

CHERRY CREEK
CHORALE

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 Schefter, 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

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

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, Twelfth 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 containèd 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 pitched.

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.



CherryTones

How Many Nights

By Linda Swears

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

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.

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 appil, an appil that he tok,

As clerkes finden written in their book.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!

Ne had the appil take ben, the appil take ben,

Ne hadde never our lady a ben hevene quene.

Blessed be the time that appil take was.

Therefore we moun singen.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias! Deo gracias!

Deo gracias!

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.

∞Intermission∞

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	Holiday Road 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
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Audience Carol: Hark, The Herald Angels Sing

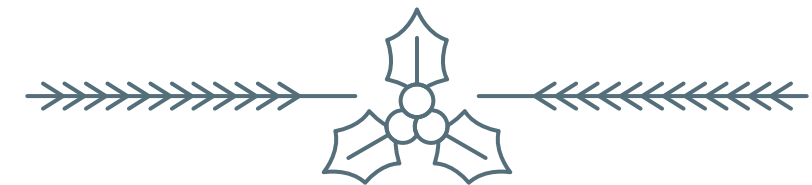
Cherry Creek Chorale

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.	O Light born of Light, Jesus redeemer of the world, With loving kindness deign to receive Suppliant praise and prayer.
Qui carne quondam contegi Dignatus es pro perditis, Nos membra confer effici, Tui beati corporis.	Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh For the sake of the lost, Grant us to be members Of thy blessed body.



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

LATIN RHYTHMS
September 19, 2025
with Guest Artist Masakazu Ito

Let it Glow
December 6 and 7, 2025

AMERICAN SPIRIT
May 1, 2026
In collaboration with The Spirituals Project

WINDS OF DESTINY
February 27, 2026
Tchaikovsky Symphony 5 Music from Wicked

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,
Bare 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**

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Box Office ManagerAbby 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 semiquincentennial, celebrating 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Together, that makes a sesquisesquicentennial!

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.



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 Capistrone
Seriah 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 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.

TheCHERRYTONES

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
Visit our website at CherryTones.org or scan the QR Code



James Libbon, The CherryTones Conductor - Randi Libbon, Manager

Sopranos:	Altos:	Tenors:	Bass:
Nancy Henson	Leslie Beahm	Nathan Bill	John Buteyn
Jenee Stewart	Randi Libbon	Tim Gesler	Gordon Johnson
Gia Viscardi	Leah Lucas	Jay Hartman	Wyatt Johnson
Jeannie Williams	Ruth Most	Albert Zagray	



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 Srikijkarn*
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 Scheinhart
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

* 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 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
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Chuck and Lynda Gumeson	Edna Pelzmann	

Cheers: \$250-\$999

Leslie Beahm	Ann and Ron Lester	Dr Mark and Sarah
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Bravo: \$1,000-\$4,999

Nathaniel Bill	John and Felice Morel	Gia Viscardi and Devin
Brian and Kay Frevert	Alex and Norma Nash	Bateman
Marjorie Lavin	Colleen Parsley	William White
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**, or scan the QR code--->



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

Sincerely,
Brian Leatherman, Artistic Director and Conductor

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

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!

LET NATURE SING THIS *Holiday* SEASON

Congratulations, Cherry Creek Chorale, on 47 wonderful seasons!

Tagawa Gardens

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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!