The University of Illinois School of Music Presents
Dad's Day 2026: after rain

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS VARSITY MEN'S GLEE CLUB
Andrew Major, conductor
Kyle Schrage, graduate assistant conductor
Saffion Chung, collaborative pianist

And Special Guests:
THE OTHER GUYS

Foellinger Great Hall
Saturday, November 7, 2026
7:30 pm

Traditional Procession

arr. HARRY ALFORD (1875-1939) — **March of the Illini**

the jaws of iron

VELJO TORMIS (1930-2017) — ***Varjele, Jumala, soasta***

toward the unknown region

CHARLES GOUNOD (1818-1893) — **The Soldier's Chorus (from *Faust*)**

MARI ESABEL VALVERDE (b. 1987) — **Darest, O Soul**

arr. RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS (1872-1958) — **The Turtle Dove**
Brandon Tacastacas & Kevin Paul, *soloists*

black night doth take away

SHULAMIT RAN (b. 1949) — **Sonnet 73**
Kyle Schrage, *conductor*

arr. WILLIAM DAWSON (1899-1990) — **Soon Ah Will Be Done**

arr. AARON COPLAND (1900-1990) — **At The River**

souls have crossed before me

GEORGE BUTTERWORTH (1885-1916) — **With Rue My Heart Is Laden**

BENEDICT SHEEHAN (b. 1980) — **With the Souls (from *Ukrainian War Requiem*)**

JEAN SIBELIUS (1865-1957) — **This Is My Song (Finlandia)**
Finn Ormond, *soloist*

after rain

RANDALL THOMPSON (1899-1984) — **The Last Words of David**

The Other Guys

arr. MIKE FERGUSON — **Other Guys Theme Song**
Holden Nichols & Dalton Sala, *soloists*

arr. MIKE FERGUSON — **Loyalty/Alma Mater**
Holden Nichols, *soloist*

arr. BOB CHILCOTT — **And So It Goes**
Griffin Kelly, *soloist*

arr. KUSA PARK — **This Troublemaker**
Holden Nichols & Michael Yang, *soloists*

arr. THEODORE HICKS — **I Won't Send Roses (from *Mack & Mabel*)**
Shubh Dhar, *soloist*

Finale

EDVARD GRIEG (1843-1907) arr. McKINNEY — **Brothers, Sing On!**

TRADITIONAL — ***Gaudeamus igitur***

arr. BILL BUHR (b. 1980) — **The Big Ten Medley**

CHARLES H. CHAMBERLAIN (1850-1905) **Illinois State Song**
Arthur Kot, *soloist*

TRADITIONAL **Hail to the Orange (Alma Mater)**

arr. ALFORD **March of the Illini (Recession)**

Program Notes

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

***Varjele, Jumala, Soasta* – Veljo Tormis**

Varjele vakainen luoja,
Kaitse kaunoinen Jumala,
Kavioista vainovarsain,
Sorkista sotahevosten!

Shelter us, Almighty God,
protect us, fair God,
from the hooves of enemy foals,
from the cloven hooves of war horses!

Varjele vakainen luoja,
Kaitse kaunoinen Jumala,
Rauan valkian varasta,
Terän tuiman tutkamesta,
Tykin suuren suun e'estä,
Rautakirnujen kiasta!

Shelter us, Almighty God,
protect us, fair God,
from the fire of iron,
from the sharp point of a sword,
from the mouth of a big gun,
from the fury of iron churns!

Varjele vakainen luoja,
Kaitse kaunoinen Jumala,
Suurilta sotakeoilta,
Uron tappotanterilta,
Jossa lyiy miestä lyöpi,
Tinapalli paiskoavi;
Jossa pää pahoin menevi,
Sekä kaula katkiavi,
Hivus hieno lankiavi,
Tukka turhi'in tulevi!

Shelter us, Almighty God,
protect us, fair God,
from large battlefields,
from grounds of manslaughter,
where lead strikes men,
where tin bullets are hurled;
where heads go badly,
and necks are broken,
where fine hair falls,
and locks go to waste!

— Kanteletar 323 & 326,
compiled by Elias Lönnrot (1802-1884)

The Soldier's Chorus (from *Faust*) – Charles Gounod

Glory and love to the men of old,
Their sons may copy their virtues bold;
Courage in heart and sword in hand,
Ready to fight or ready to die for Fatherland;

Who needs bidding to dare, by a trumpet blown?
Who lacks pity to spare, when the field is won?
Who would fly from a foe, if alone or at last?
And boast it as true, as coward might do, when peril is past?

Now to home again we come, the long and fiery strife of battle over;
Rest is pleasant after toil as ours beneath a stranger sun.
The maiden fair is waiting here to greet her truant soldier lover,
And many a heart will fail, and brow grow pale to hear the tale of peril he has run.

We are at home.

— Jules Barbier (1825-1901) & Michel Carré (1821-1872),
trans. H. F. Chorley (1808-1872)

Darest, O Soul – Mari Esabel Valverde

Darest thou now O soul,
Walk out with me toward the unknown region,
Where neither ground is for the feet nor any path to follow?

No map there, nor guide,
Nor voice sounding, nor touch of human hand,
Nor face with blooming flesh, nor lips, nor eyes, are in that land.

I know it not O soul,
Nor dost thou, all is a blank before us,
All waits undream'd of in that region, that inaccessible land.

Till when the ties loosen,
All but the ties eternal, Time and Space,
Nor darkness, gravitation, sense, nor any bounds bounding us.

Then we burst forth, we float
In Time and Space O soul, prepared for them,
Equal, equipt at last, (O joy! O fruit of all!) them to fulfil O soul.

— Walt Whitman (1819-1892)

The Turtle Dove – Ralph Vaughan Williams

Fare you well, my dear, I must be gone,
And leave you for a while;
If I roam away I'll come back again,
Though I roam ten thousand miles, my dear,
Though I roam ten thousand miles.

So fair thou art, my bonny lass,
So deep in love am I;
But I never will prove false to the bonny lass I love,
Till the stars fall from the sky, my dear,
Till the stars fall from the sky.

The sea will never run dry, my dear,
Nor the rocks melt with the sun,
But I never will prove false to the bonny lass I love,
Till all these things be done, my dear,
Till all these things be done.

O yonder doth sit that little turtle dove,
He doth sit on yonder high tree,
A-making a moan for the loss of his love,
As I will do for thee, my dear,
As I will do for thee.

— 18th Century English Folk Ballad

Sonnet 73 – Shulamit Ran

That time of year thou mayst in me behold
When yellow leaves, or none, or few, do hang
Upon those boughs which shake against the cold,
Bare ruin'd choirs, where late the sweet birds sang.
In me thou see'st the twilight of such day
As after sunset fadeth in the west,
Which by and by black night doth take away,

Death's second self, that seals up all in rest.
In me thou see'st the glowing of such fire
That on the ashes of his youth doth lie,
As the death-bed whereon it must expire,
Consum'd with that which it was nourish'd by.
This thou perceiv'st, which makes thy love more strong,
To love that well which thou must leave ere long.

— William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Soon Ah Will Be Done – arr. William Dawson

Soon ah will be don'
A-wid de troubles ob de worl',
Goin' home t'live wid God.

I wan' t'meet my mother,
I'm goin' t'live wid God.

No more weepin' an' a-wailin',
I'm goin' t'live wid God.

I wan' t'meet my Jesus,
I'm goin' t'live wid God.

— Traditional Negro Spiritual

At The River – Aaron Copland

Shall we gather by the river,
Where bright angels feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?

Yes, we'll gather by the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river
That flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.

— Robert Lowry (1826-1899)

With Rue My Heart is Laden – George Butterworth

With rue my heart is laden
For golden friends I had,
For many a rose-lipt maiden
And many a lightfoot lad.
By brooks too broad for leaping
The lightfoot boys are laid;
The rose-lipt girls are sleeping
In fields where roses fade.

— A. E. Housman (1859-1936)

With the Souls (from *Ukrainian War Requiem*) – Benedict Sheehan

With the souls of the departed righteous, give rest to
the souls of thy servants, O Savior, preserving them
in the blessed life which is with thee, who lovest mankind.

In the place of thy rest, O Lord, where all thy saints
repose, give rest also to the souls of thy servants, for
thou alone lovest mankind.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
Thou art God who descended into Hades and loosed
the bonds of those held captive there: do thou now
give rest to the souls of thy departed servants.
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Virgin, alone pure and blameless, who didst bear
God without seed: intercede that the souls of thy
servants may be saved.

— John of Damascus (c. 675-749)

The Last Words of David – Randall Thompson

He that ruleth over men must be just,
ruling in the fear of God,

And he shall be as the light of the morning,
when the sun riseth,

even a morning without clouds;
as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain,
Alleluia.
Amen.

— 2 Samuel 23:3-4

This Is My Song (Finlandia) – Jean Sibelius, arr. Andrew Major

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is,
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine.
But other hearts in other lands are beating,
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is,
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine.
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

— Lloyd Stone (1912-1993) & Georgia Harkness (1891-1974)

VARSITY MEN'S GLEE CLUB
Andrew Major, *conductor*
Kyle Schrage, *graduate assistant conductor*
Saffion Chung, *collaborative pianist*

Tenor I
^Storm Benjamin, *Urbana, IL*
Seth Carl, *Frankfort, IL*
Alex Chen, *Shanghai, China*
Robert Clausing, *Chillicothe, IL*
*Shubh Dhar, *Algonquin, IL*
Yotam Goldenstein, *Northbrook, IL*
Santiago He, *Shenzhen, China*
Joshua Jeon, *Seoul, South Korea*
Alex Kaufman, *Naperville, IL*
Josh Knehans, *Cincinnati, OH*
Eli Lee, *Barrington, IL*
Johnathan Robinson, *Downers Grove, IL*
Peter Sagmeister, *Park Ridge, IL*
Cailan Scire, *Carol Stream, IL*
Adam Tynkov, *Wilmette, IL*
Max Wanger, *Chicago, IL*
Albert Wei, *Shanghai, China*
Victor Williams, *Pittsburgh, PA*
Elijah Yang, *Aurora, IL*
Luke Zeng, *San Jose, CA*

Tenor II
Noad Cedergren, *Libertyville, IL*
^Brandon Chrones, *Palos Heights, IL*
^Charles Francis, *Gibson City, IL*
Nathan Gianan, *Bolingbrook, IL*
Aric Huetteman, *Morris, IL*
Simon Li, *Beijing, China*
^Vinnie Magsombol, *Tinley Park, IL*
Luke Morin, *Manteno, IL*
^Finn Ormond, *Downers Grove, IL*
Kristian Padilla, *Oak Forest, IL*
Nibaw Robertson, *Urbana, IL*
Wisam Shaaya, *Libertyville, IL*
Damian Vergara-Salinas, *Chicago, IL*
Mingduo Xu, *Shenzhen, China*
*Michael Yang, *Albany, CA*
^Jacob Zhang, *Willowbrook, IL*

Bass I
Colin Crook, *Wheaton, IL*
Hunter Cutler, *Lisle, IL*
Joshua De La Cruz, *North Riverside, IL*
Michael Frerichs, *Mahomet, IL*
Matt Laszlo, *Plainfield, IL*
Chase Liao, *Guangxi, China*
*Holden Nichols, *Rochester, IL*
*Kevin Paul, *Naperville, IL*
Samuel Pluister, *Barrington, IL*
*Dalton Sala, *Peotone, IL*
Gabin Sapena, *Paris, France*
Eric Sapsford, *Chicago, IL*
Brandon Tacastacas, *Gilberts, IL*
Bao Vo, *Fairfax, VA*
^Ethan Wankel, *Bartlett, IL*
^Surajh Yogeswaran, *Aurora, IL*

Bass II
Jojo Arrieta, *Chicago, IL*
^Maxwell Bartlett, *Urbana, IL*
Kevin Brown, *Crystal Lake, IL*
Robert Childs, *Plainfield, IL*
Aedan Hogan, *Mundelein, IL*
*Griffin Kelly, *Highland Park, IL*
*Brody Kimmel, *Wheaton, IL*
^Arthur Kot, *Schiller Park, IL*
Joshua Lin, *Hoffman Estates, IL*
^*Sean Marshall, *Buffalo Grove, IL*
Alex Mrazek, *Palatine, IL*
Jake Ning, *Buffalo Grove, IL*
Josh Patten, *Barrington, IL*
Matthew Piech, *Crystal Lake, IL*
^Nathaniel Wiesbrook, *Philo, IL*
Woody Wu, *Shanghai, China*

*Member of The Other Guys
^VMGC Executive Board

GRATITUDE

The Varsity Men's Glee Club operates largely on the donations of our generous alumni and community supporters. By donating to the club, you can choose to support concert presentations, purchasing music, commissioning new music, touring expenses, or our scholarship fund. These contributions are an integral part of maintaining the legacy of this group.

By giving, you will help the VMGC continue its tradition of spreading music not only throughout the University of Illinois community, but also throughout the United States and the world. Your name will become a permanent part of the VMGC's rich legacy. If you are interested in making a gift to one of these funds, please visit https://uif.uillinois.edu/give-online.

140th Anniversary Tour

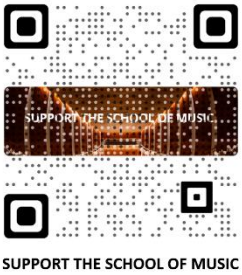
In May 2027, the Varsity Men's Glee Club will tour Sweden and the Baltic states — Stockholm, Tallinn, Riga, and Vilnius — as the capstone of our 140th anniversary season. Thirteen days of performances and travel through a region unlike any other for choral music, including joint concerts with local men's choirs, and exploring the cradle of the Singing Revolution, where mass singing helped restore national independence and solidarity.

Trips like this are where VMGC’s 140-year tradition comes fully alive, and they’re also central to what makes the Club what it is. Tours are one of the Club's largest undertakings, and this fundraiser helps position the organization to fund what's next —whether that's a tour across Illinois, across the country, or across the ocean.

Every gift, no matter how big or small, helps ensure that future Illinois students will have world-class experiences like this as members of the University of Illinois Varsity Men's Glee Club. To make a gift towards our tour, please scan this QR code:

Acknowledgements

VMGC would like to extend our sincerest thanks to our collaborative pianist Saffion Chung for his artistry.
Thanks to our alumni for their continued support and involvement.
Thanks to our devoted graduate assistant conductor, Kyle Schrage.
Thanks to the leadership and support of Dr. Andrea Solya, Director of Choral Activities.
Thanks to the School of Music Stenography for their support in printing scores and programs.
Thanks to the School of Music Facilities staff, especially Miranda Molina, for taking care of us.
And thanks to our families, friends, and community members who support and share in our music making.



Land Acknowledgement

We begin today by acknowledging that these spaces stand on the traditional territories of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, Menominee, Ho-Chunk, and Chickasaw Nations. These lands carry the ongoing stories of these Nations and their struggles for survival and identity.

The School of Music at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign acknowledges the peoples of these lands, as well as the histories of dispossession that have allowed for the growth of this institution. We share a responsibility to reflect on and actively address these histories and the role that this university has played in shaping them.

The School of Music is committed to moving beyond these acknowledgements, toward building deeper relationships and taking actions to promote equity for indigenous peoples.

To Our Patrons

The taking of photographs and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited. Silence phones and other electronic devices. Out of respect for your fellow patrons, please limit cell phone usage to the reading of program notes.

Late Seating

Latecomers will be seated only at intervals selected in advance by the artist.

Ticket Office

General Information: 217-333-6280 or 800-KCPATIX (527-2849)
Website: KrannertCenter.com
E·mail: kran-tix@illinois.edu

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Acknowledgments

The School of Music gratefully acknowledges the assistance of:

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