

“Utah Sings!”

ACDA-UT 2018 State Conference The Waterford School, October 26-27, 2018

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Conference Headliners

Utah Chamber Artists



Under the direction of Dr. Barlow Bradford, Utah Chamber Artists brings together musicians – both vocalists and instrumentalists – to perform the world’s finest music with craftsmanship, artistry and integrity. Our musicians perform selections from all eras — Renaissance to contemporary — with the single design of offering a unique musical experience to our audience. As performers we aim to enrich the lives of those who listen and sustain and strengthen the arts as we enliven the quality of the culture of our age.

Utah Chamber Artists, based in Salt Lake City, Utah, was established in 1991 by

Music Director, Barlow Bradford. The ensemble is comprised of forty singers and forty players who together, create a balance and sonority rarely found in a combined choir and orchestra. Besides presenting the traditional and revered repertoire of the past, the group provides audiences with the finest contemporary works and regularly commissions new music. The musicians perform out of their love for great music and a genuine desire to enrich the lives of their listeners.

Utah Chamber Artists is a major artistic force along the Wasatch front in Utah, but they also enjoy a broader reputation. The choir has been heard on the national public radio program “First Art,” appeared on the Mormon Tabernacle Choir’s weekly broadcast, performed with Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, and sung on various occasions with the Utah Symphony. Dale Warland and Paul Salamunovich have also been guest conductors during the ensemble’s regular concert series. In 1996, the choir was invited to perform with the Israel Chamber Orchestra. Dr. Bradford conducted the ensembles in a concert tour of Israel that culminated in a studio recording of the John Rutter “Requiem.” The choir has also toured in England and France. Recent awards include the Best of State in 2010 and the Chorus America Dale Warland Singers Commission Award.

The ensemble has recorded several compact discs. Their first, “Welcome All Wonders; A Christmas Celebration,” was awarded an “Indie.” from NAIRD (National Association of Independent Record Distributors & Manufacturers..) Utah Chamber Artists has just completed a second Christmas CD, “Joyous Day,” which includes Barlow Bradford’s innovative arrangements of familiar carols.

The choir and orchestra offer a concert season in Salt Lake City in addition to touring and recording. Their range is extensive, which is manifest by the musicians’ proficiency and enjoyment in performing music from all eras. They are as equally at home with music of the Renaissance as they are with jazz and popular music. These concerts feature the choir and orchestra in tandem as well as highlighting each group separately. Under the baton of Barlow Bradford, all is imparted with mastery, artistry and insight.

• **Conductor, Barlow Bradford**



Over the course of his extraordinary musical career, Dr. Barlow Bradford has distinguished himself as a conductor, composer, arranger, pianist, organist, and teacher. As an orchestral and choral conductor, he co-founded the Utah Chamber Artists in 1991 and led the ensemble to international acclaim for its impeccable, nuanced performances and award-winning recordings

Dr. Bradford's performance career began in his early teens when he won numerous competitions in both organ and piano performance, including the National Young Artists Competition and the Utah Symphony Salute to Youth. He soloed on both instruments with the Utah Symphony and has concertized throughout England and North America. Still a much sought-after recitalist, he combines technical virtuosity and deep musical sensitivity to create memorable musical experiences for audience and performers alike.

Dr. Bradford's compositions and arrangements have garnered much attention for their innovation and dramatic scope. Many of Bradford's arrangements have been recorded by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and performed regularly by such noted ensembles as the Dallas Symphony Chorus, New York Choral Artists, and the Utah Chamber Artists. His music has been recorded on Telarc, Clarion, Bonneville, and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir labels. A full CD of his exuberant arrangements of Christmas Carols, "Joyous Day," featuring the Utah Chamber Artists, is on the Clarion label.

As a teacher, Dr. Bradford taught courses in music theory, conducting, arranging, composition, private piano and organ at the University of Utah and Brigham Young University Hawaii. He received his doctorate of musical arts from the University of Southern California, where he was awarded the Kodolfsky Graduate Fellowship, the Music Faculty endowed Scholarship, the Leo Podolsky Piano Performance Award, the Mary Van Lear Memorial Scholarship, and was voted by the faculty as "Most Outstanding Student" in both conducting and keyboard collaborative arts. He studied conducting at the Aspen Music Festival and the Tanglewood Music Festival and received bachelor of music in piano performance from the University of Utah. His teachers and mentors include Gustav Meier, Daniel Lewis, Nina Svetlanova, Kevin Fitz-Gerald, Gladys Gladstone, Lennox Larsen and Robert Cundick.

In 2010, Dr. Bradford accepted the position of head of choral studies at the University of Utah, where he was appointed as the Ellen Nielsen Barnes Presidential Endowed Chair for Choral Studies in 2012. In 2013, Dr. Bradford was invited by Maestro Thierry Fischer to become Director of Choirs for the Utah Symphony.

Ryan Murphy – Keynote Speaker



Ryan Murphy was appointed associate music director of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir on March 27, 2009. In this capacity, he is responsible to assist Mack Wilberg, music director, with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square in rehearsals, concerts, tours, and the weekly broadcast of Music and the Spoken Word. He also serves as the conductor of the Temple Square Chorale, the preparatory ensemble for new singers in Choir service.

Dr. Murphy has extensive choral conducting and professional musical theater experience. Prior to his appointment, he conducted six choirs in the Boston area, including two choirs at the prestigious New England Conservatory Preparatory School. He served for four years as the choral director at the Walnut Hill School for the Arts, an internationally recognized secondary school affiliated with the New England Conservatory. He was the music director of the Tuacahn Center for the Arts in the St. George, Utah, area from 2005 to 2007 following five seasons as music director at the Sundance Institute in Provo, Utah. While in Boston, he maintained an active performing schedule, including collaborations at the Tanglewood Summer Festival.

Dr. Murphy graduated from Brigham Young University with a degree in piano and organ performance and pedagogy. He holds a master's degree in choral conducting from Brigham Young University and a doctorate in choral conducting from Boston University, where he studied with Dr. Ann Howard Jones.

Ryan and his wife, Jennifer, have four children.

- **Combined Community Choir**

Utah has a rich community choir tradition, and ACDA-Utah is proud to feature three of our finest community choirs in our Afternoon Concert on Saturday, October 27, 2018 and to hear them join for a special number, directed by our Keynote Speaker, Ryan Murphy. This ensemble will feature **Wasatch Choral (Jennifer Heder, conductor), Salt Lake Singers (Jane Fjeldsted, conductor), and Choral Arts Society of Utah (Sterling Poulsen, conductor).**

Tom Shelton



Tom T. Shelton, Jr. is a native of Greensboro, N.C. and a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he earned both a Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music in Choral Conducting. He is associate professor of Sacred Music at Westminster Choir College. Focusing on children's and youth music at Westminster, he teaches classes in conducting, sacred music and music education. In addition, he is the director of Children's and Youth Choirs at Princeton United Methodist Church. He is also conductor of the Westminster Neighborhood Children's Choir.

Mr. Shelton has a passion for music education in all areas: church, school and community. He taught middle school choral music in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County for 18 years. During that time he was selected Teacher of the Year for both Atkins Middle School and Kernersville Middle School. In 1999 the North Carolina Music Educators Association presented him with the North Carolina Middle School Music Teacher of the Year award.

Mr. Shelton is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association, currently serving as the national president. Past ACDA leadership positions have included Southern Division president (2011-2012), National R&S chair for Middle School/Junior High

Choirs (2007-2009) and North Carolina president (2005-2007).

Mr. Shelton has conducted festivals and honor choirs for elementary, middle school and high school students in 20 states and abroad, including the ACDA Central Division Junior High Honor Choir as well as All State Choirs in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina and South Carolina. This past May, he was invited to conduct a Treble Choir Festival in Carnegie Hall, New York City. His compositions have been published by Choristers Guild, Colla Voce Music, GIA Publications, Heritage Music Press, Hinshaw Music Company, Santa Barbara Music Press, and Walton Music.

- **Children's Honor Choir**

The Treble Honor Choir will feature singers in grades 4-9 from elementary and junior high programs in the state. We're thrilled to bring Tom Shelton of Westminster Choir College as this year's guest conductor. He is currently serving as National President of ACDA.

Paul Wiens



Paul W. Wiens, Professor Emeritus of Choral Music and Conducting, directed the Concert Choir and taught conducting and sight singing in the Conservatory of Music at Wheaton College (Illinois) from 1981-2012. He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Iowa where he studied with Don Moses, taught at the University of Wisconsin-Madison with Robert Fountain, and sang with the Atlanta Symphony Chamber Chorus under maestro Robert Shaw.

Under his direction, the Concert Choir responded to the challenges of traditional, multi-cultural and newly composed repertoire--during recent years, performances have included Frank Martin's Mass, Gesualdo's lenten motets, Bach's St. John Passion, Mantjarvi's Shakespeare Songs and Giles Swain's Magnificat. The 2008-09 concert season, for example, featured works by Schutz, Bach, Martin, Howells, Tippett, Walton, Holst, Penderecki, Van, Stravinsky, Reger, Gesualdo, Valerie Kikta and Chandler Branch. In March of 2012, Wiens' conducting career was capped with two performances of the Bach B Minor Mass. He led the Concert Choir in performances at two national and five Central Division conventions of the American Choral Director's Association. Since its founding in 1934, Paul Wiens is the sixth conductor of the Wheaton College Concert Choir. His successor, John Trotter, is the seventh conductor of the choir.

On five occasions, Paul Wiens served as Chorus Master for Wheaton College Artist Series performances under the baton of John Nelson. These memorable performances included Mendelssohn's Elijah, Britten's War Requiem, Handel's Messiah and Berlioz' Requiem, which involved more than 400 singers from the Apollo Chorus, Valparaiso University Chorale, Northern Illinois University Concert Choir and the Wheaton College Concert Choir, Men's Glee Club and Women's Chorale. The most recent collaboration involved the Apollo Chorus in two performances of the Brahms' Requiem, the first in Edman Chapel (Nelson, conducting) and the second in Chicago's Symphony Hall (Alltop, conducting).

Authored by Paul Wiens, *Expressive Conducting, Version 3* (2005)--the first multimedia resource for conducting--continues to be the most innovative digital tool available for learning how to conduct. *Expressive Conducting* shows how the conductor's gestural language communicates the score to the ensemble. Using powerful multimedia tools, the author is able to clearly demonstrate how this communication works.

Under the leadership of Artistic Director and Conductor, Paul W. Wiens, the West Suburban Choral Union presented masterworks at Wheaton College from 1983-2006. Collaboration with the Wheaton College Symphony Orchestra, the Wheaton College Concert Choir, Women's Chorale and Men's Glee Club allowed the Choral Union to contribute to the artistic life of the Conservatory of Music, Wheaton College and the larger suburban community. With the Choral Union, Paul Wiens has conducted most of the major choral/orchestra masterworks including memorable performances of Brahms' Ein deutsches Requiem, Mozart's C Minor Mass and Requiem, and Bach's St Matthew Passion.

Paul Wiens taught Sight Singing at Wheaton Conservatory for a decade, and during that time produced a revision of the traditional solfege system: *Solfege for the 21st Century*.

- **Intercollegiate Choir**

ACDA-Utah is proud to combine some of the finest collegiate choirs in the state for the upcoming State Conference. Guest conducted by Paul Wiens, this ensemble will feature Southern Utah University Opus Chamber Choir (Krystal McCoy, Conductor), Snow College Cadence Chamber choir (Michael Huff, Conductor), and Utah Valley University Chamber Choir (Reed Criddle, Conductor).

Performers & Conductors

Kickoff Concert

Waterford Middle School Select Choir



The Middle School Select Choir, also known as the "Troubadours in Training," is an auditioned ensemble for students in classes VI, VII, and VIII at the Waterford School. The group is comprised of singers from across the school's entire middle school music program, including many orchestra and band students in addition to students of the choral program. The ensemble is a voluntary ensemble that rehearses during lunch periods, and it requires the highest level of dedication and commitment in order to maintain membership in the group. The group's creation was student inspired, and it continues to operate largely through student leadership.

Waterford School Troubadours

The Troubadours are the Upper School singers from the Waterford School who possess the highest degree of dedication, musical skill, and passion for choral singing. Students are selected for the ensemble through a multi-step audition process each year. Originally created as a small, lunch time ensemble for male voices, the group has grown into a full chamber choir for mixed voices that maintains an active performance calendar throughout the year. The Troubadours earned top honors in 2017 at the World Strides festival in Honolulu, Hawaii, and they will be traveling to South Africa for their first international performance tour in 2019.



● Patrick Tatman

A native of western Pennsylvania, Patrick Tatman currently serves as Director of Choral Studies at the Waterford School in Sandy, Utah. He holds a Master's degree in Choral Conducting from Brigham Young University and a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Penn State University. His career has included teaching experience at the elementary, secondary and collegiate levels in Utah, Colorado and Pennsylvania. In addition to his work with the Waterford School, Patrick also serves as a conductor, guest clinician, and professional singer with several organizations including the Mapleton Chorale, Cathedral of the Madeleine, and the Brevitas professional choir. He believes strongly in a choir's ability to inspire, and he seeks to raise awareness of the importance of music and the arts through his work. Patrick resides in Draper, Utah with his wife Shannon and son Carson.



Highland High School En Chantant



En Chantant, translated to "singing" in French, is Highland High School's auditioned treble choir comprised of students from grades 9-12. Though Highland has had a women's choir for many years, 2017-2018 was the first season that all members were auditioned and the choir was given its distinct name. In its first official year, the choir performed at the Salt Lake City School District, at the Assembly Hall on Temple Square, and in a joint concert with Melissa Thorne and the Salt Lake Choral Artists Women's Choir. Several members of the choir performed at region solo and ensemble in March; one soprano soloist and one quartet advanced to state and both received superior ratings. They performed as part of the large

choir festival in April and qualified for the UMEA state choir festival in May.

● Katie Houston

Katie Houston just finished her 10th year of teaching choir in the public school system. After graduating from Brigham Young University in 2008, she began her career at Dixon Middle School in Provo, Utah. She moved to Salt Lake City in 2011 to teach choir and piano at Highland High School and received her master's in music with an emphasis in education from the University of Utah in 2015. She served as an assistant director for the Salt Lake Symphonic Choir during the 2015-2016 season and currently sings with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. She enjoys adjudicating choral festivals and music directing shows in the community. Also certified in English teaching, she taught 12th grade English for two years and loves the relationship between music and language.



American Heritage School A Cappella Choir: Premiering the ACDA-UT 2018 Composer Competition Second Place Composition, *“To Sing My Heart,”* by Rob Swenson



The AHS A Cappella Choir is an auditioned, 45-voice mixed ensemble at American Heritage School, a Christian-oriented private school in American Fork, Utah (est. 1970). The choir represents over forty percent of the eleventh and twelfth grade student body. Whole musicianship, including an emphasis in music literacy, is stressed in all ensembles, and AHS boasts a unified K-12 Kodály program with OAKE-certified instructors at every level. The A Cappella Choir was established in 2009 when the school expanded from grades K-8 to grades K-12. Since its inception, the A Cappella Choir has been noted for its technical excellence and expressive capabilities, consistently receiving superior ratings at both

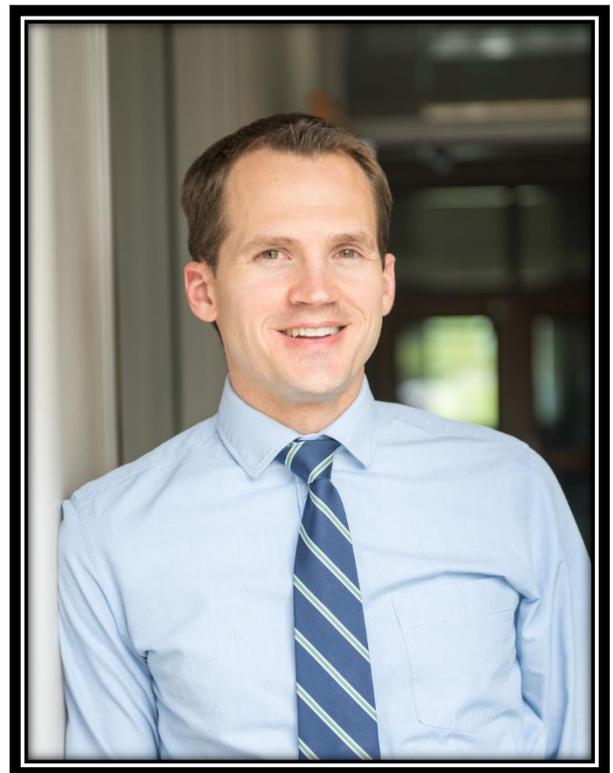
region and state festivals. In 2017, they were invited to perform for the Utah Music Educator's Association in St. George, Utah. The choir's mission is to provide joy, healing, and inspiration to both choir members and audiences through excellent choral music.

• Rob Swenson

Rob Swenson holds a master's degree in music education from Brigham Young University and Level III OAKE-endorsed Kodály certification. In 2008, he joined the faculty at American Heritage School, a Christian-based private school in American Fork, Utah. He currently teaches AP Music Theory, directs the 7-12 grade choirs, and serves as the Fine Arts Department Chair. In 2007, he founded the Heritage Youth Choirs, a faith-centered community choral program for children and youth. Under his direction, it has grown to over 200 members and has performed inspirational programs for audiences throughout the United States.

Rob's original composition, "Go Forth From This House," was recognized in the inaugural ACDA Utah composition contest and is distributed by Santa Barbara Music Publishing. His "Christmas Hosanna" won the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir Christmas Carol Commission and will be published by Hinshaw Music in 2019. He is an alumni of the John Ness Beck Choral Composers Workshop where he studied composition with Craig Courtney, Dan Forrest, and Howard Helvey. Rob's music is available at robswensonmusic.com.

Rob resides in Pleasant Grove, Utah, with his wife, Kristy, and their four children.



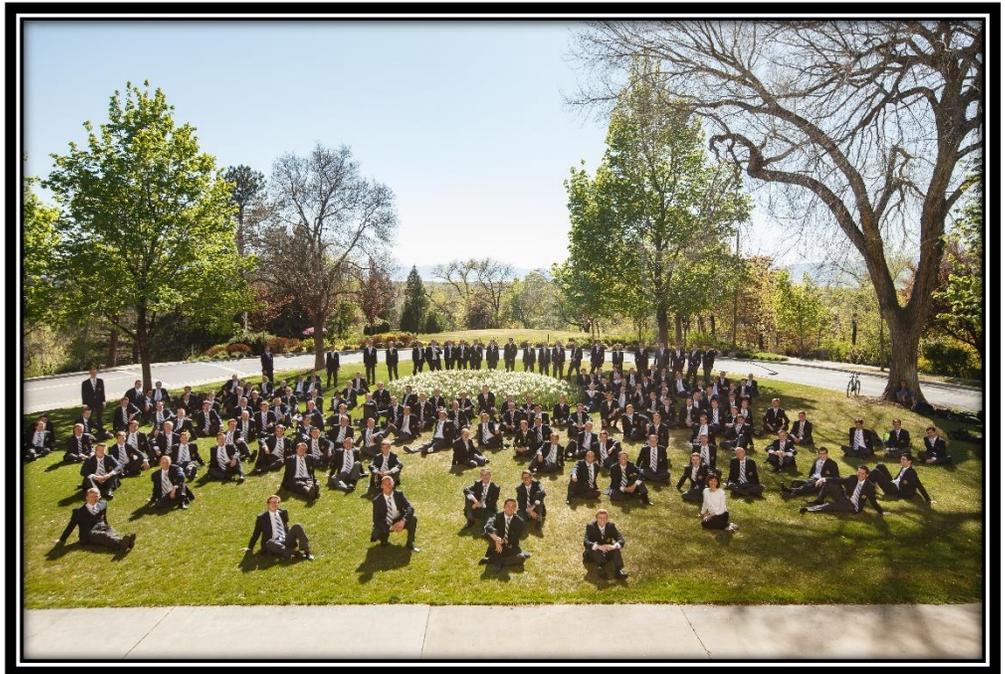
Utah Chamber Artists, Barlow Bradford

(For bios and photos see "Headliners")

Afternoon Concert

BYU Men's Chorus

One of six choral ensembles at BYU, and chosen from over 600 singers annually auditioning for the ensemble, the BYU Men's Chorus is the largest collegiate men's ensemble in the USA. Its 180 members are drawn from every college and department of the university. Known not only for its powerful musical performances, but also for its diverse literature and engaging performance style, the choir has captured the admiration of audiences throughout the Western United States and beyond.



• Rosalind Hall

A native of Wales, UK, Rosalind Hall is Associate Professor at Brigham Young University, where she has conducted the Concert Choir and the Men's Chorus for the past twenty years. In addition to her conducting responsibilities, she teaches undergraduate and graduate classes in choral music. Before emigrating to the USA she received her British training at the Royal Academy of Music, London, and at Edinburgh and London Universities.

Combined Community Choir

• Ryan Murphy

(For bio and photo see "Headliners")

Choral Arts Society of Utah



The Choral Arts Society of Utah, organized in 1987, has a long history of choral performances.

In 1997, the choir began its two “signature concerts”, including the Days of ’47 Pops KUTV

Concert at Abravanel Hall continuing a 71-year tradition featuring many fabulous Utah artists, and the KUTV 2News Salvation Army Angel Tree Benefit Concert which helps bring a joyful holiday season to the less fortunate children and families in Utah. 2018 is our 21st year presenting both of these great community events. Here in Utah, the choir performed the premiere performance of Michael McLean’s

The Garden in the spring of 1996. Two of Utah’s

Governors invited the choir to sing at their Gubernatorial Inauguration. In 1991, the choir sang at the 1998 Olympic Bid announcement in Salt Lake City and performed at several venues for the 2002 Winter Olympics. In 2004 and 2011, the choir was invited to perform at the dedications of two different phases of the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

Concerts outside of Utah include a performance of Haydn’s Lord Nelson Mass at Carnegie Hall in June 1999 and Mozart’s Requiem in January 2005. In June 2006, the choir toured Austria for the 250th birthday celebration of the birth of Mozart, performing in Salzburg and Vienna. In 2011, the choir participated in the Memorial Day Concert at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., and in May 2012, was invited to perform Gustav Mahler’s 8th Symphony with the Helena, Montana Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Alan Scott.

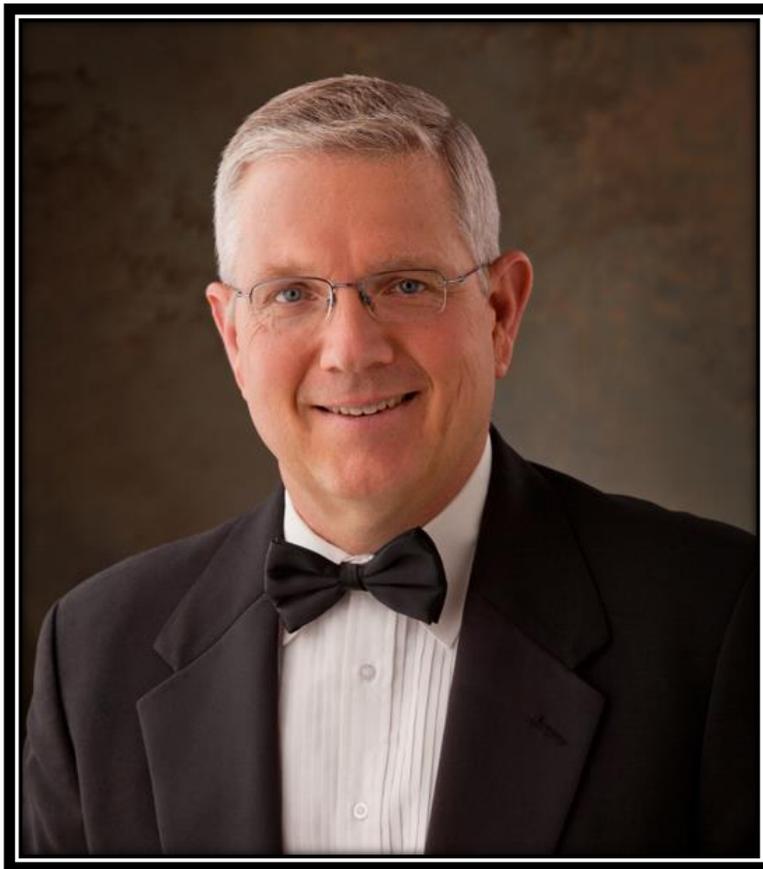
In 2016, the choir participated in our first ever choral competition, INTERKULTUR, one of the world’s leading choir competitions and festivals. The Choral Arts Society of Utah earned the silver diploma in the mixed choir competition. In 2019, the choir will perform in Carnegie Hall under the direction of our conductor, Sterling Poulson.

All of our concerts each season are given for a specific purpose. Our community based concerts, such as the Armed Forces Day Concert at the Gallivan Center, honoring our men and women in Uniform, the Days of ’47 KUTV Pops Concert, honoring our pioneering spirit in Utah, and the Holiday Pops Concert, a benefit for our friends and neighbors in need, are given as a service to the community. We also have an on-going relationship with the University of Utah School of Music, providing a fully operational choir for graduate students to present required recitals, once or twice each year.

To schedule an audition, please send an email to casupres@xmission.com. For information on our next concert, please visit casu.org

• Sterling Poulsen

He is Music Director and Founder of The Choral Arts Society of Utah, conducting as many as six concerts each year with the 100-voice choir. He was appointed Associate Music Director of the Jay Welch Chorale in 1985 and served under Dr. Jay Welch for eleven years. He was appointed Music Director and Conductor of the Choral Arts Society of Utah in December 1996. His career includes guest-conducting performances with the Utah Symphony, West Valley Symphony, the New American Symphony, the Sierra Nevada Master Chorale & Orchestra, the Fillmore Regional Chorus & Orchestra, the South Davis Community Choir & Orchestra and the Southern Utah Heritage Choir. He has had several guest conducting appearances with the Utah National Guard's 23rd Army Band, including a performance of Randall Thompson's Testament of Freedom in the Assembly Hall on Temple Square.



In 1997 he was appointed Music Director of the Days of '47 Pops Concert held in Abravanel Hall in Salt Lake City every July. He has expanded this free concert to a two-night event and it is one of the more popular summer concerts in Salt Lake City. This concert features the Choral Arts Society of Utah and Utah artists such as the West Valley Symphony of Utah, the Salt Lake Symphony, the Crescent Super Band, one of the nations premiere youth Jazz bands, as well as many guest soloists, including George Dyer, Alex Boyé, Joseph Paur, Thurl Bailey, Jessica Poulson and Jenny Oaks Baker. Also featured, the Utah National Guard 23rd Army Band. For 15 years, the Choral Arts Society of Utah has joined forces with the 23rd Army Band to present the Armed Forces Day Concert at the Gallivan Plaza, to honor our men and women serving in the Armed Forces. In May of 2002, he received the Award of Harmony from The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Singing in America, presented by the Saltaires Show Chorus for his work in promoting music education and appreciation in our community. He served two terms on the board of the American Choral Directors-Utah Chapter, and from 1988 - 2009, he held the position of music reader for the Mormon Tabernacle Choir Broadcast Music and the Spoken Word. He is currently pursuing a degree in choral music education at the University of Utah.

Sterling's television career began in 1985 when he joined KSL television in Salt Lake City as a weather producer and meteorologist. Sterling is a Certified Broadcast Meteorologist, with the seal of Approval from the American Meteorological Society. He served a three-year term as a member of the Board of Broadcast Meteorologists from 1997-2000. He chaired the AMS Broadcaster's National Convention in San Francisco in June 2000. He enjoys visiting schools with the 2News Storm Tracker speaking to school kids about weather and science. He is a member of the Clark Planetarium Board of Directors, the Days of '47 Board of Directors, Board chair of the West Valley Symphony of Utah, and Board Chair of the Choral Arts Society of Utah. He also serves on the board of the Utah National Guard Charitable Trust. Sterling resides in Centerville and enjoys fishing and spending time with his family, including his five children and thirteen grandchildren.

Salt Lake Singers



Salt Lake Singers was founded in September 2015. Its original charter was as a community choir formed to sing at Christmas. A successful performance inspired them to continue, and Salt Lake Singers was established. The choir's season also includes an Easter Service and "Salt Lake Swing!" an evening of big band music, dinner, dancing, and entertainment.

With each year the choir has grown –

there are now more than 100 singers who enjoy making music and friendships through their common efforts and interest. Designed with the participants in mind, singers of all ages and skill levels are invited to sing. To accommodate busy lives, there are two sessions (Fall and Spring). Singers can participate in the full season or choose either of the two sessions. Concerts are free of charge as the choir's contribution to family, friends, and the community.

Salt Lake Singers, a place where music is created, enjoyed, shared, and associations are cherished.

• Jane Fjeldsted

Dr. Jane R. Fjeldsted conducts the Salt Lake Singers, VOCALIS, German Chorus Harmonie, and Davis Interfaith Choir & Symphony. As a studio and recording professional, she is both singer and conductor for Warner Chappell/Nonstop Productions and HUGE Sound Production, creating scores for movies, television, and online video games. She also teaches a choir for at-risk students at Mountain High School in Davis School District. With a wide variety of ensembles, Jane has had the opportunity to do more composing/arranging, recently completing several successful commissions. Previously Dr. Fjeldsted worked with Salt Lake Choral Artists as a conductor, teacher, and clinician (2004-2015), and was founder/conductor of the Davis High School vocal jazz ensemble, Moonlight Singers (2000-2013). Dr. Fjeldsted served on boards of both the Utah Music Educators Association and American Choral Directors Association of Utah.



Wasatch Chorale

Now in its 44th season, the Wasatch Chorale has been performing high-quality, engaging music for the Utah Valley community since 1974. We have performed in Carnegie Hall in New York City three times, performing Requiems of Mozart, Duruflé, and Rutter. In May 2010, in celebration of the Wasatch Chorale's

35th season, the choir toured England and Scotland. We are continually widening our repertoire, performing everything from great masterworks to jazz, contemporary pieces, world music, and more. We regularly collaborate with other Utah County arts organizations, schools, and professional musicians along the Wasatch Front.



• Jennifer Heder

Jennifer Heder is currently director of choirs at Spanish Fork High School where she teaches the Chamber Singers, Concert Choir, Mosaic, Men's Chorus, and Women's Chorus. She also teaches music theory and history classes through the National AP and UVU Concurrent Enrollment programs. In 2017 she was appointed the artistic director of the community-based choir, Wasatch Chorale. She is a member and active participant in the professional music organizations UMEA and ACDA.



Jennifer earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education from Brigham Young University in 2013 and a Masters in Choral Conducting from Brigham Young University in 2016. While studying, she was a member of BYU University Singers, Concert Choir, and Women's Chorus. She served as alto section leader for multiple choirs and toured with BYU Singers to China in 2015 and Arizona in 2016.

During her graduate work she was able to teach various conducting courses offered through the university and direct the University Chorale. She was also the graduate assistant for BYU Singers, Women's Chorus, and Concert Choir. She was the co-founder of Utah Collegiate Singers and the co-conductor from spring of 2013 until spring of 2014.

Salem Junior High Bella Voce



Bella Voce is Salem Jr. High's top women's chorus. Comprised of 40 auditioned singers from 7th, 8th, and 9th grades, Bella Voce aims to infuse their music with elegance, grace, and passion as they perform challenging repertoire. Bella Voce has consistently received superior ratings at district and state level choral festivals. They have been in regular attendance at the ACDA UT Women's Chorus Festival and in 2015 was invited to sing at ACDA UT. Bella Voce is excited to be able to return to the stage this October and perform the messages of their music.

• Dalan Guthrie

Dalan Guthrie is in his 4th year as Choral Director at Salem Jr. High. One of his top goals at the Jr. High level is to push his students to perform and experience music at the highest level possible for each group. He enjoys attempting to discover the limits of his students and is frequently delighted when he has trouble finding those limits. In addition to the SaJHS choirs, Guthrie also Co-Directed the Utah Collegiate Singers from 2013 to 2017 with good friend and colleague, Danny Gray. He is currently pursuing an MM in Choral Conducting at BYU.

As a tenor, Guthrie has enjoyed singing regularly with Brevitas, BYU Singers, Lux Singers, Sound of Ages, Consortium, HugeSound Productions, Warner Bros. Studios and other ensembles. He loves performing in theater and concert and attempts to pass his passion for music on to his students.



Sound of Ages



Sound of Ages is a mixed chamber choir based in Utah Valley that specializes in early music and music written in a neo-renaissance and neo-medieval style. The group was founded in May of 2017 by conductor Kameron Kavanaugh and twelve original singers. The ensemble strives for the highest quality performances by focusing on a clean but full-bodied sound and historically accurate artistry. The group aims to create exciting and dramatic performances and recordings in order to illustrate the beauty and timelessness of early music and make it more accessible to audiences in the Western United States. The group continues to produce recordings and concerts around the state.

• Kameron Kavanaugh

Kameron Kavanaugh is a native of Payson, UT. He received his Bachelors degree in Choral Music Education from Brigham Young University-Idaho and his Masters degree in Choral Conducting from Brigham Young University. He has conducted several premiere performances of student compositions including large multi-movement works and small chamber works. As a choral singer, he has toured with BYU-Idaho Collegiate Singers to Ghana, Africa and Minnesota. He has also had the opportunity to perform as a member of BYU Singers in combined performances with such groups as the King's Singers and Tenebrae. In May of 2017, he founded "The Sound of Ages", a professional level chamber choir specializing in Early Music of which he is the conductor.

In 2017 Kameron and other members of the Spanish Fork community founded the Nebo Holiday Chorus and Orchestra, a non-profit ensemble organized around performing Handel's Messiah each Christmas. The groups premiere performance was by a volunteer ensemble of over 90 singers and 25 orchestral players and featured Dr. Robert Brandt and Jeanice Woodbrey, both members of BYU's vocal faculty as soloists. This organization will perform annual productions of the Messiah in the Spanish Fork area.

As a composer, Kameron was a finalist in the Brock Composition Competition and was invited to the national ACDA conference in Minnesota to work in a master class with choral composers Steven Sametz and Libby Larsen. He has received several commissions for orchestrations and arrangements. He continues to compose for groups ranging from Jr. High level to collegiate level ensembles.

Kameron currently is the Director of Choirs at Spanish Fork Jr. High School, where he is currently in his third year of teaching. He continues to grow the program and enjoys working with youth. Outside of music, he enjoys spending time with his family and playing sports.



Evening Concert

Salem Hills High School Singers: Premiering the ACDA-UT 2018 Composer Competition Second Place Composition, "On the Day of the Forty-Four Sunsets," by Ashley Eyre

Singers is the premiere vocal ensemble at Salem Hills High School. Opened in 2008, Salem Hills serves the students living in the Salem, Elk Ridge, Payson, and Woodland Hills areas. The choirs of Salem Hills, under the direction of Justin Bills, have earned a reputation for hard-work and high quality music-making. They consistently earn superior ratings at region and state festivals as well as national festivals across the country. Since 2008, the SHHS Choirs have toured southern and northern California, Chicago, Seattle, and Washington DC. They have had the honor of performing in San Francisco's Grace Cathedral, Chicago's Symphony Hall, the National Cathedral, BYU's deJong Concert Hall, and Libby Gardner Hall at the University of Utah. They have also had the great privilege of workshopping with such renowned conductors as Ronald Staheli, Brady Allred, Anton Armstrong, Ryan Murphy, Philip Silvey, Jeffrey Benson, Jean Applonie, Reed Criddle, Andrew Crane, Cory Evans, Jonathan Talberg, and Cherilyn Worthen.



• Justin Bills

Justin Bills is currently in his eleventh year serving as Director of Choirs at Salem Hills High School, in Salem, Utah. He began his teaching career as a first year teacher for Salem Hills' inaugural year, 2008-2009, having just graduated from Brigham Young University with a bachelor's degree in Music Education. He also earned a master's degree in Choral Conducting from BYU in 2012, studying with renowned faculty Ronald Staheli, Rosalind Hall, Robert Dunn, and Paul Broomhead.



Justin serves as the Festival Director for the Utah Solo and Ensemble Festival and is a member of the Utah High School Activities Association's Music Advisory Board which oversees the festival.

Over the last ten years, Justin has been a member of the ACDA Utah Board and now serves as the Rocky Mountain Region Leader on the National Federation of High Schools' Music Advisory Board. Justin is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association, National Association for Music Educators, and Utah Music Educators Association. He currently is a member of the UMEA Choral Board. He has adjudicated for choral and solo and ensemble festivals across the state.

In October 2011 and again in April 2013, Justin was honored to have been given the opportunity to conduct men's choirs for the Saturday evening sessions of the General Conference of the The Church of Jesus

Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Each of these choirs included nearly 400 members and they performed for international audiences.

In 2013, Justin was appointed to the choral faculty of the Utah Ambassadors of Music, an organization that prepares and travels with an honor choir of over 100 students from across the state of Utah to five countries in Europe with featured concerts in each one. Since 2013, he has participated in three performance tours to Europe, with concerts in St. Mark's Basilica in Venice and Saint-Séverin Cathedral in Paris, as well as several venues across the con

Justin and his wife, Cecily, are the proud parents of two boys and they live in Salem, Utah.

Children's Honor Choir

• Tom Shelton

(For bio and photo see "Headliners")

Brigham Young University Syncopation

Known for its complex harmonies, tight grooves, improvisation, and unique combination of vocalists and instrumentalists, BYU Syncopation is a breath of fresh air to audiences of all kinds. There is something for everyone here! We seek to provide a transformative experience for our listeners as we explore traditional and modern jazz sub genres including blues, swing, bebop, Latin, funk, and fusion, while staying true to our vocal jazz roots through honest and evocative story-telling and lyric interpretation. Under the direction of Emily Merrell, Syncopation is ten to twelve vocalists, and a four-piece rhythm section.





• **Emily Merrell**

Having completed a Master of Music in Jazz Performance from the world-renown University of North Texas, Emily is a well-rounded and confident vocalist, composer, arranger, and educator with extensive skills and knowledge in and of jazz theory, jazz history, improvisation, research, pedagogy, and vocal physiology. Emily currently resides in Salt Lake City, Utah and is the owner, manager, and instructor at Emily Merrell Vocal Studio. Additionally, Emily is thrilled to direct the BYU Jazz Voices, and teach private voice lessons at BYU, as well. Emily performs locally as a solo vocalist/pianist, with her modern jazz-oriented band the Emily Merrell Group, and is the lead vocalist and band-manager/booking agent for the International Musicians League affiliate, Diamond Empire Band (bookings in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana). Additionally, Emily is thrilled to be serving as State Conference Manager, and Jazz Repertoire and Standards Chair for the Utah chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. Emily is known for her inextinguishable work ethic, excellent time management skills, candid professionalism and

integral desire to serve and build up those around her.

Intercollegiate Choir, Paul Wiens

(For bio and photo see “Headliners”)

Southern Utah University Opus Chamber Choir

Opus is the premier mixed choral ensemble of Southern Utah University. Its membership is comprised of both music majors and non-music majors, all of whom bring exceptional talent and musicianship to the ensemble. With 24-32 members, the group is flexible enough to perform an exceptionally wide range of music, which it does with both musicality and authenticity. The group has toured extensively in Utah, Nevada, Arizona, California, and Washington and has toured Canada and England as well. Members of OPUS recently performed with Josh Groban and Sarah McLachlan on their On Stage tour in Salt Lake City, UT and Denver, CO.



• **Krystal McCoy**

Krystal Rickard McCoy is Director of Choral Activities at Southern Utah University where she conducts Opus, Concert Choir, and Luminosa and teaches choral methods, literature, and conducting. She is recently from Maryland where she founded and directed St. Maries Choral Arts, a community choral organization based in

Southern Maryland that provides singing opportunities for second graders through adults, encompassing five ensembles. Additionally, she consulted with Encore Creativity for Older Adults, the largest choral organization in the nation for older adults, and conducted the Southern Maryland Encore Chorale. Her research interests are in adult engagement in the community setting and preservice music education.

Snow College Cadence Chamber Choir



The Snow College CADENCE Chamber Choir is the premier mixed choral ensemble at Snow College; a 32-voice auditioned mixed ensemble that sings music of all imaginable genres – “the classics” (Ancient, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Contemporary), modern choral music (octavo), and all kinds of popular music (Jazz, Rock, R&B, Country, Musical Theatre, Operetta...). In being so versatile, CADENCE supports the mission of the Snow College Horne School of Music’s thriving Commercial Music Program. CADENCE is brilliant, engaging, entertaining, inspiring – they set the standard as the best of their generation.

• Michael Huff

Dr. Michael Huff is Director of Choral Activities at Snow College where he leads the *CADENCE Chamber Choir*, *Advanced Women’s Choir*, and the *A Cappella Choir*. Prior to

his appointment at Snow College, Dr. Huff was Executive Director of *Legacy Music Alliance*, a Utah non-profit organization that serves Music Education. He previously worked as Visiting Professor of Music Education and Commercial Music at Utah State University where he led the *University Chorale*, *USU Women’s Choir*, and the pop-music group, *Out of the Blue*. Prior to teaching at USU, he served on the faculty at the University of Utah School of Music.

He is Founding Conductor of Utah Voices, a critically acclaimed adult community choir. For over a decade Dr. Huff was Associate Conductor and Principal Accompanist for the *Utah Symphony Chorus*. He has led numerous Honor Ensembles and All-State Choirs throughout the United States. As Artistic Director of the *Festival of Gold™ Series* (for WorldStrides Onstage) he has produced major festival events in Boston, New York, Chicago, Washington D.C., Dallas, Orlando, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. In 2015 he served as the organizing Program Chair for the National Conference in Salt Lake City of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA).

Since 1989 Michael has produced and directed the annually televised AutoZone Liberty Bowl Halftime Finale in Memphis, Tennessee where he has worked with recording artists from all eras and genres, including Big & Rich, Diamond Rio, The Temptations, KC & The Sunshine Band, The O’Jays, Sara Evans, Lee Greenwood, Leann Rimes, Alabama, B.B. King, Three Dog Night, Clint Black, Cybill Shepherd, Little Richard, Sandi Patti, and Lonestar.



Dr. Huff holds music degrees from the University of Utah and Arizona State University, and is endlessly amazed at the places and people his career has included. He and his wife of 29 years are parents of six children aged 13 to 24 whose interests and energy are the focus of their abundant family life. They make their home at Utah’s center, the beautiful Sanpete Valley.



Utah Valley University Chamber Choir: Premiering the ACDA-UT 2018 Composer Competition First Place Composition, "I Wandered Lonely As a Cloud," by Kameron Kavanaugh

The premier choral ensemble at Utah Valley University, the Chamber Choir is composed of thirty-two undergraduates who share a passion for collective vocal artistry. Conducted by Dr. Reed Criddle, this ensemble specializes in a cappella repertoire of all eras and has produced four CDs: *The Sound of Light* (2011), *The Food of Love* (2012), *Words* (2013), and *Beyond the Din*

(2014). The Chamber Choir has recently toured Spain and China, as well as the East and West Coasts of the United States. The choir has performed in recent years at the national conference of the National Collegiate Choral Organization in Charleston, South Carolina, and at the western division conference of the American Choral Directors Association in Santa Barbara, California.

• Reed Criddle

Dr. Reed Criddle is Director of Choral Activities at Utah Valley University, where he coordinates a choral program of six choirs and conducts the Chamber Choir, Men's Choir, and community-based Wasatch Chorale. Recipient of the 2013 UVU School of the Arts Faculty Senate Teaching Excellence Award, Dr. Criddle also teaches advanced choral conducting, lyric diction, private voice, and private conducting. UVU choirs under his direction have performed at the National Conference of the National Collegiate Choral Organization and at the Western Division Conference of the American Choral Directors Association.

Dr. Criddle is President of the American Choral Directors Association-Utah and Utah board member for the National Collegiate Choral Organization.

His compositions and arrangements are available through Hal Leonard *Earthsongs* and *Santa Barbara Music Publishing*, and his pioneering 2006 translation of the third-century Chinese musical treatise by philosopher Ruan Ji is published by *Asian Music* (University of Texas Press).

Recent invitations include conductor of the Utah Men's High School Honor Choir (2017), keynote speaker at the China Children's Center in Beijing (2015), guest conductor of the Utah Valley Symphony (2016, 2014, 2012), guest conductor of the Cypress Creek FACE Choral Festival in Spring, Texas (2015), professor-in-residence at Fudan University in Shanghai (2014), guest conductor of the Utah Junior High Honors Choral Festival (2014), keynote speaker for the Shanghai Music Conductors Association Conference (2014, 2013), professor-in-residence at Beijing Chemical Technology University (2013), guest conductor of Utah Lyric Opera (2012), and conductor-in-residence of Cuba's premier male choir, Sine Nomine in Havana (2012).

He completed his Doctorate of Musical Arts in Conducting at the University of Michigan and his Masters of Music in Choral Conducting at the Eastman School of Music. At Stanford University, he received his Masters of Arts in East Asian Studies and Bachelors of Arts in Vocal Performance and Chinese. Previous teaching posts include the University of Michigan, Eastman Community Music School, and the Young Musicians Program at the University of California, Berkeley.



Interest Sessions

Fostering Creativity in the Secondary Choral Ensemble Rehearsal



In this session, Brett Taylor models how he teaches creativity in his choirs. Joined by his Chamber Choir, he will do live demonstrations of improvisation exercises, composition activities, creative performance challenges, and creative listening prompts. Attendees are welcome to participate in the exercises alongside the students, or simply observe. In between activities, Mr. Taylor will elaborate on scope and sequence, and members of the Chamber Choir will have opportunity to share their perspective with the audience. Attendees can ask questions both of the presenter and of the students in the choir. Mr. Taylor will also reference and share access to his Creativity Co-Curriculum, which has been the culmination of his master's degree studies.

• Brett Taylor

Mountain View High School Choirs are directed by Brett Taylor, graduate of Brigham Young University. With an extensive instrumental and vocal background, Mr. Taylor brings precision and passion to the study of choral music. His love for music and people is evident in his energetic teaching style and exuberant personality. In addition to directing six choirs, Mr. Taylor teaches a music technology class each spring. His personal hobbies include photography, guitar playing, hiking, woodwork and picnicking with his family. His wife, Allison, is also a musician and teacher. She directs the New Horizons Orchestra

of BYU and runs a private violin/viola studio. They have three children, Holt, Eve and James, who radiate joy to all they encounter.

Religious Choral Music from the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim Worlds: An Intercultural Perspective

The purpose of this session is to provide an example of how choral music educators can program a global view of religious music. Attendees will actively engage—singing and discussing religious world musics. Suggestions will include: (a) incorporating a global perspective of religious music, (b) working towards a complete, nuanced awareness of laws and policies regarding the use of religious music in schools, and (c) pedagogical approaches to world music.

• Emily Mercado

Emily Mercado is an Assistant Professor of Music Education at the University of Utah. She recently completed her Ph.D. at Louisiana State University. Before attending LSU, she taught choir for nine years at Crescent Valley High School and Cheldelin Middle School in Corvallis, OR. Mercado also held the post of Associate Conductor of the Corvallis Repertory Singers. She received her Master of Arts in Teaching (2006) and Bachelor of Arts (2005) from Oregon State University.



Mercado has presented at state, regional, and national conferences including the Society for Music Teacher Education Symposium and NAFME's Research and Teacher Education National Conference. Primary research interests include the use of religious music in the public schools, multicultural music education, and popular music education. Mercado served on the Oregon Music Education Association and Oregon American Choral Directors Association for eight years. While in Baton Rouge, Mercado also enjoyed serving as honor choir conductor and performed regularly with Red Shift Choir.

Masses to Masterworks: Programming & Preparing Choral-Orchestral Repertoire

Does programming a major choral-orchestral work feel daunting? This session will focus on the elements necessary to successfully program, prepare, rehearse, and perform a major choral-orchestral work. Topics include: programming for your ensemble, choosing an edition, making cuts, hiring players, rehearsal planning, understanding the text/libretto, studying the full score, preparing the choral score, and marking instrumental parts.

• Brent Wells

Dr. Brent Wells is the Director of Choral Activities and Associate Professor of Music at the College of Idaho. He is also the Musical Director for Treasure Valley Millennial Choirs and Orchestra, an organization serving hundreds of musicians ranging from youth choruses through adult ensembles. Prior to his appointment at the College of Idaho, he worked in secondary education, directing choral programs at the middle school and high school levels.

He received his DMA in choral conducting at Michigan State University, where he studied conducting and choral methods with David Rayl, Sandra Snow, and Jonathan Reed. He earned his BM in music education and MM in choral conducting at Brigham Young University, where he studied with Ronald Staheli, Mack Wilberg, and Rosalind Hall.

Wells' scholarship includes a series of articles appearing in the *Choral Journal*, discussing the folk-based compositions and collecting methodology of Percy Grainger. He also served as guest editor for a *Choral Journal* focus issue, dedicated to Grainger's choral works. Additional areas of creative and scholarly work encompass choral diction, leading to Dr. Wells co-authoring the book: *Translations and Annotations of Choral Repertoire, Volume II: German Texts—IPA Pronunciation Guide*, published by earthsongs; and his work as an arranger—focusing primarily on folk and hymn-based compositions.

As a bass vocalist, Dr. Wells has performed as a featured soloist and enjoyed membership in many acclaimed choral ensembles. He has sung professionally with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Tennessee Chamber Chorus, Redlands Choral Artists, and Mount Marty Choral Scholars. He also performed the Berlioz *Grande Messe des morts*, Op. 5 with the Carnegie Hall Festival Chorus under the direction of Robert Spano.



Building Bridges: Creating Warm-Up Vocalises That Launch into Repertoire

Have you had the experience of hearing an emerging tone from your choir that is love, free, and resonant in the vocal warm up phase of your rehearsal and then a completely different sound once you move into repertoire practice? Here are strategies that help you incorporate the the newly developing tone and/or skills into the repertoire rehearsal, building a bridge the singers can cross consciously and confidently into a piece of music.

• Jean Applonie



Jean S. Applonie received her bachelor's degree in choral music education and master's degree in choral music performance from Brigham Young University. Upon completion of her degree, Ms. Applonie was granted a one-year appointment to serve on the full-time faculty for the BYU School of Music. She taught choral music for Davis and Murray School Districts and has served on the music faculty at The Waterford School in Sandy, Utah. She is Kodaly Certified and also operated a private voice studio for ten years in Salt Lake City. Currently a faculty member at BYU, Ms. Applonie conducts the BYU Women's Chorus and has taught courses in music education and conducting. She is well known as a presenter at state conventions and is often invited to impart her extensive choral knowledge at professional seminars and workshops. Ms. Applonie was also co-founder, artistic director, and conductor of Viva Voce! a women's choir in Salt Lake City from 1994-2008. She is also active as a church musician, singing in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir since 2013 and conducting numerous church choirs and training church musicians at regional church music workshops.

Under Ms. Applonie's direction, Viva Voce! was invited to perform, by audition, at the Western Division American Choral Directors Association Convention in Salt Lake City in 2008. Viva Voce! made three albums and commissioned one new work by Joan Szymko. In 2015 the BYU Women's Chorus accepted an invitation, by audition, to perform for the prestigious national convention of the American Choral Director's Association held in Salt Lake City. They also received invitations to sing with Joan Szymko at Carnegie Hall and to perform at the inception of a new collegiate women's choral festival at Cornell University. The BYU Women's Chorus has made two albums, Wondrous Love and My God Is a Rock. They have commissioned and premiered several new works by notable choral composers: Lindsay Goodson, David Zabriskie, Jonathan Rodgers, Daniel Hall, Lane Johnson, and Dwight Bigler. Her goal is to continually practice and produce excellence in the choral art, but also to uplift, to inspire, and to move the audience.

Q&A with ACDA-UT 2018 Award Recipients: Evelyn Harris and Steve Durtschi

Want access to some of the most respected colleagues in our state? Ask them how they do what they do. Come to the Q&A for our award recipients. They will be on hand to answer your questions. Learn about effective procedures, hear their guiding philosophies, and listen to inspiring stories.

- **Moderator, Reed Criddle**

(For bios and photos see “Award Recipients”)

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

- **Ryan Murphy**

(For bio and photo see “Headliners”)

Reading Session:

Experience a highly selective reading packet provided by ACDA Utah and JW Pepper! Featured in the packet will be quality festival repertoire for mixed, men's, women's, middle school, children's, jazz, worship, and multicultural ensembles.

- **ACDA-UT R&R Chairs: Melanie Wilcox, moderator**



Composition Competition

“I Wandered Lonely As a Cloud,” SATB First Place Winner

• Kameron Kavanaugh

(For bio and photo see “Afternoon Concert”)

Text:

I Wandered Lonely As a Cloud

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had
brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

William Wordsworth (1770-1850)



Words from the Composer:

As I read this poem, I was struck by the music that seemed to be in each phrase. As Michelangelo said of his sculptures, I feel that the music was there and I just had to chisel away the edges to find it. Melody, harmony, rhythm, texture, text painting, form, voicing, etc., all contribute to that primary goal of mood and tone. My primary goal for this piece (and all my choral works for that matter) is to capture the tone of the words and recreate that with the tone of the music.

Due to the fast pace of our modern world, even small moments of loneliness can become uncomfortable. To me, it is important to realize that we should not depend on anyone else or our circumstances to determine our happiness, but that we can independently choose to “be but [happy]” and “[dance] with the daffodils.” With the tumultuous storm of ideas and opinions in the world today, it is sometimes nice to pause and ignore the loud voices around us so that we may find ourselves in the quiet voices and “bliss of solitude.”

“On the Day of the Forty-Four Sunsets,” SATB Second Place Winner

• Ashley Eyre

Ashley Eyre is a Choral Music Education Bachelor’s candidate at Brigham Young University where she has been a member of the BYU Concert Choir and Women’s Chorus. While at BYU, Ashley has served on the Collegiate NAFME board and was the Women’s Chorus Soprano II section leader. Ashley also sings with the Cantorum Chamber Choir and has performed in the 2017 NOVA Chamber series, Ballet West’s 2017 production of *Carmina Burana*, and 2018 Western Division ACDA Conference in Pasadena, CA. Ashley has had the privilege of performing across Europe as a member of the 2015 Utah Ambassadors of Music Choir. She also studied choral music in London on a BYU study abroad in Spring 2017.

Ashley has written numerous compositions and had pieces premiered by Corner Canyon High School Cadence and Timpanogos High School Chamber Singers and Aria.

Text:

On the Day of the Forty-four Sunsets

The sleepy sunbeams falling slow
To tired rays caressed by snow.
By swishing horse tails dipped in paint
That causes powder blue to faint,
And tears to fall with every blink
From crimson bleeding into pink
That seeps into the bittersweet
And where the gold and lilac meet.
The blinking stars and silver light
Lean in to kiss the world goodnight
Until that fading memory
Once more becomes reality.



Words from the Composer:

The text to this piece is original, inspired by the beloved French story, *Le Petit Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. On his planet, the Little Prince loves to watch the sunset, and, because his planet is so small, all he must do to see another is take a few steps forward. Once he watched the sunset forty-four times in one day, thus inspiring the title to this piece. However, the Little Prince poignantly says, "You know—one loves the sunset, when one is so sad". This statement relates to another part of the story, one where he learns the meaning of the word "ephemeral" in regards to a flower he loves. The ephemeral beauty of both flowers and sunsets are reflected in the music of this piece. The notes of the Soprano II melody, echoed throughout, spell the word "beauty", but, floating above all parts, the Soprano I melody spells out "ephemeral" and serves as the constant reminder of the brevity of beauty. This piece is dedicated to Steven Durtschi, without whom none of this would have been possible.

"To Sing My Heart," SATB Second Place Winner

• Rob Swenson

(For bio and photo see "Kickoff Concert")

Text:

"To Sing My Heart"

Goodness all around us give,
Light and life to all impart.
Thou hast made my voice to speak;
Help me, Lord, to sing my heart!

Every day my life begins,
Paths before me wait to start.
Help me choose the better way,
Help me, Lord, to sing my heart!

Pain and sorrow flood my soul,
Music of a different art;
Songs I cannot sing alone.
Help me, Lord, to sing my heart!

May I learn Thy song of love?
Bend my ear, teach me my part
That Thy voice in mine be heard.
Help me, Lord, to sing my heart!

Words from the Composer:

I wrote the text of *To Sing My Heart* as a prayer in four parts: Verse 1 is a prayer for gratefulness; Verse 2 is a prayer for direction; Verse 3 is a prayer for comfort; and Verse 4 is a prayer for godlier attributes. The music is meant to convey a resolute desire for divine assistance and a longing to "break free" from one's own (mortal) limitations. The middle section is a brief fantasia on several hymn tunes that have, during certain seasons of my life, given voice to my heart.

2018 Award Recipients



Lifetime Achievement Award

• Evelyn Harris

Evelyn Harris graduated from Boise High School and received a B.A. and M.A. from BYU. In April 2017, she received an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Weber State University, where she taught for 36 years. She has been an active performer and teacher since 1957. She has served as a ward choir director for over 50 years and held other music positions in the LDS Church.

Harris won second place in the 1964 Regional San Francisco Opera Auditions, held the leading role in ‘The Merry Wives of Windsor’ for the Utah Opera in 1981, played several roles in Pioneer Days performances of ‘All Faces West’ and sang as a soloist in the Ogden Community Choir for 17 years before becoming director.

In 1996, Harris received the Mattie Wattis Harris Spirit of the American Woman Award and two years later received Weber State’s George and Elizabeth Lowe Innovative Teaching Award. She also conducted the women’s choir for the The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints General Conference in 1992. Harris retired in 2000, but returned to Weber State and still works as an adjunct professor while performing with area choir groups.

Award of Excellence

• Steve Durtschi

Steve Durtschi is conductor and artistic director of Cantorum, an elite chamber choir specializing in early music. The mixed-voice ensemble took its first tour in 2016—collaborating with Howard Helvey and the Cincinnati Fusion Ensemble for a series of concerts and premiers in Cincinnati, Ohio. Durtschi is director of choirs at Timpanogos High School in Orem, Utah, where he conducts five choirs and teaches AP music theory. In 2013 his chamber choir won the first Classical 89 High School Choir competition, broadcast on KBYU FM. In 2014, the group was invited to open the Winter Choir Festival at Brigham Young University.



Booths



Venue



● Heuston Concert Hall

The Heuston Concert Hall at the Waterford School is designed specifically to feature the beauty and power of live music performances. The hall holds 596 seats and features a Steinway grand and fully automated curtains for maximum reverb control. It is an ideal space for choral performances, with built-in sound shell and live acoustics conducive to exceptional clarity and vibrant reverb.

Parking:

Parking is available on the north and east side of campus. The large gravel lot on the east side of campus will be the closest option for access to the Heuston Concert Hall. The east gravel lot can be accessed from 1700 East.

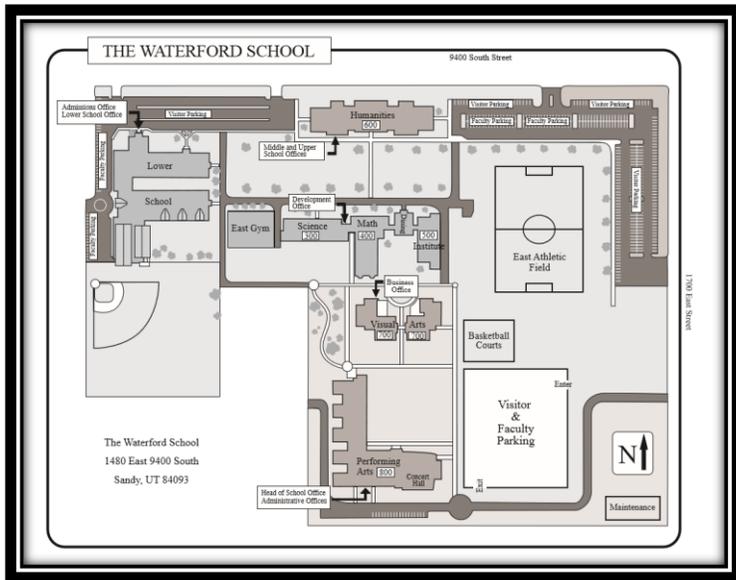
Performing Arts Building:

The Heuston Performing Arts Building, also known as the "800 Building" is the building farthest south on the Waterford School campus. The entrance closest to the Concert Hall is found through the doors on the southeast corner of campus.

Directions from I-15:

Take the 9000 S exit and head east on 9000 S. The road will go around a large bend and turn in 9400 S. After passing Altaview Hospital, the Waterford School will be on the right hand side of the road. Turn right on 1700 E to access the east gravel parking lot.

Website: <https://waterfordschool.org/>



Restaurants near The Waterford School

Smoky Mountain Pizzeria & Grill

Costa Vida

Sushi Time

Zaxby's Chicken Fingers & Buffalo
Wings

Black Bear Diner

