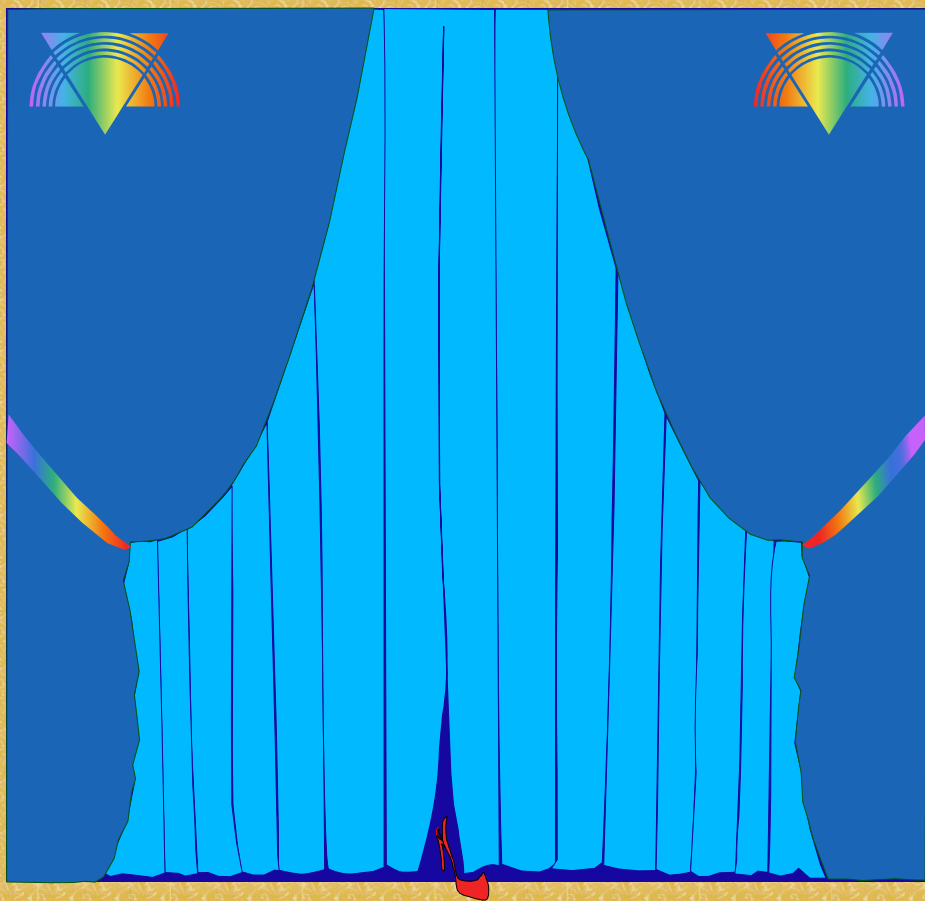


# CURTAIN UP!



**Rainbow Chorale Does Broadway!**

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**Wednesday • June 21 2023 • 7:30pm**

**Skyline UMC • 3100 Skyline Dr • Wilmington DE 19808**






*Stuck?  
Frustrated?  
Searching for clarity?  
Over it with everyone else's "right" way?  
Ready to find your unique path forward?*

## REMOVE THE FRICTION

LGBTQ+? ADHD? Autistic? Neurodivergent? If you're tired of shoehorning yourself into someone else's way of doing things, there *is* a better way. Coaching can help.

Let's work together to identify the ways that work for YOU to remove the friction and bridge the gap to your vision so you can move forward with clarity, joy, and ease.

 Schedule your *free* 30-minute Discovery Call   
before 7/11/2023 to lock in your special RCD rate.  
302-283-9072  [bluemermaidcoach@gmail.com](mailto:bluemermaidcoach@gmail.com)

Anne E. Shuman is a transformational practitioner who brings 20+ years of experience in the human potential and personal development fields as a coach and hypnotist to support her clients in creating the life they want. Intuitive wisdom and spacious process blend with practical strategy and effective action to neutralize obstacles, achieve goals, and cultivate bold growth. She loves diving deep with everyone she serves and has a particular affinity for working with ADHD/neurodiverse and LGBTQ+ individuals like herself-- or anyone who has found that the "right" way isn't actually right for them.



## CHARLA M. PHOENIX PRESIDENT

### RCD Friends and Family!

We end our 2022-23 season with a trip to Broadway in our own backyard! Our Season finale - **Curtain Up!** is sure to be a crowd pleaser. This show features the Rainbow Chorale performing songs from popular Broadway shows such as **Phantom of the Opera**, **Jekyll and Hyde**, and **Wicked**, just to name a few. This has been a fantastic season, and we are excited to bring you the grand finale!



We are excited to return to the stage under the baton of Artistic Director, Mr. Douglas Bender. We are also thrilled to welcome back to the piano, our talented Collaborative Pianist, Ms. Sarah Grober. Doug, Sarah, the artistic and production committees, along with the entire choir, have worked very hard to put together a spectacular show for your entertainment and enjoyment.

The RCD Board of Directors also continues to work tirelessly on guiding the organization in its mission to elicit change in our communities through music. We strive to bond through our similarities while celebrating our uniqueness and diversity.

We are always looking for people to bring their talents and strengths to our board of directors. If you are interested in joining our board of directors or in being a member of our "5<sup>th</sup> section," please don't hesitate to ask a board or choir member for more information.

We offer you our sincere thanks for your continued support, and look forward to next season!

Relax and enjoy the show!

Charla M. Phoenix- President

## DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Welcome to our **Curtain Up!** spring concert. From the enchanting classics to the thrilling contemporary hits, our program is a vibrant tapestry of beloved songs that have graced the stages of New York City and captured the hearts of audiences worldwide. Tonight, we invite you on a journey of melodies, emotions, and stories that will transport you to the magical world of musical theater.

**ACT 1** We kick off our concert with the exuberant and uproarious "A Musical" from **Something Rotten**. This lively number sets the stage for an evening filled with laughter, wit, and sheer joy. As the energy builds, we delve into the mesmerizing "Masquerade" from **Phantom of the Opera**, where the secrets and illusions of the theater are unveiled with haunting elegance. "Razzle Dazzle" from **Chicago** follows, captivating us with its seductive allure and the art of manipulation. We will then delve into the emotional depths of Broadway's most profound and introspective compositions. "For Good" from **Wicked** touches our hearts with its message of friendship, forgiveness, and the impact one person can have on our lives. "Not My Father's Son" from **Kinky Boots** takes us on a poignant journey of self-discovery and acceptance. The hauntingly beautiful "I Remember" from **Evening Primrose** invites us into a world of melancholic memories and longing. And the toe-tapping "Fascinating Rhythm" from **Lady Be Good** infuses the program with a joyful, jazzy spirit. We end the first half as we celebrate the resilient human spirit and the power of unity with the Caribbean rhythms of "The Human Heart" from **Once on This Island**.

**ACT 2** We open the second act as we witness the strength and determination of characters who rise above adversity with the empowering anthems of "Ex Wives" from **Six** and "Helpless" from **Hamilton**. "Dos Orugitas" from Disney's **Encanto** enchants us with its infectious Latin flair and spirit of togetherness. The moving ballad "Make Them Hear You" from **Ragtime** echoes with a call for justice and equality and the poignant "Children Will Listen" from **Into the Woods** reminds us of the enduring power of storytelling and the lessons we pass on to future generations. In a grand finale, we bring you the soul-stirring melodies of one of Broadway's mythical tales. The medley from **Jekyll and Hyde** takes us on a journey of inner turmoil and duality, weaving together haunting melodies and dramatic crescendos.

**CURTAIN CALL** I would like to thank Sarah Gober, our collaborative pianist, for her stellar work this season. She has been a true partner and a joy to work alongside. The RCD production team makes every event seamless and enjoyable for our members and our audience. Next season is a big one for RCD with a GALA festival and a 25th anniversary year. If you are interested in joining, please speak to a member for more information. Lastly, I want to thank the audience for coming out this evening to support RCD. I hope you enjoy the show!

In Song, **Douglas P. Bender**

## ARTISTIC STAFF

### Artistic Director

Douglas P. Bender



The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware is delighted to have Douglas P. Bender join us as Artistic Director this season. Douglas Bender was born and raised in northern New Jersey and recently moved to the area with his wife. He is a New Jersey public school music educator and has taught music and conducted scholastic choirs for the past 13 years. Douglas earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University and a Master's degree in vocal performance from Montclair State University. He has performed as a chorister and tenor soloist in various ensembles throughout northern New Jersey and New York. He is honored to be trusted with conducting the Rainbow Chorale of Delaware.

### Collaborative Pianist

Sarah Jane Gober



Sarah Jane Gober is a collaborative pianist from the greater Philadelphia area. With a Masters in Piano Accompanying / Opera Coaching from Temple University, Sarah is currently working with faculty and students at West Chester University as well as teaching piano at the Darlington Arts Center in Garnet Valley. She has also served as the choral director and accompanist at Calvary Baptist Church in Newark, DE since 2017. In her free time, Sarah also has a strong passion for cooking and running.



# The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware

## DONORS

### PLATINUM (\$500 or more)

Claude and Juliana Forbes  
Susan Mann (in memory of G.  
William Skinner)

### SILVER (\$200-\$399)

Anonymous (\$223)  
Ellie Armsby & Nancy Hale  
John Reppy & Anne Rogers  
Anne Sewell  
Mary Jane Simmons (in honor of  
Anne Sewell)

### BRONZE (\$100-\$199)

Sutton Hays  
Galen Keliikuli  
Pamela Leland & Renna Van Oot  
Bob Lillich  
Karen Luck  
Stosh Pehowic (in memory of Paula  
Muller)  
Elizabeth Phillips  
Mary Post (in memory of Merris  
Hollingsworth)  
Mary & Mikey Reppy  
Davis Rodriguez-Melendez  
Thomas & William Shaw-Gardner  
Luisa Torrielli

### STERLING (\$25-\$99)

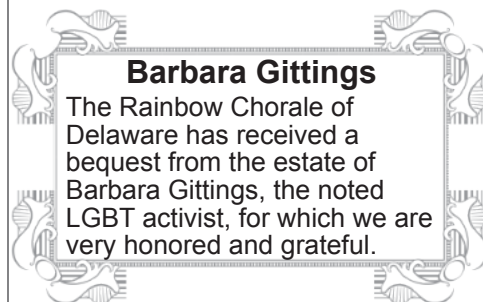
Amy Banks (in honor of Charla  
Phoenix)  
Herb Bendler  
Cyndi Brooks & Debbie McCall (in  
memory of all deceased Altos)  
Herb Bendler  
David Cao  
Patrick Carroll & Steve Powers (in  
memory of Tony Gruszczyński)  
David Christopher  
Jessie Cocks (in honor of all our  
deceased members)  
Dr. Lee Dresser

### STERLING CONTINUED

Dave & Jenn Fisher  
Michael Hovendick  
Ashley Kilmer & Kevin Ralston  
Gary Kirchhof  
Pat Lawrence-Caldwell (in honor  
of my wife Melanie)  
Terri Lee  
Susan Lesperance  
Jeff Long  
Donni Louise  
Kathleen Martin (in honor of Deb  
McCall)  
Camilo Matos  
Maureen Mercer  
Passmore Family (in memory of  
Tony Gruszczyński)  
Lori Rago (in memory of Tony  
Gruszczyński)  
James & Melanie Dawn Smith  
Andrew Sutherland  
Kimberly Thompson  
Patricia Trush  
Jane VanValkenberg  
Barbara Williams  
Jack & Arletta Wright

### CORPORATE

Amazon  
AmeriHealth Caritas  
BBC Tavern & Grill  
Corporation Service Company  
Kinetic Skateboarding Inc



## DONATE TO RCD!

Your donation helps us purchase music, hire instrumentalists, provide dues scholarships, and go to the GALA Festival!

To donate to the Rainbow Chorale, please go to:

<https://therainbowchorale.org/rcd-donate>

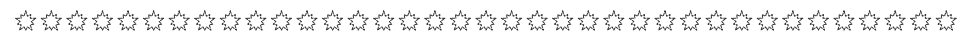
or scan the QR code below. You can learn more about sponsor benefits at <https://therainbowchorale.org/rcd-personal-sponsorship>



**United Way:** If your workplace has a United Way campaign you can choose The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware as your recipient - use code **9549**.

The Rainbow Chorale is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

*Thank You For Your Support!*



## RCD Outreach Program

The Rainbow Chorale is dedicated to performing in the community in addition to our regular concerts as part of our mission. We are happy to present short sets at other organizations events, schedule permitting. Over the years we have sung at ball games, church services, fundraisers, tributes, weddings, funerals, festivals, and many other occasions.

To request RCD to sing at an event, please visit:

<https://therainbowchorale.org/rcd-outreach-form>

## CURTAIN UP!

### ACT I

**A Musical** (*Something Rotten*) Wayne & Karey Kirkpatrick  
Stosh Pehowic, Rivkah Pehowic Arr. Roger Emerson

**Masquerade** Andrew Lloyd Weber & Charles Hart  
(*Phantom of the Opera*) Arr. Richard Stilgoe  
Sarah Dollard, Stosh Pehowic,  
Noah Pehowic, Jamie Williams

**Razzle Dazzle** (*Chicago*) Fred Eb & John Kander  
Arr. Larry Shackley

**For Good** (*Wicked*) Stephen Schwartz  
Sopranos & Altos Arr. Mac Huff  
Barbara Williams, Julie Hilfiker

**Not My Father's Son** (*Kinky Boots*) Cynthia Lauper  
Tenors & Basses Arr. Kevin Robison  
Galen Keliikuli

**I Remember** (*Evening Primrose*) Stephen Sondheim  
Prism Arr. Robert Page

**Fascinating Rhythm** George & Ira Gershwin  
(*Lady Be Good*) Arr. Mark Hayes

**The Human Heart** Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Flaherty  
(*Once Upon This Island*) Arr. Andy Beck  
Anne Shuman

☆☆

## INTERMISSION

☆☆

### Show Production

Karrienne Funer: Live-Stream • Mikey Reppy: Stage Manager  
Tom Voytek: Sound

## CURTAIN UP!

### ACT II

**Ex-Wives** (*Six*) Toby Marlow & Lucy Moss  
Sopranos & Altos Arr. Joe Beighton  
Anne Shuman, Mary Reppy,  
Juliana Forbes, Charla Phoenix,  
Julie Hilfiker, Barbara Williams

**Helpless** (*Hamilton*) Lin-Manuel Miranda  
Barbara Williams, Rivkah Pehowic, Arr. Lisa DeSpain  
Riley Sheeler, Stosh Pehowic,  
Jay Simmons

**Not While I'm Around** (*Sweeny Todd*) Stephen Sondheim  
Arr. Mark Brymer

**Dos Orugitas** (*Encanto*) Lin-Manual Miranda  
Yanaka Bernal, Camilo Matos Arr. Audrey Snyder

**Make Them Hear You** Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Flaherty  
(*Ragtime*) Arr. Jeff Funk

**Children Will Listen** Stephen Sondheim  
(*Into the Woods*) Arr. Mark Brymer

**Jekyll & Hyde Medley** Frank Wildhorn & Leslie Bricusse  
Melisa Funer Arr. Ed Lojeski

*Please Join us in the Lobby for a Post-Concert Reception!*

☆☆

### Guest Artists

Debra Bialecki: Percussion • Dave Fisher: Bass

☆☆

**Visit our YouTube Channel and  
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram!**

# Presbyterian Church of the Covenant Summer 2023



## Fourth Annual Summer Concert Series

➤ Sponsored by the Arts at Covenant ➤

Free and open to the public ~ Goodwill offering accepted

**June 25 - Spartan Alumni Jazz Band**

**July 9 - Girl Power: Women of Broadway**

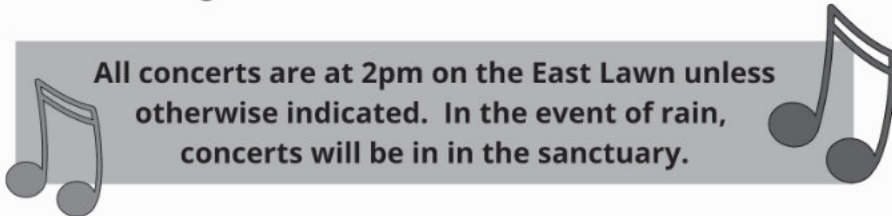
**July 23 - Wilmington Concert Opera presents "La serva padrona" by G.B. Pergolesi**  
(Concert held in Sanctuary)



**August 6 - Midnight Society Barbershop Quartet**

**August 20 - Voices of Covenant present "Americana"**

**August 27 - The Chai Notes Klezmer Band**



All concerts are at 2pm on the East Lawn unless otherwise indicated. In the event of rain, concerts will be in the sanctuary.

Presbyterian Church of the Covenant  
503 Duncan Rd, Wilmington DE 19809  
302.764.9008 | [www.covenantde.org](http://www.covenantde.org)

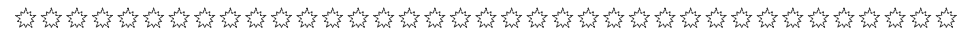
## ABOUT THE RAINBOW CHORALE

The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware (RCD) is an inclusive, non-profit community chorus that provides LGBTQ+ individuals and their friends and allies the opportunity to perform high-quality choral music in an affirming environment that serves as a positive force for change. RCD also supports other non-profit institutions and causes in our community.

Love of music is common to everyone. When we sing, we hope to impart the ideals, hopes, dreams, and aspirations of our community. Our goal is that with our listening audience we will strike a chord of commonality and bridge the differences of our life experiences.

To learn more about the Rainbow Chorale of Delaware, visit

<https://therainbowchorale.org>



## Skyline Welcomes All!



# SKYLINE CHURCH

[skylinechurch.net](http://skylinechurch.net)

## Rainbow Chorale Board

### Board Directors & Officers

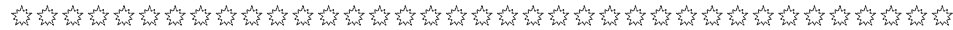
Charla M. Phoenix	President
Melanie Dawn Smith	Vice-President
Galen Keliikuli	Secretary
Juliana Forbes	Treasurer
Margie Bello	Board Governance Chair
Camilo Matos	Funds Development Chair
Barbara Williams	Artistic Chair

### Board Advisors

Douglas P. Bender	Artistic Director
Mary Reppy	M&P Chair, Co-Treasurer
Mikey Reppy	Production Chair

### Key Volunteers

Karrienne Funer	Rehearsal Live-Stream
Julie Hilfiker & Robert Twaddell	Member Liaisons
Mary Reppy	Webmaster
Thomas Shaw-Gardner	Rehearsal Door
Jay Simmons	Librarian



## The Rainbow Chorale says

# THANK YOU!

to all the volunteers who have helped us this season. Your support means the world to us! Ushers, will-call, ticket sales, receptions, rehearsal support, outreach events - we couldn't do it without you!!

We would like to give a special shout-out to Karrienne Funer for her dedication in coming to rehearsal week after week to manage the live-stream as well as running the lights for Showcase and helping with production!

## Rainbow Chorale Members

### Altos

Yanaka Bernal  
Jude Ferraro  
Juliana Forbes  
Melisa L. Funer†  
Shizhao Lu  
Rivkah Pehowic\*  
Charla M. Phoenix\*

### Sopranos

Barbara Bedrosian  
Jessie Cocks  
Sarah Dollard  
Julie Hilfiker\*†  
Mary Reppy  
Anne Sewell  
Riley Sheeler  
Anne Shuman\*  
Melanie Dawn Smith\*  
Barbara Williams\*

\*Prism †Section Leader

### Basses

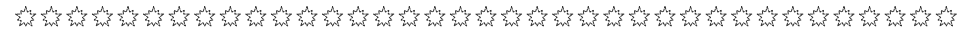
Galen Keliikuli\*  
Bob Lillich  
Camilo Matos\*†  
Jim Scroggs\*  
Jamie Williams

### Tenors

Noah Pehowic  
Stosh Pehowic\*  
Thomas E. Shaw-Gardner  
Jay Simmons\*  
Scot Stetka\*†  
Robert Twaddell

### 5th Section

Margie Bello  
D. Conner  
Nova Homsey  
Debbie McCall  
Mikey Reppy



## Love to Sing?

Join us this September for our 2023/2024 season! Open Call dates for the fall trimester are Monday **September 11<sup>th</sup>** and Monday **September 18<sup>th</sup>**, both from **6-7pm** with regular rehearsal following. Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, 503 Duncan Rd, Wilmington.

Joining the Rainbow Chorale is a low-stress process. We are a NO AUDITION Chorus and we accept singers at all levels of experience. Learn more at:

**<https://therainbowchorale.org/rcd-joining>**

Hope to see you in the fall!



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware would like to give special thanks to the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant and to Skyline United Methodist Church.

**Delaware**  
**Division of the Arts**  
 The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware is supported in part by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment of the Arts. The Division promotes Delaware arts events on [www.delawarescene.com](http://www.delawarescene.com)

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## 2022/2023 Season

Open Call, Fall Trimester	9/12 & 9/19/22
Halloween Bingo with AIDS Delaware	10/23/22
Halloween Spooktacular, PCOC	10/29/22
Festival of Trees, Delaware Hospice	11/19/22
Pre-show Caroling, Plaid Tidings, DTC	12/15, 12/7 & 12/18/22
Everything Old Is New Again Concert	1/6/23
Open Call, Winter Trimester	1/9 & 1/16/23
Ages & Stages Showcase	4/1/23
Open Call, Spring Trimester	4/3 & 4/10/23
UUSMC Service	4/30/23
National & Canadian Anthems Philadelphia Union	6/3/23
Delaware Pride Festival	6/10/23
Spring Bingo with AIDS Delaware	6/11/23
Curtain Up! Concert	6/21/23
National Anthem, Blue Rocks	6/24/23
Middletown Peach Festival	8/19/23

## Coming Fall 2023

Open Call, Fall Trimester	9/11 & 9/18/23
Hanover Presbyterian Service	10/8/23
Halloween Bingo with AIDS Delaware	10/22/23

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P.O. Box 1467 · Wilmington DE 19899-1467 · (302)-803-4400 · [therainbowchorale.org](http://therainbowchorale.org)

Joy!



In Wilmington Friends School's statement of philosophy and beliefs, one of the purposes of education is defined as to "help students to develop self-discipline, resilience, and motivation to sustain their joy as lifelong learners." We offer an environment of confidence with humility, where good humor can lend greater dignity to work. Visit us to learn more!

Wilmington  
**Friends 1748 School**

[wilmingtonfriends.org](http://wilmingtonfriends.org)

302.576.2930

Preschool through 12th grade



# GALA

## CHORUSES

THE ROAD TO FESTIVAL



## GALA FESTIVAL 2024

The Rainbow Chorale is excited to announce that we will be attending the 2024 GALA Chorus Festival in Minneapolis next summer, July 10-14 2024. The quadrennial GALA Festival is a chance for LGBTQA+ choruses to gather and spend five fabulous days sharing music. With over 6,000 attendees and almost 200 choruses, the GALA Festival is a great opportunity to perform, to listen, and to learn. And a ton of fun!!!

You can help us get to GALA Festival 2024 by donating at

<https://therainbowchorale.org/rcd-donate>

and specifying the GALA fund. We want to bring everyone!

### Snapshots from Denver GALA 2016

#### Posing after performing



#### Glamorous stage door

#### Singing on the 16<sup>th</sup> St Mall

