

The
Colorado Choir

Kelly Parmenter
conductor/artistic director

presents

Music of America



This concert is being recorded. Please silence your cell phone.

We kindly request no recording or flash photography.

Friday & Saturday

March 10 & 11, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church



The
Colorado Choir

Kelly Parmenter
conductor

and Denver's

MADRID
Comedy Theater & Restaurant

present

AN EVENING OF LAUGHS

fundraiser

wednesday, april 26

6pm -9:30pm



Tickets

adults \$40

kids (10-18) \$20

The Shops at Northfield
8246 Northfield Blvd # 14
Denver, CO 80238

Enjoy stand-up comedy, food and drink, door prizes,
a silent auction, and a wine pull - all for a great cause!

Music of America

FROM THE CONDUCTOR

No doubt our country is currently experiencing a great deal of division and conflict. The same has been true many times in our past. For this concert, I have drawn music from various eras, regions, political views, and subcultures in the hope to provide a broad perspective of America's past, present, and hopes for the future.

~ Kelly Parmenter

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Like what you hear?

Please review us on Google, Facebook, and/or Yelp. Thank you!

The Star-Spangled Banner

arranged by Paul J. Christiansen
words by Francis Scott Key, 1814

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

SONGS FROM THE QUAKERS/THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Simple Gifts

arranged by Aaron Copland

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
'Till by turning, turning we come round right.

How Can I Keep from Singing?

arranged by Z. Randall Stroope
words by Anna Bartlett Warner, music by Robert Lowry

My life goes on in endless song,
Above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real, though far-off song,
That hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
It sounds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?

Although the storms around me blow,
I know the truth will guide me,
Although the darkness 'round me grow,
My song's the light beside me.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
While love is lord of heav'n and earth.
How can I keep from singing?

AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

“Follow the Drinking Gourd,” was used by an Underground Railroad operative to encode escape instructions and a map. These directions then enabled fleeing slaves to make their way North from Mobile, Alabama, to the Ohio River and freedom. Taken at face value, the “drinking gourd” refers to the hollowed-out gourd used by slaves and other rural Americans as a water dipper, but here it is used as a code name for the Big Dipper star formation, which points to Polaris, the North Star.

In the ensuing 95 years, the song played an important role in the Civil Rights and folk revival movements of the 1950s and 1960s. Much of its enduring appeal derives from its perceived status as a unique, historical remnant harkening back to the pre-Civil War South—no other such map songs survive.

Follow the Drinking Gourd

arranged by Dan Krunnfusz

Follow the drinking gourd.
Follow the drinking gourd.
For the old man is a-waiting for to carry you to freedom.
Follow the drinking gourd.

When the sun comes up and the first quail calls,
Follow the drinking gourd.
For the old man is a-waiting for to carry you to freedom.
Follow the drinking gourd.

Now the riverbank will make a mighty good road,
Dead trees will show you the way.
Left foot, peg foot, traveling on.
Follow the drinking gourd.

Follow the drinking gourd.
For the old man is a-waiting for to carry you to freedom.
Follow the drinking gourd.

FROM WEST VIRGINIA

Shenandoah

arranged by James Erb

Oh Shenando', I long to see you,
And hear your rolling river,
Oh Shenando', I long to see you,
'Way, we're bound away,
Across the wide Missouri.

'Tis sev'n long years since last I see you,
And hear your rolling river,
'Tis sev'n long years since last I see you,
'Way, we're bound away,
Across the wide Missouri.

I long to see your smiling valley,
And hear your rolling river,
I long to see your smiling valley,
'Way, we're bound away,
Across the wide Missouri.

Oh Shenando', I long to see you,
And hear your rolling river,
Oh Shenando', I long to see you,
'Way, we're bound away,
Across the wide Missouri.

AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

Same Train

arranged by Alice Parker & Robert Shaw

Same train, carry my mother, same train, same train.
Same train, be back tomorrow, same train, same train.

Same train, carry my brother...
Same train, carry my sister...
Same train, waitin' at the station...
Same train, carry everybody...
Same train, carry me to heaven...

Same train, go! Same train, go! Same train.

AMERICAN FOLK SONG/NORTH CAROLINA

Cindy

arranged by Mack Wilberg

I wish I was an apple, a-hangin' on a tree.
And every time my sweetheart passed, she'd take a bite of me.
I wish I had a nickel, I wish I had a dime.
I wish I had a pretty girl, to love me all the time.

I wish I had a needle, as fine as I could sew,
I'd sew that girl to my coattail and down the road I'd go.
You ought to see my Cindy, she lives away down south,
An' she's so sweet, the honey bees all swarm around her mouth.

Get along home little Cindy.
Get along home little Cindy.
Get along home little Cindy.
I'll marry you sometime.

The first time I saw Cindy, she was standing in the door,
Her shoes and stockings in her hand, her feet all o'er the floor.
She took me to her parlor, she cooled me with her fan,
She swore that I'ze the purtiest thing in shape of mortal man.

Now Cindy hugged and kissed him, she wrung her hands and cried,
She swore he was the purtiest thing that ever lived or died.
She told him that she loved him, she called him sugar plum,
She threwed her arms around him, he thought his time had come.

Now Cindy went to the preachin', she swung around and round,
She got so full of glory, she knocked the preacher down.
My Cindy in the springtime, my Cindy in the fall,
If I can't have my Cindy, I'll have no girl at all.

When Cindy got religion, she thought her time had come, (Hallelu!)
She walked right up to the preacher and chawed her chewin' gum. (Hallelu!)
Now Cindy got religion, she'd had it once before
But when she heard my banjo she's the first one on the floor.

Get along home little Cindy.
Get along home little Cindy.
Get along home little Cindy.
I'll marry you someday!
Hooray!



SONGS BY AMERICAN COMPOSERS

Choose Something Like a Star

O Star (the fairest one in sight),
We grant your loftiness the right
To some obscurity of cloud –
It will not do to say of night,
Since dark is what brings out your light.
Some mystery becomes the proud.
But to be wholly taciturn
In your reserve is not allowed.
Say something to us we can learn
By heart and when alone repeat.
Say something! And it says "I burn."

Randall Thompson
words by **Robert Frost**

But say with what degree of heat.
Talk Fahrenheit, talk Centigrade.
Use language we can comprehend.
Tell us what elements you blend.
It gives us strangely little aid,
But does tell something in the end.
And steadfast as Keats' Eremite,*
Not even stooping from its sphere,
It asks a little of us here.
It asks of us a certain height,
So when at times the mob is swayed
To carry praise or blame too far,
We may choose something like a star
To stay our minds on and be staid.

**In the poem "Bright Star," Keats speaks of "nature's patient sleepless Eremite." The reference is to an unidentified star which, like a hermit, sits apart from the world.*

An American Hymn

setting by Cecil Effinger

words by Katharine Lee Bates, music by Samuel A. Ward

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood,
From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life.
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And ev'ry gain divine.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare of freedom beat
Across the wilderness.
America! America!
God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law.

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood,
From sea to shining sea.

Monotone

**Normand Lockwood
poem by Carl Sandburg**

The monotone of the rain is beautiful,
And the sudden rise and slow relapse
Of the long multitudinous rain.

The sun on the hills is beautiful,
Or a captured sunset sea-flung,
Bannered with fire and gold.

A face I know is beautiful—
With fire and gold of sky and sea,
And the peace of long warm rain.

Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor

arranged by Roy Ringwald

from *The New Colossus* by Emma Lazarus, music by Irving Berlin

Emma Lazarus wrote the poem in 1883 to raise money for the construction of a pedestal for the Statue of Liberty (Liberty Enlightening the World). In 1903, the poem was cast onto a bronze plaque and mounted inside the pedestal's lower level.

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!

Alleluia

Jean Berger

from *Brazilian Psalm*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
O Lord, O Lord,
Cymbals and the sounding harp I do not have.
But I'll make a fair procession for you, O blessed Lord,
I will make a fair procession for you, O blessed Lord.

Litanies for the mother of God,
Accept them, I implore you.
It is Abel who presents them.

Cymbals and the sounding harp I do not have.
But I'll make a fair procession for you, O blessed Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
I will make a fair procession for you, O blessed Lord.
O Lord, O Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
O Lord!

This is My Country

arranged by Moses Hogan
words by Don Raye, music by Al Jacobs

What difference if I hail from North or South or from the East or West?
My heart is filled with love for all of these,
I only know I swell with pride and deep within my breast
I thrill to see old glory paint the breeze.

With hand upon my heart I thank the Lord for this, my native land,
For all I love is here within her gates.
My soul is rooted deeply in the soil on which I stand
For these are mine, my own United States.

This is my country, land of my birth.
This is my country, grandest on earth.
I pledge thee my allegiance, America, the bold.
For this is my country to have and to hold!

Little Wheel a-Turnin'

arranged by Theron W. Kirk

Oh! There's a little wheel a-turnin', turnin' round in my heart,
There's a little wheel a-turnin', turnin' round in my heart.
There's a little wheel a-turnin', turnin' round in my heart,
There's a little wheel a-turnin', turnin' in my heart.

I feel like singin' in my heart, I feel like singin' in my heart.
I feel like shoutin' halleluja, I feel like shoutin' hallelu!

Oh, there's a wheel a-turnin', wheel's a-turnin'.
Little wheel a-turnin' in my heart!

The Battle Hymn of the Republic

arranged Peter J. Wilhousky
words by Julia Ward Howe, music by William Steffe

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:
His truth is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on!

I have seen Him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps,
His day is marching on!

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me:
As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
While God is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on!

Thank you all so much for attending our concert!



JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE IN APRIL!

***On Music's Wings* by Peter Boyer with the Denver Pops Orchestra**

The Colorado Choir is delighted to have been invited to perform with the Denver Pops Orchestra on April 15th for a special matinee performance of *On Music's Wings* by Peter Boyer. This concert is a reflection of music's unique power to unite and celebrate all humankind. We hope you can join us!

April 15, 2023, 4:00 p.m.

Central Presbyterian Church, 1660 Sherman Street, Denver, CO 80203

THE COLORADO CHOIR

Artist Roster

Jessica Argotsinger
Ariane Beckman
Zig Berzins
Jim Bever *
Foster Bitton
Jacob Bjornebo *
Rachel Bjornebo
Max Campolo
Jeanne Caruso
Debra Contreras
Adesola Daboiku
Dee Dafoe
Jim Degner
Chris DeMink *
Kevin DeVries
Sonja Drugan
Kristen Edblom
Dana Ewing
Mindee Forman *
Jessica Fowler
Ken Fox

Courtney Gansmann
Richard Geyer
James Graham
Megan Harbaugh
Katie Harty
Liam Harty
Emily Haxby *
Mike Hollowell
CJ Heck
Thomas Kielmeyer
Jackie Lalor
Jordan Lidstrom
Sherri Liebhauser
Penny Maw
Becky McGurk
Siivi Melorango
Joanna Meston
Courtney Morgan *
Sharon Nason *
Faith Neal
Stephen O'Neal

Mick Parmenter
Rikka Peaslee
Faith Prager
Kaitlin Quigley *
Paul Rasmussen
Aaron Rivera
Sarah Seekins
Kevne Sharpe
Sara Snider
Samuel Storman
Darlene Tieskotter *
Gabriel Verges
Ann Wagner
Ann Warren
Connie Washington
Laura Werner
Mike West
Ann Williams
Mel Zeman

* Board of Directors



CONDUCTOR / ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Kelly Parmenter brings more than four decades of choral and instrumental conducting experience to The Colorado Choir. Throughout her successful career, she served as Chair of the Performing Arts Department at Arapahoe High School in Littleton, Colorado. She earned her Master of Education from Lesley University and a Bachelor of Arts from Adams State University. Kelly has been active in the American Choral Directors Association and the Colorado Music Educators National Conference.

Ms. Parmenter is a well-recognized, professional member of the Denver music community, and her groups have performed at such diverse venues as the U.S. Capitol and Pentagon in Washington, D.C., Carnegie Hall in New York, and Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Prior to being selected 13 years ago as the choir's 2nd conductor, she was both a choir member and soprano soloist. Kelly's masterful conducting style and creativity define The Colorado Choir's sound.

ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR



Noelle Romberger is a Masters of Music Student at the University of Colorado where she is studying Choral Conducting with an emphasis in Vocal Performance.

Noelle was raised in Centennial, Colorado where she learned piano from her mother and sang in church choir. She is a graduate of The Moody Bible Institute with a Bachelors of Music in Music and Worship where she studied Voice, Conducting, and Piano. While at Moody, Noelle was the assistant conductor and President of the Moody Chorale under the direction of Dr. Yongmin Kim.

Noelle is excited to be back in Colorado and to be working with The Colorado Choir.



PIANIST

Mary Dailey is a music director for theatre at venues throughout the metro area and she is the Director of Worship Arts at First Presbyterian Church of Littleton. She has a bachelor's degree in Music Education from Wartburg College and a Master of Education with a K-12 Principal's Certificate from the University of Phoenix. Mary brings professional experience and a wealth of talent to The Colorado Choir. The Colorado Choir is honored to have her as our principal pianist.



ASSISTANT PIANIST

Marsha Trelstad is a music educator, performer, accompanist, and practices music therapy in the Denver Metro area. She has a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Wartburg College and a Bachelor's Degree in Music Therapy from Willamette University.

Thank you!

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Individuals

Nina Bayer
Andy Bixler
Jennifer Christopher
Joyce Ekanger
Carra Gilson
Ben Grodsky
Andrew Haxby
Sherri Liebhauser
Nic Miller
Mick Parmenter
Anthony Melorango
Siivi Melorango
Tim Roybal
Amaris Santiago
Kevne Sharpe
Whitney Sharpe
Ann Warren

Organizations

Amazon Smile
ArtReach
Augustana Arts
Augustana Lutheran Church
Bethany Lutheran Church
Community First Foundation
Cottrell Printing Company
CSA Accounting
Enerplus
First Presbyterian Church of Littleton
Kroger Co.
Mezzo Forte Digital
Sara Karam Photography
St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church
The Scientific & Cultural Facilities
District (SCFD)

HELP US SING

It takes a lot of community support to keep a professional organization like The Colorado Choir going. Ticket sales generate approximately one-third of the revenues needed each year, so we rely on the generosity of individuals, foundations, and public funds to make up the difference.

Making a tax-deductible donation to The Colorado Choir today will help ensure that we can continue to provide the wonderful choral music you love.

Learn more at thecoloradochoir.org/support.



King Soopers / City Market Community Rewards Program

If you shop at King Soopers, City Market, or any Kroger store nationwide you can link your reward card to their Community Rewards Program so that **every time you shop, The Colorado Choir receives a donation based on how much you spend.** Enrolling is quick and easy. Visit thecoloradochoir.org/news for details & instructions.



Benefactor, \$2,500+

Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD)



Conductor's Circle, \$1,000–2,499

James Degner
Louden Family Foundation - In
Memoriam of Kristin Louden

Mezzo Forte Digital
Sharon Nason
Rev. Julie Parmenter
Kelly Parmenter



Sustainer, \$500–\$999

Marilyn Burnside
Sonja Drugan
Jackson H Fenner Foundation

Kroger Co.
Emil Zeman

Patron, \$250–499

Jeff Castleberry

Friend, \$100–249

Zig Berzins
Natalie and Jack Blumenthal
The Community First Foundation
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Chris DeMink
Ken Fox
Liam Harty
Susan Henderson
Betsy Jansen
Sherri Liebhauser

Brenda McFillen
Betty Merva
Kristen Padberg
Kimberly Prager
David Schutte
Mary Shear
Billie Smith
Samuel J. Stoorman
Marvin Swanson

Contributor, \$5–99

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Jane Barber
Mary Bartholomew
Joanne Beckman
Kayla Berg
Sally Berglund
Jim Bever
Lynn Bruskivage
Jeanne Caruso
James Castle
Dede and Guy Dresser
Anell Ewing
Dana Ewing
Georgianna Fargo & P. James
Wallace
Mary Faulkner
Mindee and Graham Forman
Katherine Frear
Courtney Gansmann

Siina Haapanen
Rev. Thomas and Laura Hall
Mike Hollowell
Megan Harbaugh
Whitney Hendrickson
Brad Kano
Regina Kolbeck
Richard Krugman
Sandra Lezotte
Michael Madsen
Eileen Matias
Penny Maw
Cindy McLemore
Harriett Milnes
Thomas Monson
Ann Warren
Stephen O'Neal
James Ott
Rikka Peaslee

Faith Prager
Kaitlin and David Quigley
Randy Richardson
Joan Seay
Kevne Sharpe
Sara Snider
Anna Spalding
Darlene Tieskotter
Gabriel Verges
Ann Wagner
Martin Walsh
Ann Warren
Patricia M. Wassik
Rebecca Weiner
Bradford West
Ann Williams
Kenneth Wilson
Michael Zumwalt

The
Colorado Choir

Kelly Parmenter
conductor/artistic director

presents

3Bs and a K: Bach, Brahms,
Berger, and Kodály



Friday, May 19 and Saturday, May 20, 2023

Performances at 7:30 p.m.

Augustana Lutheran Church

5000 East Alameda Avenue, Denver, CO 80246

Ticket prices:

\$20 for adults | \$15 for students/seniors/military

plus service fee

Purchase tickets and learn more at thecoloradochoir.org



AUGUSTANAARTS



**Recordings from The Colorado Choir are available at each concert and at
thecoloradochoir.org**

THE COLORADO CHOIR, A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE – VOLUME ONE

Sixteen stunning selections from previous recordings including classic hymns and spirituals

THE COLORADO CHOIR, A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE – VOLUME TWO

Audience favorites

I CHOOSE JOY!

A Collection of 13 pieces recorded live at recent concerts. Each selection delivers a message of hope & renewal, faith & joy. Also included is a bonus track recording of "Beautiful Savior" performed in our 2016 Colorado Choir/Adams State Choir Reunion concert.

HARRY SIMEONE'S SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS

This CD is a celebration of the holiday season and includes many of our traditional Christmas songs and carols, including The *Little Drummer Boy*.

DEEP RIVER

Southern Folk Songs & Spirituals

FROSTIANA

Poetry by Robert Frost and The Colorado Choir sings Randall Thompson

SING WE MERRILY

Classic hymn arrangements

TWO FRENCH MASSES

Requiem by Durufle and Mass in G Major by Poulenc

BRAHMS

Choral works by Johannes Brahms

A GERMAN REQUIEM

A German Requiem, Opus 45 by Johannes Brahms

A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

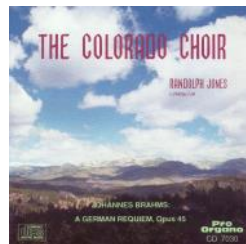
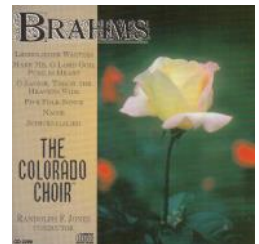
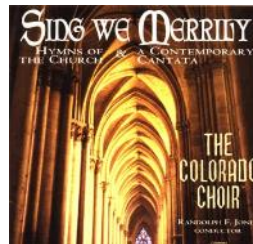
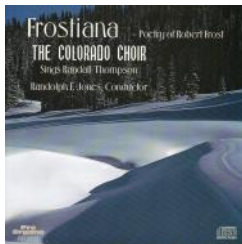
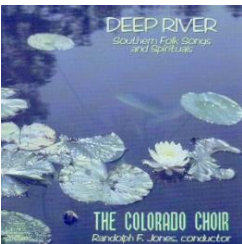
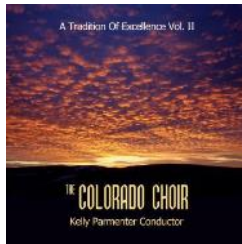
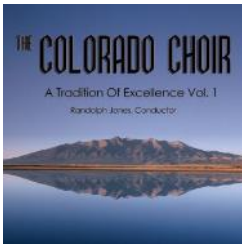
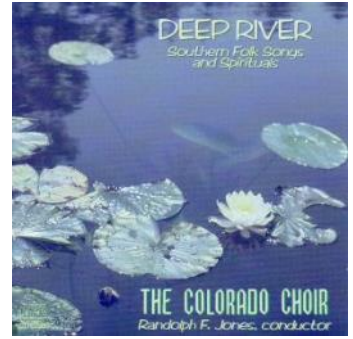
The Colorado Choir's first Christmas album

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Our second Christmas album

SOLD OUT

At this concert, we are proud to showcase Deep River, a moving collection of 22 spirituals and Southern folk songs.



thecoloradochoir.org
 P.O. Box 40837, Denver, CO 80204
 303-892-5922
 choir@thecoloradochoir.org

