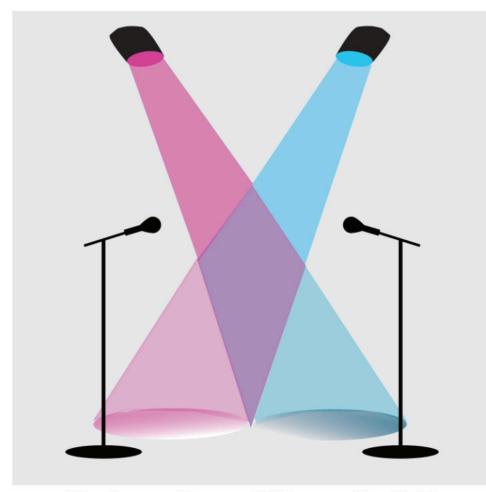


Saturday December 14 2024 7PM

Grace United Methodist Church 900 N. Washington St, Wilmington DE

THE RAINBOW CHORALE OF DELAWARE 25th Anniversary Season

FLIPPING THE SCRIPT A CROSS-CAST CABARET



Saturday March 22 7:30 PM

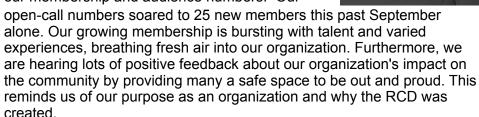
Wilmington Drama League • 10 W. Lea Blvd, Wilmington Tickets go on sale February 2025

MELANIE DAWN SMITH PRESIDENT —

Good evening, friends and family,

Welcome to A Silver Celebration, the first concert of the Rainbow Chorale of Delaware's 2024-2025 season and our 25th Anniversary Concert!

It's an exciting time to be a part of the RCD. We have seen growth in many ways, most notably in our membership and audience numbers. Our



2024 has brought us many celebratory moments, including traveling to Minneapolis in July to participate in GALA's quadrennial Choir Festival. If you don't know, The RCD is part of a much larger organization called GALA Choruses, and every four years, there is a GALA Chorus Festival. This year, the festival looked like over 200 Choruses of varying sizes descending upon Minneapolis. It was a truly transformative experience for many members. Our artistic Director, Jon Timmons, crafted a magical set for us, which resulted in a wave of positive feedback from an audience of musical peers. We are proud of our impact on the festival.

Additionally, in 2024, we celebrated the 25th birthday of the RCD! We partied and danced the night away at our fabulous Masquerade Ball on November 2nd at The Delaware Contemporary in Wilmington's Riverfront. And now, we will celebrate again tonight to commemorate that momentous concert in 1999, when our founding members bravely stepped on stage for the first time in front of an audience.

We now look forward to our continued success and future as part of Delaware's thriving arts community.

We invite you to please enjoy A Silver Celebration featuring favorite songs from our first 25 years!

With a grateful heart,

Melanie Dawn Smith

President

DONORS

PLATINUM (\$500 or more)

Anonymous Claude & Juliana Forbes Scott Letcher (in honor of Bob Twaddell) Mary Post (in memory of Merris Hollingsworth and John Post) Mary & Mikey Reppy

SILVER (\$200-\$399)

Mike & Dana Nestor John Reppy & Anne Rogers Elizabeth Phillips Anne Sewell Luisa Torrielli

BRONZE (\$100-\$199)

Anonymous (in honor of Bob Twaddell)
Lili Aou
Cyndi Brooks
Joe DiSalvo (in memory of Vessa,
Poppy, Steve and Don)
Sally Larimore (in honor of Jean Dunn)
Debbie McCall (in honor of the Treble
Makers)
Charla Phoenix
Thomas & William Shaw-Gardner
Scot Steka
Patrick Thompson-Kipp (in honor of
Thomas & William Shaw-Gardner)

STERLING (\$25-\$99)

Karen Luck

Ellie Armsby & Nancy Hale
Joy Blasier
Dan Campione
David Christopher
Allison Coia & Sue Gildea
Jacob Dums (in honor of the Bass of the Chord)
Jessie Cocks
Sinead Horan
Michael Hovendick
Lisa Jackson-Bullock (in honor of the Mighty Altos)
Elliot Jones
Pat Lawrence-Caldwell

STERLING CONTINUED

Kathleen Martin (in honor of Deb McCall) Dr. Janet MacDonna Camilo Matos Sue Mearkle Maureen Mercer Becky Mohr Glen C. Pruitt Lauryn Satterfield Jennifer Smith **Kym Thompson** Peter Tinaglia Lori Wadman (in honor of Mary Reppy) Pam Willis-Bradford Jack & Arletta Wright

CORPORATE

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware is supported in part by a grant from the

Delaware Division of 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 delawarescene.com.

The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware has received a bequest from the estate of Barbara Gittings, the noted LGBT activist, for which we are very honored and grateful.

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.

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!

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 organization's events, schedule permitting. Over the years we have sung at ball games, church services, fundraisers, tributes, weddings, funerals, festivals, and many other occasions. We appreciate at least 6 weeks advance notice, when possible.

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

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

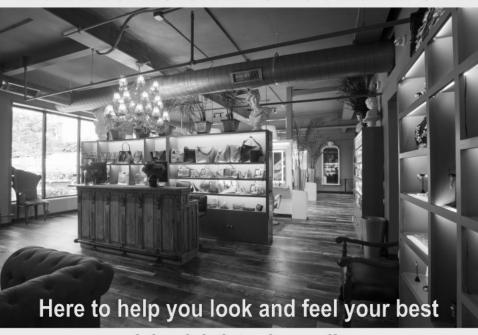
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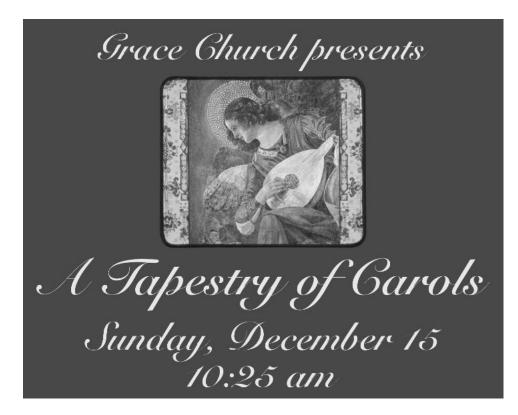
Moving forward without the labels

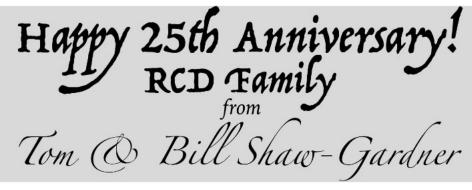
beyondtherainbowcoaching.com

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ARTISTIC STAFF



Artistic Director

Jon MatthewTimmons

The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware is delighted to have **Jon M. Timmons** join us as Artistic Director. Jon is the Upper and Middle School Choral Director at Germantown Academy in Fort Washington, PA. At GA, Jon conducts five choirs and is the music director for the esteemed Belfry Theatre. Jon is an active advocate and clinician for LGBTQ

singers in addition to specializing in vocal pedagogy for choirs.

For 18 years, Jon has performed and taught in the Philadelphia metro area including appointments at Souderton Area High School and Hatboro-Horsham High School. Prior to public school teaching, Jon taught voice and choir through Music Training Center in New Jersey, maintaining a voice studio of over 40 students.

For three seasons, Jon sang with the Philadelphia Singers – former resident choir for the Philadelphia Orchestra. During that time, he sang under accomplished conductors Charles Dutoit, David Hayes, and Jane Glover. He has maintained an active professional singing career as the baritone section leader in the Lansdale, PA based choir, 'The Choristers'. He has been a featured soloist in Faure's Requiem, Handel's Messiah, Herbert Howells Requiem, Leonard Bernstein's Candide, and Mozart's Requiem. His singing has taken him around the world to destinations including Beijing China, Salt Lake City Utah, and The Kimmel Center in Philadelphia.

Jon's choirs have performed at numerous festivals in the region and are praised for their balance, blend, and tone. He has presented at numerous Pennsylvania conferences; most recently at the PMEA State Conference in 2023 and the ACDA-PA Summer Conference. In 2020, his select choir was chosen to perform at the PMEA Annual Conference – unfortunately canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Additionally, Jon has led many seminars at several professional development events advocating for LGBTQ youth and faculty.

Jon holds a Master's degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Delaware in addition to degrees and certification from Temple University and York College of Pennsylvania. An avid runner, Jon enjoys time with friends and family outside of teaching and singing. He resides just outside of Philadelphia with his two cats, Ollie and George.

ARTISTIC STAFF CONTINUED



Collaborative Pianist Kevin Mucchetti

The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware is pleased to have **Kevin Mucchetti** join us as Collaborative Pianist.

Kevin is a Philadelphia-based pianist, music director, and composer. Currently serving as

Director of Music at Church of the Holy Child in Wilmington, Kevin directs the adult choir and acts as the church's organist.

For nearly 15 years, Kevin has contributed his musicianship to a wide array of artistic endeavors. This includes providing piano accompaniment for the Philadelphia Ballet and music direction for the independent musical improv troupe Thank You, Places. Kevin has been music director in productions at Bryn Mawr College and Upper Darby Summer Stage as well as conducting and performing in pit orchestras at Padua Academy. Additionally, he currently serves as Resident Music Director/Composer with Berserker Theatre, based in Connecticut. As a composer, Kevin has worked on various original musicals, including "Margot and Mr. Snooze" with playwright Ann Marley, featured in the Philadelphia Women's Theatre Festival and the Cohen New Works Festival as well as "Dorian Gray: The Musical" with playwright/composer Christopher Dayett, showcased at the 2017 New York Musical Festival. He is currently working in collaboration with playwright/composer Patrick McAndrew on a new musical entitled "The Startup."

Kevin holds a degree in music from the University of Pennsylvania. In his free time, he is a cinephile and a voracious consumer of trivia.



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Good evening and welcome to a very special night with the Rainbow Chorale of Delaware. 25 years of music making is no small feat. The resilience, passion, and dedication of our membership have kept the RCD alive and thriving for a quarter century. We are honored to have you with us to celebrate.

Tonight's program combines the "greatest holiday hits" performed over the years with a few fresh pieces to even out your auditory palette. We know that this time of year can be difficult for many. Despite the sparkling lights and festivities, it can also be a time where many feel alone or missing loved ones. Please join our RCD family tonight as we invite you to sit back, relax, and enjoy an evening filled with special music by our nearly 60 member ensemble.

Our concerts do not happen without you - our devoted audience members. Thank you for being here and supporting not only the arts but the mission and goals of the RCD. We wish you a happy, healthy, and peaceful holiday season and New Year. Here's to 25 years - and counting!

With love and music,

Jon M. Timmons
Artistic Director
The Rainbow Chorale of Delaware

Betelehemu Bethlehem

Betelehemu Awayiori Baba Gbojule Awayiori Baba fehinti, Nibo labi Jesu? Nibo labi bebii? Betelehemu muilu ara Nibe la bi Baba o daju.

lyin, lyin, lyin nifun o

Adupe fun o

Baba oloreo.

Bethlehem

We rejoice for we have a trustworthy Father We rejoice for we have a dependable Father,

Where was Jesus born? Where was He born? Bethlehem, city of wonder

That is where the Father was born for sure.

Praise, praise, praise be to Him We Thank Thee for this day

Gracious Father.

Concert Production

Alan vonWeltin: Stage Manager ● Mikey Reppy: Live-Stream

Karrianne Funer: Sound

El Clauss & Jay Simmons: Choreography and Skit Direction

A Silver Celebration Program

Sleigh Ride

LeRoy Anderson Text: Mitchell Parish

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

Jonny Marks Arr. Jill Gallina

Blow, Blow Thou Winter Wind

Flute & String Ensemble

John Rutter Text: William Shakespeare

The Winter's Night (Prism)

Nicolas Myers

Glow (Prism) String Ensemble Eric Whitacre Text: Eric Esch

Amid the Falling Snow
Jan Ellen Zimmerman (solo)

String Ensemble

Enya & Nicky Ryan Text: Roma Ryan Arr. Audrey Snyder

Chanukah in Santa Monica

Tom Lehrer Arr. Joshua Jacobsen

INTERMISSION

Text Me Merry Christmas

Kim vonWeltin & Julie Hilfiker (solos) Jake Dums, Don Lamp, Mary Reppy,

Summer Thompson (skit)

Frederick Silver

Adam Schlesinger

& David Javerbaum

Arr. Roger Emerson

The Twelve Days After Christmas

Via Olatunii

Betelehemu (Tenors & Basses)

Nigerian Christmas Song (see previous page)

Arr. Wendell Whalum

Christmas (Sopranos & Altos) (Baby Please Come Home)

Phil Spector, Ellie Greenwich

Judy Luo, Melanie Smith & Julie Hilfiker (solos)

& Jeff Barry Arr. Kirby Shaw

Lunar Lullaby

Jacob Narveru Text: Kathleen Nicely

This Christmastide (Jessye's Carol)

Donald Fraser Text: Jane McCulloch

Guest Artists

Deb Bialecki (percussion) Eric Schulze (electric bass) Genevieve Hahn (flute) Katelyn Viszoki (flute) Jane Van Valkenburg (organ) Caroline Stephenson (violin 1) Stefania Osorio (violin 1) Yuki Seo (violin 2) Ian Jett (viola)

César Colmenares (cello)

Rainbow Chorale Organization

Board Directors & Officers

Melanie Dawn Smith President

Julie Hilfiker Vice-President

Mary Reppy Treasurer, M&P Chair

Jake Dums Board Governance Chair

Maggie Kettlewood Director at Large

Camilo Matos Funds Development Chair

Kym Thompson Membership Chair

Barbara Williams Artistic Chair

Board Advisors

Debbie McCall Interim Secretary

Juliana Forbes Co-Treasurer

Mikey Reppy Production Chair

Jay Simmons Librarian

Scot Steka GALA Chair

Jon M. Timmons Artistic Director

Key Volunteers

El Clauss Choreography

Karrianne Funer Rehearsal Live-Stream

Lisa Jackson-Bullock Member Liaison

Debbie McCall Rainbow Connector

Mary Reppy Webmaster

Jay Simmons Choreography

Robert Twaddell Member Liaison &

Rehearsal Door

The Rainbow Chorale says

THANK YOU!!! to all the volunteers who have helped us out. Ushers, will-call, ticket sales, receptions, parties, rehearsal support, outreach events - we couldn't do it without you!!

Rainbow Chorale Members

ALTOS

Jude Ferraro Juliana Forbes

Lisa Jackson-Bullock*

Christine Kanicki

Audrey Lao

Donni Louise

Natalie Luhrs
Debbie McCall^{†‡}
Skye Safholm*
Leanna Shannon
Elizabeth Thompson
Kvm Thompson*[‡]

Summer Thompson Luisa Torrielli Renna van Oot[‡]

Ana Vieira Kim vonWeltin

Jan Ellen Zimmerman*

Ollie Miller*

BASSES

Jim Batty
Adam Biggs
El Clauss[‡]
Jacob Dums*

Jacob Dullis

Jonathan Feggans

Adam Gavnik
Jamey Grey
Edward Godden
Rob Lillich

Bob Lillich
Camilo Matos*†

Eva (E) Smith Andrew Starobynski Jamie Williams

Bill Shaw-Gardner

SOPRANOS

D Conner Lulu Peach

Jody Grinberg Lauren Peterson

Julie Hilfiker*† Mary Reppy[‡]

Judy Luo Jazmin Reyes

Melanie Dawn Smith*
Alison Tejada
Barbara Williams†

Sarah Skorpinski

Kimberly Wiltbank

TENORS

Ayliah Cannon Martha Eldreth Patrice Hieronymous

Sammi McGinnis

Don Lamp*[‡]
Thomas E. Shaw-Gardner

Jay Simmons*

Anne Sewell

Scot Stetka[†]
Benny Torres
Robert Twaddell

FIFTH SECTION

Julia Deputy
Mike Hovendick
Maggie Kettlewood

Carrena R. Morgan Jan Owens Mikey Reppy Sarah Robins Peter Tinaglia

* Prism; †Section Leader; ‡Speaker

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THE RAINBOW CHORALE OF DELAWARE

COME SING WITH US!

Our 25th Anniversary Season Continues...

OPEN CALL

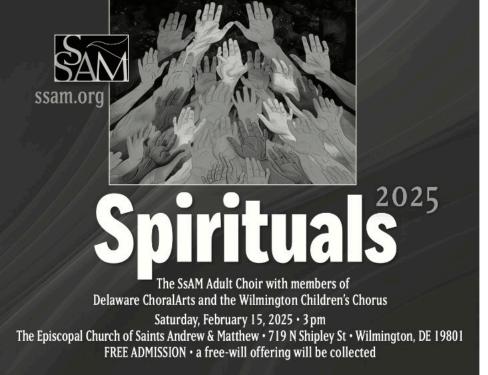
1/6 & 1/13 6PM

No Audition No Stress

therainbowchorale.org/rcd-joining







2024/2025 Season

Open Call, Fall Trimester	9/9 & 9/16/24
Discover Winterthur	9/16/24
Halloween Bingo with AIDS Delaware	10/20/24
25th Anniversary Masquerade Ball	11/2/24
Delaware Hospice Festival of Trees	11/16/24
Winterthur Holiday Market Caroling	11/23/24
Kennett Square Holiday Light Parade	11/30/24
Rainbow of Hope: LGBTQ+ Rally	12/7/24
Maris Grove Inner Wisdom	12/11/24
25 th Anniversary Concert	12/14/24
Open Call, Winter Trimester	1/6 & 1/13/25
Flipping the Script: A Cross-cast Cabaret	3/22/25

3/24 & 3/28/25

5/31/25

6/6/25

6/7/25

Open Call, Spring Trimester

Delaware Pride Festival

Phoenix Rising, Spring Concert

Congregation Beth Emeth Pride Shabbat

Member Appreciation

We'd like to give a special shout-out to our Membership Chair, Kym Thompson! Kym, a founding member of The Rainbow Chorale, has held almost every role in the Chorale over the past 25 years, including President, and brings soul, heart, and fun to everything she takes on. Always ready with a game to bring people together and never afraid of a costume, Kym has enriched the Chorale with her generous spirit. We wouldn't be where we are and who we are without her!

Scenes from the Masquerade



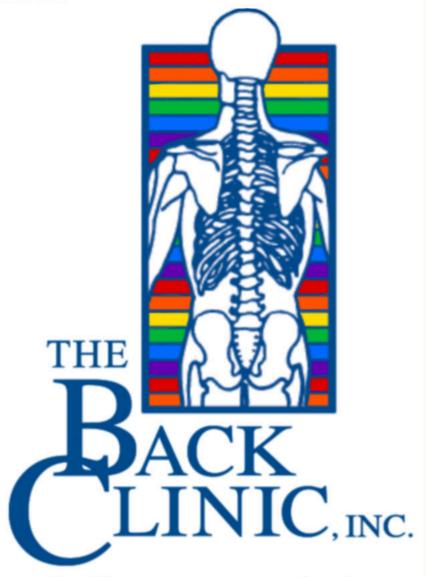


In Wilmington Friends School's statement of philosophy and beliefs, one of the purposes of education is defined as to "help students to develop self-discipline, resilience, and motivation to sustain their joy as lifelong learners." We offer an environment of confidence with humility, where good humor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



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