



*Wachet
Auf!*

Capitol Hill

CHORALE

Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director



Introduction to the Concert

I would like to welcome you to the opening concert of the Chorale's 33rd season. The repertoire for this concert stretches from the Germanic Renaissance with the Michael Praetorius setting of the Philipp Nicolai text of "Wachet Auf" to the early classical period with Johann Christoph Friedrich Bach's setting of the same text. J. S. Bach's jubilant setting of the *Magnificat* will round out our presentation. Yet since I knew Dr. Moran and his magnificent orchestra would be with us for this program, I asked them to play one of my favorite works, the *Concerto Grosso in G Minor, Op. 6, No. 8* by Arcangelo Corelli, which is known as the *Christmas Concerto*.

Our concert tonight is also the conducting debut of the Chorale's Paul Drummond Fellowship recipient, Raymond Rinaldo. Raymond has moved from the keyboard to the podium, and I could not be more pleased with his excellent work.

For those that are regular attendees for our concerts and are trying to find an overarching programmatic theme for this concert, please know that there is not a conscious one. The beauty and thoughtfulness of the compositions stand on their own merits. However, if you wish to glean deeper meaning from the advent text to "prepare and keep vigilant" or the "Esurientes implevit bonis" and "et exaltavit humiles" from the *Magnificat*, I will not dissuade you from doing so, for the interpretation of art is a uniquely personal endeavor.

I wish you a joyous holiday season and delightful new year. Thank you for coming.

Capitol Hill Chorale

Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director

Raymond Rinaldo, Accompanist

Wachet Auf!

December 6 & 7, 2025

Lutheran Church of the Reformation

Wachet auf.....Michael Praetorius (1571-1621),
text by Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608)

Raymond Rinaldo, Paul Drummond Conducting Fellow

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme.....Johann Christoph Friedrich Bach
(1732-1795)

Concerto Grosso in G Minor.....Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)
Op. 6, no. 8

Magnificat.....Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*Soloists: Bethany Brookshire, Elise Egan, June Dickson-Burke,
Karen Wahl-Testa, Harrison Killefer, Abhi Venkat, Rebecca Wilson*

*Understudies: Elizabeth Baker, Gabrielle Levy, Ben Wilson,
Andrea Pun, John Paul Barringer, Joshua Turner, Jennifer Dahnke*



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First Violin

Jörg-Michael Schwarz *
Gersh Chervinsky
Caroline Levy

Second Violin

Annie Loud **
Adam Murphy
Elizabeth Cox

Viola

Asa Zimmerman **
Becky Johnson

Cello

John Moran

Bass

Shawn Alger

Portative Organ

Patrick Merrill

Flute

Kelsey Burnham
Brandon Landry

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David Dickey
Sarah Weiner

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Our IDEA statement

Representation in programs and on stage matters. We intend our programs to place the music and experience of composers, writers, and performers of color, Indigenous musicians, and women, transgender, and non-binary musicians on par with the choral canon of Western music. We are committed to involving new and under-represented communities as partners, participants, and co-creators. We are actively working to make the Chorale welcoming and inclusive for all performers and audience members, including BIPOC musicians, people with disabilities, neurodiverse individuals, older adults, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Visit capitolhillchorale.org to learn more about our inclusion, diversity, equity, and access (IDEA) efforts.



Introducing our 2025-2026 Paul Drummond Conducting Fellow, Raymond Rinaldo



Dr. Paul Drummond

The Capitol Hill Chorale is proud to announce that Raymond Rinaldo is the 2025-2026 Paul Drummond Conducting Fellow in our second offering of the program! During this year-long fellowship, Raymond will be mentored by Artistic Director Frederick Binkholder and get practice working with the Chorale, leading to a capstone project where he will program, rehearse, and perform a full concert next year.

Raymond Rinaldo is a singer, conductor, arranger, and pianist with the Arioso Chorale and the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. After serving as our accompanist over the past year, we're delighted to support Raymond as he continues to expand his conducting craft with the Capitol Hill Chorale.

The fellowship honors the memory and influence of Prof. Binkholder's friend and mentor Dr. Paul Drummond.



FIRST SAVINGS

MORTGAGE

Texts & Translations

Wachet Auf – Philipp Nicolai

"Wachet auf," ruft uns die Stimme
Der Wächter sehr hoch auf der Zinne,
"Wacht auf, du Stadt Jerusalem!
Mitternacht heißt diese Stunde!"
Sie rufen uns, mit hellem Munde:
Wo seid ihr klugen Jungfrauen?
Wohl auf, der Bräutigam kömmt;
Steht auf, die Lampen nehmt!
Halleluja!
Macht euch bereit zu der Hochzeit,
Ihr müsset ihm entgegen gehn!

Zion hört die Wächter singen;
Das Herz tut ihr vor Freuden springen,
Sie wachet und steht eilend auf.
Ihr Freund kommt vom Himmel prächtig,
Von Gnaden stark, von Wahrheit mächtig,
Ihr Licht wird hell, ihr Stern geht auf.
Nun komm, du werthe Kron,
Herr Jesu, Gottes Sohn!
Hosianna!
Wir folgen all zum Freudensaal
Und halten mit das Abendmahl.

Gloria sei dir gesungen
Mit Menschen und englischen Zungen,
Mit Harfen und Zimbeln schön.
Von zwölf Perlen sind die Pforten,
An deiner Stadt sind wir Konsorten
Der Engel hoch um deinen Thron.
Kein Aug hat je gespürt,
Kein Ohr hat je gehört, soche Freude.
Des sind wir froh, lo! lo!
Ewig in dulci júbilo.

"Awake," call to us the voices
of the watchmen from high on the
battlement.
"Awake, you city of Jerusalem!
This is the midnight hour!"
They call to us, with bright voices:
Where are you, wise virgins?
Cheer up; the bridegroom is coming.
Get up, take your lamps.
Hallelujah!
Make yourself ready for the wedding,
You must go to meet him!

Zion hears the watchmen singing;
the heart, for her, leaps for joy,
She awakes and gets hurriedly up.
Her friend comes from heaven glorious,
of strong grace, of mighty truth,
Her light becomes bright, her star rises.
Now come, you worthy crown,
Lord Jesus, God's son!
Hosanna!
We follow all to the hall of joy
And partake of the communion.

Glory be sung to you
with mortal and angelic tongues,
With beautiful harps and cymbals.
Of twelve pearls are the gates,
in your city are we consorts
Of the angels high around your throne.
No eye has ever perceived,
No ear has ever heard such joy.
Of that we are glad, lo! lo!
Eternally with sweet rejoicing.



Share your feedback and win a free concert ticket!

Please take our survey and share your thoughts about our concert! Your feedback will help us in applying for grant funding and improving the experience for our audiences at future performances. We are raffling off a free ticket to our March concert for survey respondents to show our appreciation!



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Capitol Hill BID

Magnificat

Magnificat anima mea Dominum;
Et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo,
Salutari meo.

Quia respexit humilitatem
ancillae suae:
ecce enim ex hoc beatam me
dicent omnes generationes.
Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est:
et sanctum nomen ejus.
Et misericordia ejus a progenie
in progenies timentibus eum.

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo:
dispersit superbos mente
cordis sui.
Deposuit potentes de sede,
et exaltavit humiles.
Esurientes implevit bonis:
et divites dimisit inanes.
Suscepit Israel, puerum suum,
recordatus misericordiae suae.
Sicut locutes est ad patres nostros,
Abraham, et semini ejus in saecula.

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et
semper
et in saecula saeculorum,
Amen.

My soul doth magnify the Lord
And my spirit rejoices, in God my Savior.
For he has regarded the low estate
of his handmaiden:
behold, henceforth all generations shall
call me blessed.
For he who is mighty has done great things
to me, and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;
He has scattered the proud,
even the arrogant of heart.
He has deposed the mighty from their seats,
and exalted the humble.
The hungry he has filled with good things,
and the rich he has sent empty away.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy.
As it was spoken of our father,
to Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory to Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and
always,
and for generations of generations,
Amen.

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The Gathering Place on the Hill...

Across from Eastern Market





About the Capitol Hill Chorale

2025–2026 marks the Capitol Hill Chorale's 33rd season rehearsing and performing on Capitol Hill. Since its first concert in December 1993 with 45 singers, the Chorale has performed more than 80 choral programs, grown to more than 100 singers, toured Europe, uncovered rarely performed pieces, and commissioned several new works.

This year, the Chorale celebrates its 26th season under the baton of Artistic Director Frederick Binkholder, who continues to bring innovative programming and maintains high musical standards while exploring a wide range of genres and under-appreciated composers. His programming has included a wide repertoire—from 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)—the last of which featured glass harmonica 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, most recently in 2024. The Chorale has also been selected for the holiday program "Songs of the Season," presented by WETA Arts, in 2022, 2023, and 2025.

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, Instagram, and Spotify.

Chorale Roster

Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director
 Raymond Rinaldo, Accompanist & Drummond Fellow
 Kevin Siegfried, Composer-in-Residence
 Radharani De, President, Board of Directors

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 Alistair Phaup
 Steven Pruitt
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 John Martin T. Schalow
 Pace Schwarz
 Joshua Turner
 Abhi Venkat
 Rolf Winch

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John Paul Barringer ^
 June Dickson-Burke
 Sherman Edwards
 Dave Gustafson
 Sam Haltiwanger
 Parker Jayne

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Interested in joining us? Audition!

Visit capitolhillchorale.org/audition or email audition@capitolhillchorale.org.

Biographies



Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director

Frederick Binkholder is in his 26th season as Artistic Director of the Capitol Hill Chorale and has spent more than 36 years as a conductor, performer, and teacher. He holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Central Methodist College at the Swinney Conservatory of Music, studying under Dr. R. Paul Drummond, and a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from Georgia State University under the tutelage of Dr. John B. Haberlen. He is Professor of the Practice at Georgetown University, where he serves as Director of Vocal Studies. With a penchant for idiosyncratic programming, he has performed numerous world premieres, helped revive neglected classics, and championed the performance of underrepresented composers. His ongoing work includes collaborations with composer Kevin Siegfried, musicologist Fr. Piotr Nawrot, SVD, and research in the choral music of Margaret Bonds. His edition of the Bonds spiritual "You Can Tell the World" for SSA voices, has recently been released by Hildegard Publishing.



Raymond Rinaldo, Accompanist, Drummond Fellow

Raymond Bradley Rinaldo, a native of the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia, began his studies in piano at 9 years old. Mr. Rinaldo also got his start in accompanying by playing for several musical productions while in high school. Mr. Rinaldo went on to earn his bachelor's degree in piano performance from James Madison University, which included studying opera and lieder in Germany for a semester. He also earned his master's in piano performance from George Mason University. Since then, Mr. Rinaldo has lived in the Northern Virginia/D.C. area, working with theaters and choirs in countless productions. Aside from acting as music director at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, he also currently works closely with the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C., the Arioso Chorale, and the Capitol Hill Chorale as accompanist, composer, arranger and conductor. He made his debut as an orchestral conductor and composer in November 2024, leading the Arioso Chorale. Past performance venues and locations include the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Theatre, Carnegie Hall, Reykjavik, Munich, and Denver. In his spare time, Mr. Rinaldo studies German, French, Italian, Spanish, and Russian. He also spends much time training as a bodybuilder.



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John Moran, Cello, Ensemble Coordinator

John Moran, cello & viola da gamba, enjoys a broad-ranging musical career. He holds performance degrees from Oberlin and the Schola Cantorum in Basel as well as a Ph.D. in musicology from King's College London. While based in London he toured and recorded extensively with groups such as the English Baroque Soloists, The Consort of Musicke, and Les Musiciens du

Louvre. Since returning to the US nearly three decades ago, he has been a core member of REBEL. He is artistic director of Modern Musick, in residence at Georgetown University, principal cellist with the Washington Bach Consort, and a regular guest artist with the Folger Consort. The Washington Post has called his Bach "eloquent", and praised the "bravado" of his Boccherini and the "nimble fluency" of his Vivaldi, while the LA Times has written, "Cellist Moran projected vigorous and expressive bass lines." He currently chairs the Historical Performance department at Peabody Conservatory, where he teaches viol, baroque cello, and musicology, and co-directs the school's critically acclaimed Baltimore Baroque Band with Risa Browder. Their work with this ensemble was honored with Early Music America's 2018 Thomas Binkley Award. John is proud of his work in the Washington Bach Consort's Wunderkind Projekt, an outreach program introducing DC Public School students to Bach cantatas. He is a contributor to the revised New Grove Dictionary of Music (2001), is writing a historical monograph on the cello for Yale University Press, and is currently president of the Viola da Gamba Society of America and the Kindler Cello Society of Washington, DC. He is married to the violinist Risa Browder.



Jörg-Michael Schwarz, Violin, Concertmaster

Jörg-Michael Schwarz, a prize winner in several international violin competitions, has performed throughout the Americas, Asia, Australia & Europe, and is recognized as one of North America's foremost exponents of the Baroque violin. He served as concertmaster for the Barockorchester Stuttgart (1992-96) and has performed and recorded with the Amsterdam Baroque

Orchestra, Anima Eterna and Musica Antiqua Köln. Co-founder/ director of REBEL, he has also served as concertmaster / soloist a.o. with the New York Collegium, American Bach Soloists, American Classical Orchestra and the Portland Baroque Orchestra.

He has played under the batons of Gustav Leonhardt, Frans Brüggen, Ton Koopman, Philippe Herreweghe, John Eliot Gardiner, and Roger Norrington and has been a featured performer at the early music festivals of Boston, Berkeley, Utrecht, Stuttgart, Regensburg, Göttingen, Halle, Bruges, Vienna, Ambronay, and Helsinki.

His recording of Vivaldi's Four Seasons was released in 1992 on Chesky Records; he can also be heard on Channel Classics, ERATO, Sony, Smithsonian Press, Arabesque, PGM, Vox Classics, Koch International, Deutsche Harmonia Mundi, Hänssler Classic, Naxos, ATMA Classique, Dorian/Sono Luminus, and Bridge Records.

Mr. Schwarz has presented lecture demonstrations on the famed Stradivarius and Amati collection at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, and his solo playing can be heard on the headphones at the museum's Musical Instruments Collection. In 2016 Mr. Schwarz gave his Lincoln Center solo début in a performance of Vivaldi's Four Seasons with the American Classical Orchestra.

Among many other interests Mr. Schwarz is an avid wine enthusiast.

www.rebelbaroque.com

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Thank you so much for supporting the Capitol Hill Chorale, as audience members and, many of you, as donors. Fundraising is a critical part of our mission in order to ensure that we can continue to share music with our community. We hope you will join us in securing a strong Chorale future and many more years of musical enrichment!

As we come to the end of a year that has not been easy for our community in the DMV, we are more grateful than ever for the Chorale. We are choosing to focus our December campaign on the bonds of friendship, love, care, and empathy that we share with one another and with all of you through music. We hope you will consider giving to the Chorale as we aim to raise \$25,000 in support of continuing to strengthen our musical community for many years to come.



Scan here to donate, or visit:
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story/chorale-community](https://www.mightycause.com/story/chorale-community)**



Save the dates for remainder of our 2025-2026 concert season: Collaborations and Celebrations with the Capitol Hill Chorale

PSALMS AND CELEBRATIONS

March 21 + 22, 2026, Lutheran Church of the Reformation

The Washington Saxophone Quartet will be joining the Chorale on this concert to celebrate the quartet's 50th anniversary. The Chorale will perform the rarely heard cantata "Psalmus Hungaricus" of Zoltan Kodály, and selections by the quartet include a rendition of their first performance piece, the J. S. Bach "Tocatta and Fugue in D minor."

LAMENTATIONS INTO JOY

May 30 + 31, 2026, Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church

The concert will highlight settings of Lamentations transformed into Joy through a newly composed work by our Composer-in-Residence Kevin Siegfried.

Visit capitolhillchorale.org for more information!



Capitol Hill
CHORALE
Frederick Binkholder, Artistic Director