



**CHAMPAIGN-URBANA
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

Stephen Alltop, Music Director & Conductor

PROFESSIONAL ORCHESTRA IN RESIDENCE AT KRANNERT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

A SEASON OF JOY

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 | 7:30 pm

**Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
Stephen Alltop, Music Director & Conductor**

University of Illinois Oratorio Society, Andrea Soyla, conductor
Central Illinois Youth Chorus, Andrea Solya, director
Stephen Alltop, conductor and organ
Natalia Raspopova, assistant conductor



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Maestro Stephen Alltop and the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra are grateful to celebrate the the orchestra's 64th season with you. Mozart, Bach, Bruckner and Sibelius...your gift to the orchestra makes our performances of this great music possible. To make a donation, visit our website at cusymphony.org.



**CHAMPAIGN-URBANA
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

Stephen Alltop, Music Director & Conductor

We wish you a happy holiday season!

WELCOME

Dear Friends,

Welcome back to the Foellinger Great Hall for the annual holiday concert of the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra. Tonight's concert, "A Season of Joy," expresses many facets of this magical holiday time.

It is a delight to be joined once again by the talented singers of the Central Illinois Youth Chorus and conductors Andrea Solya and Ann-Marie Morrisette, and the Oratorio Society of the University of Illinois, also prepared by Dr. Solya.

Tonight you'll enjoy a variety of musical styles, from Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* to Jessell's *Parade of the Wooden Soldiers*. Numerous works are making their first CUSO appearances on this holiday concert, including the lively Renaissance dances of Praetorius, Canadian Brass arrangements of traditional carols for youth chorus and brass, and two selections from the film *Home Alone*.

As always, we'll end with favorites such as *Sleigh Ride* (which I'm sure I'll get to conduct this year!), the Christmas Angels Carol Sing-Along, and Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus*. We'll hope to send you into the holiday season with music resounding in your hearts.

Wishing you the happiest of holidays,

Stephen Alltop
Music-Director and Conductor

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CHAMPAIGN-URBANA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Stephen Alltop, Music Director & Conductor

CUSO is the professional orchestra in residence at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts and is a member of the League of American Orchestras, the Illinois Council of Orchestras, the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP), and Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI). CUSO is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

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THE PROFESSIONAL ORCHESTRA IN RESIDENCE



AT KRANNERT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The “Champaign-Urbana Civic Symphony Orchestra” was founded in 1959 by music lovers in our community who had the dream of establishing a permanent and professional symphony orchestra. Funded by local businesses and more than 300 subscribers, the orchestra performed the opening concert in Smith Hall on October 20, 1960 under the leadership of Bernard Goodman. The concert was hailed “a magnificent success” by *The News-Gazette* and the new orchestra flourished with the help of the Symphony Guild that was formed in 1962.

CUSO began performing at the newly-built Krannert Center for the Performing Arts in 1969 and was designated the professional orchestra in residence at Krannert Center in 1988. Over the years, CUSO has performed more than 350 concerts and showcased the talents of thousands of local, professional musicians, bringing the magic of music to audiences of all ages. In partnership with the Guild, CUSO youth music programs have introduced thousands of grade school children to the vibrancy of live orchestral music, with Youth Concerts at Krannert Center and free concerts in the schools.

For the past 64 years, CUSO has thrived with community support.

CUSO is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and receives no funding from Krannert Center or the University of Illinois. Like orchestras throughout the country, more than 60% of our budget is funded by the generous support of sponsors and donors.

Your gift to the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra makes these performances of great music by talented local musicians possible. To make a donation, call the CUSO office at 217-351-9139 or visit our website at cusymphony.org. Thank you for your support!

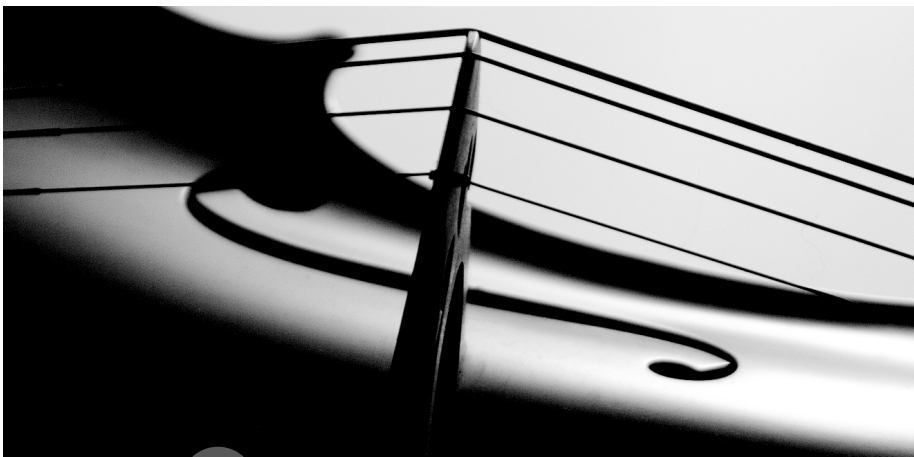


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DIAMOND CIRCLE

The dream

to establish the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra was made possible by extraordinary community

support. When CUSO celebrated the important milestone of the 60th Anniversary in 2019, the Board of Directors launched the Diamond Campaign, a fundraising initiative to secure the orchestra's financial stability and build future sustainability.

The Diamond Campaign Vision for the Symphony

CUSO is deeply committed to achieving program and performance excellence. Diamond Campaign funds have enabled the CUSO Board to raise musician pay rates to match other area orchestras. The Board continues to fully support Music Director Stephen Alltop and his programming goals, to secure outstanding guest artists, to perform ambitious works, and to pursue vibrant artistic collaborations.

CUSO seeks to expand and maximize community relevance with live orchestral music. In partnership with the CUSO Guild, we will continue to provide youth music education programs, including the annual Youth Concerts at Krannert Center, free ensemble concerts in the schools, and auditions and scholarship awards for young musicians. CUSO will also fund creative concert initiatives to reach new audiences and to perform in venues throughout the community.

The Diamond Circle

The Diamond Circle recognizes individuals who have made major gifts and pledges to the Diamond Campaign Fund. CUSO thanks these generous donors for their commitment to insure that the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra continues our long tradition of excellence, bringing fine orchestral music performed by local musicians, to our community.

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MAESTRO CIRCLE

2023-24 Season Maestro Circle Gifts

The Maestro Circle recognizes individuals who have made gifts of \$1,000 or more. CUSO gratefully acknowledges Maestro Circle donors for their gifts made to CUSO and the Guild from April 15, 2023 through November 27, 2023 to support the programs and performances of the 2023-24 season.

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2023-24 Season Gifts

The Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra warmly thanks these community members for their gifts made to CUSO and the Guild from April 15, 2023 through November 27, 2023 to support the 2023-24 season.

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It is with sincere gratitude that we recognize donations received in the past 12 months for memorial gifts and donations made in honor of an individual for a birthday, anniversary, or special occasion.

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THE ORCHESTRA

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Stephen Alltop, Conductor
[Margaret C. Goodman Memorial Chair]

Natalia Raspopova, Assistant Conductor

FIRST VIOLIN

Igor Kalnin, Acting Concertmaster
[Homer Schmitt Memorial Chair]

Ion-Alexandru Malaimare,
Associate Concertmaster

Maria Emmons

Ga-Eun Kim

Armine Mortimer

Hannah Reitz

Camille Rose

Yiheng Zhou

SECOND VIOLIN

Aaron Jacobs, Principal
[Raymond E. Williams Memorial Chair]

Anna Wallace, Acting Associate Principal

Luke Brann

Johnny Lusardi

Geoffrey Muckenhirn

Eun Namkung

Juliana Scofield

Abby Tolar

VIOLA

Erin Rafferty, Principal
[Wyndham J. Roberts Memorial Chair]

Rebecca Saul, Acting Associate Principal
[Ernest and Lois Gullerud Endowed Chair]

Elaine Fine

Isaac Henry

Matthew Nowlan

Andreas Ruiz-Gehrt

CELLO

Barbara Hedlund, Principal
[CUSO Guild Memorial Chair]

Frances Reedy, Associate Principal
[Carl and Nadja Altstetter Endowed Chair]

Kristen Johns

Hari Khalsa

Keegan O'Donald

Zora Yo

BASS

Joshua Lambert, Acting Principal

Margaret Briskin

Todd Gallagher

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*[Thomas and Barbara Page
Memorial Chair]*

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PICCOLO

Ellen Elrick

OBOE

John Dee, Principal
*[Margaret R. and Michael Grossman
Endowed Chair]*

Peggy Grossman

ENGLISH HORN

Evan Tammen

CLARINET

J. David Harris, Principal

Solomon Baer

Emily Cook

BASS CLARINET

Solomon Baer

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Claire Taylor, Acting Principal

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MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR



STEPHEN ALLTOP

Stephen Alltop is celebrating his 11th season as Music Director and Conductor of the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra. He also serves as Music Director and Conductor for the Apollo Chorus of Chicago and the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Alltop has been a member of Northwestern University's conducting and keyboard faculties since 1994, where he conducts the Alice Millar Chapel Choir and the Baroque Music Ensemble.

Stephen Alltop has appeared with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as both a harpsichord and organ soloist, and performs frequently with Chicago's Music of The Baroque. He has performed with Boston's Handel and Haydn Society, Chicago Bach Project, Chicago Sinfonietta, Grant Park Symphony Orchestra, Joffrey Ballet, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Omaha Symphony, the Peninsula Music Festival and Ravinia Festival. Alltop served as Coordinator and performer for WFMT's Bach Organ Project in the fall of 2014, a live performance series of all of Bach's organ works, and the WFMT Bach Keyboard Festival for the fall of 2015. His recordings are on the Albany, American Gramophone, Cedille and Clarion labels.

Alltop has performed with many leading musicians and actors of our time, including Hilary Hahn, Orli Shaham, Tony Randall, Martin Sheen, and Brian Dennehy. He has prepared ensembles for the Ravinia Festival, Chicago Opera Theater. The Oprah Winfrey Show, Star Wars in Concert, and Josh Groban on Tour.

Dr. Alltop has guest conducted numerous orchestras and choruses across the United States, Europe and Korea. His guest conducting engagements have included "A Celebration of Celtic Music" at Chicago's Symphony Center, the Iowa All-State Orchestra, and Brahms' *Ein*

(continued on page 25)

CONCERT SPONSORS

Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra's "A Season of Joy" holiday concert is made possible by the generosity of these sponsors. CUSO is grateful for their support of this performance and their continuing support of the orchestra.

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A SEASON OF JOY

THE CHAMPAIGN-URBANA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Stephen Alltop, Music Director & Conductor

Concert No. 310, December 6, 2023 | 7:30 pm

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Foellinger Great Hall

Stephen Alltop, conductor and chamber organ

Central Illinois Youth Chorus, Andrea Solya, director

University of Illinois Oratorio Society, Andrea Solya, conductor

Natalia Raspopova, assistant conductor

"Polonaise" from *Christmas Eve Suite*

Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Ding Dong! Merrily On High (Traditional English Carol)

(arr. Henry Leck and Howard Cable)

Central Illinois Youth Chorus Chamber Choir

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J. S. Bach (arr. Henry Leck)

Central Illinois Youth Chorus Chamber Choir

Organ Concerto in C Major, III. Allegro Molto

Joseph Haydn

Stephen Alltop, chamber organ

Natalia Raspopova, assistant conductor

Christmas Oratorio (selections)

J. S. Bach

(Text & Translations on Page 18-19)

Part 1, Chorus, "Jauchzet frohlocket"

Part 2, Chorale, "Brich an, o schönest *Morgenlicht*"

Part 3, Chorus, "Herrscher des Himmels erhöre das Lallen"

Part 6, Chorale, "Ich steh' an deiner Krippen hier"

Part 6, Chorus, "Nun seid ihr wohl gebrochen"

Oratorio Society

INTERMISSION

Parade of the Wooden Soldiers

Leon Jessell

Two Songs from "Home Alone"

John Williams
(lyrics by Leslie Bricusse)

(Lyrics on Page 20)

"Somewhere in My Memory"

"Star of Bethlehem"

Central Illinois Youth Chorus

Dances from Terpsichore

Michael Praetorius

- I. Ballet
- II. Courant
- III. Bransle Simple
- IV. Volte
- V. La Bourrée

Sleigh Ride

Leroy Anderson

Christmas Angels Sing-Along

arr. Matthew Naughtin

(Lyrics on Page 22-23)

"Joy to the World"

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

"Away in a Manger"

"What Child is This?"

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

"We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

Central Illinois Youth Chorus

Oratorio Society

Hallelujah Chorus (from *Messiah*)

George Frideric Handel

(Text on Page 24)

Central Illinois Youth Chorus

Oratorio Society



TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

J. S. Bach
(Selections)

PART 1, CHORUS

“Jauchzet frohlocket”

*Jauchzet, frohlocket, auf, preiset die Tage,
Rühmet, was heute der Höchste getan!
Lasset das Zagen, verbannet die Klage,
Stimmet voll Jauchzen und Fröhlichkeit
an! Dienet dem Höchsten mit herrlichen
Chören, Laßt uns den Namen des
Herrschers verehren!*

Shout, exult, arise, praise the days
[of Christmas],
glorify what the Most High this day has
done! Leave off faintheartedness, ban
lamenting; break forth into song,
full of shouting and rejoicing!
Serve the Most High with glorious choirs;
let us revere the ruler's name!

PART 2, CHORALE

“Brich an o schönes Morgenlicht”

*Brich an, o schönes Morgenlicht,
Und laß den Himmel tagen!
Du Hirtenvolk, erschrecke nicht,
Weil dir die Engel sagen,
Daß dieses schwache Knäbelein
Soll unser Trost und Freude sein,
Dazu den Satan zwingen
Und letztlich Friede bringen!*

Break out, o lovely morning light,
and let heaven dawn!
You shepherd folk, do not be alarmed;
for the angels tell you
that this weak little boy
shall be our comfort and joy,
[shall] vanquish Satan, too,
and finally bring peace!

PART 3, CHORUS

“Herrscher des Himmels erhöre das Lallen”

*Herrscher des Himmels, erhöre das Lallen,
Laß dir die matten Gesänge gefallen,
Wenn dich dein Zion mit Psalmen erhöht!
Höre der Herzen frohlockendes Preisen,
Wenn wir dir itzo die Ehrfurcht erweisen,
Weil unsre Wohlfahrt befestiget steht!*

Ruler of Heaven, give heed to our babble,
let our feeble songs please you,
when your Zion extols you with psalms!
Hear the exultant praises of our hearts,
when we now show you reverence
because our welfare stands fast!

PART 6. CHORALE

"Ich steh an deiner Krippen hier"

*Ich steh an deiner Krippen hier,
O Jesulein, mein Leben;
Ich komme, bring und schenke dir,
Was du mir hast gegeben.
Nimm hin, es ist mein Geist und Sinn,
Herz, Seel und Mut, nimm alles hin,
Und laß dir's wohlgefallen!*

Here I stand at your manger,
O little Jesus, my Life;
I come to bring and give to you
what you have granted me.
Take this, it is my spirit and inclination,
heart, soul and courage;
take this all,
and let it please you greatly!

PART 6. CHORUS

"Nun seid ihr wohl gebrochen"

*Nun seid ihr wohl gerochen
An eurer Feinde Schar,
Denn Christus hat zerbrochen,
Was euch zuwider war.
Tod, Teufel, Sünd und Hölle
Sind ganz und gar geschwächt;
Bei Gott hat seine Stelle
Das menschliche Geschlecht.*

Now you all are well avenged
of your band of enemies,
for Christ has broken apart
what was against you.
Death, devil, sin, and hell
are completely diminished;
the human family
has its place by God.

SONGS FROM “HOME ALONE” LYRICS

Somewhere in My Memory

Candles in the window
Shadows painting the ceiling
Gazing at the fire glow
Feeling that gingerbread feeling
Precious moments, special people
Happy faces, I can see
Somewhere in my memory
Christmas joys all around me
Living in my memory
All of the music, all of the magic
All of the family, home here with me

Star of Bethlehem

Star of Bethlehem shining bright
Bathing the world in heav'nly light,
Let the glow of your distant glory
Fill us with hope this Christmas night.
Star of innocence, star of goodness
Gazing out since time began,
You who've lived through endless ages
View with love the age of man.
Star of beauty hear our plea,
Whisper your wisdom tenderly.
Star of Bethlehem set us free
Make us a world we long to see.
Star of Bethlehem, star up high,
Miracle of the midnight sky,
Let your luminous life of heaven
Better our hearts and make us fly.
Star of happiness, star of wonder
You see everything from afar,
Cast your eye upon the future
Make us wiser than we are.
Star of gentleness, hear our plea,
Whisper your wisdom tenderly.
Star of Bethlehem set us free
Make us a world we long to see.



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ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR



NATALIA RASPOPOVA

Russian-Australian conductor Natalia Raspopova is currently working as a freelance guest conductor and concert pianist. As an active guest conductor, she has enjoyed working with the Monash Academy Orchestra, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Opera Queensland, Christchurch

Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Youth Orchestra, Sydney University Symphony Orchestra, Coast Opera Australia, and New Zealand Secondary Schools Symphony Orchestra.

Natalia came to Australia at age sixteen and has performed widely in Australia as a pianist, including an appearance with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra as a concerto soloist. In 2013, Natalia was selected from a large pool of applicants to be part of the Symphony Services International Conductor Development Program, which saw her working with the Tasmanian Symphony, Melbourne Symphony, Auckland Philharmonia, and Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestras. Natalia was mentored by internationally renowned conductors such as Christopher Seaman, Johannes Fritzsch, Eckehard Stier, and Giordano Bellincampi.

During the 2015-2016 season, Natalia joined the Queensland Symphony Orchestra (QSO) as its first-ever Assistant Conductor, selected from an international pool of applicants. In this role, Natalia assisted international conductors and conducted many of QSO's concerts, including family concerts, education programs, and on tour. In 2016-2017, Natalia appeared with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Monash Academy Orchestra, Queensland Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra, and Opera Queensland, and was selected to participate in the Southbank BBC Concert Orchestra (BBCCO) International Masterclass led by Marin Alsop.

In 2021-2022, Natalia worked with the Monash Academy Orchestra, Sydney University Symphony Orchestra, and New Zealand Secondary Schools Symphony Orchestra. Recently, Natalia was chosen as one of 14 finalists in the La Maestra International Competition for Women Conductors in Paris and, in 2023, was a finalist in the first International Ferenc Fricsay Conducting Competition.

Currently, Natalia is completing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with Dr. Carolyn Watson and is serving as Assistant Conductor with the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra for the 2023-2024 season.



SING-ALONG LYRICS

Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! The Lord has come:
Let earth receive her King; Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:
Let men their songs employ, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plain.
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head,
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

What Child Is This?

What Child is this, Who laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard, and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild he lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels.
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above.
Glory to God in the highest.
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

*Solo: We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas, and a happy New Year!*

*Children's Chorus: Good tidings to you wherever you are;
Good tidings for Christmas and a happy New Year!
We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas, and a happy New Year!*

Good tidings to you wherever you are;
Good tidings for Christmas and a happy New Year!

We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas, and a happy New Year!

HALLELUJAH CHORUS TEXT

Handel: Hallelujah Chorus

|: Hallelujah! :|

|: For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. Hallelujah! :|

The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ, and of His Christ! |: And He shall reign for ever and ever. :|

|: King of kings forever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
And Lord of lords forever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! :|
King of kings forever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
And Lord of lords, King of kings and Lord of lords.

|: And He shall reign forever and ever. :|

King of kings forever and ever, and Lord of lords. Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!
And He shall reign forever and ever.

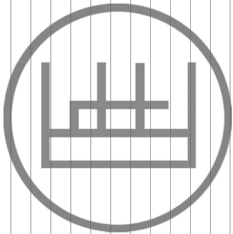
King of kings, and Lord of lords. King of kings, and Lord of lords. And
He shall reign for ever and ever.

King of kings (forever and ever), and Lord of lords (forever and ever).
|: Hallelujah! :|

deutsches Requiem in Busan, South Korea for the International Schools Choral Music Society. He has conducted opera and orchestral concerts with a number of Italian orchestras, including I Soloisti di Perugia, Fondazione Arturo Toscanini (Bologna), Teatro Reggio Orchestra (Parma), Festival Mozart (Roveto), Orchestra Sinfonica (Bari), Teatro Piccinni (Bari), and the Festival Duni (Matera). His performances have been broadcast on Medici TV, RAI Italian Radio and Television, and the WFMT Fine Arts Network. Dr. Alltop has worked closely with leading composers of the day, including residency projects with Stacy Garrop, John Corigliano, Jeff Beal, Eleanor Daley, Stephen Paulus and Eric Whitacre, and has conducted world premieres of works by John Luther Adams, Jan Bach, Frank Ferko, Stephen Paulus, Joseph Schwanter, Alan Terricciano, and others.

Dr. Alltop lectures frequently for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Northwestern University Alumnae Continuing Education Series, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and other organizations. Since 2014, he has given presentations on leadership for various programs in the Kellogg School of Business.

Stephen is an avid squash player and baseball fan, and recently completed a personal fitness goal of running ten marathons and twenty half marathons over a ten-year period.

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CHORAL DIRECTOR



ANDREA SOLYA

Andrea Solya, DMA, is Director of Choral Studies and Teaching Associate Professor of Choral Music at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she is director of the UI Chamber Singers, Oratorio Society and Women's Glee Club, the University's premier treble choir. She teaches choral conducting and literature to undergraduate and graduate students. In addition to her duties at the University of Illinois, she serves as the Artistic Director of the Central Illinois Youth Chorus.

Each summer she teaches musicianship, conducting and choral methodology in the Master's program of the Kodály Institute at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Solya's research interests include the choral music of Andreas Rauch (1592-1656), as well as the art of teaching sight singing to the choral singer and beyond. She has performed and presented on national and international stages and has been working on a critical edition of 25 motets from Andreas Rauch's 1625 collection "Thymiaterium Musicale".

Under her direction, the UI Women's Glee Club has received numerous concert invitations and has undertaken memorable tours to Nashville, New Orleans, Atlanta and to New York City. The UI Women's Glee Club also appears on renowned composer Augusta Read Thomas's latest CD recording *Astral Canticle*, released in 2015 by Nimbus Records.

Dr. Solya is Treble Choir Repertoire and Standards Committee Chair at American Choral Directors Association-Illinois.



MATTHEW CHRISTOPHER SHEPARD

Matthew Christopher Shepard is the founder and conductor of Te Deum, which has established itself as one of the premier choral ensembles in the Midwest. He is frequently engaged as a conducting clinician, most recently with the American Choral Directors Association Kansas State Convention Honor Choir in 2021. With his growing reputation in the Early Music field, Mr. Shepard's work and contributions to the field have twice been featured in Early Music America, and he has presented lectures on historical chant performance, music history, and Renaissance performance practice.

As an orchestral conductor, Mr. Shepard has conducted the Philharmonia of Greater Kansas City, the Kansas City Civic Orchestra, and the Kansas City Baroque Consortium. He also served for six seasons as orchestra director at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas.

Beginning his musical studies in woodwinds and voice, Mr. Shepard holds an undergraduate degree from William Jewell College, two master's degrees, studying both choral and orchestral conducting at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance, and is pursuing Doctoral studies at the University of Illinois.

ORATORIO SOCIETY



The Oratorio Society is the symphonic choir of the University of Illinois. Conducted by Dr. Andrea Soyla, the ensemble is made up of accomplished singers from many constituencies, bringing together members of the University student body, faculty and staff, and community musicians from throughout the region who join together to perform the masterworks of the choral-orchestral repertory at a high level of artistic excellence.

Recent seasons have included collaborations with the finest local orchestras, including the University of Illinois Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia da Camera, and the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra, performing such works as the *St. Matthew Passion* of J. S. Bach, Verdi's *Requiem*, Brahms' *Requiem*, the *Symphony of Psalms* by Igor Stravinsky, and *A Child of Our Time* by Sir Michael Tippett.

Oratorio Society is also committed to discovering and presenting important new works. In 2015, they gave the world premiere of Lewis Spratlan's *Of War*, and in 2016 sang the regional premiere of *August 4, 1964*, an oratorio by Steven Stucky.

Concerts and rehearsals are enriched by the diversity of the members' life experiences — but all the singers of the Oratorio Society share a common passion for musical excellence and a belief in the ability of great choral music to transform the lives of those who perform and those who listen.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ORATORIO SOCIETY

Dr. Andrea Soyla, conductor

Matthew Christopher Shepard, teaching assistant

SOPRANO

Debbie Aurelius-Muir
Danda Tish Beard
Grace Beumler
Grace Bowen
Tori Boyle
Laura Chen
Jennie Eagle
Lauren Flaten
Laura Gray
Seungah Kwon
Linda Hamman Moore
Roxanne Munch
Laura Quintero
Heather Schultz
Kristen Schumacher
Madeline Steiner
Yinglun Sun
Alice Troitskaia
Nicole Vandervlugt
Brianna Vargas-Gonzalez
Heidi Weatherford

ALTO

Alexis Baldwin
Janet Revell Barrett
Ellen Brewer
Melinda Burden
Marsha Clinard
Barbara Curtis
Anne Ellison
Colleen Hammel
Eve Harwood
Holly Jordan
Sunghyun Kim
Jane Kuntz
Linda Larsen
Juedy Lee
Jessica Mattiace
Mari McKeeth
Marissa Michael
Miranda Molina
Libbie Morley
Bobbie Ruby
Mary Sanderson
Kathie Spegal
Iris Swanson
Stephanie Tillman
Karen Tow
Lisa Travis
Joanne Vician
Gaye Wong
Hou Xie

TENOR

Aaron Alexander
Keon Beigzadeh
Rob Chambers
Carl Edwards
Nathan Hayes
Eric Ives
Larry Knox
Pierle Nick
Craig Russell
Derryl Singley
Ada Stelzer
John Swedberg
Steve Taylor
David Willcox

BASS

Raymond T. Anderson
Wallace Arnold
George Bell
Jonathan Boudreaux
Adam Brinati
Felix Chan
Richard L. Kaplan
Gear Kimmel
Diego Martinez
Richard McClary
John Muir
Daniel O'Leary
Samuel Pluister
Aaron Schmidt
Ayu Seiya
Matthew Christopher
Shepard
Wilmer Smilde
Sam Tillman
Jacob Tolar
Timo Wayman
Alex Zhang



CENTRAL ILLINOIS YOUTH CHORUS

Enriching the lives of children since 1978, Central Illinois Youth Chorus (CIYC) provides choral music instruction, vocal training, and performance opportunities to youth in kindergarten through twelfth grade. Based in Champaign-Urbana, the Chorus includes four choir levels and draws members from surrounding communities and counties. Members are taught sound vocal technique, musicianship, and performance etiquette while learning repertoire covering a diverse range of music, languages, and composers. Beginning in 2022, CIYC developed an early education program, offering free, drop-in singalongs to singers too young for its performing choirs. CIYC choristers experience the joy, discipline, pride, and teamwork of high-quality choral singing.

CIYC presents annual winter and spring concerts, performs with area orchestras and choruses, hosts other children's choirs such as the Lithuanian Boys Choir and the American Boychoir, and sings at choral festivals and at community, corporate, and private events. Recent performance highlights include Cellular Songs with Meredith Monk, the Midwest premier of Stacy Garrop's *Terra Nostra*, Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, Puccini's *La Bohème*, and regular collaborations with the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra. John Frayne of *The News-Gazette* wrote of CIYC's 2019 Orff's *Carmina Burana* collaboration with CU Symphony, "It was the most successful concert of this ensemble in my memory."

Under the artistic direction of Dr. Andrea Solya, the Chorus staff includes Conductors Ann Marie Morrisette and Emily Kuchenbrod, Collaborative Pianist Simon Tiffin, and Administrative Director Kathy Lee. CIYC is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and also by individual and corporate donations. For further information, visit www.CIYC sings.org and facebook.com/CIYCsings.



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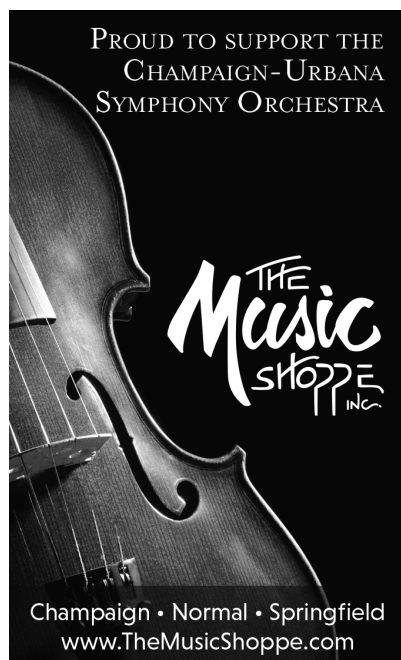
CENTRAL ILLINOIS YOUTH CHORUS

Chamber Choir, Andrea Soyla, Artistic Director and Conductor

Noreen Adoni	Annamarie King	Alina Scott
Julianna Balogh	Quinn Kroner	Brycen Sheehan
Antje Bollero	Rissah Kumar	Shengshan Tang
Izzy Cain	Daehyun Lee	Laila Tawfick
Elizabeth Cazares	Maggie McCabe	Joseph To
Dereanna Clark	Logan Miller	Sarah VanRaden
Nola Daugherty	Mayameen Mizan	Leah Walker
Emilie Edwards	Evelyn Mizzen	Elaina Webb
Isabella Hoerner	Tatum Mulliken	Emily Wilson
Gabriella Hunter	Agnes Nelson	
Hannah Grace Israel	Ingrid Nelson	

Concert Choir, Ann Marie Morrisette, Conductor

Evelyn Bautista	Ava Kim	Caroline Shamhart
Charlotte Colella	Lydia King	Lucia Sosa-Jackson
Margot Crull	Anna Kuglich	Vikram Sundaram
Ruby Crull	Seojin Lee	Shengxi Tang
Lyvani Figueroa	Seora Lee	Nadia Tawfick
Ada Gillen	Margot McKnight	Faith To
Mabel Graff	Khushboo Mehta	Marin Vandre
Avri Hunt	Mabel Munoz	Junxin Wang
Sybil Kammin	Alden O'Dwyer	Eian Webb
Alison Kane	Cora Owens	Nyla Wilson
Phoenix Keenan	Oscar Pollard	



ORCHESTRA LAUREATES

CUSO proudly recognizes Orchestra Laureates, distinguished musicians who have played in the orchestra for ten or more years.

Nadja Altstetter
Marina Antoline
Solomon Baer*
Sanford Berry‡
Shirley Blankenship
Margaret Briskin*
Stephen Burian*
Mary Leathers Chapman*
Christine Cheng*
Terry Coulton
John Dee*
Charles DeLaney‡
Linda Dietzen‡
Blaine Edlefsen‡
Ellen Elrick*
Michael Ewald‡
Fred Fairchild
Virginia Farmer‡
Elaine Fine*
Ricardo Flores*
Thomas Fredrickson‡
Todd Gallagher*
Robert Gray‡
Peggy Grossman*
Lois Gullerud
Armgard Haken*
Phyllis Hamilton

J. David Harris*
Jancie Harris*
Barbara Hedlund*
Anne Heiles
Robin Heltsley*
Aaron Jacobs*
Kristen Johns*
Carlyle Johnson
Robin Kearton*
Mary Kelly‡
Robert Kelly‡
Margaret Khachaturian
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Edward Krolick‡
Kazimierz Machala
Terry Maher
Dorothy Martirano
Austin McDowell ‡
Timothy McGovern*
J. Alex McHattie
Molly Madden*
Lucie Merrill‡
Donald Miller‡
William Moersch*
Mark Moore*
Armine Mortimer*
Alexander Murray

John O'Connor‡
Howard Osborn‡
Tracy Parish*
Guillermo Perich‡
G. David Peters*
Amanda Pond*
Frances Reedy*
Camille Rose*
Kathreen Ryan
Dean Sanders‡
Homer Schmitt‡
Grace Schoedel
Grace Sexton‡
Haskell Sexton‡
Wendy Sitenga
Debra Sutter
Robert Swenson‡
Evan Tammen*
Kathryn Tessin
Raymond E. Williams‡
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* Currently performing
with CUSO

‡ Deceased



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CHAMPAIGN-URBANA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Stephen Alltop, Music Director & Conductor

2024 CONCERTS AT KRANNERT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BRUCKNER!

Saturday, February 10, 2024 | 7:30 pm

Stephen Alltop, conductor

University of Illinois Oratorio Society and Chamber Singers,

Andrea Soyla, conductor

Michelle Areyzaga, soprano, Tetyana Vakhnovska, mezzo-soprano

John Swedberg, tenor, Ricardo Herrera, bass-baritone

Join CUSO for this jubilant celebration featuring music by Pulitzer Prize winner, Michael Abels, Mozart's exuberant *Symphony No. 41*, "Jupiter," Dvóřák's lively *Festival March*, and Bruckner's majestic and soul-inspiring *Te Deum* for soloists, chorus and full orchestra.

ABELS: *Outburst*

MOZART: *Symphony No. 41 in C, K. 551* ("Jupiter")

DVORÁK: *Festival March*

BRUCKNER: *Te Deum*

FANFARES FINALE - SALUTING PAUL VERMEL AT 100

Saturday, April 20, 2024 | 7:30 pm

Stephen Alltop, conductor

John Hagstrom, trumpet

Our season finale is a salute to the 100th birthday of former CUSO Music Director Paul Vermel, featuring music that he conducted with the orchestra. We are thrilled to welcome Chicago Symphony Orchestra member John Hagstrom to perform Arutiunian's *Trumpet Concerto*.

BRAHMS: *Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Op. 56a*

PUCCINI: *Crisantemi*

ARUTIUNIAN: *Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra*

EVERSON: *Festival Fanfare* (World Premiere)

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