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APRIL 13-16TH, 2025



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# Director's Message



I am writing this note just a couple of weeks before our Edmonton festival as the printer needs it this far in advance. It is always this time of year that I worry about circumstances that could adversely affect the festival . . . things like another health concern similar to Covid, as reports of the spread of measles could have a major impact on events like Cantando. As well, I read newspapers and talk to teachers about upcoming strike threats that could leave us with hundreds of students unable to attend Cantando (like last year's Saskatchewan situation). The current political issues we are having with our friends to the south wouldn't seem to be an issue for the festival, except one of our American festival adjudicators who is currently organizing

an event for music educators in the southern states has noticed that Canadian members that regularly attend, are not to be found. His first questions was "should we be coming to Canada and how will we be treated??"

Many of you may have seen a recent 60 Minutes show that outlined how a concert featuring the U.S. Marine Band and high school student musicians of color was cancelled due to Trumps anti-DEI executive orders. The producers of 60 minutes went ahead and paid for 30 students to come work with former members of the band and my friend Rodney Dorsey, a brilliant African American conductor from Florida State University and a former adjudicator at Cantando, went ahead and saved the program for these outstanding students. Many of these students were interviewed for TV and displayed not only incredible musical skills, but attributed the success in their short lives, to skills discovered in band, orchestra or choir . . . skills that helped them into Harvard, to work on programs benefiting their community, to help young and less advantaged students in their schools, and many more situations. I was so proud of these young people and so disgusted with the current mindset of the U.S. political leadership.

As young musicians, you know that in order to communicate a successful performance, you need to breathe together and quickly with many of your cohorts (where else in life do you have to do that?), you need to move your tongue and fingers at the same speed, you need to dance inwardly and outwardly with your body as a singer, you need to understand the heartfelt message that a composer had in mind when writing this music. At this year's festival you will get a chance to witness both young and older students, community, military and professional musicians work TOGETHER to bring memorable concerts to you. I hope all of you leave the festival with a greater understanding of the significance of music education and performance and continue to strive for progress in your musical life.

Dr. Dennis Prime

Cantando Festival Director

# Festival-At-A-Glance

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	
Concert	Band & Orchestra Perfor	and & Orchestra Performances		
	Concert Band	& Orchestra Worksh	ops	
	Instrum	ental Masterclasses		
	Jazz Ensemble F	Performances & Worl	kshops	
		Vocal Jazz Performances & Workshops		
	Concert Choir P	erformances & Work	shops	
University of Alberta Symphonic Wind Ensemble & the River City Big Band (8pm)	RCA Band with trumpet soloist Jens Lindemann and concerto competition winner (7 & 8:30pm)	Mass Choir Rehearsal (5pm)		
Augustana Choir & St. Patrick Regional Secondary Chamber Choir (8pm)	Korora Choir & University of Alberta Madrigal Singers and Concert Choir (8pm)	Choral Concert with Oran Choir & Festival Mass Choir (8pm)		
		Littlebirds Big Band (8pm)		

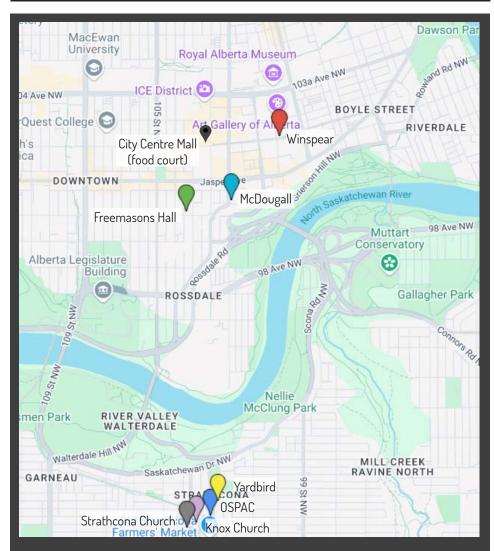
Legend:

Yardbird Suite Winspear Freemasons Hall

McDougall United Church Knox & Strathcona Churches

Old Strathcona Performing Arts Centre (OSPAC)

# Event Map



- Freemasons Hall: 10318 100 Ave NW
- Francis Winspear Centre for Music: 4 Sir Winston Churchill Square NW
- McDougall United Church: 10086 MacDonald Dr NW
- Old Strathcona Performing Arts Centre (OSPAC): 8426 Gateway Boulevard
- Yardbird Suite: 10203 86 Ave NW
- Knox Evangelical Free Church: 8403 104 St NW
- Strathcona Baptist Church: 8318 104 St NW

# Concert Band & Orchestra Performances

# Sunday, April 13th Francis Winspear Centre for Music

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
8:40-9:00am	Pacific Academy Grade 9 Concert Band	Quentin Paras	Surrey
9:00-9:20am	Carberry Collegiate 9-12 Band	Justine Burke	Carberry
9:20-9:40am	MacGregor Collegiate Senior Band	Amber Wright	MacGregor
9:40-10:00am	DRCSS Senior Band	Andrew Coombs	Dauphin
10:00-10:20am	Pacific Academy Grade 10 Concert Band	Quentin Paras	Surrey
10:40-11:00am	William Morton Collegiate Institute Senior Concert Band	Sean Goerzen	Gladstone
11:00-11:30am	Grandview Heights Concert Band	Andrea Smith	Surrey
11:30-12:30pm*	ECSD Senior All City Band *Workshop to Follow	Dale Chapman	Edmonton
1:00-2:00pm*	Wild Rose Wind Ensemble *Workshop to Follow	Jolene Wong	Edmonton
2:20-2:40pm	Notre Dame Collegiate Grade 8 Band	Joel Windsor	High River
*2:40-3:20pm	Notre Dame Collegiate Grade 9 Concert Band *STAGE WARMUP	Joel Windsor	High River
3:20-3:40pm	SCCHS Wind Ensemble	Aaron Thingelstad	Swift Current
3:40-4:00pm	Wilma Hansen Grade 8&9 Band	Laine Wiens	Calgary
4:00-4:30pm	Archbishop MacDonald Honour Band	Jolene Wong	Edmonton
4:30-5:00pm	Walter Murray Grade 10 Band	Allison Titus	Saskatoon
5:00-5:30pm	Seycove Senior Concert Band	Chris Barnes	Vancouver

# Monday, April 14th Francis Winspear Centre for Music

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
8:00-8:20am	SD#60 Concert Band	Sandra Gunn/ Sabrina Brooks	Fort St John
8:20-8:40am	Fernie Secondary Concert Band	Barbara Bassett	Fernie
8:40-9:00am	SD#60 Senior Band	David Price	Fort St John
9:00-9:20am	Arthur A. Leach Grade 8 Concert Band	Alena Arnason	Winnipeg
9:20-9:40am	Valour Academy Sr. Band	Jordan Kornelsen	Saskatoon
9:40-10:00am	Shaftesbury High School Grade 10 Concert Band	Noah Slusky	Winnipeg
10:00-10:20am	St. Lorenzo Ruiz Middle School Grade 7 - 9 Band	Caileigh Demuynck	Red Deer
10:20-10:40am	Ecole John Henderson Grade 8 Band	Laura Zinn	Winnipeg
10:40-11:00am	Ecole Charleswood School Grade 8 Concert Band	Jeff Boch	Winnipeg
11:00-11:30am	White Rock Christian Academy Sr. Band	James Caswell	Surrey
11:30-12:00pm	Vincent Massey Collegiate Symphonic Band	Matt Abraham	Winnipeg
12:00-12:20pm	Ecole Selkirk Junior High Band	Garren Werbicki	Selkirk
12:20-12:40pm	Chestermere High School Concert Band	Jessica Ploughman	Rocky View County

## Monday, April 14th Francis Winspear Centre for Music

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
1:00-1:30pm	Campbell Collegiate Senior Band	Travis Wilkinson	Regina
1:30-2:00pm	Shaftesbury High School Symphonic Band	Noah Slusky	Winnipeg
2:00-2:20pm	West Ridge School Senior Band	Bruce Hoag	Calgary
2:20-2:40pm	Winston Knoll Collegiate Band	Allen McWilliams	Regina
2:40-3:00pm	RT Alderman Grade 8 Band	Kristine Gray	Calgary
3:20-3:40pm	Sheldon-Williams Concert Band	Brady Frank	Regina
3:40-4:00pm	RT Alderman Grade 9 Band	Kristine Gray	Calgary
4:00-4:30pm	St. Francis High School Concert Band	Brigida Battistessa	Calgary
4:30-5:00pm	Dakota Collegiate Wind Ensemble	Darren Ritchie	Winnipeg



# Tuesday, April 15th Francis Winspear Centre for Music

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
8:20-8:40am	LCS Senior Concert Band	Connor Murdock	Langley
8:40-9:00am	Bowness High School Concert Band	Keith Krushel	Calgary
9:00-9:20am	E.D. Feehan Senior Band	David Snell	Saskatoon
9:20-9:40am	St. Joseph HS Grade 10 Band	Shaun Bzdel	Saskatoon
9:40-10:00am	Ecole St. Mary Wind Ensemble	Shannon Fehr	Prince Albert
10:00-10:20am	Holy Cross High School Band 10 A	Meaghan Reynolds	Saskatoon
10:20-10:40am	Holy Cross High School Band 10 B	Jana McGonigal	Saskatoon
10:40-11:00am	Tommy Douglas Collegiate Gr. 10 Band	Brodie Cuff	Saskatoon
11:00-11:30am	Shaftesbury High School Wind Ensemble	Noah Slusky	Winnipeg
11:30-12:00pm	Tommy Douglas Collegiate Senior Band	Brodie Cuff	Saskatoon
1:30-2:00pm	Vincent Massey Collegiate Wind Ensemble	Matt Abraham	Winnipeg
2:00-2:20pm	Prairie Winds Grade 9 Band	Travis Conrad	Coaldale
2:20-2:40pm	Robert Warren Senior Band	Kirsty Gilliland	Calgary
2:40-3:00pm	Spruce Grove Composite HS Concert Band	Rebecca Forbes	Spruce Grove
3:00-3:20pm	Holy Cross Collegiate Grade 8/9 Band	Sarah Haughey	Strathmore
3:40-4:00pm	Lakeshore School Band	Patrick Auburn	Calgary
4:00-4:30pm	SCCHS Wind Orchestra	Aaron Thingelstad	Swift Current

# Concert Band & Orchestra Workshops

# Monday, April 14th Old Strathcona Performing Arts Centre (OSPAC)

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Room
8:00-8:50am	Seycove Senior Concert Band	Chris Barnes	OSPAC B
8:00-8:50am	Carberry Collegiate 9-12 Band	Justine Burke	OSPAC A
9:00-9:50am	Walter Murray Grade 10 Band	Allison Titus	OSPAC A
9:00-9:50am	Pacific Academy Grade 9 Concert Band	Quentin Paras	KNOX GYM
9:00-9:50am	MacGregor Collegiate Senior Band	Amber Wright	OSPAC B
10:00-10:50am	William Morton Collegiate Institute Senior Concert Band	Sean Goerzen	OSPAC B
10:00-10:50am	DRCSS Senior Band	<b>Andrew Coombs</b>	OSPAC A
10:00-10:50am	Pacific Academy Grade 10 Concert Band	Quentin Paras	KNOX GYM
11:00-11:50am	SCCHS Wind Ensemble	Aaron Thingelstad	OSPAC A
1:00-1:50pm	Wilma Hansen Grade 8&9 Band	Laine Wiens	OSPAC A
1:00-1:50pm	Notre Dame Collegiate Grade 9 Concert Band	Joel Windsor	OSPAC B
2:00-2:50pm	Notre Dame Collegiate Grade 8 Concert Band	Joel Windsor	OSPAC B
2:00-2:50pm	Archbishop MacDonald Honour Band	Jolene Wong	OSPAC A
3:00-3:50pm	Grandview Heights Concert Band	Andrea Smith	OSPAC A
3:00-3:50pm	West Ridge School Senior Band	Bruce Hoag	OSPAC B
10   Concort Dand	C. Orchastra Workshops		

# Tuesday, April 15th Old Strathcona Performing Arts Centre (OSPAC)

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Room
8:00-8:50am	Fernie Secondary Concert Band	Barbara Bassett	OSPAC A
8:00-8:50am	Arthur A. Leach Grade 8 Band	Alena Arnason	KNOX GYM
8:00-8:50am	Valour Academy Sr. Band	Jordan Kornelsen	OSPAC B
9:00-9:50am	Sheldon-Williams Concert Band	Brady Frank	OSPAC B
9:00-9:50am	Campbell Collegiate Senior Band	Travis Wilkinson	KNOX GYM
9:00-9:50am	SD#60 Concert Band	Sandra Gunn/ Sabrina Brooks	OSPAC A
10:00-10:50am	Winston Knoll Collegiate Band	Allen McWilliams	OSPAC B
10:00-10:50am	Vincent Massey Collegiate Symphonic Band	Matt Abraham	OSPAC A
10:00-10:50am	RT Alderman Grade 8 Band	Kristine Gray	KNOX GYM
11:00-11:50am	St. Francis High School Concert Band	Brigida Battistessa	KNOX GYM
11:00-11:50am	Ecole Selkirk Junior High Band	Garren Werbicki	OSPAC A
11:00-11:50am	RT Alderman Grade 9 Band	Kristine Gray	OSPAC B

# Tuesday, April 15th Old Strathcona Performing Arts Centre (OSPAC)

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Room
1:00-1:50pm	Ecole Charleswood School Grade 8 Concert Band	Jeff Boch	KNOX GYM
1:00-1:50pm	SD#60 Senior Band	David Price	OSPAC B
2:00-2:50pm	Ecole John Henderson Middle School Grade 8 Band	Laura Zinn	OSPAC A
2:00-2:50pm	WRCA Sr. Band	James Caswell	KNOX GYM
2:00-2:50pm	Shaftesbury High School Grade 10 Concert Band	Noah Slusky	OSPAC B
3:00-3:50pm	Shaftesbury High School Symphonic Band	Noah Slusky	OSPAC A
3:00-3:50pm	St. Lorenzo Ruiz Middle School Grade 7 - 9 Band	Caileigh Demuynck	OSPAC B
4:00-4:50pm	Chestermere High School Concert Band	Jessica Ploughman	OSPAC B
4:00-4:50pm	Dakota Collegiate Wind Ensemble	Darren Ritchie	OSPAC A

# Wednesday, April 16th Old Strathcona Performing Arts Centre (OSPAC)

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Room
8:00-8:50am	E.D. Feehan Senior Band	David Snell	OSPAC B
8:00-8:50am	Robert Warren Senior Band	Kirsty Gilliland	KNOX GYM
8:00-8:50am	St. Joseph HS Grade 10 Band	Shaun Bzdel	OSPAC A
9:00-9:50am	SCCHS Wind Orchestra	Aaron Thingelstad	OSPAC A
9:00-9:50am	Tommy Douglas Collegiate Gr. 10 Band	Brodie Cuff	OSPAC B
10:00-10:50am	Tommy Douglas Collegiate Senior Band	Brodie Cuff	OSPAC B
10:00-10:50am	Vincent Massey Collegiate Wind Ensemble	Matt Abraham	KNOX GYM
10:00-10:50am	Ecole St. Mary Wind Ensemble	Shannon Fehr	OSPAC A
11:00-11:50am	Holy Cross High School Band 10 B	Jana McGonigal	OSPAC A
11:00-11:50am	Holy Cross High School Band 10 A	Meaghan Reynolds	KNOX GYM
1:00-1:50pm	Prairie Winds Grade 9 Band	Travis Conrad	OSPAC B
1:00-1:50pm	Spruce Grove Composite HS Concert Band	Rebecca Forbes	OSPAC A
2:00-2:50pm	Shaftesbury High School Wind Ensemble	Noah Slusky	OSPAC B
2:00-2:50pm	Lakeshore School Band	Patrick Auburn	OSPAC A
2:00-2:50pm	Bowness High School Concert Band	Keith Krushel	KNOX GYM
3:00-3:50pm	Holy Cross Collegiate Grade 8/9 Band	Sarah Haughey	OSPAC A
4:00-4:50pm	LCS Senior Concert Band	Connor Murdock	OSPAC A

# Instrumental Masterclasses

# Monday, April 14th to Wednesday, April 16th Strathcona Baptist Church & Knox Evangelical Free Church

\*\*Please check in 10min prior at OSPAC\*\*

Time	Masterclass	Instrument	Room
10:00am & 1:00pm	Woodwind	Flute	Knox Sanctuary
		Clarinet	Strathcona Sanctuary
		Saxophone	Strathcona Gym
	Brass & Percussion	Trumpet	Knox Sanctuary
		French Horn	Knox Fireside
11:00am & 2:00pm		Trombone	Strathcona Sanctuary
2.00pm		Low Brass	Knox Fireside
		Percussion	Strathcona Gym
12,0000	Mooduind	Double Reed	OSPAC A
12:00pm	Woodwind	Double Bass	OSPAC B

# Vocal Jazz Performances & Workshops

\*\*Note: Workshop to follow performances \*\*

### Tuesday, April 15th Freeson Hall

	Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
Ī	1:00-2:00pm	SCCHS Vocal Jazz	Brianna Dennehy	Swift Current
	3:00-4:00pm	Jazz in the Box	Danny Najjar	Vancouver



# Jazz Ensemble Performances & Workshops

\*\*Note: 30min Workshop to follow 30min warmup/performances \*\*

## Monday, April 14th Yardbird Suite

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
9:00-10:00am	Grandview Heights Junior Jazz Band	Andrea Smith	Surrey
10:00-11:00am	Seycove Senior Jazz Band	Chris Barnes	Vancouver
11:00-12:00pm	SD#60 Jazz Band	David Price	Fort St John
1:00-2:00pm	DRCSS senior jazz	Andrew Coombs	Dauphin
2:00-3:00pm	Pacific Academy Junior Jazz 9	Quentin Paras	Surrey
3:00-4:00pm	Pacific Academy Junior Jazz 10	Quentin Paras	Surrey
4:00-5:00pm	Fernie Secondary Jazz Band	Barbara Bassett	Fernie
5:00-6:00pm	Grandview Heights Senior Jazz Band	Andrea Smith	Surrey

## Tuesday, April 15th Yardbird Suite

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
9:00-10:00am	SCCHS 9 O' Clock Jazz	Aaron Thingelstad	Swift Current
10:00-11:00am	WRCA Sr. Jazz Band	James Caswell	Surrey
12:00-1:00pm	Arthur A. Leach Gr. 8 Jazz Band	Alena Arnason	Winnipeg
1:00-2:00pm	St. Francis High School Jazz Band	Brandon Oberhamer	Calgary
2:00-3:00pm	The Woodshedders (NDC Jazz)	Joel Windsor	High River
4:00-5:00pm	Vincent Massey Collegiate Senior Jazz Band	Shannon Little	Winnipeg

## Wednesday, April 16th Yardbird Suite

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
9:00-10:00am	Bowness High School Jazz Band	Keith Krushel	Calgary
10:00-11:00am	Spruce Grove Composite HS Senior Jazz Band	Rebecca Forbes	Spruce Grove
11:00-12:00pm	Similkameen Sparks Sr Jazz Band	Chris Collins	Keremeos
4:00-5:00pm	Little Birds Combos	Joel Gray	Edmonton



# Concert Choir Performances

\*\*Note: Warm up 20 minutes before allotted time\*\*

# Monday, April 14th McDougall United Church

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
9:00-9:20am	SCCHS Meistersingers	Brianna Dennehy	Swift Current
9:20-9:40am	Pacific Academy Junior Choir	David Rosborough	Surrey
10:00-10:20am	SCCHS Chamber Singers	Brianna Dennehy	Swift Current
10:20-10:40am	Sheldon-Williams Combined Choirs	Sarah Keefe	Regina
10:40-11:00am	Steinbach Christian School Chamber Choir	Michael Summerville- Dueck	Steinbach
11:00-11:20am	Winston Knoll Collegiate Choir	Brianna Levesque	Regina
11:20-11:40am	Ecole St. Mary Choir	Shannon Fehr	Prince Albert
11:40-12:00pm	St. Patrick Regional Secondary Chamber Choir	Tony Araujo	Vancouver



# Tuesday, April 15th McDougall United Church

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
9:20-9:40am	Seycove Senior Chamber Choir	Danny Najjar	North Vancouver
9:40-10:00am	Valley Christian Academy Choir	Jordan Wollf	Osler
10:00-10:20am	Luther College High School Senior Choir	Kyera Levesque	Regina
10:20-10:40am	RJC Singers	Adelle Sawatzky	Rosthern
10:40-11:00am	Central Memorial Chamber Choir	Amanda Hillestad	Calgary
11:00-11:20am	Bowness High School Concert Choir	Keith Krushel	Calgary
11:20-11:40am	Campbell Collegiate Senior Choir	Jodi Scott	Regina
11:40-12:00pm	Central Memorial Concert Choir	Amanda Hillestad	Calgary
8:00-9:30pm	**MASS CHOIR PERFORMANCE** at the Winspear Centre		

# Wednesday, April 16th McDougall United Church

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Hometown
11:00-11:20am	AHSFA Vocal Ensemble	Matthew Ellis	Okotoks
11:20-11:40am	Gilbert Paterson Grade 8 Choir	Tyler Leavitt	Lethbridge

# Concert Choir Workshops

# Monday, April 14th McDougall United Church

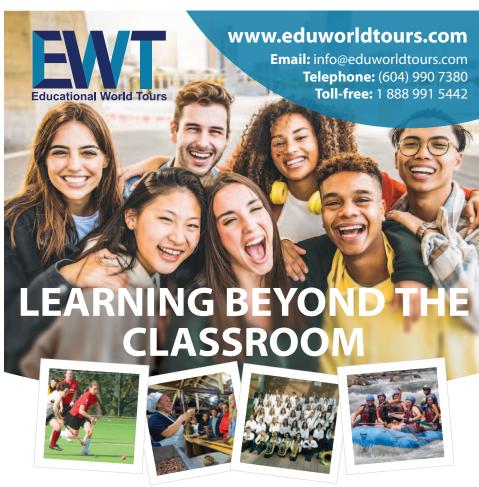
Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Room
12:00-12:50pm	Pacific Academy Junior Choir	David Rosborough	Sanctuary
1:00-1:50pm	Sheldon-Williams Combined Choirs	Sarah Keefe	Sanctuary
1:00-1:50pm	Ecole St. Mary Choir	Shannon Fehr	Downstairs
2:00-2:50pm	St. Patrick Regional Secondary Chamber Choir	Tony Araujo	Downstairs
2:00-2:50pm	SCCHS Meistersingers	Brianna Dennehy	Sanctuary
3:00-3:50pm	SCCHS Chamber Singers	Brianna Dennehy	Downstairs
3:00-3:50pm	Steinbach Christian School Chamber Choir	Michael Summerville- Dueck	Sanctuary
4:00-4:50pm	Winston Knoll Collegiate Choir	Brianna Levesque	Sanctuary
4:00-4:50pm	Valour Academy Choir	Jordan Kornelsen	Downstairs

# Tuesday, April 15th McDougall United Church

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Room
12:00-12:50pm	Seycove Senior Chamber Choir	Danny Najjar	Downstairs
12:00-12:50pm	Campbell Collegiate Senior Choir	Jodi Scott	Sanctuary
1:00-1:50pm	Luther College High School Senior Choir	Kyera Levesque	Downstairs
1:00-1:50pm	Central Memorial Concert Choir	Amanda Hillestad	Sanctuary
2:00-2:50pm	Central Memorial Chamber Choir	Amanda Hillestad	Downstairs
2:00-2:50pm	RJC Singers	Adelle Sawatzky	Sanctuary
3:00-3:50pm	Valley Christian Academy Choir	Jordan Wollf	Sanctuary
4:00-4:50pm	Bowness High School Concert Choir	Keith Krushel	Sanctuary
5:00-6:30pm	**MASS CHOIR REHEARSAL**		Winspear Centre

# Wednesday, April 16th McDougall United Church

Time	Ensemble Name	Director	Room
12:00-12:50pm	AHSFA Vocal Ensemble	Matthew Ellis	Sanctuary
1:00-1:50pm	Gilbert Paterson Grade 8 Choir	Tyler Leavitt	Sanctuary

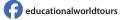


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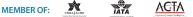






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# **Guest Performances**

## Sunday, April 13th, 8:00pm Francis Winspear Centre for Music

#### University of Alberta Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Dr. Angela Schroeder, Conductor Program to be chosen from:

Noisy Wheels of Joy Eric Whitacre (Lloyd Ramirez, graduate student conductor) Adventures on Earth John Williams Andre Waignein Rhapsody for Alto Saxophone and Wind Band (Mvt 1) (Melvin Picazo, alto saxophone & Chinley Hinacay, graduate student conductor) Samba de Loves You arr. Shin Kazuhara A Child's Garden of Dreams David Maslanka

#### River City Big Band with Jens Lindemann, Trumpet Soloist

Dr. Allan Gilliland, Director

Program to be chosen from:

Second Line Gilliland Sonny's Place Fromann St. Louis Blues Smith (Jens Lindemann soloist) Holst/Gilliland Jupiter Bundle of Funk Nestico Hymn to Freedom Petersen (Jens Lindemann soloist) Flying Fingers Gilliland McArthur Park Webb (Jens Lindemann soloist)

# Sunday, April 13th, 8:00pm McDougall United Church

#### St. Patrick Regional Secondary Chamber Choir

Tony Araujo, Director Program to be chosen from:

Cum Sancto Spiritu Hyo-Won Woo Ave Maris Stella Music by Kevin A. Memley Ama Namin Fidel Gener Calalang, Jr. Jumalo Alura Jekabsone, arranger Janger, A Traditional Balinese Folksong **Budi Susanto Yohannes** Time Jennifer Lucy Cook Chua-Ay Fidel Genter Calalang, Jr. Chickadee, from Due West Stephen Chatman Ong-Hye-Ya Music by Hye-Young Cho

#### The Augustana Choir

Dr. John Wiebe, director Program to be chosen from:

Gångmarsj, Traditional arr. Gjermund Larsen
When Music Sounds Katharine Petkovski\*
Heilig Felix Mendelssohn
Nūr: Reflections on Light Hussein Janmohamed\*

Light: Unveiled Light: Suspended

O Saptientia Tadeja Vulc

Eylul Evren, alto

Earth Song Frank Ticheli
Sonnet 18\*\* Laura Hawley\*
The Lost Language\*\* Stuart Beatch\*
Oliassa Malika Tirolien

Vese Ukange, soprano

As the Ship Went Down - Woodpigeon\* arr. George Chung\*

\*denotes Canadian composer

\*\*denotes Edmonton premiere performance

# Monday, April 14th 7:00pm & 8:30pm Francis Winspear Centre for Music

#### The Royal Canadian Artillery Band

Capt David P.-Gagnon, CD, Commanding Officer and Director of Music

#### Program to be chosen from:

Gaelforce Peter Graham
Double Concertino op. 22 Luis Cardoso
Scherzo Furioso Jordan Gudefin
featuring the Prairie Duo (Winners of the RCA Concerto Competition)
Skyline EKR Hammell
Vientos Y Tangos Michael Gandolfi
Shenandoah Fantasy Jay Chattaway
Jens Lindemann, Trumpet Soloist

#### School Assigned - 7:00pm

Archbishop MacDonald High School, Arthur A. Leach School, Campbell Collegiate, Carberry Collegiate, Coaldale Prairie Winds Secondary School, Ecole Charleswood School, Ecole St. Mary High School, Gilbert Paterson Middle School, Holy Cross Collegiate, Lakeshore School, Langley Christian School, Little Birds Ensembles, Luther College High School, Notre Dame Collegiate, Pacific Academy High School, Peace River North School District 60, Seycove Secondary School, Shaftesbury High School, Similkameen Secondary School, Spruce Grove Composite High School, St. Lorenzo Ruiz Middle School, Steinbach Christian School, Tommy Douglas Collegiate, Walter Murray Collegiate Institute, West Ridge School, White Rock Christian Academy, Wilma Hansen School, Winston Knoll Collegiate

#### School Assigned - 8:30pm

Alberta High School of Fine Arts, Bowness High School, Central Memorial High School, Chestermere High School, Dakota Collegiate, Dauphin Regional Comprehensive Secondary School, E.D. Feehan Catholic High School, Ecole John Henderson Middle School, Ecole Selkirk Junior High School, Fernie Secondary School, Grandview Heights Secondary School, Holy Cross High School, MacGregor Collegiate, Robert Warren School, Rosthern Junior College High School, RT Alderman School, Sheldon-Williams Collegiate, St Francis High School, St Patrick Regional Secondary, St. Joseph High School, Swift Current Comprehensive High School, Valley Christian Acedmy, Valour Academy, Vincent Massey Collegiate, William Morton Collegiate Institute

## Monday, April 14th, 8:00pm McDougall United Church

#### University of Alberta Concert Choir & Madrigal Singers

Dr. Adam Robertson & Dr. Tim Shantz, Conductors

COMBINED CHOIRS

Nitohtamok Askiy Sherryl Sewepagaham a boy and a boy Stuart Beatch

**MADRIGAL SINGERS** 

Ispiciwin (Journey)

Song for a Winter's Night

Bring Me All Your Dreams

Feller from Fortune

Balfour/Gibbons

arr. Scott Reimer

Christopher Harris

Harry Somers

Elsie Hoover, piano

Mia Makaroff

Butterfly Mia Makaroff
Quick! We Have But a Second C.V. Stanford

CONCERT CHOIR

Elements (Earth, Air, Fire) Katerina Gimon

A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes

Chili Con Carne Anders Edenroth

Jude Nwankwo, conductor

Water Fountain Christopher Fulton

COMBINED CHOIRS

Dirait-on Morten Lauridsen

Daniel Browne, conductor

Let My Love Be Heard Jake Runestad

#### Korora Choir

Scott Leithead, Conductor & Kitbielle Pasagui, Associate Conductor

Program to be chosen from:

Kothbiro Ayub Ogada, arr. Allison Girvan Sing for Myself Will Cabaniss, arr. Jennifer McMillan Benediction Katy Luyk Nipîy (Water Song) Sherryl Sewepagaham To Walk Away Dominique Fils-Aimé Arr. Kathleen Allan Come and I Will Sing You Jauh Dekat Tracy Wong O Lumière Bienheureuse Robert Ingari seSotho & isiZulu Kwela Kwela Igazi Lemvana isiXhosa Welcome to the Rock Come from Away Oliassa Milika Tirolien

## Tuesday, April 15th 8:00PM Francis Winspear Centre for Music

#### St. Patrick Regional Secondary Chamber Choir

Tony Araujo, Conductor Program to be announced from the stage

#### The Oran Choir

Kathleen Luyk, Conductor

Program to be chosen from the following:

The Stars Stand Up in the Air Eric William Barnum They Are Mother Jennifer Lucy Cook Vision Chant Andrew Balfour\* Softest Rains Rob Dietz Opening Up Sara Bareilles, arr. Mac Huff From Now On Benj Pasek & Justin Paul, arr. Jennifer McMillan\* Found/Tonight Lin-Manuel Miranda, Benj Pasek, Justin Paul, arr. Jacob Narverud Denn Er hat Seinen Engeln Felix Mendelssohn Paper Boats Jake Runestad Some Keep the Sabbath Jennifer Lucy Cook \* Canadian composer/arranger

#### Festival Mass Choir

Derek Fox, Conductor

Journey On Derek Fox Jacob Narverud Let the Music Fill your Soul

# Tuesday, April 15th 8:00PM McDougall United Church

#### The Littlebirds Big Band

Joel Gray, Director and Trumpet Soloist

Malaga Allen Vizzutti
East St. Louis Toodle-Ooo Duke Ellington
Just Friends arrangement by Larry Schrum
Heavy Town Donald Byrd
Common Currents Allan Gilliland
Nature Boy arrangement by Allan Gilliland
MacArthur Park Jimmy Webb



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## **Guest Bios**

#### University of Alberta Symphonic Wind Ensemble

The Symphonic Wind Ensemble is a group of 50 of the university's most talented wind and percussion musicians, directed by Dr. Angela Schroeder. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble performs the most serious and challenging wind band music available. With essentially one player to a part, the repertoire is largely music that was originally



conceived for the wind band. Recognized in national festivals and internationally, the Symphonic Wind Ensemble performs four concerts a year and several performances away from the campus and for special events.

The Symphonic Wind Ensemble participates in the annual Department of Music Concerto Competition, offering students the opportunity to perform a solo concerto with the ensemble. In addition, the ensemble hosts the University of Alberta High School Honour Band each spring, inviting students from across the province to come to campus to work and perform with members of the Symphonic Wind Ensemble as well as our applied instrumental faculty. Alumni of SWE have gone on to positions with major orchestras, military bands - even the world-famous Canadian Brass!

#### **River City Big Band**



The River City Big Band is one of the premier big bands in Alberta. They have performed throughout the province with artists including Eric Marienthal, Wayne Bergeron, Wycliff Gordon, Carol Welsman, Jens Lindemann, Bobby Shew, Vince Mai, Kent Sangster and Juno Award-winning artists Mike Murley, PJ Perry, Bobby Cairns and Tommy Banks. The repertoire of the RCBB is extensive, ranging from the big band standards of Duke Ellington and Stan Kenton to the music of some of today's most popular contemporary jazz composers such as Gordon Goodwin and Edmonton's own internationally renowned Allan Gilliland. The RCBB also plays original music and arrangements by past and current members of the band, including former Music Director and educator, Larry Schrum.

#### **Royal Canaditan Artillery Band**



Formed in 1899, The Royal Canadian Artillery Band is the oldest professional military band in Canada. With a complement of 35 full-time musicians, the band takes pride in its role of providing musical support to Land Forces Western Area and Canadian Forces.

As musical ambassadors, The Royal Canadian Artillery Band regularly represents Canada in performing across the country and around the world.

The historical roots of the Royal Canadian Artillery Band (RCA) you see today are traced primarily from the RCA Band formed in Montreal in 1968. The complete history, however, dates much further back, as there were many artillery bands existing simultaneously from as early as 1879.

As the first classical brass soloist to ever receive the Order of Canada, Jens Lindemann is hailed as one of the most celebrated artists in his instrument's history and was recently named "International Brass Personality of the Year" (Brass Herald). Jens has played both jazz and classical in every major concert venue in the world: from the Philharmonics of New York, Los Angeles, London,

#### Jens Lindemann, Trumpet Soloist



Berlin, Moscow and Tokyo to Carnegie Hall and even the Great Wall of China. His career has ranged from appearing internationally as an orchestral soloist, being featured at the 2010 Olympics for an audience of 2 billion people, national anthems at the Rose Bowl and for the San Francisco Giants on Memorial Day, performing at London's 'Last Night of the Proms', recording with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir to playing lead trumpet with the renowned Canadian Brass and a solo Command Performance for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Jens has also won major awards ranging from Grammy and Juno nominations to winning the prestigious Echo Klassik in Germany and British Bandsman 2011 Solo CD of the year as well as receiving several honorary doctorates.

#### **University of Alberta Madrigal Singers**



The University of Alberta Madrigal Singers is an auditioned chamber choir made up of singers from across the North Campus of the University of Alberta. The ensemble was formed under the direction of Dr. Larry Cook in 1974 with occasional performances through the early 80's. From 1982 to 2019 the Madrigal Singers, led by Dr. Leonard Ratzlaff, emerged one of Canada's leading university chamber choirs.

Under the direction of Dr. Timothy Shantz since 2019, the choir continues its tradition of excellence through performances and collaborations throughout the university, faculty and the community. Frequent first-prize winners in the National Choral Competition for Amateur Choirs, the Madrigal Singers have also had several successes at major international competitions, including first prize at the Robert Schumann International Choral Competition in Zwickau (1995), third prize in the 5th International Chamber Choir Competition in Marktoberdorf (1997), first prize in the International Choir Competition in Cork, Ireland (1999), and the International Jury Award at this same competition in 2008. In 2017 the Madrigal Singers were invited to participate in a festival in Athens, Greece, together with several choirs from the US, under the direction of esteemed British choral conductor Simon Carrington. The choir presented three independent concerts in Athens.

#### **University of Alberta Concert Choir**

Founded in 1970, the University of Alberta Concert Choir is a large ensemble of approximately 50 singers from a variety of faculties across the University. Membership in the choir is open to students across campus through auditions held at the beginning of each year. Singers come from such diverse disciplines as business, sciences, education and the arts. as well as music itself.

A wide variety of sacred and secular choral masterpieces are studied each year, ranging from motets, part songs and spirituals, to large works with orchestra. The University of Alberta Concert Choir has appeared with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, has performed at the Alberta Music Conference, been heard on national broadcast of the CBC, and been regular national semi-finalists in the CBC Amateur Choir Competition.

Tours form an important part of the education and experience of these young singers. Over the 38-year history of the choir, travels have taken the ensemble to Europe, China and the United States. In recent years the choir has traveled to the east coast of Canada, southwestern Ontario, Vancouver Island, various parts of Alberta, Iceland, and most recently to Vancouver in 2014.

#### The Augustana Choir

The Augustana Choir is the premiere, auditioned chamber choir on the Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta. Located in Camrose, Alberta, the choir performs a diverse and exciting range of a cappella choral music, from Renaissance to the latest in contemporary choral compositions. In keeping with the liberal-arts tradition of the Augustana campus, singers in the choir come from all disciplines



and departments, creating a rich milieu for musical exploration and growth. TAC is led by Dr. John Wiebe, Director of Music at the Augustana Campus, and tours annually across Alberta and Western Canada, with regular international tours, including Cuba in 2019 and Austria and Hungary in 2023. TAC has performed at provincial and national choral conferences and just released its latest recording, Distracted by Beauty.

Dr. JOHN WIEBE is an award-winning conductor, pianist, educator, adjudicator and clinician based in Edmonton, Alberta, where he is the Director of Music and Choral Activities at the University of Alberta-Augustana campus, and for 21 years was the Artistic & Executive Director of the Edmonton Youth & Children's Choirs. John has studied at Wilfrid Laurier University, the University of Alberta, with Frieder Bernius from Stuttgart, Germany, and in Vienna, Austria. Choirs under his dynamic leadership have recorded eight CD's, performed coast-to-coast across Canada and around the world (Europe, Russia, South America and China), and have received awards for their performances locally, nationally and at the Langollen Music Festival and the World Choir Games. John is a regular clinician and adjudicator across the country, is a Past-President of Choral Canada and likes to keep in shape for his music schedule by travelling with his family, running, and playing hockey.

#### St. Patrick Regional Secondary Chamber Choir

The St. Patrick Regional Secondary Choir consists of over half of the student body enrolled. Many are willing to participate and experience the variety of opportunities it offers such as scholarships and a music theory course. Our Chamber and Concert



Choirs were the first Canadian high school choirs to participate in the US National Choral Invitational "Festival of Gold" where we have received three consecutive Gold Rankings. Additionally, our high school choir has been invited to perform in international conferences and festivals throughout North America, Europe, and Asia.

#### **Korora Choirs**



Founded in 1996, Korora is in its twenty-ninth season. The flagship ensemble of Korora Choirs, Korora has received first and second place on Canadian national festival stages. The choir also placed first in their division in the CBC/Choral Canada Competition for Amateur Canadian Choirs in 2015. Korora has received several awards for its work with youth, music education, and its African Projects Fund. While Korora takes pride in these accomplishments, the choir's focus remains centred on creating a learning experience for young singers while providing audiences with exciting and innovative musical performances. Korora has been a featured ensemble at many events both nationally and internationally. These include the Rocky Mountain National Music Festival, Podium (the biennial conference of Choral Canada), the Canadian Music Educators National Conference, the regional conference of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), the International Society of Music Educators (ISME) conference, and others. In addition to performances in many North American cities, the choir has toured Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Malaysia, Namibia, South Africa, Botswana, Eswatini, and Zambia. Korora is thrilled to have been invited as a featured ensemble at the IFCM World Choral Expo in Lisbon, Portugal in July 2019. In 2024, Korora will be featured at the Edmonton Cantando Festival. They will also travel to St. John's, NL to perform as a featured choir in the new Harbour Voices Festival in July.

#### Littlebirds Big Band

Now entering its 35th year and proudly sponsored by the Edmonton Jazz Society, past participants of the Little Birds who went on to become professional musicians include Don Berner, Jim Brenan, Craig Brenan, Doug Berner, Jerrold Dubyk, Audrey Ochoa, Leah Johnson, Rubin de Toledo, Efa Etoroma, and many



more. The Littlebirds offers an elite opportunity for auditioned music students ages 14-21 to play in jazz-driven big band and small combos that crosses school divisions. It gives these students a chance to work and perform with other young musicians with the same passion, and it often leads to lifelong friendships and musical collaborations. In 2012, the Littlebirds added a jazz combo program. The combos also focus on authenticity and have a blend of learning jazz standards and doing original and creative music. All of the combo members learn to write and arrange music for their groups, and perform ten or more concerts per year. The Littlebirds program is unique, and has made a significant impact not only on our local music scene and history, but at the national and international level. Few other programs feature the diversity of programming and experiences that our members get, from working with distinguished artists, recording CDs and DVDs, attending festivals and workshops, and live shows. Since 2020, the program has expanded and now has three combos, plus the big band, and over the summers of 2020/21 the combos performed over 50 outdoor concerts.

#### The Oran Choir

Centering authenticity and expressiveness in performance, Òran is the busiest adult choir in the Korora Choirs family. Along with many Korora alumni, the group has singers from many other walks of life, but all share a passion for



choral music and singing. Oran has garnered a growing reputation for excellence in choral singing as well as innovative and eclectic programming.

Òran has toured extensively over its twenty-two seasons, with destinations including the Northwest Territories, Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Cuba, Germany, France, and the Czech Republic. The choir has also been honoured by two invitations to sing at Podium, Canada's biennial national conference for choral music. Closer to home, Òran is thrilled to share the stage with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra a few times every season. This season, they'll travel west to Victoria to sing in the Kaleid Festival.



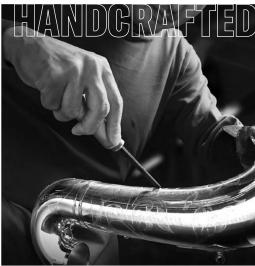












# Adjudicator Bios

#### Robert Ambrose (Concert Band/Orchestra)

Dr. Robert Ambrose currently serves as Director of Bands, Professor of Music and Associate Director of the School of Music at Georgia State University, a research institution of over 50,000 students located in Atlanta, Georgia. As Director of Bands he conducts the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, maintains a highly selective studio of graduate students in the Master of Music in Wind Band Conducting degree program, and oversees a large, comprehensive band program comprised of four concert ensembles and three athletic band organizations. Robert has a special affinity for Edmonton and Alberta. Some twenty years ago, while studying at Northwestern University, he served as a Teaching Assistant to Dr. Dennis Prime and he has made many friends in the Edmonton



area. Several Alberta students have ventured to Atlanta to study with Robert and returned to our area with the skills he has imparted to them.



#### Shelley Jagow (Concert Band/Orchestra)

Dr. Shelley Jagow is Professor of Music at Wright State University School of Music (Dayton, OH) where she serves as Director of Bands conducting both the Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony, and teaches conducting at the undergraduate and graduate level. She earned top honors in Music Education degrees from the University of Saskatchewan (Canada) and the University of Missouri (Columbia) where respective mentors include Marvin Eckroth, Dale Lonis, Martin Bergee and Wendy Sims. Sheearned her Ph. D. in Music Education at the Union Institute & University (Cincinnati) where Colonel Timothy Foley, Frank Battisti, and Edward Wingard served as her mentors. In addition to studies in education, saxophone

and conducting, Shelley earned the Certificate in Piano Performance IX from the Royal Conservatory of Music, and was previously nominated for both the "Robert J. Kegerreis Distinguished Professor of Teaching" Award and the "Brage Golding Distinguished Professor of Research" Award.

#### Angela Schroeder (Concert Band/Orchestra)

Dr. Angela Schroeder is Professor of Music in the Department of Music at the University of Alberta. She is the Director of Bands, the Area Coordinator for Winds and Percussion, and conducts the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Summer Band. Angela was awarded the 2016 Faculty of Arts Award for Undergraduate Teaching, and the 2017 Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching by the University of Alberta. She teaches courses in conducting and music education, and works with Graduate students in instrumental conducting. She previously taught conducting at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. Angela is the conductor of the St. Albert Community Band, an ensemble that is currently in their 52nd concert season. She lead the ensemble on their first European tour in July 2015, performing in Germany and at the MidEurope Band and Orchestra Festival in Schaldming, Austria.



#### Gareth Jones (Concert Band/Orchestra)

Gareth Jones is the director of the UCalgary Wind Ensemble, the Symphonic Band and the Brass Choir as well as being the Instructor of Trumpet and Conducting. He is also the Music Director of the Alberta Winds. He was Assistant Principal Trumpet with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra from 1992 to 2007 and he continues to play with the CPO when his schedule allows. Before that he held the same position with the Tulsa Philharmonic. In 2014 he was named the conductor of the National Youth Band of Canada. He studied trumpet with the renowned pedagogue, Vincent Cichowicz, and studied conducting and attended workshops with such luminaries as Jorma Panula, Gustav Meier and Michael Jinbo. Mr. Jones's musical activities



are greatly varied. He has appeared as guest conductor and clinician with hundreds of ensembles across North America, been featured on Juno nominated blues recordings, appeared on CBC radio as a soloist and chamber musician, been guest lecturer with the National Youth Orchestra of Canada and been an adjudicator at music festivals across Canada.

#### Ray Baril (Concert Band/Orchestra)



Raymond Baril is Assistant Professor of Music and Chair of the Department of Music at Grant MacEwan University, and, for more than 30 years, he was the Director of the MacEwan University Jazz Ensemble. He serves as Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Edmonton Winds and recently has taken on the role as director of the River City Big Band. Prior to his appointment at MacEwan University, Raymond was a music educator with Edmonton Public Schools, conductor of the University of Alberta Concert Band, Executive Director of the Alberta Band Association andworked as assistant conductor for the Cosmopolitan Music Society. Raymond remains a much sought after national clinician and adjudicator as well as a featured guest

speaker at music education conferences across the country. Raymond has been the recipient of many awards for his contribution to music and music education including the Tommy Banks Award, presented by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and the David Peterkin Memorial Award, presented by Phi Beta Mu.

#### Gordon Brock (Concert Band)

Dr. Gordon R. Brock is Professor Emeritus and former Director of Bands at the University of North Florida's School of Music Flagship Program in Jacksonville, Florida, where he conducted the Wind Symphony, instructed courses in conducting and woodwind performance, coordinated the graduate instrumental conducting program and instituted the highly regarded annual UNF Conducting Symposium. Earning his B.S.E. from Dickinson State University, M.M. from Michigan State University, and D.M.A. from the University of Colorado-Boulder, Dr. Brock's career as a music educator encompassed elementary through



university levels. He has served as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States, Canada, Japan and Israel, and was honored with guest conducting appearances with both the United States Army Field Band and Chorus, and the President's Own United States Marine Band.

#### Bruce Cable (Concert Choir & Vocal Jazz )

Bruce Cable started his teaching career after earning an education degree from the University of Alberta. He taught choir and band at junior high and high schools in the Edmonton area. Following this, he served as the Musical Director of St. Albert Children's Theatre for eight years. Subsequently, Bruce taught Choir and Vocal Jazz at Victoria School of the Arts in Edmonton for 24 years and was the musical director for over 23 musicals. In 2017, he was honored with the Prime Minister's Excellence in Teaching Award. He holds a Masters in Choral Conducting from the University of Miami,



where he was mentored by Dr. Jo-Michael Scheibe. His musical endeavors have included singing with Pro Coro Canada, directing the MacEwan University Jazz Choir, serving as the assistant conductor of the youth choir Korora, and working as the Musical Director for the Citadel Theatre. Additionally, he has been an active choral clinician throughout Canada. Bruce is thrilled to be back in his hometown of Edmonton to share musical ideas with the amazing directors and singers involved in this year's Candando Music Festival.

#### Derek Fox (Concert Choir & Vocal Jazz )



Dr. Derrick Fox is the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Creative Endeavors and a Professor of Choral Conducting at Michigan State University. Dr. Fox has taught at the middle school, high school and collegiate levels. His conducting experiences have included singers from upper elementary choirs through collegiate and community choirs.

He has conducted all state and honor choirs and has been in residence at universities across the United States and abroad. He also leads professional development and organizational change initiatives for music focused organizations throughout the United States. His professional

educational workshops focus on assessment in the choral classroom, building classroom community and culture, rehearsal strategies, choral

conducting techniques and shape note singing in the African American community. As a baritone soloist, Dr. Fox has collaborated with various organizations; most recently as soloist in Vaughan Williams A Sea Symphony with the Michigan State University Symphonic Orchestra and Choral Union. As an author, Dr. Fox has written articles for many organizations and his compositions and arrangements are published by Hal Leonard, Music Spoke and Brilee Music. His book, Yes You Can: A Band Director's Guide to Teaching Choirs is published by Carl Fischer.

#### Jamie Hillman (Concert Choir )

JAMIE HILLMAN is a Canadian and American musician, active as a conductor, singer, pianist, music educator, and composer-arranger. He holds the endowed Elmer Iseler Chair in Conducting at the University of Toronto where he is Director of Choral Studies and an Associate Professor. He conducts the U of T MacMillan Singers and leads the master's and doctoral degree programs in Choral Conducting, as well as the summer Choral Conducting Symposium and most recently began an additional role as Associate Conductor and Director of Community Engagement of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir.

Dr. Hillman is an examiner for Conservatory Canada and has adjudicated, guest conducted, performed,



and presented throughout the United States and Canada, and in Brazil, France, India, Indonesia, Portugal, and Taiwan. He has led All-State, festival, or honor choirs in Alberta, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Taiwan, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia. Most recently he conducted two national festival choruses at Carnegie Hall with National Concerts and Manhattan Concert Productions. In 2025, he returns to Carnegie Hall, and in 2026, he conducts at the Orpheum Theatre in Vancouver the 2012 laureate of the Leslie Bell Prize for Choral Conducting from the Ontario Arts Council.

#### Mark DeJong (Jazz Band)

Saxophonist Mark DeJong has over 20 years of professional experience as a musician, educator, director, composer, bandleader, promoter, contractor, presenter, and sideman.

A graduate of the prestigious jazz program at Rutgers University, Mark has benefited from the tutelage of saxophone masters Ralph Bowen, George Garzone, Donny McCaslin, and Stan Karp. Mark has performed with many of the worlds leading musicians from all genres and styles. Career highlights have included sharing the stage with such international icons as Ray Charles, Ian Tyson, Wayne Newton, and Lennie Pickett, Canadian music legends Rob McConnell, Moe

Koffman, Tommy Banks, Victor Sawa, Hugh Fraser, P.J. Perry, as well as renowned vocalists Nikki Yanofsky, Denzal Sinclaire, and Carol Welsman. With a career that spans over 20 years, his performance credits include the Ottawa, Edmonton, Vancouver, Calgary, and Saskatoon International Jazz festivals, as well as numerous concert halls and jazz clubs across North America, Canada, the United States, Europe, and Japan.

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