



CHORALE

Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director

Drummond Fellowship Choir Concert

Ruslan Bondar,
Conducting Fellow



May 4, 2024

Lutheran Church of the Reformation

A project of the Capitol Hill Chorale



Introduction to the Concert

Many thanks to the Capitol Hill Chorale, the Board of Directors, and Artistic Director Frederick Binkholder for the opportunity to make this performance.

I joined the Capitol Hill Chorale in early 2023, just as they began rehearsals for the Unwavering Prayer concert, featuring the music of Ukraine. Director Binkholder invited me to rehearse and conduct Prayer for Ukraine by Mykola Lysenko, a joyful experience! Director Binkholder and the Board invited me to come back the next season as the Drummond Conducting Fellow.

Beginning in September, I led the Chorale in warm-ups and had the opportunity to rehearse and conduct selections for the Ella Fitzgerald concert in December. Importantly, I had the opportunity see how the choir runs from the inside, at the process of studying songs, at the goals they set - this was my training.

Now it's time to make my concert completely. It's not big, but it's very important to me.

Just a few months ago, I began to create a small choir of American singers of the CHC choir and Ukrainian singers of our diaspora. I chose the repertoire, prepared music sheets and began to rehearse, turning the theory I observed into practice.

With this choir, I wanted to teach choral works of different styles, different composers, a capella and accompanied. To show Americans Ukrainian music, and Ukrainians American music. And I'll show you this evening in the concert program. I'm very happy and can't wait to see you all at the concert.

Ruslan Bondar

Drummond Fellowship Choir

Ruslan Bondar, Conductor

Nick Starr, Accompanist

May 4, 2024

Херувимська
Cherubicus Hymnus

Максим Кучмет
Maksym Kuchmet
text from the Liturgy of St. John
Chrysostom

We who mystically represent the Cherubim, and who sing to the life-giving trinity
the thrice-holy hymn, let us now lay aside all earthly cares.

That we may receive the King of all, escorted invisibly by the angelic orders.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Mironczarnia

Jakub Neske
text by poet Miron Białoszewski

a man, a Miron agonizes, agonizes
again he's at a loss for
an utter can't utter
er

Learn about poet
Miron Białoszewski



Не стій, вербо, над водою
Ne Stiy Verbo Nad Vodoyu
Do not stand, willow, over the water

Українська народна пісня в обробці
Віктора Грицишина.
Ukrainian folk song
Victor Grytsyshyn, arranger

Yuliia Neduzhko and Angel Amado, Soloists

Do not stand, willow, over the water, early morning. Do not stand, oh willow, over
the water very early.

The willow matures and spreads many flowers.

All the boys get a flower, only Gritsyu doesn't have a flower.

Don't be upset, dear Gritsyu, you'll have the best flower. And you'll have a beautiful
girl, Gunna.

Don't stand, willow, over the water, early morning. Do not stand, oh willow, over the
water very early.



This project is supported in part by
the DC Commission on the Arts and
Humanities and the Capitol Hill
Community Foundation.



"Мелодія"

"Melody"

Nick Starr, soloist

Мирослав Скорик
Myroslav Skoryk

Cantate Domino

Mark Hayes (US)

Cantate Domino canticum novum. Cantate Domino omnis terra. Cantate Domino et benedicite nomini eum.

Sing to the Lord. Sing a new song. Sing to the Lord. Sing all the earth. Sing to the Lord. Bless his name. Sing to the Lord. His glories proclaim!

I will sing a new song. Sing a joyful song! Sing out with joy!

Evening Prayer

Samuel Solverson, soloist

Ola Gjello

Text by St. Augustine

Watch, Lord, with those who wake or weep tonight. Give the angels and saints charge over those who sleep. O Lord Jesus Christ, tend your sick ones, rest Your weary ones, bless Your dying ones, soothe the suffering ones, pity all the afflicted ones, shield the joyful ones, and all for Your love's sake. Amen.



The Drummond Conducting Fellowship

The Paul Drummond Conducting Fellowship is open to individuals studying conducting at the Masters level or with equivalent experience. The Drummond Fellow assists the Artistic Director in preparing the Chorale for performance, from rehearsal to stage management of performance. In addition to these main artistic duties, the Fellow collaborates with the section leaders, runs sectional rehearsals, and assists with auditions and voice checks. Non-artistic duties include attending board meetings, preparing program notes, participating in fundraising activities, and participating in community activities (i.e. pop-up concerts). The Fellow is expected to rehearse and conduct at least one selection during the regular season. The Fellowship concludes with a capstone project to include programming, rehearsing, promoting, and conducting a small ensemble concert under the umbrella of CHC.

During the season, the fellow gains experience in leading the large ensemble through warm ups, rehearsals, and select performance opportunities, and also participates in administrative functions such as board meetings and management tasks. The fellowship honors the memory and influence of Mr. Binkholder's friend and mentor Dr. Paul Drummond.



About the Chorale

2023–2024 marks the Capitol Hill Chorale's 31st season rehearsing and performing on Capitol Hill. Since its first concert in December 1993 with 45 singers, the Chorale has performed more than 70 choral programs, grown to more than 100 singers, toured Europe, uncovered rarely performed pieces, and commissioned new works.

This year, the Chorale celebrates its 24th season under the baton of Artistic Director Frederick Binkholder, who continues to bring innovative programming and high musical standards. His programming has included a wide repertoire—from the major works in the classical choral canon to works by early music masters, contemporary composers, and other genres of choral literature. Recent highlights include: a 2019 summer tour of the country of Georgia, where a portion of the Chorale performed Zakaria Paliashvili's Orthodox Divine Liturgy; a concert of German lieder in memory of Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau; programs exploring the American shape-note and Shaker traditions; multiple concerts featuring works by African American composer Margaret Bonds; and several programs of jazz interpretations featuring the David Jellema Ensemble. The Chorale regularly collaborates with other DC-area musicians, such as the Washington Saxophone Quartet and vocalist Katerina Burton.

During its very first season, the Chorale established its tradition of performing major Orthodox liturgical works with the North American premiere of Gretchaninoff's setting of the All-Night Vigil (Op. 59). Binkholder has expanded this tradition, leading Chorale performances of the Orthodox Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom in settings by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov, Paliashvili, and Stevan Stojanovic Mokranjac. In its June 2016 program, the Chorale honored the centenary of World War I by performing Kastalsky's rarely performed "Memory Eternal to the Fallen Heroes" (1917).

Composer Kevin Siegfried has been the Chorale's Composer-in-Residence since March 2014, and the Chorale is honored to have premiered a number of his new works, including the cantatas "Child of Earth" (2011), "Angel of Light" (2015), "Vidimus Stellam" (2016), and "Music of the Spheres" (2017) for chorus and glass armonica—the last of which featured glass armonica player Dean Shostak.

In 2018, the Chorale was awarded the Chorus America/ASCAP Alice Parker Award for its contribution to the creation of new and challenging choral music. The Chorale won a WAMMIE (Washington Area Music Association Award) for Best Area Choral Group in 2008, and received nominations in 2017 and 2020. CHC has been a finalist in the Washington City Paper's annual "Best of DC" multiple times in recent years, including most recently in 2023. The Chorale has also been selected for the holiday program "Songs of the Season," presented by WETA Arts, in 2022 and 2023.

Additional information about the Chorale, along with information about its first commercially produced recording (a setting of sacred Georgian chants on the Orthodox Divine Liturgy by Georgian composer Zakaria Paliashvili), can be found at capitolhillchorale.org. You can follow the Chorale on Facebook, Twitter, and Spotify.

Drummond Choir Roster

Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director
Brad Rinaldo, Accompanist
Ruslan Bondar, Paul Drummond Conducting Fellow
Nick Starr, Drummond Choir Accompanist
Kevin Siegfried, Composer-in-Residence
Radharani De, President, Board of Directors

Angel Amado
John Paul Barringer†
Jessica Chaikent
Jennifer Dahnke
Radharani De†
Danielle Hull
Olivia Hull
Caitlin Hughes
Natalia Khinika
Helen Kovach
Harrison Killefer
Svitlana Kramarova
Olena Liashenko
Kevin Larsen
Maryna Lvovska

Daryna Maksymova
Yuliia Neduzhko
Olga Onishchenko
Maryna Zhylina
Virginia Pasley
Bruce D. Purdy†
Olga Perepelytsia
Dale Rose
Jonathan E. Sanford
Olena Tarasevych
Katheryn Tobias
Mychailo Tuzchyn
Katrina Tselentis
Liza Zhylina

† Members of the Chorale Board of Directors.

Vice President: Sam Holliday; Secretary: Robyn Alexander; Treasurer: Erik Lundgren; Logo Design: Taoti Creative (Danny Izquierdo); Season Designs: Jennie Weyman and John Paul Barringer; Photos: Ryan Maxwell Photography, Tanya Flores; Program: Jessica Chaiken; Honorary Administrator: Ginny Gano; Founder: Parker Jayne

Community Members of the Board of Directors: Nancy Broers, Pamela Karg

Biographies



Ruslan Bondar, Drummond Conducting Fellow

Ruslan Bondar is a graduate of Kyiv Lysenko State Music Lyceum, a secondary special music school. There he studied conducting and sang in an educational boys' chorus, which participated in many concerts, took part in multiple contests and festivals, and went on tour throughout Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union.

Ruslan went on to study conducting at the Pyotr Tchaikovsky National Music Academy of Ukraine with professor E. Savtchuk. As a fifth-year student, he was invited to be a choirmaster and later became an artistic director of the choir. After graduation from the Music Academy in 2000, he devoted himself to working with the National Academic Choir NTUU (KPI), where he made many friends and even met his beloved wife, Yulia.



Nick Starr, Accompanist

Nick Starr is originally from Arlington, VA, where he attended Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology. He did his undergraduate studies at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA, and was also a performing member and featured soloist in the Carolina Crown Drum & Bugle Corps from 2009 to 2012.

Since 2015, Nick has been a member of The United States Army Band "Pershing's Own", stationed just outside Washington, DC. He has served as pianist for the US Army Voices and the US Army Chorus, playing for public concerts, educational programs, and official events for the highest levels of military and civilian leadership. He also regularly performs as part of the US Army Concert Band and Orchestra, as well as on numerous chamber music recitals.



Support More Glorious Harmonies!

Since our founding, the Chorale has prioritized bringing a wide range of styles and composers to our community, from jazz to music of the early Romantic era to traditional Shaker tunes. Our ability to learn about each of these styles, bring in professional scholars and musicians, and perform a broad repertoire is only possible because of the generous support we receive from our community. We gain so much joy in singing together and in bringing our music to our audiences. Your support helps us rent rehearsal and performance spaces, support our Artistic Director and Drummond Fellow, expand our reach through marketing, sustain our amazing partnership with composer in residence Kevin Siegfried, and engage in the vital work of embedding diversity, equity, and inclusion as part of our identity.

Please visit donate.capitolhillchorale.org to support our work!

This season,
we celebrate three
remarkable women in
music!


Capitol Hill
CHORALE
Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director



Join us for our final concert of the 2023-2024 season: Mother Ann

We'll commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Shaker arrival in America with a focus on female Shaker composers, featuring arrangements from Composer-in-Residence Kevin Siegfried



 **Capitol Hill**
CHORALE
Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director

**WASHINGTON
REVELS**
FEATURING:
Elizabeth Fullford, Artistic Director
Andrea Blackford, Associate Artistic Director

MOTHER ANN

June 1 + 2 *Simple Gifts*

tickets.capitolhillchorale.org

Learn more at capitolhillchorale.org