

GRAND CITIES CHILDREN'S CHOIR

2002 – 2012

Celebrating 10 years of Musical Excellence



GCCC Spring Concert
Sunday, April 15, 2012
3:00 p.m.
United Lutheran Church
Grand Forks, North Dakota

The theme for our 10th Anniversary Concert Season is “Legacy” in celebration of the contributions of the singers, directors, parents, and board members, past and present, who have made GCCC their legacy to this great community.

The artwork for this year’s theme was designed by local artist, Eric A. Johnson, who often depicts trees and cityscapes in his specialty area of print making. The grayscale version of this artwork doesn’t do it justice, so please view it in full color on our website! To see more of the artist’s work, please visit www.eajarts.com. A limited number of prints of this artwork are available for purchase. For information on obtaining a print, please contact Kecia Peters.

PROGRAM

Poco Voce

Connie Stordalen, director
Roxanne Gessler, accompanist
Elizabeth Vert, GG coordinator

Funga Alafia (Song of Welcome) arr. Jill Gallina
Nick Ewens, Ruben Flores, and Kameron McGregor, percussion

Funga Alafia is a traditional song of welcome sung throughout many parts of Africa that has often been attributed to the Hausa tribes of Nigeria. The word "alafia" a Hausa word of greeting, and the word "ashe" are the equivalent of the expressions "good health," "blessings," and "peace."

Butterfly..... words and music by Andy Beck

Butterfly is a captivating 2-part arrangement that represents the darting flight of a butterfly with the playful fluttering of its wings. At the beginning, the introduction of this song is symbolic of a butterfly's metamorphosis in the cocoon.

John Henry..... arr. Rollo Dilworth
Matthew Davis, percussion

This is a traditional railroad work song that tells the story about the legend of John Henry. John Henry, nicknamed the "steel-driving man", was born in the mid 1800's, and because of his large size and brute strength, he found work with the railroad. Legend has it, that John Henry challenged the "steam drill" to a contest to see which was faster ... man or machine, and he won! This jazzy arrangement tells this story in 2-part harmony singing. Listen for the steam engine....

Poco Voce Singers

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Grant Anderson | Sophia Frank | Caitlin Kalita | Lyric McGillicuddy |
| Kylie Baier | Jasmine Gonzalez | Taylor Kiley | Thomas Myers |
| Isaac Barta | Emily Grosz | Susan Lamberson | Madison Myrold |
| Nora Berry | Samuel Hanson | Claire Lapp | Hannah Jo Peasland |
| Blaine Carter | Ella Henry | Riley Lauzon | Sophia Roehl |
| Jonathan Dawes | Zoe Jiran | Lola Lucke | Lisa Schindler |
| Brianna Filson | Haley Jorgenson | Brenna Lund | Haley Wood |

With GGs – Matthew Davis, Nick Ewens, Ruben Flores, Andrea Hollingworth,
Kameron McGregor, Maggie Nistler, Tori Remer, and Jasmyne White

Canto Voce

Ruth Ann Tuseth, director
Lynn Liepold, accompanist
Laurie Holcomb, GG coordinator

Rhythm of the Rain Jerry Estes

This song is repetitive like falling rain and develops with counter melodies. We will be using Orff and rhythm instruments for accompaniment. We have the following singers on instruments: Bass Xylophone - Josie Walz and Sam Rath; Alto Xylophone - Julia Soleim; Soprano Xylophone - Lyric Langill; Soprano Metallophone - Kirsten Warcup; Glockenspiel - Ruby Huebner and Anna Caoili; Shekere - Alex Berglund; Wood Block - Greta Amundson; Hand Drum - Sophie Welsh; and Triangle - Austin Oehlke.

The Path to the Moon Eric H. Thiman

An inspiring piece with words written by Madeline C. Thomas.

Woke Up This Mornin' arr. Rollo Dilworth

This piece is a well known African American spiritual that found a revival in the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950's and 1960's. It is an anthem of resistance to the segregation laws of the southern United States.

Canto Voce Singers

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Greta Amundson | Lauren Eickman | Mikayla Martin | Julia Soleim |
| Madelynn Behm | Aidan Fire | Hannah McSparron | Konnor Stordalen |
| Alex Berglund | Morgan Halliday | Sarah Mord | Madeline Treuer |
| Sam Bernardo | Breanna Hoffart | Alyssa Muus | Teresa Vanyo |
| Katie Brindamour | Makayla Holte | Grace Nustad | Josie Walz |
| Anna Caoili | Ruby Huebner | Austin Oehlke | Kirsten Warcup |
| Rachel Craig | Katelyn Johnson | Haleigh Peters | Macie Weiner |
| Kaija Dockter | Starr Johnson | McKenzie Petersen | Lydia Weippert |
| Emma Dodds | Aiden Krogh | Kinneri Rami | Sophie Welsh |
| Alyssa Donacki | Lyric Langill | Samuel Rath | Elizabeth Wood |
| Marlee Edsall | Samantha Martens | Noah Severud | |

With GGs – Lena Brakel, Julia Brucklacher, Nina Coster, Kenneth Dessellier,
Ramsey Jones, Mariah Kuntz, and Chris Liepold

Accordo Voce

Geoff Mercer, director
Cassel Everson, accompanist
Nathaniel Lockett & Jacy Thibert, GG coordinators

Gloria Tibi from MASS Leonard Bernstein
Evan Montgomery, tenor; Kecia Peters, bongos

Leonard Bernstein's *Mass*, subtitled "A Theater Piece for Singers, Players and Dancers," was written for the opening of Washington's Kennedy Center, on September 8, 1971, and is much more than a setting of the Latin Mass, though its texts are included. This was a thoroughly groovy "happening" — very much a piece of its times. The second movement, Gloria tibi, is in 5/8 meter. We are presenting it in its original format.

When I Close My Eyes..... Jim Papoulis
Alexis Roehl, Mykaela Zola, Casey Hennessy, and Kloe Wavra, descant

It seems to me now that we are all struggling with an increasing amount of negative influences in the lives of children. They are bombarded by information that ultimately erodes their sense of self. In the classroom, in the rehearsal hall, I have been fortunate to speak with children from diverse cultures and backgrounds. I have heard their songs and their silences, and what they have shared has made me clearly see that in order for a child to feel strength and to believe in themselves, it must come from within. "When I close my eyes then I can see, and I am not afraid." - Jim Papoulis

J'entends le moulin Donald Patriquin
Kecia Peters, castanets; GGs, auxiliary percussion

This French Canadian folk song is set in a jaunty fashion with a rollicking piano accompaniment. It tells a nonsense story of a young girl in love with one of three carpenters who are building her father's three-gabled house. She carries to him (in her apron) a pie made of three pigeons. Everyone is so excited that they leap up, causing the sea, the fish, and the stones on the bottom of the sea to tremble. Or so they say!

Accordo Voce Singers

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Alex Berger | Casey Hennessy | Georgia Moe | Lauren Sanner |
| Moriah Borth | Carson Herbert | Brianna Myrold | Alexa Stinson |
| Bennett Carter | Maia Jackson | Carrie Nistler | Jace Toutenhoofd |
| Adrian Cummings | Hope Johnson | Nathan Peasland | Christopher Veres |
| Emily Denman | Jenna Johnson | Alexandra Richards | Kloe Wavra |
| Jetiah Flermoen | Isabel Krogh | Lauren Ritterman | Julia Werth |
| Sarah Gerszewski | Olivia Kuchera | Alexis Roehl | Ella Zhang |
| Myra Henderson | Britta Kuhlman | Katelyn Rudolph | Mykaela Zola |

With GGs – Zane Borth, Joe Frech, Jack Jenou, Carly Kasowski, Kaitlin Mankie, Jessica Marynik, Hannah Noyes, Alaina Patry, Katie Svendsen, and Jasmyne White

Primo Voce

Melanie Popejoy, director
Sharon Pugh, accompanist
Megan Ault and Caitlyn Staples, GG coordinators

Mister Sandman.....Pat Ballard/arr. Sylvia Munsen

Primo Women with Primo Mothers, guest singers

Written in 1954, this popular hit performed by The Chordettes continues to transcend generations through its use in present day commercials. Featuring the Primo Women, their GGs and some mothers, the piece will be performed in the acapella style.

Happy Together Garry Bonner & Alan Gordon/arr. Liz Garnett

Primo Men with Primo Fathers, guest singers

We couldn't pass up the chance to feature the Primo Men, their GGs, and some fathers singing together. The 1967 hit by The Turtles offered the perfect opportunity to do just that. The Grand Cities Children's Choir is pleased to welcome Mr. Erik Stordalen, Director of Choral Activities at Schroeder Middle School, as the guest conductor for this performance.

Tres Cantos Nativos Krao Indian Chants/arr. Marcos Liete

The Krao Indian Tribe is a group of Native Brazilians living in the forests of northern Brazil. Arranger Marcos Liete has created a musical experience which transports the listener to that part of the world by way of body percussion accompaniment, strong, rhythmic melodies and bright, resonant, choral tones.

Omnia Sol (Let Your Heart Be Staid) Z.Randall Stroope

The composer gives us the following insightful comments about this beautiful piece. "This farewell or 'song of parting' is a reflection on the constant passage of events and people in life's continuum, and the human need to anchor words of love and commitment in the hearts of those who have been pillars along life's way. One's life has an inseparable kinship with others. The metaphor for that kinship in this piece is 'omnia sol' (or 'everywhere light' [sun]), and that kinship or light is perpetuated by our daily investing and leaving a bit of ourselves in every soul we encounter. Though we mature and 'move on,' part of us is 'staid' in the hearts and minds of those we chance to meet."

Coffee in a Cardboard Cup John Kander & Fred Ebb/arr. Kevin Robison

This catchy tune was originally written for a 1971 musical based on a book by John Kander called "70, Girls, 70." It has been adopted as a signature piece for Broadway star, Mandy Patinkin, on his solo tours. The text refers to how society has been changed by the invention of the transportable and disposable cardboard cup. Whatever happened to those days when friends solved the problems of the world while sipping a coffee, in a ceramic cup, served by a friendly waitress named Flo? Although the message of the song is a simple one, the harmonies and rhythms in this piece are not; however, we loved the challenge!

Primo Voce Singers

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Emily Anderson | Matt Dunham | Caitlin Miller | Gretchen Schreiner |
| Megan Anderson | Stephen Ewens | Brianna Molmen | Anna Shallman |
| Michael Anderson | Kayla Fewster | Elizabeth Netz | Emily Shimpa |
| Jacob Austin | Danika Flanders | Grace Netz | Melody Sondrol |
| Jessica Baker | Frankie Good | Madisynn Noeldner | Alex Stroth |
| Alex Barta | Rosalie Grijalva | Taylen Norling | Beck Thompson |
| Allison Burns | Gabby Halliday | Rebekah Noyes | Jensen Thompson |
| Brendan Carter | Jared Hollingworth | Sophia Oen | Alexandria Weber |
| Shanlee Cox | Laura Johann | Cam Pederson | Ellen Werth |
| Lauren Craig | McKenzie Johnson | Rebecca Rage | Elizabeth West |
| Mary Cremers | Julia Krogh | Brinna Richtsmeier | Madeline Westereng |
| Ben Davis | Elaine Larson | Cali Richtsmeier | Hannah Wilkinson |
| Elizabeth Dessellier | Whitney Longie | Grace Roehl | |
| Emily Dosch | Joseph Mattice | Michael Schauer | |
| Ella Dostal | Breanna McLain | Melanie Schindler | |

With GGs - Jill Ames, Phil Brockman, Matthew Davis, Kenzie Dorsher, Audra Hendrickson, Mariah Kuntz, Max McCann, Holly Mitzel, RJ Morin, and Tyler Wicken

Grand Cities Children's Choirs

Here's To SongAllister MacGillivray/Lydia Adams

Executive Board

Greg Nelson, Financial Manager
Kecia Peters, Managing Director
Melanie Popejoy, Artistic Director

GG Program

Beth Davis, GG Program Director
Janet Schreier, GG Program Director
Jeanne Thibert, GG Program Director

Special Thanks



For the past four years, Geoff Mercer has been the embodiment of the Grand Cities Children's Choir mission; working for musical excellence, while always keeping the singers foremost in mind. Under his direction, the singers of Accordo Voce have amazed their home audiences. They even brought the North Dakota Choral Director's Association to their feet, and left a huge impression, in a performance for which they were selected by audition. Most importantly, the Accordo singers have spent time with a marvelous mentor and role model.

It is with mixed emotions that we announce that Mr. Mercer will be taking a leave to focus more time on his young family. It is our hope that he will return to our staff sometime in the future. We are so appreciative of all of the time, energy and talent that he has contributed to our musical community. His legacy to GCCC is the perfect balance of learning, achievement, and fun. For that, we are very grateful. Our theme song beautifully expresses our wishes to Mr. Mercer; "and til' our paths in future cross, may blessings kindly greet you."

GCCC Donors

The Grand Cities Children's Choir family would like to thank the following organizations for providing financial support to the choir for the 2011-2012 performing season:



Myra Foundation



GCCC Parent Board

It takes a village... GCCC is led by a board of parents and choir supporters. Below are some of the roles we are looking to fill on our board next year. (They're really not as complicated as you think!) If you are interested in sharing your time and talents as a member of our parent board, please contact Melanie Popejoy or Kecia Peters.

President (two-years)

- Provide direction of the choir
- Lead parent board/parent association meetings
- Communicate with Executive Board

Performance Coordinator

- Set-up risers for concerts and rehearsals
- Contact and coordinate ushers and reception workers

Website Manager

- Make updates to content of website

Fundraising Chair (team lead)

- Coordinate fundraising efforts of the choir with team
- Report results to parent board

Public Relations/Publicity Coordinator (team lead)

- Media contact regarding concerts and auditions
- Communicate with music teachers/organizations regarding auditions
- Publicity for events such as Trivia Night, e.g.

Vice President (two-years)

- President "in training"
- Share choir news via social media
- Writing thank you letters

Secretary

- Record minutes at meetings
- Copying/Mailing correspondence to parents, teachers, and singers

Merchandise/Sales

- Receive and deliver photo and CD orders
- GCCC merchandise

Parent Association/Volunteer Coordinator

- Call volunteers from volunteer list (Primo snack, banquets, retreats, etc.)
- Arrange volunteers for registration night