



50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

MAY 14, 7:30PM
MAY 15, 2PM

Grand Opera House, 135 West 8th St, Dubuque

DUBUQUE
CHORALE
50
1971 - 2021
YEARS

Directed by Dr. Amanda Huntleigh | Karmella Sellers | Than Cheshier

Former Artistic Directors and Guest Conductors

Dennis Williams: 1971-2006 | Francis John Vogt: 2006-2009 | Dr. Bob Demaree: 2009-2018

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A Message from Mark Niemer Dubuque Chorale President

Thank you for joining us to celebrate the Dubuque Chorale's 50th Anniversary Concert. We have had singers of many ages, abilities and backgrounds, and our love for music binds us all into one big family. Making music together affects us spiritually, mentally, and physically. Through all the hours of rehearsals and behind-the-scenes volunteer time, we are united.

We have had four Artistic Directors in our 50 years of making music together: Dennis Williams, Francis John Vogt, Bob Demaree and Amanda Huntleigh. Each of them has had a profound impact on our musical development, and we are fortunate that they are all joining us to conduct parts of the concert. Joining us also will be the Children's Choir under the direction of Karmella Sellers. Our concert will cover each of the eras of our Artistic Directors and include many different styles of choral music.

As a chorale, we continue to work in collaboration with the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra in December for the Holiday Pops Concert. We have previously performed Johann Brahms' *A German Requiem* with the DSO and several members of the Dubuque Chorale also performed in the DSO production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*.

Our concerts, organizational growth and innovative programming would not be possible without the support of our corporate, government and foundation sponsors, and the many individuals who contribute to our operating and endowment funds every year. These gifts allow us to purchase music, rent venues, work with professional musicians, promote our events and keep admission prices low or free. Your contributions also allow us to cover tuition for young singers who are in need of financial assistance, making the Children's Choir accessible to all who love to sing. By attending our concerts and showing your support, you have become part of the Chorale family too. We thank the Iowa Arts Council, the City of Dubuque, Premier Bank, Medical Associates Health Plans, Home and Floor Show, John and Mary Gronen and Gronen Properties, Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Henry Family Foundation for their generous financial support. We also thank Grand View United Methodist Church and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for gifts in kind.

If you have any questions about upcoming performances, wish to join the ensemble (no auditions), or wish to get booking information for the Dubuque Chorale Cadenza chamber ensemble for civic or private functions, please visit us at www.dubuquechorale.org or email president@dubuquechorale.org.

Thank you again for joining us for this wonderful performance. We look forward to seeing you in the future.

Dubuque Chorale Artistic Staff

DR. AMANDA HUNTLEIGH is Artistic Director of the Dubuque Chorale, and



serves as Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Clarke University. Huntleigh holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral

conducting from the University of Washington, a Master of Music degree in conducting from George Mason University, and a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Wartburg College. In January 2016 she earned her certification as a Laban/Bartenieff Movement Analyst through Integrated Movement Studies. She is thankful for her conducting mentors, Drs. Lisa A. Billingham, Geoffrey Boers, and Giselle Wyers, as well as her movement mentors, Colleen Wahl and the late Cadence Whittier. Huntleigh has conducted choirs touring in Chile, Iceland, Italy, and Latvia, and taught choral, instrumental, and general music in Illinois, Virginia, and Delaware public schools earlier in her career.

KARMELLA SELLERS is the director of the Children's Choir and brings a wealth



of experience with her to this position. Having been a music educator for over 33 years, she firmly believes that music not only enriches lives, but also teaches discipline, teamwork, and responsibility. As a music specialist in the Dubuque Community School District since 2005, she

has served the community through teaching elementary children about the wonders of music and choral singing. Mrs. Sellers is originally from Los Angeles, California.

She received her Bachelor of Music Education from Grand Canyon University (Phoenix, Arizona) and her Masters in Elementary Education from Northern Arizona University. In 2009, Mrs. Sellers achieved National Board Certification. She is also a member of the Feierabend Association for Music Education, National Association for Music Educators, and the National Education Association.

THAN CHESHER is the associate director for the Dubuque Chorale. In addition to



the Dubuque Chorale, Cheshier directs the choirs of Dubuque Senior High School and teaches a Modern Band class introducing students to contemporary instru-

ments and recording techniques. He has directed choirs in Iowa and Minnesota where students earned honors in conference, state and national honor choirs.

Cheshier comes to Dubuque with 27 years of professional musical experience performing for amusement parks, cruise ships, and onstage as a vocalist and bassist. His academic research includes individual well-being through music, student musician identity, and popular music in schools. Cheshier received his Master of Arts in Music Education from the University of Iowa and his Bachelor of Music Education from Morningside College.

DR. SHARON JENSEN holds music degrees from Calvin College, University of Texas, and University of Michigan. The recipient of a Rotary Fellowship, she studied at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna, Austria, where she received the Artist's Diploma.



She has performed with orchestras throughout the Midwest and at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall for four consecutive years. In July 2016, she was a pianist for the Prague Choral Festival and performed with members of the Czech Philharmonic in Smetana Hall. Jensen has also been heard on Chicago's WFMT Dame Myra Hess series and NPR's Live from Landmark Center and Live from the Chazen.

Recently retired from a 35-year university teaching career, Sharon maintains a piano studio in Dubuque, IA. In 2015,

she was honored as the Nationally Certified Teacher of the Year from the state of Iowa and in 2020 as the Iowa Foundation Fellow.

AMANDA HAUTA, MM, is an adjunct professor at the University of Dubuque



where she has taught World Music. She sings with the Julien Chamber Choir, and

teaches piano and accordion lessons. She loves accompanying the Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir and rehearsing with Cadenza. She completed a bachelor of music degree in vocal performance from the University of Northern Colorado and a master of music degree from the University of Minnesota Duluth. Amanda's current project is learning how to play bagpipes with the Dubuque Fire Pipes and Drums. She lives in Dubuque with her husband and two sons.

Guest Conductors

DENNIS WILLIAMS is a native of Mansfield, Ohio and has degrees in Instru-



mental and Vocal Music from Ohio State University and Arizona State University. He taught music courses and directed choirs and musicals at the University of

Dubuque for 29 years. Prior to that, he taught at the University of Colorado, the State University of New York at Binghamton and Arizona State University.

Mr. Williams founded the Dubuque Chorale in 1971. During his 35 years as di-

rector, the Dubuque Chorale performed over 60 major works, numerous Holiday Concerts with the Dubuque Symphony and many theme programs. In 1994, Williams formed the Dubuque Chorale Chamber Singers for the purpose of international touring. He arranged and led the Chamber Singers on five concert tours including England, Wales, Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Italy, Australia and New Zealand. Highlights of these tours included singing at the Sydney Opera House with Eric Whitacre and singing for a mass at St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican.

FRANCIS JOHN VOGT is the Director of Choral Activities and the head of the Voice Area at the University of Maine, where he conducts the University Singers and Oratorio Society, and teaches voice and choral conducting. Prior to his work in



Maine, Vogt was assistant professor at Clarke University in Dubuque, Iowa, where he was also the Artistic Director of the Dubuque Chorale from 2006 to 2009. He has been a guest conductor, choral clinician and adjudicator throughout New England and the Midwest.

He has performed, recorded, and toured with the Dale Warland Singers and the Gregg Smith Singers and has sung professionally with many renowned conductors, including Robert Shaw, Robert Craft, Edo de Waart, Hugh Wolff, and Robert Spano. Performing credits include appearances with Garrison Keillor, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Orchestra of St. Luke's, the Ohio Light Opera, the Connecticut Opera, the Maine Shakespeare Festival, the Penobscot Theatre, the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Maine, and the Bangor Symphony Orchestra.

DR. BOB DEMAREE conducts the Chamber Choir, the Coro D'Angeli treble choir, and the Singing Pioneers bass choir, and teaches conducting and choral



literature at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Annual choral area events include the High School Choral Festival, choir tour, and performances of major choral/orchestral works.

Since 1995, Demaree has had six separate choirs chosen to appear at state or regional ACDA or NAFME conferences a total of 17 times. He has participated in over a dozen commissioning projects with composers such as Eric Barnum and Eric Whitacre. In October of 2009, he conducted the WMEA High School Mixed Honors Choir and then was asked to lead the WMEA High School Treble Honors Choir in October of 2017.

He was a founder, artistic director, and singer in the Heartland Singers from 2002 to 2012. From 2009-2018, Dr. Demaree served as the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Dubuque Chorale, one of the Midwest's premier community choirs. In the fall of 2018, he co-founded the 36-voice Midwest Choral Artists. In 2019, WCDA named Demaree recipient of its highest honor, the Morris D. Hayes Lifetime Achievement Award.



History of the Dubuque Chorale

The Dubuque Chorale is a community choral organization of singers from Dubuque and outlying communities. Dennis Williams founded the group in 1971. The chorale's initial purpose was to study and perform the great choral masterworks with orchestra; the first season featured Handel's *Messiah* and Haydn's *Creation*. Since then, the group has performed over 60 major choral works, and its mission has evolved to include all great choral music. The Chorale's 49 years of performances, with over 1,100 singer alumni reaching more than 40,000 audience members, attests to the accomplishment of this mission.

In 1986, the Chorale began collaborating with the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra with the performance of that year's Holiday Concerts. The relationship continues today, with the Chorale joining the DSO for Holiday Pops and frequently for another featured work during the season as part of the symphony's subscription series. The Chorale also presents its own concerts in the fall and spring, and additional engagements as requested.

Since 1994, the Dubuque Chorale has toured to England and Wales, Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Italy, Switzerland, New Zealand, and Australia. More recent tours included New York City, the British Isles, and Montreal, Canada. The Chorale toured and performed with singers from the Wisconsin communities of Platteville, Mt. Horeb, and Fond du Lac.

Upon Dennis Williams' retirement, Francis John Vogt served as artistic director from 2006 to 2009, with Dr. Bob Demaree in the position from 2009 to 2018.

In the fall of 2012, the Dubuque Chorale added a chamber choir, Cadenza. This mixed-voice group of 16-24 singers is designed to give the Chorale greater flexibility in booking performance engagements, increasing the Chorale's exposure as a community arts leader and advocate. The group makes presentations at community service organizations and other community events. It also performs pieces at regular Chorale concerts.

The beginning of the 2014-15 season included the launch of the Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir, a group of approximately 50 singers in third through sixth grades. The purpose of the Children's Choir is to provide a creative outlet outside of the regular school day for children of Dubuque and surrounding areas, to expose students to new music and performance opportunities they may not have in school, and give them the opportunity to interact and form relationships with other children and adults from their community who are dedicated to choral excellence.

The Chorale's current Artistic Director, Dr. Amanda Huntleigh, began her tenure in 2018. The Chorale has grown to include singers with a diverse array of occupations, ages, and socio-economic statuses. Since its founding, the Chorale's repertoire and artistic programming has also expanded to include new collaborations and community educational opportunities.

The Chorale continues its exciting programming under Huntleigh's inspired direction, seeking out new collaborations with community groups and expanding its repertoire of classics and new music.

Spring 2022 Roster

Dubuque Chorale

Soprano

*Ruth Assmus
Kim Barnes
Carol Baumann
*Danielle Besler
Mary Bryant
Kathy Erickson
*Mary Beth Ferring
†Genevieve Gourley
Susan Hansen
Rachel Heiderscheit
*Sharon Jensen
*Lauren Klar
Lisa Landgraf
LaDonna Manternach
*Victoria Schuler
Sarah Slaughter

***Member of Cadenza**

†Founding Member

Alto

Shell Balek
Amy Dolan
*Terry Eckhart
Leanne Golinvaux
Melissa Jensen
Joyce Johnson
Mary Kelley
Yasyn Lee
Marianne Overturf
†Jean Peterson
*Emma Tonn
*Susan Tonn
Nicole Soer
Katey Theis
Aimee Belanger

Tenor

Peter Bellaver
*Than Cheshner
Samantha Echaves
Fr. Dan Knepper
*Cathe Oberfoell
Bob North
*Danielle Phillips
*Thomas Taylor
*Jon Tschiggfrie

Bass

Nick Glab
Bob Lehmann
Kai Lowell
*Mark Niemer
*Mark Oppedahl
Wesley Struebing
*†Mike Jozefowicz
*Curt Zeimet

Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir

Emma Anderson
Julia Andresen
Avery Axtell
Lela Bryant-Henry
Alina Pearl Buchholtz
Zoe Burbach
Lucy Burke
Evelyn Burley
Cora Butler
Isabelle Cirks
Sofia Crispin de Jesus
Alaina Downs
Giuliana Dragotto
Raina Fabricius
Kaylie Fees
Garrett Fleming

Harper Francois
Madeleine Fuller
Lexi Gronen
Robert (Woody) Heath
Thomas Heath
Halle Hefel
Bonnie Henning
Sophia Hulsizer
Aubrielle Jellison
Claire King
Zackary LaCrone
Roselyn Lange
Cidny Lightfoot
Harmony Lightfoot
Maraya Longworth
Johanna McCready

Ainsley Mathew
Olivia Mathew
Cora Menster-Sio
Daisiella Miller
Lucas Mullen
Reese Nethery
Elaine Oberfoell
Jane Parks-Schmidt
Joshua Roling
Junipar Routley
Harper Schmitt
Sophia Shannon
Elise Swartz
Elinor Weires
Roselyn Welsh
Kinsley Wilkinson

Instrumental Ensembles

Orchestra

Flute

Naomi Noel

Oboe

Margaret Ruf

Clarinet

Coda Freiburger

Bassoon

Marcia Martin

French Horn

Wendy Hinman

Henry Raber

Trumpet

Amy Dunker

Benjamin Drury

***Concertmaster**

Tombone

David Hinman

Timpani

John Garde

Violin

*Ann Duchow

James Rettenmeier

Hana Tysver Velde

Don Gentzsch

Viola

Tracey Rush

Natalie Delcorps

Cello

Christina Craig Gentzsch

Justice Heinold

Rock Band

Marcus DeJesus, guitar

Than Chesher, bass

John Garde, set

Amanda Hauta, piano

Dubuque Chorale Board of Directors

Mark Niemer, President

Kim Barnes, Vice President

Erin Beatty, Secretary

Victoria Schuler, Treasurer

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Mary Bryant

Jenna Mathew

Mark Oppedahl

Greg Orwoll



Dubuque Chorale

50th Anniversary Concert

And the Glory of the Lord from *Messiah*..... G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Ceremony Honoring Dennis Williams, Founder & Director Emeritus

Hallelujah Chorus from *Messiah*..... G.F. Handel

Dubuque Chorale with orchestra

Dennis Williams, conductor

The Creation (Day Four: Light).....Franz Josef Haydn (1732-1809)

And God Said

In Splendor Bright

The Heavens Are Telling

Dubuque Chorale with orchestra

Than Chesher, conductor

Thomas Taylor, tenor

Mary Bryant, soprano; Mark Oppedahl, bass

A New CreationRené Clausen (b. 1953)

A New Creation

The Greatest of These Is Love

Hymn

Dubuque Chorale

Dennis Williams, conductor

Sharon Jensen, piano

Thomas Taylor, tenor

Recognition of Francis John Vogt, Artistic Director 2006-2009

Lux AeternaMorten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

Introitus

O Nata Lux

Veni, Sanctus Spiritus

Dubuque Chorale and Cadenza

Francis John Vogt, conductor

Sharon Jensen, piano

Beati Quorum Via.....Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Cadenza

Bob Demaree, conductor

Recognition of Bob Demaree, Artistic Director 2009-2018

Inscription of HopeZ. Randall Stroope (b. 1953)
Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir
Karmella Sellers, conductor
Amanda Hauta, piano

Evening Prayer from *Hansel and Gretel* ... Engelbert Humperdinck (1854-1921)
Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir with Dubuque Chorale
Bob Demaree, conductor
Sharon Jensen, piano

Intermission

One Love Bob Marley (1945-1981)
arr. Mark Brymer

My Shot from *Hamilton* Lin-Manuel Miranda (b. 1980)
arr. Alex Lacamoire and Lin-Manuel Miranda
Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir with rock band
Karmella Sellers, conductor
Julia Andresen, Lela Bryant-Henry, Joshua Roling, soloists

Recognition of Accompanists

Amendment: Righting Our Wrongs Melissa Dunphy (b. 1980)
The Quest
All Men Are Created Equal
We Hold These Truths
Identity Politics
Pledging Allegiance
Amendment
Dubuque Chorale with Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir
Amanda Huntleigh, conductor
Christina Craig Gentzsch, cello

Acknowledgements: Mark Niemer, President

Seize the Day from *Newsies* Alan Menken (b. 1949)
arr. Roger Emerson
Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir and Dubuque Chorale with rock band
Amanda Huntleigh, conductor

Program Notes and Translations

Find program notes and translations, as well as lyrics and endnotes from *Amendment* on our website at **dubuquechorale.org** or **scan the QR Code below.**

Also online you'll see photographs from the past 50 years and comments from Chorale members about their time with the organization.



Learn more!



A decorative graphic featuring two musical staves with various notes and rests, curving around the central text.

*Congrats on
50 years!*

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Join Us!



The Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir is for students in grades 3-6 who are participating in their own school's music program. Rehearsals are Mondays 5:15-6:30PM at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Membership in the Dubuque Chorale is open to high school, college, and adult singers from the Tri-State area. The Dubuque Chorale rehearses on Thursdays 7-9PM at Grandview United Methodist Church.

All ages are encouraged to participate in this nonprofit musical organization, which is dedicated to improving the musical skills of its singers and to providing quality musical entertainment for its audiences.

Both choirs begin rehearsals for the 2022-23 season in August. Visit **dubuquechorale.org** for details on joining!

Dubuque Chorale 2022-23 Season

SONGFEST

Area choirs join the Dubuque Chorale

Saturday, Sept. 24, 7:30PM

Butler Hall

UD Heritage Center

HOLIDAY CONCERT

Dubuque Chorale joins the DSO

Saturday, December 3, 7:30PM

Sunday, December 4, 2PM

Five Flags Center

HOME

Dubuque Chorale & Children's Choir in partnership with Opening Doors

Friday, October 20, 7:30PM

Saturday, October 21, 7:30PM

Steeple Square

SPRING CONCERT

Dubuque Chorale & Children's Choir

Saturday May 6, 7:30PM

Sunday, May 7, 2PM

Location TBA

HOLIDAY FAMILY CONCERT

Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir joins the DSO

Saturday, December 3, 1PM

Five Flags Center

View updates to our concert season at dubuquechorale.org!

Looking Ahead... Dreaming Big!

If you would like to help secure the future of the Dubuque Chorale, there are many ways to get involved! **Please include this form and mail it back with your donation.**

I would love to receive concert information. ☐ Mail ☐ E-mail

- ☐ I love to sing and would like more information on becoming a member.
- ☐ Please let me know how I can volunteer to help the Chorale.
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- ☐ I would like to make a donation to the endowment fund in the amount of \$_____. (For more information on our fund, see information below.)

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You can also make a donation on our website at www.dubuquechorale.org, or send your check payable to: Dubuque Chorale, 900 Jackson Street, Suite LL5-2D, Dubuque, IA 52001.

The Dubuque Chorale is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Your donation supports the arts in Dubuque and helps us continue our mission of presenting fine choral works to the Tri-States.

Dubuque Chorale Endowment Fund

We have established the Dubuque Chorale Endowment Fund to invest in the long-term future of the Chorale through the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque. Donations are tax deductible and Iowa residents are also eligible for a 25% state tax credit. To learn more contact the Community Foundation at 563-588-2700 or go online to www.dbqfoundation.org.

Thank you for considering a donation given through the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque to support our endowment fund.

Friends of the Dubuque Chorale

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, we are grateful for the support of these generous donors for our 2021-22 operating fund.

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We are particularly grateful to our many volunteers for your hours of dedication and service! Special thanks to Dubuque Senior High Music Department for providing percussion instruments and their time, and to Grandview United Methodist Church and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for the use of their spaces for rehearsals.



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