzle in my hand
A maze we all make ourselves
It's harder to see in a bubble

Maybe the freedom we seek
Is all in spoke as we ride down the street
We don't always need a sign
Just the wind to push us through the times

Or maybe the moment is this
Stuck on a wheel pretending to exist
No more coasting for me
It's all within the strength that I've seen

Breaking the wind with my thoughts
Breaking the wind for a family
Finding the courage to talk
Or just take a breath look around look around

Maybe it's all just a dream
Maybe the wheels hold me up so patiently
Flying high in my lane
It's me out on the road

Chorus

And I hold my ground
And I'm never gonna give up now

All these streets look different
Seasons change in front of me

Yet I change with the seasons
Maybe it's something to do with how I breathe
It gets deeper somehow
Gettin' older and finally feel the ground
There's some strangers in me
Hello you fools you beautiful mistakes
I won't push you away
The gift of a soul so unafraid
So as long as I know
I'll stay on the open road
chorus

Run *Marina Pires*

When I see your name, my eyes look away
As if to escape the thought that I'm not the only one.
When I hear your voice, I remember the days
When I'd tremble aloud to his empty ears and he'd reach for my hand.
And he'd say, "run girl, run."
Far away from the choices that haunt you so.
Far away from the voice that says, "don't let go."
When I see your face I'm actually fine
Cause I see the truth
In all of the thoughts that you're trying to hide.
And I see his too and I know full well
That all the parts of his heart that I can't live without
Are the same parts that put you through hell.
Oh I say, "run girl, run."
Far away from the choices that haunt you so
Far away from the voice that says, "don't let go."
Cause that voice it controls and it takes a hold.
It makes you feel small and it'll keep you cold
And it tells you it loves you then it swallows you whole.
Cause that voice is the heart of your aching soul.
that voice is a part of your aching soul

Ooh the voice is the heart of your aching soul
the voices, ah.

Run fast, run past -
the tears and the doubts of being alone.
Cause your heart is the only heart that is home.
Yeah, your heart is the only heart that is home.
Ooh, Your heart is the only heart that is home.

Hello Truth *Luke Wygodny*

*the truth is lying in my mouth
the truth is hiding in my soul
i don't know where i'm going now
the truth it resonates within me now
i never wanna go out
and tell my secrets to you
whose truth do you need
I never agreed
I got my whole life ahead of me
there's truth stuck in my mouth
it never will come out
until I step into the role I wanna be*

The fear it takes me by the hand
The fear is dancing all around
I sink into its love affair

The fear - this made up little friend of mine
The doctor for my truth disease
You zip up empty space inside

This fear that I need
I never agreed
Damn you for hiding what's inside of me

There's fear stuck in my mouth
It always will come out
Until I step into this role I wanna be

When you're constantly on your own
Always in your thoughts

When you're constantly all alone
Always in your thoughts

Hello truth

Just a Lil Bit *Luke Wygodny and Marina Pires*

There's a little bit of anger in my head
There's a little bit of anger in my head
There's a little bit of anger in my head
I'm gon let it go

There's a little bit of love left in my heart
Just a little bit of love left in my heart.

There's a little bit of love left in my heart
I'm gon let you go

And when the wind blows harder
And the night grows darker
I'll dance with you

There's a little bit of sadness goin round
Just a little bit of sadness goin round
There's a little bit of sadness round my town
I'm gon let it go I'm gon let it go

And when the wind picks up now
And the storm moves in

I'm gonna let it go ...

There's a little bit of happiness in here
There's a little spark of magic in the air
And maybe if we give into fear
We'll let it go

And when that wind picks up now
and the storm sinks in
And the secrets lifted

And the truth caves in
It's time to let it go ...
It's time to let it
There's a little bit of sadness in my heart

Sorrow *Luke Wygodny*

fight the fight
don't look back it's all you have
it'll be alright
don't be afraid i got your back

don't hold on so tight
just let go its always new
if only i could allow my mind to rest in you

but there's too much sorrow
in the way

so i compete with age
growing pains to become a man
so i turn the page
wake up early & start again

but there's too much sorrow
too much sorrow

& i was born forgiven
all that comes my way
& i was born for livin
but i'm wastin' my time
just wastin' my time

i was born for giving
all that comes my way
i was born for living
and i'm takin' my time
takin my time

ahhh ...
too much sorrow in the way

Bird Song *Marina Pires*

I always feel the need to fly away
So much easier to go than choose to stay
And though I'm happy never truly knowing anything...

I roam and fall in love with fractured pieces of people
I fall head over heels for cobblestones and church steeples
But now my mind is growing weary with every passing city

What is love?

I'd rather hit the road than stay inside
I've got too many places left to hide
But through tears I always find my way back home to you
Even birds make nests sometimes

I found a quiet place where I feel sound.
And when I'm there my feet don't touch the ground.
But goodbyes are getting harder.
And finding new hellos to fill me up is getting rough.

But What is Love?
What is Love?

It's no coincidence that I'm having a hard time giving in,
It's no coincidence that life don't really make much sense.
No coincidence ...

What is Love?
Mm, what is love?

I realize now my heart is one big scar.
And to heal it I need you and your guitar.
And when there's love, oh and there's love here, I never want to leave.

I've never known a nest that's weathered storms as well as you.
And though goodbyes are the hardest thing a human heart can do,
I'll do my best.
My heart can rest.
Even birds make nests.

The Waves *Luke Wygodny*

*THE SUN WILL RISE TO WARM YOUR SOUL
IT SMILES ABOVE AS IT LOOKS BELOW
THE MOON WILL HEAL YOU FROM YOUR DAY
THE STARS WILL GUIDE YOU ON YOUR WAY

THE RAIN WILL GRACE YOU EARTH WITH TEARS
PROTECT YOU FROM DROWNING IN YOUR FEARS
THE WIND WILL CALM YOU FROM THIS HEAT
THIS MESSENGER IN ME*

*LISTEN ...
TO THE WAVES AS THEY SAY*

*THE CALMEST SEA REFLECTS THE SKY
THE SKY REFLECTS A HUMANS EYES
AND HERE WE LIVE INSIDE YOU WORLD
OR DO YOU WORLD LIVE INSIDE OUR MINDS*

*LISTEN ...
TO THE WAVES AS THEY SAY*

*FALLING INTO THE CURRENT I'M ONE WITH THE SEA ...
FALLING ...
FALLING DOWN*

*SOMEDAY WE'LL BE DEAD AND GONE
SPENDING LIFE TRYIN' TO FIX WHAT'S WRONG
WE LIVE FOR PEACE FOR CHANGE FOR LIGHT
WE'RE JUST A BREATH OF THIS THING CALLED LIFE*

PM *Marina Pires*

*Moonbeam rise over me
Keep my head from shaking when I know too well
Keep me feelin' heaven as i walk through hell and
Keep my heart open wide
Wide Keep my heart open wide...*

Don't Forget About Me *Luke Wygodny, Elias Wygodny, Marina Pires,
Julie Wygodny*

Here in this room we learned how to be
Two young souls in need
To free the artists mind

There's beauty in a thought
Which turns into a word
A shield or a weapon
That's for us to decide

You kept us oh so free
To be oh to be
To dig into a world
That is beyond the world I see

An open path of love
You unlocked a fearful mind
Teaching us to find
The reality of peace

Don't forget about me he says
Don't forget about me ...

So it's me and my brother
We are here to sing this song
To keep the spark on goin'
As you did for so long

You kept the truth a ringin'
So we promise we'll keep on singin'
And raise a glass to nothin'
That's all you did for love

So don't forget about me
Don't forget about me he says ...

There she is
A suitcase in her hand
It's time to leave again
For another dream she's had

She takes off to find
That she's safer in the skies
And no ones left behind
You are free to fly

So don't forget about me

Don't forget about me she says ...

Don't forget about me my friends ...

Don't forget about me

PROFILES



Now in her fourteenth year with the North Shore Choral Society, **Dr. Julia Davids** is passionate about the difference music makes for individuals and communities. She comes from London, Ontario, Canada, where she grew up singing in the Amabile Youth Choir, her church choir, and the Ontario Youth Choir. She now enjoys singing professionally with Bella Voce and other choirs in the Chicago area.

Julia is the Stephen J. Hendrickson Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at North Park University, where she directs the University Choir and Chamber Singers and teaches vocal pedagogy and conducting. Julia co-authored with Stephen LaTour the award-winning book, *Vocal Technique – A Guide for Conductors, Teachers, and Singers*, published by Waveland Press, now in a second edition. She is a frequent workshop and master class leader and has presented at numerous conferences for organizations including Choral Canada, the American Choral Director's Association, and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Julia also serves as Director of Music Ministries at Trinity United Methodist Church, Wilmette.

Julia is a founding member of the Canadian Chamber Choir, Canada's national professional choir dedicated to building communities through choral singing. Artistic Director of the CCC since 2004, Julia returns to Canada multiple times a year to conduct and sing with the ensemble. The Canadian

Chamber Choir's 2016 recording *Sacred Reflections of Canada – A Canadian Mass* was nominated for a Juno award for Classical Album of the Year, Choral or Vocal Performance. Julia has earned degrees at Western University, the University of Michigan, and a D.M. from Northwestern University. She lives in Skokie with her husband and their two children.



Chicago native and opera singer **Tierra Whetstone-Christian**, assistant music director, enjoys the state of excitement that comes upon others when a song is involved. Tierra holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from North Park University where she studied conducting and voice. Tierra has had the honor to perform with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Evanston Symphony Orchestra, Savannah Philharmonic, the Chicago Fringe Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, and the Elgin Symphony Orchestra.

When Tierra is not singing or teaching she's most likely acting it out on stage. Tierra has had the privilege to work with open door theater, eta Theatre, and Pegasus Theatre in Chicago. In 2013, she was nominated for the Black Theater Alliance award for best supporting actress in a play. Tierra is also a part of Adrian Dunn Singers, a well-rounded group of all Black musicians. Tierra is an enthusiastic teacher and loves what her students teach her every day.

Most recently, Tierra had the pleasure of singing backup for Michael Bublé on his Higher Tour at the Allstate Arena in Chicago.



Sharon Rich Peterson has been Accompanist for the Chicago Symphony Chorus since 1978. She is also a Collaborative Pianist at North Park University, DePaul University, Grant Park Festival Chorus, and with numerous instrumentalists and singers in the Chicago area. Accompanist for the North Shore Choral Society since 1979, Sharon is also Organist at Village Presbyterian Church, Northbrook, and North Park Theological Seminary,

Chicago.

Sharon served on the board of the American Guild of Organists' North Shore Chapter for several years and is Hospitality Chair for the June 2023 Great Lakes Regional AGO Convention. Originally from Jamestown, NY, she attended North Park College in Chicago, where she met her husband, Charles (Charley). Sharon earned an MM in Collaborative Piano at Northwestern University. Living seven years in Scandinavia, teaching at Södra Vätterbygdens Folkhögskola (Jönköping, Sweden), playing concerts, and working at the Royal Academy of Music in Oslo, Norway, led to her specialty in Scandinavian piano and organ repertoire.

Sharon's specialties include the classical saxophone repertoire, especially the annual Frederick L. Hemke Saxophone Institute, Sydney, ME, and coaching Swedish and Norwegian, including at the Lyric Opera of Chicago. She and Charley live in the North Park neighborhood, not far from their daughter, Stina Dufour, her husband, John, and their children, Elizabeth and Joshua. Son, Kaj Peterson, lives with his wife, Hannah, in San Francisco.

The Heartstrings Project



Sam Quiggins, Elias Wygodny, Marina Pires, Luke Wygodny, Peter Spero

Marina Pires is a Brazilian-American actress and singer-songwriter. Past works include Gloria in the First Broadway National Tour of *On Your Feet!*; Ashley Amigo in *How to Dance in Ohio* at Syracuse Stage; Conchita in *Anna in the Tropics* at Barrington Stage; Rapunzel in *Into The Woods* at the Adrienne Arsht Center; Vanessa in *In The Heights* at Dallas Theatre Center, and Evita at the Asolo Reperatory. Marina is also a lyricist specializing in Folk

and Musical Theatre styles. Her music has been featured in the off-broadway musical *A Never-Ending Line*, and at Broadway-Au-Carre in Paris, composed by Jaime Lozano. Their song "Mountain In The Sky" was nominated for a MAC award in New York. She's a proud orbiting member of Marisa Michaelson's Constellation Chor in New York City. As a composer and lyricist, Marina is currently developing a new musical titled *EXIST*, exploring immigration reform and life in exile.

Marina believes that the creative practice of artistic expression in community is the most powerful tool we have in unifying and healing the world. Website: marinapires.com IG: @marinapires

Luke Wygodny, born and raised in Chicago, grew up living and breathing music. His dad always cranked up the Allman Brothers and Jimi Hendrix while his mom shared storytelling through Phil Ochs, Bob Dylan and Cat Stevens. At a very young age Wygodny found peace through his cello. As he got older he found himself jamming on his dad's beat up old Yamaha guitar. He started writing songs and in his teens was found playing gigs all over the Chicagoland area. While in high school, Luke dove into the acting world which led him to Syracuse University, and right after to NYC to pursue a career in the performing arts.

As a singer/songwriter Wygodny has a collection of songs under the band *Water & Rye*. Also back in the day, he recorded a solo album entitled *Collecting Sea Glass* (which he keeps tucked away in his childhood basement in the Chicago burbs). He most recently released *The Heartstrings Project* debut album, *Shadow People*. He is currently working on the next project with Heartstrings and kicking off the *Broken Open* tour here in his hometown of Chicago.

As an actor he was recently seen as Judas in *Godspell* at PCLO. He has toured the country in the Broadway musical *Once* (Glen Hansard music), *American Idiot* (Green Day music), *Soul Doctor* (Shlomo Carlebach music), and *Hundred Days* (The Bengsons music).

Elias Wygodny grew up in Chicagoland, Illinois, surrounded by music, drama, and clay. Elias's relationship with musical vibrations began in utero when brother Luke would practice the cello. Luke began playing cello at two and a

half years old and Elias was born one year later. They have been in music together all of Elias's life.

Alongside the music, Elias can be found on stage or behind the scenes as an actor and acting teacher, or at the pottery studio as a ceramicist, or in the yoga studio taking or teaching a yoga class or co-leading a yoga teacher training program. With a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre from the University of Michigan and a Graduate Certificate in Mind, Brain, and Teaching from the Johns Hopkins School of Education, Elias loves exploring the many emerging connections between artistic expression, socio-emotional wellbeing, learning, and development, and why it is important to continue making meaningful art with ourselves, with others, with the planet, and with the universe.

Samuel Quiggins is from Nashville, Tennessee where he began playing the cello at the age of 5. He was trained in classical music at a young age through the Suzuki method and eventually went on to study and receive his Bachelor of Music degree at the Manhattan School of Music. He currently is based in NYC as a freelance cellist. Although Samuel's training and roots come from classical music training, he has spent his years since school immersing himself into other genres found in New York's diverse music scene.

Samuel and Luke met while working together in 2013 for the international Broadway musical tour of Green Day's *American Idiot*. It didn't take long for them to realize that they had a strong connection through music and they have been playing together ever since. For Sam, music has always been his most natural form of communication.

Starting cello at a young age allowed for music to become a tool for him to genuinely express himself. Samuel believes that music serves society as a universal language that transcends standard forms of interaction between individuals. To him, expression through art is simply a vessel to carry and share the identity of one's soul to another. Samuel's passion for music is matched only with his love of whiskey, tank tops, and an endless need to connect and create with other passionate people.

Peter Spero is a musician, composer, orchestrator, producer, director, studio engineer, song writer, and performing artist. He has scored several feature length films; credits include 3 films directed by Robert Alaniz. As a musician

and band member Peter has been signed to MCA, RCA, and Chrysalis records. He has worked on projects with producers Mike Chapman (Blondie), Frank Filipetti (7x grammy winning music producer), Don Dixon, Dave Gibson, and performed live with Shania Twain, REO Speedwagon, among others. This year Peter has been inducted into the Illinois Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

About the NSCS Choral Scholars The Choral Scholars program targets high school and 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 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 Julia 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 look forward to a post pandemic time when we can once again welcome a Choral Scholar.

Young singers interested in this program should contact General Manager Karen Rigotti. northshorechoral@gmail.com

Heartstrings — Songs to Connect Us!

CHORUS

Soprano

Pam Anderson
Kathryn Bauer
Marcia Maus Bollo
Cristina Brown*
Debbie Buesing
Jennifer Chertow
Sarah Csontos*
Katherine Ewalt
Sheran Fiedler
Maria del Rosario
Gomez

Judith Greene
Martha Kinzel
Laura Koroski*
Melissa Lindner
Dala Lucas
Elise Marren
Michelle Marvin
Julie McDowell
Christine McGuire
Colleen Moeller

Leslie Muir
Donna Nitahara
Catherine Porter
Celeste Cifala Roy
Karen Fish Schurder
Dorothy Scott
Roxann Specht
Elizabeth Weismehl
Carli Witt
Anna Zahm

Alto

Traci Bowering	Emily Hunt	Barbara Scavone
Barbara Brantigan	Lynn Kendall	Jo Ann Seager
Susan Cherry	Marilyn Leipsiger	Nancy Slichenmyer
Arlene Cwynar	Sarah Loeffler*	Loretta Smith
Becky Davies	Carrie Marr	Erica Sufritz
Else-Britt DeLong	Stephanie McDaniel	Judy Taylor
Sheila Marin Duran	Joan Merchan	Jan van Straaten
Christine Dworak	Lorena Neal	Stacey Watson
Fusayo Errico	Caroline Ost	Amy Weller
Fran Faller	Mindy Pierce	Tierra Whetstone-
Linda Faller	Elena Repp	Christian
Nancy Friday	Karen L. Rigotti	Julie Wygodny
Debbie Geismar	Emily Rivera	Anne Zald
Jill Horwitz	Kay Rossiter	

*indicates singer in Run ensemble

Tenor

David Crumrine	Carl Kettler	Nathan Martin
John Darrow	Jeff Kinzel	Denny Roberts
George Halik	Nicholas Krupp	Milly Silverstein
Tim Henry	Sanna Longden	David W. Taylor

Bass

Terry Duchow	John Howard	Eric Robison
Andrew Fisher	David Hunt	John Summerhays
Alexander Gonzalez	Thomas Keller	Dirk Walvoord
Gary Hendrickson	Frank Lucas	Scott Wechsler

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

other performing artists and groups. NSCS is thrilled to be collaborating with “The Heartstrings Project.” Today’s concert is the culmination of a partnership which started with a workshop facilitated on Tuesday for the children at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center. Yesterday, here at First Presbyterian Church, they led an “all ages and stages” community workshop on music, movement, and mindfulness. It has been a privilege to work with this vibrant and authentic group of performers as they continue to spread peace, resilience, and well-being wherever they go.

NSCS once again performed in the Evanston Symphony Orchestra Holiday Concert on Sunday, December 11, 2022.

the arts community. NSCS continues to be an active participant in the Evanston Arts community. We work with other local arts organizations, continually addressing racial inequity in Evanston, while striving to improve the diversity and inclusiveness of our respective organizations. NSCS is a current member of the Evanston Performing Arts Collective, a consortium with the mission of “Celebrating Life, Community, and the Arts.”

talented young Chicago singers. The Donald Chen Young Artist Award was established to reward talented young singers with a solo role in one of our concerts.

music lovers in retirement communities. NSCS was featured at one of our favorite events, a holiday concert at Three Crowns Park Retirement Community on December 18, 2022.

music students. The NSCS Choral Scholars program engages 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.

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. A very popular hip-hop dance residency was recently completed, facilitated by Timothy Tsang from the Evanston Dance Ensemble.

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

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 **October 1, 2021 and February 11, 2023**. Contributions received after **February 11, 2023** will be acknowledged in our next concert booklet.

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)

David & Sheila Crumrine
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Mr. James W. Miller
Alicia & Myron Resnick

Karen L. Rigotti
Kay & Peter Rossiter
Kathryn Skelton
Roxann & Jerry Specht
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Amy & R. Jason Weller

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Jan Marie Aramini & Michael Pettersen
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Gary Hendrickson

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Kennette Benedict
Marcia Maus Bollo
Ann R. Clark
Julia & Martin Davids
Else-Britt DeLong
Linda Faller
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Debi Johnson

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* 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.

MATCHING GIFTS

This season matching gifts were provided by
The Saints and U.S. Bank Foundation.

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.

Your Contribution Is Important

Principal support for the North Shore Choral Society comes from the generosity of individual and corporate sponsors as well as from ticket sales during our concert season. Your contribution, large or small, is important. It ensures that North Shore Choral Society can continue to offer:

- authentic performances that use the composers' original vocal scores and their designated instrumentations
- diverse concerts ranging from traditional choral masterworks to vibrant thematic programs with rich, relevant repertoire
- exciting collaborations with ensembles, orchestras, and local and international soloists
- ongoing community engagement and mentoring programs for young artists

Contributions can be made on our website, northshorechoral.org, or by mail to NSCS, PO Box 103, Evanston IL 60204-0103, or by scanning this QR code:



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. We have direct links for iGive on our website. www.northshorechoral.org

GIFTS IN KIND

Andy Hullinger Jim Miller Ellen Pullin
Julie and Jay Wygodny Dirk Walvoord Traci Bowering
Joe and Jake Lill Michael Marren

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 our concerts. DCYAA winner, **Soprano Marin Tack**, will perform with **NSCS on June 4th in Handel's *Solomon***. Donations may be made directly to this fund. This season, Jan Marie Aramini and Michael Pettersen made donations to this fund in honor of Julia Davids.

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.

A Corporate Gift was provided by **Bright Spark Technologies.**

Honor and Remembrance

Becky & Andy Anderson in honor of Karen Rigotti
Jan Marie Aramini & Michael Pettersen in honor of Julia Davids
Kennette Benedict in honor of Linda Faller
Marcia Bollo in memory of Inge Kistler: enthusiastic longtime NSCS singer,
board president, business manager; and in honor of Ellen and Bill Pullin
Suzanne & Stephen Carlson in honor of Debbie Buesing
Ann R. Clark in honor of Karen Rigotti
Pam & Ruud Coster in honor of Phoebe Segal
Dr. & Mrs. Micheal Cwynar in honor of Lincoln Cwynar
John "Joe" Dunn in honor of Fran Faller
Jeffrey Emrich in honor of Carl Kettler
Frances M. Faller in honor of Dr. Julia Davids
Linda Faller in honor of Karen Rigotti and Debbie Buesing
Patricia Ferguson & Norman Strahm in memory of Barbara DeCoster, and in
memory of Inge Kistler
Marilyn Fish in honor of Karen Fish Schurder
Toots & Bill Foy in honor of Meg Egan & Andy Hullinger
Deborah Geismar & Leonard Koroski in memory of Shirley Geismar
John & Sally Hakes in memory of Dorothy Ahrens Lesch, and in memory of
Kenni Johnston
Gary Hendrickson in honor of Tom Keller
Christine Hoffmeyer in honor of The Palliative Team at Lutheran General
John Howard in honor of Joan Howard
Lester & Ronna Begoun Jacobson in honor of Emily Rivera
Jan Johnson in honor of Lori Smith
Linda & Tom Keller in honor of David Crumrine, Julie McDowell, Karen
Rigotti, and Julia Davids
Pamela Krupp in honor of Nicholas Krupp
Marian Kurz in honor of John Blanchard
James & Sue Lerner in honor of Emily Rivera
Jerry Levine & Una Malkinson in honor of Jane Kenamore
Matt & Showling LeMasters in honor of Rauquaia Hale-Wallace

Honor and Remembrance, cont.

Eberhard Moebius in memory of Inge Kistler

Colleen Moeller in honor of Julia Davids

Laura & Gregory Richards in memory of Inge Kistler

Karen L. Rigotti in memory of Inge Kistler

Bonifacio & Carole Rivera in honor of Emily & Jonathan Rivera

Sally Buell Scheinberg in memory of Inge Kistler

Mary Schurder in honor of Karen Fish Schurder

Milly Silverstein in memory of John Blanchard

Thomas Skinner in honor of Stacey Watson

Nancy Slichenmyer & George Weissler in memory of Bill Erenberg;
and in memory of Inge Kistler

Loretta & Stephen Smith in memory of Miriam B. Rigotti

Mary Sotir in memory of Inge Kistler

Alfred W. Steinke & Jeanne F. Zimmer in memory of Inge Kistler

Sherwin & Ellen Strauss in honor of Marj Lundy

Tom & Beth Swann in honor of Julia Davids and Julie McDowell

Linda Valenti in honor of Linda Faller

Rich Warren in honor of Karen Rigotti

Stacey Watson in honor of Lori Smith

Martin Wine in honor of Linda Faller

Julie & Jay Wygodny in honor of Julia Davids

Roberta Zald in memory of Irma G. Zald

Solomon

Georg Friedrich Händel

June 4, 2023, at 4 pm

Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation

303 Dodge Avenue, Evanston

and via live stream



Painting by Jacob Hogen, 1635, depicting Solomon and the Queen of Sheba

Thanks to Julia's masterful planning and direction, the chorus has been able to start ***Solomon*** rehearsals along with the Heartstrings repertoire, and we've been thrilled and energized by the challenge!

Supported by full professional orchestra and featuring countertenor Jay Carter in the title role and Rosalind Lee as the Queen/Queen of Sheba, the NSCS will present this majestic oratorio for double choir. Composed 275 years ago, this dramatic work tells the story of wise King Solomon and features "The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba"! Marin Tack, soprano and Donald Chen Young Artist Award Winner, Sarah Ponder, mezzo, and Tyler Lee, tenor, sing the supporting roles.

North Shore Choral Society

Info 773-741-6727 – Tickets 773-956-8400 – northshorechoral.org

P.O. Box 103, Evanston, IL 60204-0103