



\* Presents \*

# Rejoice in the Season!

December 12 & 13 | 7pm

**Brian Patrick Leatherman**  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR

**William White**  
ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR AND  
COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

**Debbie Johnson**  
COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

Featuring collaborations with the **Mesa Middle School, harpist**  
**Hillary Scheftter**, and the **Chamber Music Society of Greater Denver**.

## President's Welcome

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Rejoice in the Season! As we gather at the threshold of winter, tonight's music will rise before you like a great arch shaped by memory, hope, and the promise of what lies ahead.

At the apex stands the keystone work, Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*—an otherworldly masterpiece balancing ancient text, modern voice, and celestial harp. We are delighted to feature guest harpist Hillary Schefter, whose artistry brings brilliance and intimacy to the evening.

Our voussoirs, the angled stones that support the keystone, are pieces that span genres and generations. The CherryTones will debut the original composition, *Snow Poem*, by our own James Libbon. We are also joined by the talented young singers from Mesa Middle School conducted by our own Madison Armstrong. They will lift their voices in *The World for Christmas*, and *Hope for Resolution* — a child's invitation to imagine a world where injustice and division yield to reconciliation and peace.

No holiday arch is complete without its foundation stones, the time-honored carols we hold dear. Nestled within these is an exciting foreshadow: Elaine Hagenberg's *O Come, Emanuel*, a glimpse of what awaits in May, when we will present an entire concert of her music, including the Colorado premiere of *Aeterna Via*—a work whose international debut will take the Cherry Creek Chorale to Paris this June.

Behind the scenes, we are laying the groundwork for a new website and continue to work to diversify funding. Each step forward strengthens the pillars that support our mission and our future. Thank you for being essential to the structure that unites community and artistry, for being part of our musical family. May this concert fill you with warmth and lighten your spirit.

With gratitude and a festive heart,

**Gia Viscardi**,

Cherry Creek Chorale President, [president@cherrycreekchorale.org](mailto:president@cherrycreekchorale.org)

## Program Notes

I'm going to take the liberty of adding a few words to our theme tonight so that it reads: "Rejoice in the hope of the season." That note of expectation for the future shines throughout our concert.

The first half's centerpiece is Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*. If it's new to you, as it was to me, you might be expecting some beautiful arrangements of old favorites. But the minute you hear the first words of *Wolcum Yole!* you'll know you're in unfamiliar territory. How Britten came to choose the lyrics and write this masterpiece is a fascinating story, involving a 12-day 1942 voyage across an Atlantic Ocean beset with German U-boats. The creativity of this immensely versatile and original composer could not be contained; as he told a friend later, "One had to alleviate the boredom!" We're glad he persevered.

Britten represents the 20th century, since he lived well into the 1970s. With the arrival of our small group, The CherryTones, we move into today's composers for both of their selections. This includes an original piece by James Libbon with a setting of his wife's aunt's poetry, *Snow Poem*, in which James musically evokes his own memories of Colorado blizzards.

Our second half opens with the Mesa Middle School singers, who will delight us with their musical selections. When the Chorale returns, we will dive into contemporary works celebrating both Hanukkah and Christmas. You might think that *Angels We Have Heard on High* is nothing new, but listen to the sparkling arrangement by Dan Forrest before you make that judgment. Heather Sorenson also gives *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen* a few twists. And as you start listening to Elaine Hagenberg's setting of *O Come, Emmanuel* you may think, 'Is that the tune I was expecting?' Well, no. Never fear, though—nobody made any changes to Thomas Tallis's brief but exquisite motet *O Nata Lux*.

We're again joined by the Mesa choirs to present works by Swedish composer Anders Edenroth and by the talented composing/arranging team of Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory. Both pieces embody the idea of hope for the future, whether referring to the planet or to our own hearts. The vibrant *Hope for Resolution/Thula sizwe* may tempt you to think our concert is over. But don't move! The Chorale will move out to surround you with two final pieces: *Bashana Haba'ah* and *Silent Night*. One line from the Hebrew piece echoes our theme of hope and rejoicing:

"You will yet see, you will yet see, how good it will be next year."  
Debi Simons, [www.debisimons.com](http://www.debisimons.com)

# Cherry Creek Chorale

## Audience Carol: We Wish You a Merry Christmas

### Selections from a Ceremony of Carols

By Benjamin Britten

Harpist: Hillary Schefter

Please hold your applause until the end of all the selections.

#### **Wolcum Yole!** ~ Anonymous - 14th Century

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, Wolcum, Wolcum be ye that  
are here,  
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum alle and make  
good cheer,  
Wolcum alle another yere, Wolcum  
Yole, Wolcum!

#### **There is No Rose** ~ Anonymous - 14th Century

There is no rose of such vertu as is the  
rose that bare Jesu.  
  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
  
For in this rose conteinèd was heaven  
and earth in litel space,  
  
Res miranda, res miranda.  
  
By that rose we may well see there be  
one God in persons three,  
  
Pares forma, pares forma,  
  
The aungels sungen the shepherds to:

Gloria in excelsis,  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
  
Gaudeamus, gaudeamus.  
  
Leave we all this worldly mirth, and  
follow we this joyful birth.  
  
Transeamus, transeamus, transeamus.  
  
Alleluia, res miranda, pares forma,  
gaudeamus,  
  
Transeamus, transeamus, transeamus.

#### **Balulalow** ~ James, John and Robert Wedderburn – 16th Century

*Soloist: Rachel Cox*

O my deir hert, young Jesus sweit  
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit  
And I sall rock thee in my hert  
And never mair from thee depart

But I sall praise thee evermoir  
With sangis sweit unto thy gloir;  
The knees of my heart sall I bow  
And sing that richt Balulalow!

#### **As dew in Aprille** ~ Anonymous, c. 1400

I sing of a maiden that is makèles:  
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.  
He came also stille there his moder lay  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the  
spray.  
Moder and maiden was never none but  
she:  
Well may such a lady Goddes moder  
be.

#### **This Little Babe** ~ Robert Southwell, 16th Century

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 pitched in a stall, His  
bulwark but a broken wall;  
The crib his trench, haystalks 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.



## Harp Interlude

### In Freezing Winter Night ~ Robert Southwell, 16th Century

*Solo Group: Renee Posey, Rachel Cox, Christie Reynolds, Nathan Bill, Patrick Roney,*

*Patrick McClaury, Jay Hartman*

Behold, a silly 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,  
do homage to thy King,

And highly praise his humble pomp,  
wich he from Heaven doth bring

### Deo Gracias ~ Anonymous, 15th Century

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!

Adam lay ibounden, bounden in a  
bond;

Four thousand winter thought he not  
to long.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!

And all was for an applil, an applil that  
he tok,

As clerkes finden written in their book.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!

Ne had the applil take ben, the applil  
take ben,

Ne hadde never our lady a ben hevene  
quene.

Blessed be the time that applil take was.

Therefore we moun singen.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
Deo gracias!

# CherryTones

### How Many Nights

*By Linda Swears*

How many nights?  
How many nights?  
How many nights until it's Hanukkah  
again?  
How many nights till we light the  
candles,  
How many nights till the dreidel spins?  
How many nights?  
How many nights till it's Hanukkah  
once again?  
How many nights will we eat sweet  
latkes?  
How many nights till the gelt will shine?  
How many nights?  
How many nights until it's Hanukkah  
again?

Oh, then we'll sing a song of joy,  
Ev'ry girl and boy.  
We'll sing a song of vict'ry long ago.  
We'll sing a song of hope and love,  
Thanking God above  
For the miracle of lights so long ago.  
In the bleak mid winter,  
When the nights are long and cold,  
Comes a special holiday for children  
young and old.  
And like a shining star in the heav'ns so  
far away,  
We wait and watch with wonder for the  
festive holiday.

### Snow Poem

*Music: James Libbon, Lyrics: Ruth Heller*

*Soloist: Leah Lucas*

I am searching for a poem in the snow.  
As I walk, languid flakes cover familiar  
images,  
Bring me metaphors in crystalline form.  
I pass trees like giant white flowers.  
Among their branches the light plays  
hide and seek.  
Snow arches over windows and doors,  
Sketching bushy eyebrows and  
mustaches.

Cars huddle like moles blinded by the  
storm.  
Bicycles become cubist statues.  
Fog bites off the heads of distant  
buildings  
Like a hungry dragon.  
Like a witch, I will hoard all the silent  
images for my next winter brew.

### Mesa Middle School

*Directed by Madison Armstrong*

#### Once Upon a December

*Words and Music by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty*

Dancing bears, painted wings  
Things I almost remember  
And a song someone sings  
Once upon a December  
  
Someone holds me safe and warm  
Horses prance through a silver storm  
Figures dancing gracefully  
Across my memory

Someone holds me safe and warm  
Horses prance through a silver storm  
Figures dancing gracefully  
Across my memory  
  
Far away, long ago  
Glowing dim as an ember  
Things my heart used to know  
Things it yearns to remember  
  
And a song someone sings  
Once upon a December

#### Holiday Road

*Words and music by Lindsey Buckingham*

I found out long ago  
(Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)  
It's a long way down the Holiday Road  
(Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)  
  
Holiday Road  
Holiday Road  
  
Jack be nimble, Jack be quick  
(Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)  
Take a ride on a West Coast kick  
(Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)

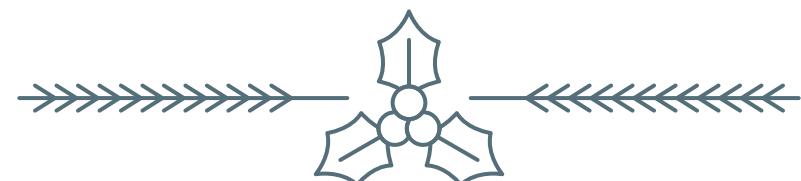
### Cherry Creek Chorale

#### O nata lux de lumine

*Thomas Tallis, Edited by John Henry Fowler*

Translation

O nata lux de lumine,  
Jesu redemptor saeculi,  
Dignare clemens supplicum  
Laudes preces que sumere.  
  
Qui carne quondam contagi  
Dignatus es pro perditis,  
Nos membra confer effici,  
Tui beati corporis.



## God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

*Traditional English Carol, Arranged by Heather Sorenson*

*With musicians from the Chamber Music Society of Greater Denver*

*Performed by the Tenors and Basses of the Chorale*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Savior  
Was born upon this day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r  
When we were gone astray.  
Oh, tidings! Oh, tidings of comfort and  
joy, Great joy!

From God our heav'nly Father  
A blessed angel came;  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same:  
That He is born, that He is born  
That He is born in Bethlehem.

The shepherds at those tidings  
Rejoiced in heart and mind,  
And left their flocks afeeding,  
In tempest, storm and wind,  
To see this Child,  
To see the Child of Bethlehem.  
The Savior of mankind.

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
Each other now embrace.  
This Holy Child of Bethlehem  
Will bring eternal grace.



## O Come, Emmanuel

*Latin, translated by John M Neale (vs 1 &2) and Henry S Coffin (vs 3)*

*Music by Elaine Hagenberg*

*With Andrea Meyers ~ Violoncello*

*Performed by the Sopranos and Altos of the Chorale*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

O come thou Dayspring come and  
cheer  
Our spirits by Thine Advent here,  
and drive away the shades of night,  
And pierce the clouds and bring us  
light!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come  
to thee O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
All people in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease,  
And fill the world with Heaven's peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come  
to thee O Israel.

## Angels We Have Heard On High

*18th Century French Carol, Arranged by Dan Forrest*

Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echo back their joyous strains.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song?

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in  
excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in  
excelsis Deo!

See Him in a manger laid,  
Jesus, Lord of Heav'n and earth!  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
With us sing our savior's birth!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in  
excelsis Deo!

## Audience Carol: O Hanukkah



### The World For Christmas

*Words and Music by Anders Edenroth  
Cherry Creek Chorale and Mesa Middle School  
Soloists: Lydia Murman and Bonnie Hackett  
Conducted by Madison Armstrong*

It's the night before Christmas, and all  
through the house  
Not a creature is stirring, not even a  
mouse.  
The stockings are hung by the chimney  
with care.  
But hopes for Saint Nicholas I wish I  
could share.

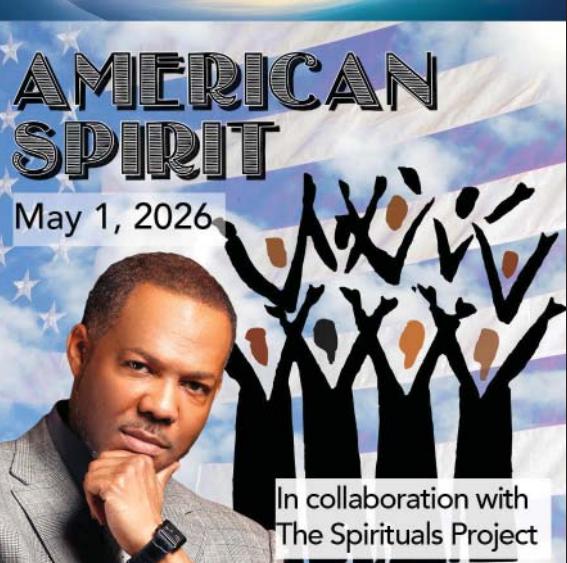
I am new to this world, I arrived here  
this morn'  
To this beautiful planet, though beat up  
and torn.  
I don't need a gift, need no more than  
I've got.  
Hear the unspoken wish from a tiny,  
tiny tot.

I only want the world for Christmas,  
The blue green forever turning world  
for Christmas.  
Nothing more, nothing less.  
I want it for keeps and I promise to  
share,  
So that everyone who wants can cuddle  
and care.

I only want the world for Christmas,  
The blue green forever turning world  
for Christmas.  
To restore, to repossess.  
Please make it last, my fate is in your  
hands.  
Oh give me a present for the future.  
You could follow your heart, but you  
follow a whim,  
And fill up your stockings way over the  
brim.  
Ignoring the signs in our frail crystal  
ball  
You wish away, wish away, wish away  
all.  
The moon on the breast of the new  
fallen snow  
Gives a lustre of midday to objects  
below.  
Why your eyes won't see  
When they're given all this light.  
I wonder, I wonder this very special  
night.



## Lone Tree Symphony Orchestra 2025-2026 Season



## Piano Duet

### Oh Little Town of Bethlehem

*Phillips Brooks and Lewis Redner, Arranged by Lani Smith*

### Bashana Haba'ah (Next Year)

*Words by Ehud Manor, Music by Nurit Hirsh, Arranged by John Leavitt  
With musicians from the Chamber Music Society of Greater Denver  
and Ben Greene on Bass*

#### Translation:

Next year we will sit on the porch  
and count migrating birds.  
Children on vacation will play catch  
between the house and the fields.  
  
You will yet see, you will yet see,  
how good it will be next year.  
  
Red grapes will ripen till the evening,  
and will be served chilled to the table.  
And languid winds will carry to the  
crossroads  
old newspapers and a cloud.

You will yet see, you will yet see,  
how good it will be next year.  
  
Next year we will spread out our hands  
towards the radiant light.  
A white heron like a light will spread  
her wings  
and within them the sun will rise.  
  
You will yet see, you will yet see,  
how good it will be next year.



### Hope for Resolution

*A Song for Mandela and de Klerk*

*Arranged by Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory*

*Cherry Creek Chorale and Mesa Middle School*

*Wyatt Johnson, Djembe ; Zedkeia Dalton, Saxophone; Louise Doege, Violin*

Of the Father's love begotten,  
E'er the worlds began to be.  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the source, the ending he.  
  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.

Oh, that birth forever blessed,  
When the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bore the Savior of our race.  
  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
First revealed His sacred face,  
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven, adore Him,  
Angel hosts, His praises sing,  
Pow'rs, dominions bow before Him,  
And extol our God and King.

Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Ev'ry voice in concert ring  
Evermore and evermore.

Thula Sizwe  
Ungabokala  
Ujehova Wakho Uzokunqobela  
Inkululeko  
Sizoyithola  
Ujehova Wakho Uzokunqobela

#### Translation of Zulu:

*Nation, do not cry.  
Jehovah will protect us.  
We will attain freedom.  
Jehovah will protect us.*

### Silent Night

*In honor of Liz Barraud*

*(Audience joins on verses one and three)*



## The Cherry Creek Chorale Board Members and Staff 2025-2026 Season

### **Board Members**

President.....	Gia Viscardi
President-Elect.....	Colleen Parsley
Past-President .....	Nathan Bill
Vice-President .....	Nancy Lauth
Secretary.....	Gareth Schweizer Smith
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Membership Services Committee Chair .....	Leslie Beahm
Production Committee Chair .....	Karen Sandberg

### **Staff**

Artistic Director & Conductor.....	Brian Patrick Leatherman
Associate Conductor and Collaborative Pianist.....	William White
Collaborative Pianist.....	Debbie Johnson
CherryTones Conductor.....	James Libbon
CherryTones Manager .....	Randi Libbon
Music Librarian .....	Liz Fallon
Web & Changes to Internal Web Manager .....	Jay Hartman
Bookkeeper .....	Jann Folsom
Marketing.....	Hannah Powers
Interim Grant Writer.....	Abby Kellems

Program ..... Leslie Beahm (layout), Mary Moyer (content)  
Box Office Manager ..... Abby Kellems



## Bethany Lutheran Church

### **December 24th Services:**

11:00 am - Early Service (new!)  
1:30 pm - Christmas Pageant - outdoors  
3:00 pm - Denver Brass  
5:00 pm - Denver Brass, Chancel Choir  
Ensemble & Carillon Handbells  
7:00 pm - Denver Brass & Chancel Choir

## Bethany Arts and Events

### **Christmas Concerts:**

Canto Deo Christmas - 3:00 pm Dec 14  
Canto Deo Christmas - 7:00 pm Dec 15  
Canto Deo Christmas - 7:00 pm Dec 18  
Denver Jazz Orchestra - 7:30 pm Dec 19  
Colorado Chorale - 7:30 pm Dec 20

## 2026 March Concerts

Cherry Creek Chorale - 7:00 pm March 6  
Cherry Creek Chorale - 7:00 pm March 7  
Colorado Choir - 7:30 pm March 13  
Colorado Choir - 4:00 pm March 14

**BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4500 E. HAMPDEN AVE.  
CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE, CO 80113**

**WWW.BETHANY-DENVER.ORG  
303-758-2820**

# Our Collaborators

We are so grateful for all the artists that come together to make such a memorable program with us.

## **The Chamber Music Society of Greater Denver**

In its twentieth season, the Chamber Music Society of Greater Denver presents a regular chamber-music concert series and has partnered with the Kennedy Center's Partners in Education program to expand its educational reach. Their programming is quite varied, mixing classical repertoire, holiday-themed concerts, culturally themed programs, and contemporary works.

Beyond concerts, CMSGD has worked with local school districts (e.g., Denver Public Schools, Jefferson County and St. Vrain Valley Schools) to deliver their arts-integration curriculum. By working in schools and training teachers, they're not just performing music — they're integrating it into broader learning, helping students internalize concepts in humanities, science, math, etc. This spring, founder and director Laura Schulkind will be implementing a grant across multiple school districts to celebrate Colorado's sesquicentennial, or 150 years since Colorado became a state, and the semiquicentennial, celebrating 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Together, that makes a sesquisemiquicentennial!

Through concert themes like "Sing Me a Song of Your People," CMSGD promotes cultural understanding and diversity via music, making chamber music relevant to a wider audience. As a non-profit with educational outreach deep in its mission, they are not just a performance organization — they aim for long-term educational and community impact.

Angela Gregory - clarinet  
Andrea Meyers - violoncello  
Louise Doege - violin  
Deborah Funk - violin

## **Hillary Schefter, Harpist**

Hillary Schefter is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, receiving her undergraduate and masters degrees in Harp Performance. She is Principal Harp of the Boulder Symphony, Littleton Symphony, and Symphony of the Rockies as well as a member of the Chamber Music Society of Greater Denver. She is thrilled to be presenting along with the Cherry Creek Chorale the Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten, which has rightly earned its place as a feared and revered standard in professional harp repertoire for the holiday season. Throughout her career she has performed with many well known ensembles including the Colorado Music Festival, Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Fort Collins Symphony, Mahler Fest, Minnesota Orchestra, National Repertory Orchestra, and the New World Symphony.

In addition to playing harp, she and her husband own Full Afterburner Calzones in Denver. She also enjoys hanging out with her two adorable but obnoxious Bengal cats and exposing the world to harp music through social media @ [hillarytheharpist](https://www.instagram.com/hillarytheharpist/).



## Mesa Middle School

Mesa Middle School, a Douglas County school in Castle Rock, serves students in grades 6–8 and is recognized for its International Baccalaureate program and academic excellence. Voted Colorado's Favorite Public Middle School in 2024, Mesa offers three choir levels: Cub Choir (beginner), Mesa Singers (intermediate), and Bear-itones (advanced). Tonight's concert features select students from the Cub Choir and Mesa Singers, as well as the award-winning Bear-itones, who earned first place at the 2024 Music in the Parks competition and second place in 2025.

Go Bears!

## Madison Armstrong

Madison Armstrong holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music with an emphasis in Classical Voice from the University of Denver and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction for K–12 Music. She studied classical voice in Milan, Italy under renowned opera singer Patrizia Zinardi and has performed in numerous choirs, operas, a capella groups, and musicals, as well as served on technical crews for stage productions.

Now in her ninth year of teaching in Douglas County, Madison is certified in the Orff Schulwerk approach and trained in the Estill Voice and Carol Krueger methods. She currently teaches Choir, Stagecraft, and Digital Music at Mesa Middle School.

Outside the classroom, Madison maintains a private voice studio, sings with the Cherry Creek Chorale, participates in Bible study, enjoys cake decorating and spending time with her calico cat, Spooky.

### *Bearitones- Advanced Choir*

Carter Becker  
Jordan Beltran  
Lysa Biddix  
Emily Duke  
Archer Gray  
Grace Gustafson  
Avery Hancock  
Benjamin Matthis  
Errow Melville  
Khloe Minks  
Lydia Murman  
Annabelle Naslund  
Ava Quinones  
Samantha Rasavage  
Abbey Seymour  
Adalee Skipper  
Emma Stubbs  
Jacob Talbott  
William Talbott  
Adrien Willis  
Mena Willis  
Mikayla Wilson  
Lily Young

### *Mesa Singers- Intermediate Choir*

Emery Caldwell  
Aiden Capistron  
Seriuah Cordova Richards  
Kaylee Gilson  
Addy Gregory  
Eva Meissler  
Hadley Musgrave  
Emmy Oaks  
Angel Regalado  
Micah Thomas  
Leah Walters  
Alex Zarate

### *Cub Choir- Beginner Choir*

Lexi Ailani Dilka  
Kinsley Fritz  
Eisley Houston  
Lukas Jackson  
Estefania Jimenez Pedroza  
Kennedy Johnson  
Lyons McGraw  
Jaxon Ruiz De Velasco  
Macy Ann Schempp  
Brooke Schroath  
Sophie Sin  
Lilith Spaulding Murray  
Kira Wilson  
Logan Volesky



## The Cherry Creek Chorale Artistic Staff



Artistic Director and Conductor, Brian Patrick Leatherman, is enjoying his 31st year with CCC. A retired music educator and very active choral conductor, Brian is also the Co-Founder and Artistic Director of the 5280+ Senior Chorales, daytime non-auditioned choirs for singers aged 50 to 80+, with choirs in Parker, Highlands Ranch and Littleton. Brian is the conductor of the Littleton 5280+ Chorale. Brian is a choral clinician and adjudicator. He has appeared as soloist with numerous choirs and orchestras including the Robert Shaw Festival Singers and the Robert Shaw Festival Chorus. Prior posts include directorship of the Pueblo Choral Society and the Douglas County Children's Chorus.



Associate Conductor and Associate Collaborative Pianist, William White, is a Minnesota native and the Director of Vocal Music and Tri-M Chapter Sponsor at D'Evelyn Jr./Sr. High School. William graduated magna cum laude with All-College Honors from St. John's University with a BA in Music – Piano Performance and received his MM in Choral Conducting from the University of Kentucky. He has accompanied honor choirs, reading sessions, festivals, and musicals with ACDA-MN, Kentucky Music Educators Association, and the Lexington Theatre Company. Most recently he directed D'Evelyn students and the Cherry Creek Chorale for Mozart's Coronation Mass at Carnegie Hall.



Principal Collaborative Pianist, Debbie Johnson, grew up playing Beethoven and Chopin and singing Rodgers & Hammerstein. She currently works in the Douglas County Library system and is a writer. She has taught music and drama in both Denver and Tucson. Previously, she worked with two non-profits in India and founded/directed DenverWorks, an inner-city jobs program. She did graduate work at the University of Denver and received her Masters in Music Education in Arkansas. She loves the artistry, excellence, and FUN of the Cherry Creek Chorale!



CherryTones Conductor, James Libbon, is happy to have been able to join the Chorale and the Tones and now in his position as musical director for the group. He has 20+ years of educational and professional choral performance experience, mostly vocal jazz and Rockapella, fifteen of which were leading, writing, and arranging for groups. When he's not singing, he works as a geriatric physician and, in his spare time, pursues hobbies including photography, videography, swimming, and spending time with his wife and daughters.

## The CHERRYTONES

The CherryTones sing a cappella and accompanied jazz and pop standards. They perform at Chorale concerts, private parties, Rotary meetings, retirement centers, community events, and more. They could sing at your next event too! Mark a milestone hearing "Happy Birthday" sung to you by this group of outstanding voices! Let your meeting sparkle more with a performance by these smiling artists! Have a musical interlude at your wedding or next class reunion!

For more information, contact [Manager@CherryTones.org](mailto:Manager@CherryTones.org)  
Visit our website at [CherryTones.org](http://CherryTones.org) or scan the QR Code



**James Libbon, The CherryTones Conductor - Randi Libbon, Manager**

**Sopranos:**

Nancy Henson  
Jenee Stewart  
Gia Viscardi  
Jeannie Williams

**Altos:**

Leslie Beahm  
Randi Libbon  
Leah Lucas  
Ruth Most

**Tenors:**

Nathan Bill  
Tim Gesler  
Jay Hartman  
Albert Zagray

**Bass:**

John Buteyn  
Gordon Johnson  
Wyatt Johnson

**Soprano**

Lisa Blunck  
Kerry Cottingham  
Rachel Cox  
Susan Davenport  
Liz Fallon  
Katy Fink-Johnson  
Nancy Henson  
Lavender Hunzeker

Barb Janusz  
Nancy Lauth\*  
Cari Levy  
Maura Mackintosh  
Kathleen Meier  
Rosalie Metzger  
Julie Ann Millett  
Sue Miranda  
Mary Moyer

JoEllen Nikkel  
Colleen Parsley  
Renee Posey  
Kristen Radebaugh  
Deb Reeb  
Christi Reynolds  
Margaret Roberts  
Ashley Rodgers  
Karen Sandberg

Jeanene Smith  
Gloria Srikijsarn\*  
Jenee Stewart  
Kathleen Tate  
Gia Viscardi  
Barbara Wollan

**Alto**

Karen Anderson  
Madison Armstrong  
Leslie Beahm  
Margaret Beardall  
Judy Blake  
Debbie Blydenberg  
Sally Bradley  
Cathy Endicott  
Jann Folsom

Donna Frederickson  
Kay Frevert  
Megan Garvin  
Carolyn Gentle\*  
Bonnie Hackett  
Ellie Havens  
Debbie Johnson  
Sara Jones  
Jean Kelminson  
Karen Kennedy

Marjorie Lavin  
Randi Libbon  
Leah Lucas  
Felice Morel  
Ruth Most  
Tracy Newton  
Hannah Nikkel  
Margarita Piskunova  
Corey Portfolio  
Deb Reeb

Vanessa Reiter  
Paula Rokicki  
Marsha Scheinhartz  
Kristin Shrove  
Amy Stanesco  
Leslie Stevenson  
Cindy Towle  
Susan Warren  
Mary Witt

**Tenor**

Nathan Bill  
Ben Bowen  
Keith Emerson  
Tim Gesler  
Bob Hartley

Jay Hartman  
Carole Hedrick  
Tom Johnson  
Justin Levy  
Patrick McClaury\*\*  
John Morel

Mert Nason  
Patrick Roney  
Uri Ayn Rovner  
Debi Simons  
Glen Stribling  
Chuck Stout

Will White  
Larry Young  
Albert Zagray

**Bass**

John Buteyn  
Tom Evert  
Brad Folsom  
Brian Frevert

John Hughes  
Gordon Johnson  
Wyatt Johnson  
Scott Jorgenson  
Dan Kullas\*

Bob Larson  
Brian Leatherman  
James Libbon  
Dick Roark  
Christopher Stille

Ralph Trenary  
John Wollan

\* Section Leader

\*\* Choral Scholar

**Ways to Support and Donate to the Cherry Creek Chorale**

**Purchase** tickets to our concerts. We would not be here without you!

Visit [CherryCreekChorale.org](http://CherryCreekChorale.org) and click on **Support**. The drop-down menu includes:

- Make a donation through **Colorado Gives**. Thank you for your support this past year and continuing support.
- **Donate your vehicle**. Easy, safe, free, and tax-deductible. Our partner, Vehicles for Charity, will pick up your vehicle, take it away, provide you a receipt - all at no charge to you! Use the website tab or call 1-866-628-2277.
- **Mail a Check** to Cherry Creek Chorale, P.O. Box 3272, Greenwood Village, CO 80155.
- **Advertise** in our concert programs. A win-win for the Chorale and for you, your business, or your organization.
- Become a **Corporate Sponsor** by having your business sponsor the Chorale. This is a great method to raise the profile of your business in the community through the recognition given to sponsors.
- Use your **King Soopers or City Market Rewards Card**. To enroll, go to the King Soopers website and add the Chorale by name or the identifier MY680 as the beneficiary. There is no additional cost to you.

[Scan the QR code to view a how-to video.](#)



- Purchase **promotional gift cards**. Local businesses offer gift cards, from which a percentage of your purchase amount is donated back to the Chorale. Watch for announcements when they become available.
- **Volunteer**. There are many activities that are in need of your time and/or special talent. For example, concert nights need ushers, greeters and box office help, to name a few.
- Become a part of the **Cherry Creek Chorale Legacy Program**. Planned gifts are a beneficial strategy to help you meet your personal financial goals and your desire to support the Cherry Creek Chorale with gift options that are meaningful and practical. You can be an integral part of sustaining the Chorale's future by including a charitable gift in your estate and financial plans.

To use a phrase from Colorado Gives - **"Give where you live"**

*Please consider adding to your support of the Chorale.*

*Every amount, no matter how small, supports the continuing quality of this community.*

The Cherry Creek Chorale is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

# To Acknowledge our Donors

from 12/1/2024 through 11/30/2025

## Applause: up to \$249

Katy Anderson	Karen Hammon	Kay Pudlik
Anonymous	Robert Hartley	Bob and Paula Rokicki
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Cherlyn Bailey	Carole Hedrick	Jim Singletary
Michelle Bell	Barbara Janusz	Jeanene Smith
David Bill	Deborah Johnson	Lynn Stambaugh
Nell Bly	Kathy King	Nena Steger
Marilyn Bogan	Kristen Knoll	Jennifer Stewart
Barbara Bouchard	Daniel Kullas	Christopher and Sheila Stille
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Angela Compton	Elise Lubell	Sue Swenson
Kerry Cottingham	Maura and Todd Mackintosh	Chin Tan
Kathy Cox	Jack and Michelle Martin	Barbara Thorngren
Karen Cravens	Ken and Patricia Mesec	Norman Watson
Linda Crossett	Bonnie and Don Messer	Larry Young
Joyce Culwell	Rosalie Metzger	Helen Zwinak
Penelope Currier	Jane Molden	
Joseph Demko	Mu Phi Epsilon - Denver	
Keith Emerson	Alumni	
Matthew Eschliman	Chapter	
Elizabeth Fallon	Mert and Juanita Nason	
Brad and Jann Folsom	Todd and Jo Ellen Nikkel	
Mike Freeland	Michael Oconnell	
Carolyn Gentle	Desiree Parrott-Alcorn	
Chuck and Lynda Gumeson	Edna Pelzmann	

## Cheers: \$250-\$999

Leslie Beahm	Ann and Ron Lester	Dr Mark and Sarah Saunders
John and Martha Chamberlin	James and Randi Libbon	Carol Stephens
Katy Fink Johnson	Leah Lucas	Jennifer Stewart
Norman and Pamela Haglund	Kathleen Meier	Chin Tan
John Hughes	Doug Moran	Julie and John Tobin
Inserco Inc	Bruce and Ruth Most	Susan Warren
Gordon Johnson	Michael and Mary Moyer	Mary Witt
Thomas Johnson	Harold Nelson	John and Barbara Wollan
Jean Kelminson	Reiter Family Foundation	Beth Zwinak
	Gary and Karen Sandberg	

## Bravo: \$1,000-\$4,999

Nathaniel Bill	John and Felice Morel	Gia Viscardi and Devin Bateman
Brian and Kay Frevert	Alex and Norma Nash	William White
Marjorie Lavin	Colleen Parsley	
Brian Leatherman	Mark and Leslie Stevenson	

## Standing Ovation: \$5,000 or more

Tom & Jane Johnson

***To all of our donors, no matter how large or small your donation, your support is greatly appreciated!***

## Our Wish List

This March we present the 6th installment of our increasingly popular AMERiCAN SONGBOOK series: THE BRILL BUILDING AND BEYOND. Whether "classical" or "pop" all of our composers have a connection to "The Big Apple." You can help us with artistic fees and the ever-increasing cost of music! Thank you in advance!

### Our Collaborative Artists

Overland High School Caecilian Choir. .... \$500.00  
These singers and their director, Phil Drozda were a HUGE HIT when they sang with us last March!

The Chamber Music Society of Greater Denver. .... \$1300.00  
You could underwrite one or more of these fabulous musicians for \$400 each, or the "Jobber" fee for \$100; or THE WHOLE GROUP!

Our rhythm section. .... \$800.00  
Gotta have bass and drums for our "pop" selections!

### Our Repertoire

FOUR SONGS TO POEMS OF THOMAS CAMPION by Virgil Thomson  
Virgil Thomson was a contemporary of Aaron Copland and as famous for his work as a music critic as a composer. These enchanting pieces were originally solo songs accompanied by harp, clarinet and viola. The composer arranged them beautifully for the full choir!

FOLLOW YOUR SAINT ..... \$302.50  
THERE IS A GARDEN IN HER FACE ..... \$220.00  
ROSE CHEEK'D LAURA COME ..... \$200.00  
FOLLOW THY FAIR ..... \$385.00  
INSTRUMENTAL PARTS AND SCORE ..... \$25.00

### OLD AMERICAN SONGS:

Set One ..... \$1204.50  
The Boatmen's Dance, The Dodger, Long Time Ago, Simple Gifts and I Bought Me a Cat--these are alternately sly and sardonic or meltingly beautiful and some of Copland's most popular choral works!

SWEET CAROLINE, Neil Diamond, arr. Billingsley ..... \$302.50

(Tear Page, Fold, Insert Check and Hand to a Representative)

## Our Wish List (continued)

The BRILL BUILDING was the 1950-1960 equivalent of Tin Pan Alley where Neil Diamond dozens of song writers honed their craft.

BEAUTIFUL—THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL, arr. Roger Emerson. .... \$511.50  
This medley contains the music of over a dozen BRILL BUILDING composers and lyricists with special emphasis on five of Carol King's greatest hits.

SHED A LITTLE LIGHT, James Taylor, arr. (our own) Nathan Bill ..... \$150.00  
We are looking forward to singing Nathan's arrangement and you can help us with the copying costs!

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS, Paul Simon, arr. Kirby Shaw. .... \$275.00  
A classic in a phenomenal arrangement!

AMERICAN TUNE, Paul Simon, arr. Matthew Culloton ..... \$328.90  
A stunning arrangement of Simon's moving meditation on the American experience, which is based on the melody of the hymn "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded."

**Yes, I'd like to help!** My name is \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am attaching a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for # \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me via phone # \_\_\_\_\_ or via email.

Do you wish to have your gift acknowledged in concert programs.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

The Cherry Creek Chorale is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Your contribution, payable to **Cherry Creek Chorale**,  
may be mailed to P.O. Box 3272 Greenwood Village, CO 80155-3272,  
donated via our website at [www.cherrycreekchorale.org](http://www.cherrycreekchorale.org), or scan the QR code-->



We thank you for your generous response to our **Wish List**.

Sincerely,  
**Brian Leatherman**, Artistic Director and Conductor

## Donors and Sponsors

*We give our profound thanks to our audience and Chorale members for your generous support!*

Thanks to your generosity, we've been able to plan for the future in sound financial shape.

We acknowledge the continuing support from:



Special thanks to Bethany Lutheran Church  
Barbara Seaton, Director of The Festival of Faith and the Arts  
and all of our advertisers and generous volunteers!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR OTHER GREAT CONCERTS THIS SEASON

**March 6 & 7, 2026 7:00 pm** at Bethany Lutheran Church

Join us on an unforgettable musical journey as we proudly present "**American Songbook VI: The Brill Building Lights Up Manhattan!**" This exhilarating concert will take you on a nostalgic trip through the heart of New York City, starting with the timeless melodies of Aaron Copland's **Old American Songs** and the enchanting **Campion Songs** by Virgil Thomson. But that's just the beginning! We'll shine a spotlight on the iconic Brill Building, the vibrant hub of creativity that gave rise to the unforgettable hits of the 50s and 60s. We're absolutely thrilled to welcome back the incredibly talented choir from Overland High School under the direction of Phil Drozda. This is more than just a concert; it's a celebration of the rich tapestry of American music that connects us all.

**May 8 & 9, 2026 7:00 pm** at Bethany Lutheran Church

"**From Darkness into Light: The Soul's Journey**," The Music of Elaine Hagenberg. Five years ago, the Cherry Creek Chorale premiered *Illuminare* (in Colorado and later at Carnegie Hall), Elaine Hagenberg's critically acclaimed work narrating a journey from beauty to darkness, culminating in a triumphant return to light. We will perform the Colorado premiere this award-winning composer's newly completed *Aeterna Via*. We will sing this new work again for its world premiere in June, and at Hagenberg's invitation! This new work was commissioned by a consortium, of which CCC is a member. Be assured that her style will not only pull at your heart strings, but will have universal appeal with audiences and choirs around the world. Be among the first to experience this extraordinary musical adventure!