

SPRING SING!



JUNE 5, 2021
4 PM - 5:30 PM

 PIEDMONT EAST BAY
CHILDREN'S CHOIR

CONCERT LIST



the Anglo-African composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor.

Making History – Singing the Earth

April 10 @ 4-5:30pm | YouTube Premiere | VIRTUAL

Join PEBCC's most advanced choral ensembles as they sing stories of the earth in a time of unprecedented change. In partnership with the Stanford Chamber Chorale, we'll present the world premiere of Kerry Andrew's *Wake Up!* – a powerful meditation on the climate crisis through the eyes of young climate activists from around the globe. We'll also celebrate songs of spring in a collaboration with Finnish youth choir Vox Aurea and medieval ensemble Yr Awen, and share gorgeous but rarely heard partsongs by

Kinder and Training Department Spring Recitals

May 8 @ 4-5pm | YouTube Premiere | VIRTUAL

Watch our Kinder and Training Department singers blossom with confidence from their year of singing in the choirs. The program features virtual choir performances from our six Kinder and Training Department ensembles. They will delight the audience with their genuine joy in singing.



Jazz and Beyond

May 22 @ 4-5pm | YouTube Premiere | VIRTUAL

Experience the remarkable individual talents of PEBCC's most mature singers in an eclectic cabaret style evening. We'll hear several original songs performed and recorded by members of Ecco under the direction of singer-songwriter Joel Chapman, alongside stunning solos from the members of Ancora and Ecco.



CONCERT LIST



Spring Sing!

June 5 @ 4-5:30pm | YouTube Premiere | VIRTUAL

The entire PEBC family joins together for this musical celebration of community. Over 200 singers from all ten of our Performing and Training Department ensembles raise their voices together – connecting us in joy and inspired community and honoring the accomplishments of the graduating class of 2021.



Because of the generosity of our patrons, PEBC is able to offer our **2020-2021 Discovering Our Voices virtual concert** season free to the public via YouTube Premiere. Your donation in any amount toward our normal ticket prices significantly offsets our production costs for our season and keeps the choir thriving during this time. Please consider donating the price of a concert ticket to the Choirs this season.

SPRING SING!

I. NEW BEGINNINGS

Ecco

Conductor, Eric Tuan

Arise, my love, my fair one Eric Tuan (b. 1990), Text Song of Solomon 2:10-13
Eric Tuan, piano and handbells

Girls Training 4

Conductor, Nancy Linfood

Goin' to Boston Trad. American Folk Song, Arr. Shirley W. McRae
Will Adams, flute; Kymry Esainko, piano

Recognition of Graduates

LEA ROSE MEISEL, 1 YEAR IN CHOIR
TALIA YOUNG SKEEN, 4 YEARS IN CHOIR

Girls Training 2

Conductor, Naomi Braun

Rise, Shine, Little Light! Trad. Spirituals, Arr. Sally K. Albrecht
Zkiyah Johnson, Paloma Martinez Muhsin, soloists;
Caroline and Molly Wolferson, descant; Matt Bourne, piano

II. OFF TO CAMP

Concert Choir

Conductor, Andrew Brown

Oh, the Summer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912), Text Isabel Ecclestone Mackay
Christine Fernandez, piano

Recognition of Graduates

JAHNAVI MUPPIRALA, 4 YEARS IN CHOIR
THOMAS CHU, 7 YEARS IN CHOIR

Kinder Choir

Conductor, Anne Daniel

The Hippo Clare Grundman (1913-1996)
from *Zoo Illogical*
Kaz Kim, piano

Training 1

Conductor, Anne Daniel

Mrs. Jenny Wren Arthur Baynon (1889-1954), Text Rodney Bennett
Kaz Kim, piano

Recognition of Graduates

ELIZABETH KIRKPATRICK FISKE, 8 YEARS IN CHOIR
OZMAR HUERTA, 8.5 YEARS IN CHOIR

SPRING SING!

Ancora

Conductor, Robert Geary

From the Green Heart of the Waters Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912), Text Stephen Phillips
from *Ulysses*
Eric Tuan, piano

Recognition of Graduates
ROXY BOSTIAN, 9.5 YEARS IN CHOIR
MIA LIM, 10 YEARS IN CHOIR

III. AWAY ON TOUR

Ensemble, Vox Aurea, and Yr Awen
Conductors, Eric Tuan and Sanna Salminen

In Vernali Tempore Piae Cantiones (1582), Hemminki Maskulainen (17th century Finnish)
Yr Awen: Pekka Toivanen, medieval harp; Heini Vesterinen, viola da gamba; Farshad Sanati, santur; Konsta Litmanen, percussion; Sanna Salminen, medieval fiddle; Minja Niiranen, vocals

Ensemble

Conductor, Eric Tuan

Kyrie Einojuhani Rautavaara (1928-2016)
from *Lapsimessu* (“Children’s Mass”)

Recognition of Graduates
MILLA MUNN, 11 YEARS IN CHOIR
SYDNEY GONG, 11 YEARS IN CHOIR

Ancora

Conductor, Robert Geary

Karjan kotiinkutsu Veljo Tormis (1930-2017), Text Kalevala, Canto 32
(“Calling Home the Cattle”) Sydney Gong, Talia Young Skeen, Emma Leibowitz,
Alexa Borden, soloists

Recognition of Graduates
SEBASTIEN COMBES, 11 YEARS IN CHOIR
OWEN KLEIN, 11.5 YEARS IN CHOIR

Boys Training 2

Conductor, Nancy Linford

Al Tambor Panamanian Folk Song, Arr. Victor C. Johnson
Dave Lazzeroni, Jan Warncke, percussion;
Christine Fernandez, piano

SPRING SING!

IV. HOMEWARD BOUND

Girls Training 3

Conductor, Elizabeth Wagman Emigh

May a Rainbow Run Mark Burrows (b. 1971), Traditional Irish Blessings

Beside You Amy Belles, piano

Concert Choir

Conductor, Andrew Brown

Lux aeterna David Briggs (b. 1962)

from *Requiem*

Will Adams, flute; Eric Tuan, organ

Recognition of Graduates

PHOEBE SCHMIDT, 12 YEARS IN CHOIR

NATALIE UNG, 12 YEARS IN CHOIR

Ecco and the Stanford Chamber Chorale

Conductors, Eric Tuan and Stephen M. Sano

Wake Up Kerry Andrew, Text Greta Thunberg, Ridhima Pandhey,

Vic Barratt, Jamie Margolin, Xiye Bastida

Recognition of Graduates

MADDY ASHBURN, 12 YEARS IN CHOIR

CATALINA ELGINSMITH, 12 YEARS IN CHOIR

AUDREY CLEVELAND, 12 YEARS IN CHOIR

Combined Choirs

Homeward Bound Marta Keen (b. 1953), Arr. Jay Althouse

Matt Bourne, piano

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Welcome to *Spring Sing!*, presented by the Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir. Today's program brings the entire choir family together, both to celebrate the musical accomplishments of our singers and to honor our graduating seniors.

This 39th season has been a year like none other. I am deeply grateful to all of you — our singers, our families, our community — for keeping the music alive during a year of loss and love, heart-break and hope. I have been so impressed by the vocal strength, confidence, and independence our singers have developed this year, guided by our resourceful conductors, collaborative pianists, voice teachers, TAs, and Zoom hosts. We will emerge on the other side having discovered our voices anew, as stronger singers and as a stronger community.

The Spring Sing is a cherished tradition for the choir. There's truly something special about watching our singers grow and develop, all the way from our youngest KinderChoir students to the remarkable young people of Ecco and Ancora. It's a concert that shows us who we have been, who we are, and who we might become.

In that spirit, this year's Spring Sing tells the story of the journey each of our singers takes through the choirs. We'll start with songs about new beginnings, explore the natural beauty of choir camp and the adventures of tour, and then return home to where we started, changed by the journey.

Eric Tuan

Artistic Director

I. New Beginnings

Our first set of songs celebrates the excitement of fresh starts and new beginnings. Ecco begins with a celebration of spring by our Artistic Director, Eric Tuan, entitled *Arise, my love, my fair one*. This joyful piece sets an evocative text from the Song of Solomon, the ancient Hebrew love poem that was later incorporated into the Tanakh. The blooming of flowers and the singing of birds became a metaphor for the budding relationship between two young lovers: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away!"

Girls Training 4 offers a rousing American folksong, *Goin' to Boston*, in an arrangement by Tennessee-based music educator Shirley W. McRae. The energetic dance is accentuated by train whistle, flute (played by choir alum Will Adams), and a sparkling piano part delivered by collaborative pianist Kymry Esainko.

We close this section of the program with Girls Training 2, who perform a medley of African-American spirituals titled *Rise, Shine, Little Light!* The medley prominently features "This Little Light of Mine," which was originally composed during the 1920s by the pastor and music teacher Harry Dixon Loes. During the 1950s, the activist and musician Zilphia Horton adapted it into one of the leading anthems of the Civil Rights movement.

PROGRAM NOTES

II. Off to Camp

One of the most cherished parts of the PEBCC experience is our annual summer camp, where we enjoy a wonderful week of singing together, working on theory and musicianship, and experiencing the great outdoors through hiking, swimming, and stargazing. The next section of our program explores the beauty of nature through song and story.

Concert Choir begins with an evocative partsong by the Anglo-African composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, one of the most celebrated composers of the Victorian era. After hearing the premiere of Coleridge-Taylor's cantata *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast* – which would come to rival Handel's *Messiah* in its popularity – the composer Sir Arthur Sullivan remarked in his diary:

Much impressed by the lad's genius. He is a composer, not a music-maker. The music is fresh and original – he has melody and harmony in abundance, and his scoring is brilliant and full of colour – at times luscious, rich and sensual.

Born in London to a Krio physician from Sierra Leone and an English mother, Coleridge-Taylor was recognized as a musical prodigy from an early age. He studied at the Royal Conservatory of Music before embarking on a career as a widely performed composer and conductor.

During his concert tours of the United States, Coleridge-Taylor became increasingly interested in his African heritage, in part due to the rapturous welcome he received from African-American audiences. His father, Daniel Taylor, was descended from the “Black Loyalists”: African-American slaves who escaped from their American masters to fight for their freedom on the British side during the Revolutionary War. Coleridge-Taylor's grandfather was among the 1200 Black Loyalists who eventually emigrated to Sierra Leone, joining a diverse, pan-African community of freed slaves. Coleridge-Taylor served as the youngest delegate at the 1900 First Pan-African Conference in London, laying the ground for correspondence and artistic collaboration with luminaries in the pan-African movement such as Paul Lawrence Dunbar and W.E.B. Du Bois. His duet *Oh, the Summer* depicts the languid beauty of a summer day, from dawn to dusk, in words by the Canadian poet Isabel Ecclestone Mackay.

KinderChoir then shares a playful description of their favorite aquatic mammal in *The Hippo*, drawn from Clare Grundman's choral suite *Zoo Illogical*. Born in Cleveland, Grundman studied with the composer Paul Hindemith before becoming renowned for his symphonic band works and film scores. In *The Hippo*, his spiky melodies playfully depict the animal as a “vision of rhythm and song.”

We then hear from the singers of Training 1, who tell the story of a tiny bird with a very big voice in *Mrs. Jenny Wren*. This delightful song was composed by Arthur Baynon, an English organist and music educator who served as organist at one of the UK's most famous musical institutions, the choir school of St Michael's College, Tenbury. The words are by Rodney Bennett, a children's book author and father to the renowned composer Sir Richard Rodney Bennett.

We return to the music of Samuel Coleridge-Taylor to close this section of our program, as Ancora shares the sirens' chorus from his incidental music to Stephen Phillips's play *Ulysses*. This dramatization of the legend of Ulysses (or Odysseus in Greek) prominently features the sirens of ancient Greek mythology, who would sing to lure sailors to shipwreck on the coastal rocks of their island. Their enchanting song is depicted in *From the Green Heart of the Waters*, as a chorus of upper voices sings to Ulysses over a rippling, watery piano accompaniment.

PROGRAM NOTES

III. Away on Tour

One of the most unique elements of the Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir is our commitment to international exchange. Every summer, the singers of Ensemble embark on an international tour, where we perform at competitions and festivals, engage in cultural exchange with choral partners from around the globe. Our singers have the opportunity to homestay with fellow singers all over the world, experiencing another culture from within, and to return the favor when their newfound friends visit us in the Bay Area for our triennial Golden Gate International Choral Festival.

PEBCC has a special relationship with choirs from the countries of Finland and Estonia, which we typically visit every five years and which are tied by deep bonds of language, culture, and history. Our next three songs all come from our exchanges with our choral partners in the region, including Vox Aurea, the Tapiola Choir, and the Estonian Television Girls' Choir.

Ensemble is honored to have a long relationship with the renowned Finnish children's choir Vox Aurea ("The Voice of Gold"); we have visited them three times in Finland, and they in turn have visited us twice in the Bay Area. During the pandemic, we decided to embark on a joint recording project together celebrating one of the monuments of Finnish musical culture: the 1582 collection of school songs, *Piae Cantiones*. This anthology features some of the greatest hits of the medieval and Renaissance period, many of which have survived as popular Christmas carols such as "Good King Wenceslas" and "Gaudete." Although the songs are a matter of great national pride for Finnish musicians, they have never before been recorded in medieval Finnish.

Vox Aurea's conductor Sanna Salminen decided to fill that gap with a joint recording project between Vox Aurea and PEBCC. First, Sanna recorded backing tracks with a wonderful band of medieval musicians playing such colorful instruments as the medieval harp, medieval fiddle, viola da gamba, santur (a type of hammered dulcimer), and percussion. Then, the singers of Vox Aurea and Ensemble recorded the vocal parts with the help of Professor Aila Mielikäinen of the University of Jyväskylä, who shared her pioneering research into the pronunciation of medieval Finnish. Finally, the singers recorded videos sharing the natural beauty of their respective communities.

This afternoon, we share the lilting melody of *In Vernali Tempore*, which offers languid depiction of spring: "the waves of the sea settle down, the rough winds calm down, the ground is wet with dew." You'll hear the gentle rippling of the santur beneath the murmuring melody of the voices.

Ensemble then shares a piece by Einojuhani Rautavaara, perhaps the leading Finnish composer of the 20th and 21st centuries. Renowned for his ability to blend modernist techniques with mystical moments of breathtaking beauty, Rautavaara taught composition at the Sibelius Academy for decades and composed prolifically across all genres. The *Lapsimessu*, or "Children's Mass," was composed for the legendary Tapiola Choir and was one of two choral works that Rautavaara submitted to a composition contest hosted by the city of Espoo. While the *Lapsimessu* won first prize, it is rarely performed today; it was quickly overshadowed by the third prize winner, Rautavaara's *Suite de Lorca*, which became one of the most popular Finnish choral works of the 20th century.

PROGRAM NOTES

The opening Kyrie of the *Lapsimessu* illustrates Rautavaara's ability to effortlessly blend seemingly academic compositional techniques, such as as invertible counterpoint, with a beguiling beauty of sound. We look forward to performing the complete work with the Oakland Symphony next spring.

Perhaps the best-loved Estonian composer of modern times is Veljo Tormis, who began his career collecting Estonian folk songs despite the disapproval of the Soviet regime. Tormis rose to prominence with his haunting settings of ancient Baltic runic songs, or *regilaul*, which seek to highlight the hypnotic and repetitive qualities of the melodies rather than conceal them. The mesmerizing soundscape of *regilaul* is on full display in Tormis's work *Karjan kotiinkutsu*, or "Calling Home the Cattle." Here Tormis sets several verses from Finland's national epic, the Kalevala, depicting a group of women calling the cattle home as the sun sets over the marshes. Four soloists call out, "Li, lo, li," as they guide the herd home with sticks of birch and juniper.

We close this set of songs from abroad with a performance from Boys Training 2, under the direction of Nancy Linford. They offer a joyful rendition of *Al Tambor*, a Panamanian folksong inviting us to come dance "to the drum of joy." The arrangement is by the Texas-based composer and music educator Victor C. Johnson, and features Teaching Assistant Jan Warncke and special guest Dave Lazzeroni on percussion, alongside Christine Fernandez on piano.

IV. Homeward Bound

The closing section of today's program, "Homeward Bound," explores the theme of returning home, whether that's a chorister coming home from their first international tour; an alum returning to the choir as a member of the faculty, staff, or board; or all of us, returning to in-person singing after many months apart.

We begin with a traditional Irish blessing sung beautifully by Girls Training 3, *May a Rainbow Run Beside You*. This gently lilting setting was composed by the Texas-based music educator and composer Mark Burrows, and showcases the singers' abilities with expressive melodic lines.

Concert Choir continues with an ethereal setting of the *Lux aeterna*, a blessing for the dead, by the English organist and composer David Briggs. One of the most internationally renowned organists working today, Briggs began his career as organ scholar at King's College, Cambridge before holding positions at the great English cathedrals in Hereford, Truro, and Gloucester. Having studied improvisation with the legendary French organist Jean Langlais, Briggs brings a uniquely French, almost impressionistic sensibility to his music. The shimmering chords and soaring vocal lines of the *Lux aeterna*, drawn from his larger-scale *Requiem*, evoke the flying buttresses of a French cathedral. Under the direction of Andrew Brown, the performance also features choir alum Will Adams on flute and our Artistic Director, Eric Tuan, on the organ.

Our singers often emerge from their choir experience with a truly global perspective and a desire to make the world a better place. After hearing about the ways our Ecco singers are confronting the climate crisis through art, activism, and action, I wanted to commission a piece for them specifically addressing this issue. Over the past year, Ecco has collaborated with our partners from the Stanford Chamber Chorale in the world premiere of a new piece by British composer Kerry Andrew. Her powerful piece *Wake Up* explores the words of young climate activists around the globe, calling the world to action to confront the climate crisis.

PROGRAM NOTES

Ecco singer Owen Klein captures the energy of the singers and music in these words:

Our planet is heading for a catastrophe. Actually, the catastrophe is happening right now. Human-induced climate change is causing seasonal wildfires on the West Coast, frequent hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, rising sea levels, ocean acidification, wildlife extinction, air pollution, and much more. Wake up! We need drastic government action to decarbonize our economy and shift to more renewable sources of energy. Do we have what it takes to save our home from ourselves?

Enter Kerry Andrew's "Wake Up," a new piece commissioned by the Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir in collaboration with the Stanford Chamber Chorale. The text of the piece is taken from leading youth climate activists, including Vic Barratt, Jamie Margolin, Greta Thunberg, Ridhima Pandey, and Xiye Bastida. There is also an expressive—yet challenging—body percussion part with claps, slaps, clicks, and stomps!

We have been honored to collaborate with the Stanford Chamber Chorale and their wonderful conductor, Professor Stephen M. Sano, on this world premiere performance. During the course of two joint retreats, Steve and his students have led sectionals for the Ecco singers and shared their perspectives on music, college life, and more. We also had the opportunity to hear from Stanford climate scientist Mike Mastandrea about how climate change is impacting California, the effectiveness of different types of responses, and his own work with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Thank you to Professor Sano, the singers of the Chorale, and Mike Mastandrea for taking part in this project with us and sharing your invaluable insights. I am also deeply grateful to Ecco's Associate Conductor and tech whiz, Joel Chapman, for crafting this powerful digital experience from our individual performances.

We conclude today's program with a Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir tradition – the 200 voices of our combined choirs singing our traditional farewell song, *Homeward Bound*. During the performance, you'll see footage from the "Graduation Caravan" we undertook in May, where Bob, Eric, and the choir staff visited all of the graduating seniors at their homes to serenade them with *Homeward Bound* and present them with their graduation photos and diplomas.

Thank you for joining us for today's *Spring Sing!* We can't wait to see you all in person as we begin to regather at choir camp this summer and at our regular rehearsals in the fall. It has been a long journey, but we are so grateful to finally be "homeward bound."

~Eric Tuan

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

I. New Beginnings

Arise, My Love, My Fair One

Eric Tuan (b. 1990)

Text: Song of Solomon 2:10-13

My beloved speaks and says to me:

Arise, my love, my fair one,

and come away;

for now the winter is past,

the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth;

the time of singing has come,

and the voice of the turtle-dove

is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,

and the vines are in blossom;

they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,

and come away.

Goin' to Boston

Traditional American folk song

Arr. Shirley W. McRae

Goodbye girls, I'm goin' to Boston, earlye in the morning.

Won't we look purty in the ballroom, earlye in the morning.

Come on girls, and let's go with them.

Won't we look purty in the ballroom, earlye in the morning.

Right and left will make it better, earlye in the morning.

Won't we look purty in the ballroom, earlye in the morning.

Swing your partner all the way to Boston, earlye in the morning.

Won't we look purty in the ballroom, earlye in the morning.

Get out the way, you'll get run over, earlye in the morning.

Won't we look purty in the ballroom, earlye in the morning.

Rise, Shine, Little Light!

Traditional African-American spirituals

Arr. Sally K. Albrecht

*Rise, shine, for the light is a-coming,
My Lord says, he's coming by-and-by.*

This is the day of Jubilee,

My Lord says he's coming.

The Lord has set his people free,

He's coming by-and-by.

This little light of mine,

I'm gonna let it shine.

Every day, every day,

I'm gonna let it shine.

I'm gonna shout and never stop,

My Lord says he's coming.

Until I reach the mountain top,

He's coming by-and-by.

II. Off to Camp

Oh, the Summer

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

Text: Isabel Ecclestone Mackay

Oh the summer, glowing, blowing,

Flowers in the sun;

Oh the warmth and sweetness, knowing

That the winter's done;

Spring is just behind us, dying,

Autumn just before, and flying,

Flying are the days -

No sighing can recall us one.

Oh, the summer, the swift breaking

Of the early dawn,

Comes the sudden sun, awaking

All it breathes upon.

Sweet the blackbird's clear calling,

Sweet, oh sweet the lark's note falling,

Thro' the blue the day installing

With the rites of song.

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

*Oh, the summer, the long fading
Of the laggard light,
Crimson gold, and purple shading
Slowly into night.
Where the earth and sky are meeting,
Day and dark exchange soft greeting,
Perfect moments, fleeting, fleeting,
Sweetest in their flight.*

The Hippo (from *Zoo Illogical*)

Clare Grundman (1913-1996)

*Hippopotamus,
Dainty hippo, lovely, delicate.
You're a vision of rhythm and song,
As you go trip-trip-trip,
Tripping-tripping-tripping
Tripping along.*

*Graceful, charming, disarming,
Oh, splendid hippo, beautiful creature!
Frolicking about our zoo!
Oh, happy hippo,
Hopping on tiptoe,
Dancing ballerina,
We love you!*

Mrs. Jenny Wren

Arthur Baynon (1889-1954)
Text: Rodney Bennett

*Mrs. Jenny Wren!
I have never, never heard
Such a very big voice
For a very tiny bird.
You sit on a post
And you sing and you sing,
You're a very bold bird
For such a tiny little thing,
Jenny Wren.*

*If I had a voice
For my size as big as yours,
I should never dare sing
Without shutting all the doors.
I'd sing very softly
For fear they should hear,
Or they'd hurry away
And put a finger in each ear,
Jenny Wren.*

From the Green Heart of the Waters (from *Ulysses*)

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)
Text: Stephen Phillips

*From the green heart of the waters,
We, old ocean's daughters,
Have floated up with mortal man to play.
Out of the deep translucent night,
Up to the purple earthly light,
To dance with creatures of a day.*

*For alas! we have seen the sailor asleep,
Where the anchor rusts on the ooze of the deep,
But never, never before
Have we seen a mortal dance on the long seashore.*

*See, see Ulysses, heavy and hire!
Sing low with downcast eyes,
For he rouses at last
And his eyes are cast
To the land where his spirit would be,
Over the violet sea.*

*Alas! for the arms that yearn,
Alas! for the eyes that burn.
Ulysses! Ah!*

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

III. Off on Tour

In Vernali Tempore

Piae Cantiones (1582)

Text: Hemminki Maskulainen (17th century Finnish)

Translation: Sanna Salminen

*In the beginning of a wonderful time,
As the agreeable weather of summer arrives,
As the cold weather is disappearing,
The skylarks are bringing a message.
The ground, the sea, the forests are all rejoicing
For the renewal of the weather.
The body's strength is reviving,
The delight of the time brings an ache to the heart.*

*The ground is bursting with the color of flowers,
The green is emerging in the forest.
The birds sing merrily,
Their voice is wonderful and clear.
The waves of the sea settle down,
The rough winds calm down,
The ground is wet with dew.
The sun drives the clouds away,
It is swelling in the sky above,
Sharing its favorable warmth.*

*O, the great goodness of the Lord,
The revealed miracles of God,
Whose gifts of grace
Fill the world.
All the dead of the earth are reviving,
The creatures are renewed in form
By the blessing of the Lord.
The work of the Lord overcomes all,
Like the day overcoming the darkness of the night,
Conquering in untold ways.*

Kyrie (from *Lapsimessu* - "Children's Mass")

Einojuhani Rautavaara (1928-2016)

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.*

Karjan kotiinkutsu ("Calling Home the Cattle")

Veljo Tormis (1930-2017)

Text: Kalevala, Canto 32; English translation by W.F. Kirby (1907)

*Tellervo, O maid of Tapio,
Little daughter of the forest,
Be the guardian of the cattle,
Do thou guard the mistress' cattle.
When the sun to rest has sunken,
And the bird of eve is singing,
Then I say unto my cattle,
Speak unto my horned creatures,
"Come ye home, ye curve-horned cattle,
Milk-dispensers to the household!"*

*In the house 'tis very pleasant,
Where the floor is nice for resting,
On the waste 'tis bad to wander,
Or upon the shore to bellow,
Therefore you should hasten homeward,
And the women fire will kindle,
In the field of honeyed grasses,
On the ground o'ergrown with berries.*

*Nyyrikki, O son of Tapio,
Blue-coat offspring of the forest!
Take the stumps of the tallest pine-trees,
And the lofty crowns of fir-trees,
For a bridge in miry places,
Where the ground is bad for walking,
Deep morass, and swampy moorland,
And the treacherous pools of water,
Let the curved-horned cattle wander,
And the split-hoofed cattle gallop,*

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

*Unto where the smoke is rising,
Free from harm, and free from danger,
Sinking not into the marshes,
Nor embogged in miry places!*

*If the cattle pay no heeding,
Nor will home return at nightfall,
Pihlajatar, little damsel,
Katajatar, fairest maiden,
Quickly cut a branch of birch-tree,
Take a rod from out the bushes,
Likewise take a whip of cherry,
and of juniper to scourge them,
From the back of Tapio's castle,
From among the slopes of alder.
Drive the herd towards the household,
At the time for bathroom-heating;
Homeward drive the household cattle,
Cows from Metsola's great forest.*

Al Tambor

Panamanian Folk Song
Arr. Victor C. Johnson

*To the drum of joy,
I want you to carry me
To the drum of joy,
María, my friend.*

IV. Homeward Bound

May a Rainbow Run Beside You

Mark Burrows (b. 1971)
Text: Traditional Irish blessings

*May love and laughter light your days
And warm your heart and home.
May good and faithful friends be yours
Wherever you may roam.*

*May a rainbow run beside you
In a sky that's always blue,
And may happiness fill your heart each day*

*And bless you your whole life through.
May peace and plenty bless your world
With joy that long endures,
May a rainbow run beside you
The best to you and yours!*

*May a rainbow run beside you
With joy that long endures.
May all life's passing seasons bring
The best to you and yours!*

May a rainbow run beside you...

Lux aeterna (from Requiem)

David Briggs (b. 1962)

*Let perpetual light shine upon them, O Lord,
with your saints for ever,
for you are merciful.*

*Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

Wake Up

Kerry Andrew (b. 1978)
Text: Greta Thunberg, Ridhima Pandhey, Vic Barratt,
Jamie Margolin, Xiye Bastida

*I was born into a world in which my future and my
past are uncertain . . . born into where my culture
and inheritance are literally slipping into the sea . . .
born into a world where my people are going extinct.
(Vic Barratt, *The Peoples' Summit on Climate and the
Rights and Human Survival*, 2019)*

*I want the entirety of congress, in fact the whole
US government to remember the fear and despair
that my generation feel every day and I want you
to hold onto it? How do even begin to convey to you
what it feels like to know that within my lifetime the
destruction that we have seen from the climate crisis
will only get worse? . . . People call my generation*

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

Generation Z, as if we are the last generation. But we are not. We are refusing to be the last letter of the alphabet.

(Jamie Margolin, *The Peoples' Summit on Climate and the Rights and Human Survival*, 2019)

Leaders, adults with power, I'm speaking you gave us no choice but to drop everything, sacrifice out time, our energy, our childhoods, stand out here in the pouring rain to organize a mass mobilization to get you guys to wake up!

(Jamie Margolin, *Youth Climate March* Sept 2018)

You have stolen my dreams. We are standing at a crossroads. This is time to wake up. I don't want your hope. I want you to panic. I want you to act as if your house is on fire.

(Greta Thunberg, from speeches at UN Climate Summit, NYC, 2019; protest march, London, 2019; Davos, 2019; Extinction Rebellion, London, 2019)

I want a better future. I want to save my future. I want to save our future.

(Ridhima Pandey)

You take care of the earth because the earth takes care of you.

(Xiye Bastida)

*Chain me not to the plow,
Set me free to find my calling
And I'll return to you somehow.*

*If you find it's me you're missing
If you're hoping I'll return,
To your thoughts I'll soon be listening,
In the road I'll stop and turn.
Then the wind will set me racing
As my journey nears its end,
And the path I'll be retracing
When I'm homeward bound again.*

*Bind me not to the pasture
Chain me not to the plow,
Set me free to find my calling
And I'll return to you somehow.*

*In the quiet misty morning
When the moon has gone to bed,
When the sparrows stop their singing
I'll be homeward bound again.*

Homeward Bound

Marta Keen (b. 1953)

Arr. Jay Althouse

*In the quiet misty morning
When the moon has gone to bed,
When the sparrows stop their singing
And the sky is clear and red,
When the summer's ceased its gleaming
When the corn is past its prime,
When adventure's lost its meaning -
I'll be homeward bound in time.
Bind me not to the pasture*

GRADUATE BIOS



MADDY ASHBURN

12 Years

Maddy joined PEBCC in the first grade. At first, choir was just another fun after school activity, a place she could sing to her heart's content. Once she joined the Training Department, choir increasingly became something more: a family of dear friends who worked hard perfecting their songs, while still having a lot of fun together. Summer camp at Walker Creek and the annual tours were the highlight of each choir year. From winning two second places in the Youth category at the International Eisteddfod in Wales to the experience of singing with a choir of 30,000 at the Laulupidu Festival of Song in Estonia, Maddy loved every moment of being on tour. She is going to miss choir greatly. Our family will be eternally grateful for the formative experience she has had with PEBCC.

Future plans: Attending UC Santa Cruz



AUDREY CLEVELAND

12 Years

Piedmont Choir has been a part of Audrey's life for as long as she can remember. After joining GTI when she was six years old and having Sue Bohlin as her first teacher, she was hooked! Singing with Piedmont Choir has been one of the most important and most constant parts of her life. Choir highlights include: touring in Wales and Cambridge, singing at Laulupidu Festival, singing at the Golden Gate Festivals, and hanging out with Bob, Sue and Eric. The travel to international countries and hosting programs were an integral part of her developing her independence and her understanding of a multicultural landscape. She is grateful for the gift of music, friendships, and exposure to other cultures and traditions.

Future Plans: Audrey will be attending UC Berkeley in the fall and she plans to study Computer Science and Applied Mathematics. She will continue singing with the Cal choir.



CATALINA ELGINSMITH

12 Years

Always an outspoken and musical child, Catalina joined the choir in first grade. She fell in love with choir from day one and called it her 'second home'. Her favorite memories include every year at camp, housing singers for Golden Gate Festival, touring with the choir, and especially the England and Wales tour and competing in the Eisteddfod competition, placing 2nd. The thrill of that trip inspired her to search outside the US for her next adventure!

Future Plans: Cat will keep playing and singing music, and is planning to study Chemistry at the University of Edinburgh.

GRADUATE BIOS



PHOEBE SCHMIDT

12 Years

As a toddler, Phoebe was always singing along to her favorite sing-a-long DVDs that she watched hundreds of times. Soon, it became obvious that she was singing more than many of the other kids around her. Luckily her good friend Natalie was similar, so when they were both 6 years old, they joined PEBCC together. This started the weekly carpool to and from Orinda, which expanded over the years as other singers from the area joined as well.

The choir gave Phoebe the opportunity to travel the world, meet her best friends, and gain many life experiences. For the past twelve years, PEBCC has allowed Phoebe to grow, and now she must say goodbye to the people who have become her second family during her time in the choir as she enters the next chapter in her life.

Future plans: This Fall Phoebe will attend the University of Michigan. Thank you Piedmont Choirs for the music, community, and love.



NATALIE UNG

12 Years

Natalie started singing before she could speak a simple sentence. The baby monitor at nap time would echo her songs just before she fell asleep and would be the first sound emerging from it when she woke up. At age 6, she and Phoebe Schmidt, another avid singer, joined the PEBCC together to have an outlet for their precocious musical debut.

From making new friendships, to finding boys and losing them, to home staying with choristers from around the world, the choir has been a journey of growing up among her peers and her conductors. Twelve years later, she finds herself saying good bye to a childhood venture that has been well lived, loved, traveled, and sung. Thank you Piedmont Choirs for the cherished memories made and the incomparable life experiences.

Sprinks!

Future plans: going to UC Davis majoring in Cognitive Sciences.



OWEN KLEIN

11.5 Years

To our surprise at the time, Owen insisted on not missing his audition for the Training Department when he was in first grade suffering from the stomach flu. 11.5 years later, after seeing his passion and dedication to the choir, it makes perfect sense. Participating in the PEBCC has been the most influential experience in Owen's life. Aside from the music training, camaraderie, staff, mentors, tours, and homestays, there were smaller pockets of development that we cherished as well. For example, learning how to write real letters to mail home from camp. We had such fun reading those over the years! The first few were mainly about homesickness, but they moved rapidly to the excitement of the schedule, the repertoire, and, of course, Sue's theory class. What an incredible journey!

Owen has especially fond memories of *Pandora's Gift* by Mark Winges, the Golden Gate Festival, and the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales.

Future Plans: In the fall, Owen plans to study music at UC Berkeley.

GRADUATE BIOS



SEBASTIEN COMBES

11 Years

Sebastien has been singing in the choirs for 11 years. He joined when he was 7 with Boys 1 under the direction of Lynn Tousey, aka Big Mama, where he had a lot of fun. Over the next eleven years he developed some his best friends. As far as tours were concerned he went to Seattle, Spain, Wales, and participated in two Golden Gate International Choral Festivals. One of Sebastien's favorite moments was walking with his friends along the different food stands at the Eisteddfodd music festival in Wales. However, he adds that tapas in Spain beat London's supermarket sandwiches.

Next year Sebastien will go to the University of Utah where he wants to major in Computer Science with an emphasis in Entertainment Arts and Engineering.



SYDNEY GONG

11 Years

Sydney auditioned for Piedmont Choir at age 7 when she heard there was an ice cream social. During the next 11 years, Sydney's interest grew into a love for singing, a passion for travel, and a deep connection with the Piedmont Choir family. Sydney worked her way up from GT2 and eventually to Ancora. The choir experience enriched her life in many ways. In addition to developing the skill of singing, Sydney learned teamwork and leadership, experienced other cultures through immersive home stays and enabled Sydney to sample foods from all over the world, contributing to Sydney's "foodie" tendencies. From jumping into a carpool to practice, then driving to practice when she turned 16, Sydney eagerly attended rehearsals and made friendships that will last a lifetime. Sydney's experience at the Piedmont choir inspired her to write about how

different foods and music from all over the world serve as a form of global communication. Piedmont choir contributed to making Sydney who she is today - a well rounded and balanced citizen of the world.

Sydney plans to attend the University of Michigan in the fall.



MILLA MUNN

11 Years

From her early days in the training department through Ancora and Ecco, choir has been an integral part of Milla's life since age 6. Her experiences have taught her invaluable life lessons and provided abundant learning opportunities. Milla has performed dozens of times in venues all around the world. She's performed alongside numerous artists and participated in Laulupidu, one of the world's largest choir performances with over 30,000 participants on stage at once. Milla's choir adventures have taken her all around the Bay Area and to England, Wales, Denmark, Germany, Estonia and Finland. Although her performances were all special, it is the relationships she developed in choir that she'll cherish for life. Milla has enjoyed every moment of her 11 years in the Piedmont Choir family.

Future plans: Milla will be attending Santa Monica College in the Fall and intends to graduate from UCLA.

GRADUATE BIOS



MIA LIM

10 Years

Michaela Lim has been in choir since training department for the past 10 years. Mia chose to be in choir after watching her older sister do a year of training choir. Since that time she has grown musically in voice and theory and has attended camp a number of years. Her first tour was a domestic tour to Seattle Washington. She has since been able to travel internationally to Germany, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, UK and Wales. She hopes to extend her international experiences while in college. Mia is graduating from Miramonte High school in Orinda where she also did a short stint at their High School Choir. Mia has also represented her cultural heritage and Choctaw tribe by becoming Okla Chahta Junior princess in which she sang the Choctaw Hymn “The Believer” as part of her talent portion in Choctaw.

Mia’s future plans are to attend UC Santa Cruz.



ROXY BOSTIAN

9.5 Years

When Roxy was in third grade, she spent the better part of two days singing loudly and earnestly in the tiled bathroom, determined to match the voice she heard in her head with the sound coming out of the mouth. When that didn’t work, the next stop was choir.

Roxy began choir in spring 2012: she lived ten minutes drive away and attended rehearsals with her sister, Amalia. As she grew older, she moved farther away, but the gravitational pull of choir – and the friends and mentors waiting for her – grew stronger. For the past 5 years, Roxy has commuted from Marin County, and every mile and hour in the car has been worth it – because, as she said after a choir rehearsal years ago, singing is the closest feeling she can imagine to flying.

To take that feeling further, singing with 30,000 people on the Laulupidu stage in Tallinn was the highlight of her years in choir. She will always remember the joy and freedom she felt surrounded by so many others who shared her love of singing.

Next year, Roxy will be attending the University of California, Berkeley, on a pre-med track, majoring in cell and molecular biology and, of course, she’ll keep singing!



OZMAR HUERTA

8.5 Years

Ozmar still remembers his very first day of the choir. He remembers how scared he felt. He was alone, without friends, and scared to talk to any of the other BT2 boys who all seemed to know each other. He recalls feeling although he was isolated and out of place, contemplating quitting choir before his first rehearsal was even up. When, out of nowhere, two boys approached him and asked three words that would change his life forever: “wanna play tag”.

After that first BT2 practice, when he walked into the car after rehearsal he decided he would stay in the choir as long as he could. He was mesmerized by the music, fascinated by the sound of a choir, and excited to become a member of this family he felt he now had. Ozmar has had the unique opportunity to grow alongside his “family” whilst singing throughout the world. From the practice rooms of Piedmont High School to the halls of ancient English cathedrals to the stage of the largest

GRADUATE BIOS

choral gathering in the world, the Laulupidu. He has created powerful memories that have defined him as a person and profoundly changed his worldview. Memories, family, and friends to last a lifetime.

Future Plans: Ozmar will attend The George Washington University in Washington D.C. in the fall where he plans to study Political Science and International Affairs.



ELIZABETH KIRKPATRICK FISKE

8 Years

Singing has always been a deep source of joy and release for Elizabeth. Her journey with PEBCC began in fifth grade with our babysitter and choir alum Toni Calabrese's serendipitous suggestion that she and her younger sister Alexandra audition. Elizabeth transferred her love of musical performance to choral singing.

Choir highlights include tours in Europe and the Baltic States, summers at choir camp, meeting composers, performing world premieres, eating crackers, singing in many languages, and expanding her sense of family with her choir community both in PEBCC and internationally.

Unforgettable performances include 2016 West Edge Opera's *La Bohème* with TD singers, 2017 Eisteddfod competition, 2018 Golden Gate Festival, and singing with 30,000 choristers in an outdoor bandshell in the 2019 Laulupidu 150th Estonian Song Festival.

Elizabeth appreciates the excellent training and work ethic she received from her dynamic and supportive conductors, and has grown with her fellow choristers in their discipline and joy in mastering musicianship and challenging music to bring song to life. We are grateful for the wonderful music education she has received, friendships she has made, and how singing has become part of her personality as she sings all over the house with Alexandra.

Through music Elizabeth has learned about the world, herself, and became more connected with her emotions. She looks forward to continuing to develop her love of choral music and community while in college and throughout her adult life.

Future Plans: Elizabeth will be attending UC Berkeley to pursue her interests in philosophy and data/computer science. As technology grows increasingly complex and pervasive, she is interested in exploring ethical boundaries of using artificial intelligence and investigating ideas of consciousness.



THOMAS CHU

7 Years

Thomas Chu discovered his love of singing in elementary school, when he would randomly burst into song while walking around his house. At first, his parents were annoyed by this, but soon decided to channel his love for singing into the choir. They signed him up for the training department during 6th grade (he now regrets not joining the choir earlier). Thomas has loved his time singing with the PEBCC and it's been a huge part of his life since joining.

Future Plans: attending UCLA to major in Electrical Engineering.

GRADUATE BIOS



JAHNAVI MUPPIRALA

4 Years

Jahnavi began her vocal adventures at a young age by training in Indian classical music. She developed her love for choir music during her middle school years in Boston. Her beloved music teacher recommended PEBCC when we moved to California, and we still remember the day we almost missed her audition with Sue! She will cherish the time she has spent with the Ecco family where she has been surrounded by incredible talent and has blossomed under Eric and Joel's coaching. Amazing friends and fond memories from the weekly classes, camps, Jazz and Beyond concerts, Golden Gate Festival, and performance at California Choral Directors' Association State Convention in San Jose are some of the highlights of her time with the choir.

She is very grateful for an enriching musical journey during these past 4 years.

Future plans: Jahnavi will be attending University of Chicago this fall to explore her multidisciplinary interests.



TALIA YOUNG-SKEEN

4 Years

Talia has been singing since she was a baby, and remembers joining chorus in preschool. After experiencing many different choirs and ensembles, she finally found her home at Piedmont Choirs in 2017, where she joined Ensemble to travel internationally for the first time. She is currently an avid member of Ecco and Ancora, and also loves to work as a teaching assistant for GT3. Talia is incredibly thankful that she has become a part of this amazing community and has made so many great connections with wonderful friends and musicians alike. She hopes to continue contributing to the choir in as many ways as she can while pursuing higher education, and aspires one day to become a tour chaperone and perhaps revisit Estonia during the Laulupidu.

Future Plans: Talia will attend UC Berkeley and major in STEM while continuing her studies as a vocalist.



LEA ROSE MEISEL

1 Year with Ecco

Lea has been singing and harmonizing since she was a baby- with her rendition of "Old Mac Donald" still sung in our family ("Old MacDonald had a farm, Lea, Lea Rose"). She has sung in different musical theater groups and school choirs in Southern California. When she moved to the bay area, it took awhile to find Ecco, and she is so glad she did. She has loved her time exploring new music and expanding her horizons with great singers and leadership.

Future plans: CSU Humboldt to study the sciences, and to keep singing!

WELCOME TO OUR SPRING SEASON CONCERTS



How can I keep from singing?

The question posed by this beautiful American folksong has followed me ever since I first learned it as a young chorister. It turns out that, in truth, we humans simply cannot keep from singing. A recent study from Harvard University's Music Lab concluded that vocal music is a cross-cultural universal, as much a biological imperative as language. Lifting our voices together in song is part of who we are as a species.

That simple truth has become crystal clear over the course of the past year. Even as the pandemic has turned so much of our lives upside down, it has not dampened our community's deep need to sing. Over Zoom and Jamulus, through video recordings and virtual concerts, I am so proud of the way our singers, families, faculty, and staff have kept our passion for music alive and undimmed. I am delighted to share the fruit of their efforts during this spring season of virtual concerts.

As Earth Day approaches, we'll sing stories of the earth during a time of unprecedented change in ***Making History: Singing the Earth***. Our singers join the Stanford University Chamber Chorale to amplify the voices of youth climate activists in the world premiere of Kerry Andrew's powerful *Wake Up*. We'll also hear songs of springtime performed in collaboration with renowned Finnish children's choir Vox Aurea, and share the world premiere recordings of three works by the Anglo-African composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor.

In May, we'll hear the joyous voices of our youngest singers in our ***Kinder and Training Department Recital***. (You'll see what I mean when you see the videos!). Our oldest singers will showcase their solo chops at ***Jazz & Beyond***, featuring original songs and solo performances by members of Ecco and Ancora. Finally, we'll bring together the entire choir community at our annual ***Spring Sing!*** to share our artistry with one another and celebrate the accomplishments of the PEBCC Class of 2021.

*My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
How can I keep from singing?*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Tuan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Eric Tuan

Artistic Director

WELCOME TO OUR SPRING SEASON CONCERTS



As much as music has shaped my life and worked as a healing force and one of solace, I never made a pandemic playlist. I guess lately I've been more focused on the anticipation found in measures of rest – the music still present and inherent in the silence. As we look ahead, the anticipation of hearing melodies and harmonies is growing stronger. I can't wait until I can meet and listen to you all in person for the first time as part of this organization.

Shared songs and connected voices transform our lives, become the soundtrack for bonded experiences, and create change in our world – even more so when approached with great respect for the artists and culture bearers whose traditions we study and present. Those experiences become windows to our world – especially now. When those windows open, the authenticity with which we approach our learning creates deeper bridges to understanding and advocating for one another.

What I love about choral music is the power to connect and honor people's lived experiences. Conducting gospel music in my late 20s and early 30s to children who had grown up singing in Black churches on Chicago's West side, it was clear they were teaching me and trusting me to honor their lived experience. To this day, the wall of sound that washed over me in that school auditorium each week is something that I can feel in my bones. It is a part of them, and in sharing it so openly and authentically, they made it a part of me.

This is what I am coming to love most about OUR choirs and what you will continue to see in the spring programming. We're lifting up voices of the past like Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, supporting our commitment to the Black Voices Matter pledge, and premiering new works like Kerry Andrew's *Wake Up* to educate about climate change. Our collaboration with Vox Aurea sparks deeper friendships and fosters cultural curiosity and a more complete understanding of our place as global citizens. Through these and other efforts, we reflect and fight for the world we wish to see.

PEBCC traditions also create a sense of belonging. As a newcomer to the team, the process of learning the soprano part to *Homeward Bound* to be ready for the graduate car caravan is connecting me to the choirs in a way no meetings, Zoom gatherings, or virtual concerts ever can. I'm proud of our team, honored to be a part of it, and hope you all enjoy our singers' continued creativity and inspiring performances.

In harmony,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keri Butkevich". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Keri Butkevich
Executive Director

SINGERS

Kinder Choir A

Isla Cvet
Yamuna DeFries
Diana Hernandez
Matilda McClune
Joella Petreas
Nora Venner
Zach Venner
August Wolferson
Jillian Xu

Kinder Choir B

Ilsa DeLand
Isabelle Haratani
Lucca Harman
Clio Khatri
Ava Ixchel Larrimore Zuno
Adelyn Massey
Indigo Miano
Isabella Renaud
Sejal Rout
Kailash Saroya

Primary Training

Emmy Campbell
Sidney Daggs
Madison Gavin
Hayley Hannesdottir
Jasmin Hernandez
Russel Page

Training 1

Charlotte Creek
Ginevra Deming
Liam Djordjevic
Eva Do
Madeleine Doan
Cora Hart
Nora Hinton
Anika Holderfield
Marie Hosemann
Saskia Kwiram
Chloe Lee
Kathleen Lynch
Charlotte Massey
Clara Paul
Samar Rao-Sarathy

Giselle Rostran
Irene Rust

Girls Training 2

Roya Agarwal
Sofia Caminos
Amelia Chang
Layla Gomez Williams
Ruby Hetteema
Xochitl Jaramillo
Serene Jefferson
Zkiyah Johnson
Kaeley Johnston
Tsumugi Kawamoto
Piper Kokoefer
Paloma Martinez Muhsin
Ember McCall
Seneca Miano
Madeline Swanson-Hysell
Molly Wolferson
Caroline Wolferson

Girls Training 3

Nora Bell
Susannah Cantrill
Madison Chang
Amara Clark
Emiko Critchlow
Cara Impallomeni
Mignon Johnson
Zindzi Kaplan Rasheed
Chloe Krumboltz
Eloise Malick
Sophi Ouyang
Alice Paul
Josephina Renaud

Girls Training 4

Laura Caceres Spears
Anjali Falbo-Nicosia
Kora Fletcher
Courtney Joe
Ayla Montanez
Ainsley Mullane
Murielle Vance
Alexandria Wilson

Boys Training 2

Nicolas Adams
Daniel Hinton
Andrew Lim
Rafael Rajan
Felix Sudat
Bryan Wade

Concert Choir

Rae Barker
Cassidy Carter
Gemma Chin
Elana Cortes
Claire Davison
Aiden Emigh
Stella Esainko
Bailey Estrella Kowal
Ilana Eustace-Shoham
Daniel Greenberg
James Hetteema
Sarah Khan-Akselrod
Keanna Koehler
Scarlett Lang
Marguerite Laub
Keira Lee
Juliet Malick
Maeve McMullen
Allison Newman
Ryan Newman
Lola Olsen
Georgia Orcharton
Mirella Piccolboni
Michael Sidbury
Lurna Sudat
Edith Tamarkin Goble
Ava Tarapore
Tanya Thanos
Imogen Wade

Ensemble

Sofia Abee
Elizabeth Barr
Amba Beattie
Eva Beck-Ruiz
Lauren Brenner
Lillianne Byers
Jasmine Cazier

SINGERS

Cassandra Colby
Miranda Couch
Julianne Crossland
Kassandra Dagnese
Larissa Edel
Sierra Elginsmith
Eliana Goldstein
Ernie Goux King
Kiera Gray
Lillian Greenberg
Lucy Henrich
Cooper Heyman
Genevieve Hiller
Makenna Hillyard
Maya Huffaker
Cayden Kurio
Karina Lawler
Arcadia Li
Melina Markowitz
Sophia Meisel
Veda Pao-Ziegler
Taryn Rakowski
Dahlia Saffouri
Kailamae Sands
Sophie Santander
Margot Saulnier
Olivia Shoji
Nika Spalaris
Sarah Sullivan
Oona Swartz
Mei Takeuchi
Sarah Turley
Eliza Van de Water
Victoria Van Gelder
Naomi Walker
Clare Weiss
Ryo Woltag
Lilah Young

Ecco

Madeline Ashburn
Mia Atkinson
Erin Bartholomew
Alexander Beck-Ruiz
Alexa Borden
Roxanne Bostian
Thomas Chu
Audrey Cleveland
Benjamin Colby
Sebastien Combes
Nhelete Donovan
Catalina Elginsmith
Kai Estrella Kowal
Elizabeth Fiske
Alexandra Fiske
Cole Garcia
Ava Golden
John Gross-Whitaker
Alec Home
Ozmar Huerta
Philippa Kennedy
Anna Klein
Owen Klein
Juliana Lai
Michaela Lim
Julia Manese
Alisia Marques
Scott McKenzie
Lea Meisel
Lucia Moratinos-Chu
George Mouratoff
Quincy Munyan
Jahnvi Muppirala
Gabriela Navarro Moynihan
Ruth Radwin
Anni Robinson

Khoa Sands
Phoebe Schmidt
Malia Stone
Helena Suarez-Kaminska
Henry Sullivan
Aiden Thornburg
Natalie Ung
Alec Westland- Hurwitz
Peyton Worthington
Talia Young Skeen
Liam Young Skeen

Ancora

Madeline Ashburn
Mia Atkinson
Gulzar Attari
Erin Bartholomew
Alexa Borden
Roxanne Bostian
Nhelete Donovan
Alexandra Fiske
Elizabeth Fiske
Sydney Gong
Kimiye Hendee
Anna Klein
Emma Leibowitz
Michaela Lim
Milla Munn
Zia Pao-Ziegler
Ruth Radwin
Anni Robinson
Phoebe Schmidt
Talia Young Skeen

FACULTY



ERIC TUAN

Artistic Director, Ensemble and Ecco Conductor

An alum and longtime faculty member of PEBCC, Eric began as Artistic Director of the organization in July 2019. Tuan currently serves as the founding Artistic Director of the chamber chorus Convivium, and as Director of Music at Christ Episcopal Church, Los Altos. In addition to his work as a professional singer, keyboardist, and composer, his choral music has been widely performed throughout the United States and Europe. Tuan received his Master of Music degree at the University of Cambridge with the support of a Gates Cambridge Scholarship, and his undergraduate degree from Stanford University.

KERI BUTKEVICH

Executive Director

Keri has served music education organizations in the Executive Director role since 2008, most recently with the Oakland Youth Chorus. She holds a Masters of Music in Voice from San Jose State University and a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and Acting Specialist Certificate from University of Wisconsin, Madison. During over 30 years as an arts educator, she has taught with Chicago Children's Choir, Chicago Opera Theater, Merit School of Music, Community School of Music and Art, Young Audiences, Cantabile Youth Singers, and Music in Schools Today. Over more than a decade of executive leadership, she spearheaded programs impacting 50 Bay Area schools and shepherded organizations through transformative change. Keri is a proud member of Oakland Rotary #3, Association of Fundraising Professionals, and volunteers with West Coast Boxer Rescue.



CONDUCTORS AND ASSOCIATES



ANDREW BROWN

Conductor, Concert Choir

Andrew, leading Kodály-based choral and instrumental conductor, thrives on building musical artistry with young musicians. Currently, in his 10th season as conductor of PEBCC's Concert Choir, he has expanded the choirs' scope and vision leading to collaborations and performances in Bizet's Carmen, Orff's Carmina Burana, Mendelssohn's Elijah and Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker. Brown is also Director of Choral Studies with the Pacific Boychoir Academy conducting the Troubadors in over thirty performances a year. Additionally, he has also served as Artistic Director of the 101-year-old Vallejo Choral Society.

FACULTY



NAOMI BRAUN

Kinder & Training Department Director, Conductor Girls Training 2

Naomi has been the conductor of GT2 since 1995 and worked on the camp staff from 1992-1996. She taught music to children in kindergarten through eighth grade in SF and the East Bay. Ms. Braun is the alto section leader at St Bede's Episcopal Church in Menlo Park and has sung professionally with Volti, Philharmonia Baroque Chorale, Berkeley Opera, George Coates Performance Works, the SF Chamber Orchestra, Pocket Opera, American Bach Soloists, West Edge Opera, SF Renaissance Voices and the San Francisco Opera Chorus.

SUE BOHLIN

Associate Conductor, Performing Department, and Collaborative Pianist

Sue joined our staff in 1984 and is a recipient of PEBCC's Founders Award. A collaborative pianist, conductor, & producer, she works with choirs, orchestras, schools, recording studios, professional theater, opera, multimedia companies and conducts a choir in Gualala. Her music, published by Santa Barbara Music Publishers and Alliance Music, includes "In Anchor Bay", a piece she composed for the children's choir she led from 2004-2013. Sue graduated from the Conservatory at UOP, attended Holy Names Univ. for solfeggio, & studies at Berkeley Jazzschool.



JOEL CHAPMAN

Ecco Associate Conductor

Joel is a conductor, bass- baritone, and songwriter in the Bay Area. He sings professionally with Volti, an SF-based ensemble that performs and animates completely new works, as well as Endersnight, a choir specializing in Renaissance music. Joel is co-creator of Gravity, a New(tonian) Musical. He has a B.A. in Music—vocal performance and conducting—and an M.A. in Music, Science, & Technology from Stanford.

ANNE DANIEL

Conductor PreKinderChoir, KinderChoir and Training 1

Anne holds a Master's Degree in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, where she sang choral and operatic works under distinguished conductors such as Riccardo Muti, Zubin Mehta, and Kurt Masur. Prior to moving to Oakland, Anne sang chorus, comprimario, and cover roles for Opera San José and worked for Vivace Youth Chorus. Ms. Daniel has been teaching voice and piano for over 25 years and delights in working with students of all ages.



FACULTY



ELIZABETH WAGMAN EMIGH

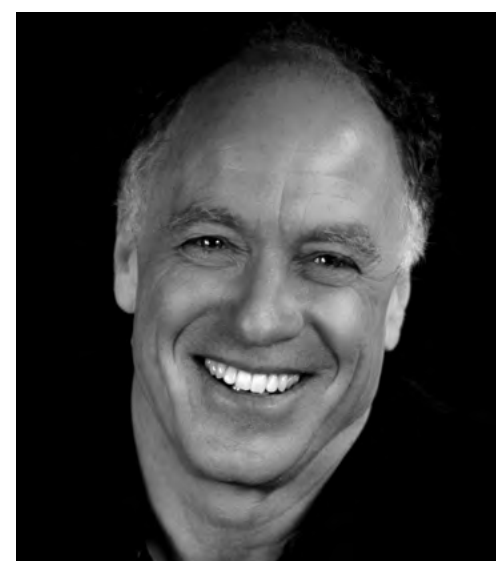
Conductor Girls Training 3, Vocal Pedagogy

Liz holds a Master's Degree from the San Francisco Conservatory in vocal performance. She teaches voice classes at Diablo Valley College, maintains a private voice studio in Oakland, and has been Director of Choirs at Clayton Valley Charter High School in Concord for the past twenty years. Elizabeth received her music teaching credential from Chapman University and her Kodaly music education certification from Holy Names University. She is a current member of the SF Symphony Chorus.

ROBERT GEARY

Artistic Director Emeritus, Conductor Ancora

As founding Artistic Director, Maestro Bob Geary has put the Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir in the musical vanguard. Under his direction, PEBCC has won awards nationally and internationally, including multiple ASCAP awards and top honors in competitions in Canada, Poland, Austria, Italy, Hong Kong, Russia, Germany, Slovakia, and the United States. With Susan Rahl, he also founded the triennial Golden Gate International Children's and Youth Choral Festival in 1991. Since 1979 Geary has also served as founding Artistic Director of Volti, a professional new music vocal ensemble, and since 1995, as Artistic Director of the San Francisco Choral Society.



NANCY LINFORD

Conductor Girls Training 4, Boys Training 2

Nancy brings a lifelong love of singing and an especial fondness for children's voices to the Choirs. A Bay Area native, she has enjoyed witnessing and being a part of the growth of the Choirs providing opportunities for children that she would have relished as a child. Her training includes a Master's in Kodály music teaching, a K-12 music credential and Orff certification. Currently, she teaches K-3 music at her local school in Albany.

TIM SILVA

Concert Choir Assistant Conductor, Vocal Pedagogy, and Theory Teacher

Tim is an active performer, director, and teacher. For the past ten years, he has served many programs around the bay, from children's theater to high school choirs, and spent seven years as the music teacher for St. Leander School. He earned a B.A. in Music Education and Composition from UCLA, and also trained at the Boston Conservatory and Holy Names University. He has recorded and performed with many Bay Area ensembles, including Gaude, San Francisco Symphony Chorus, and Volti.



FACULTY



KATRINA TURMAN

Ensemble Associate Conductor

Katrina is a native of California and an alumnus of the Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir, where she began singing at age five. Katrina holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Oregon, a Kodály Certification with a focus on Advanced Choral Conducting from the Kodály Institute in Hungary, and will be completing a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from University of Washington this spring under the tutelage of Dr. Geoffrey Boers and Dr. Giselle Wyers. As of summer 2021, Katrina will be stepping into her new role as the Artistic Director of Columbia Choirs of Metropolitan Seattle.

COLLABORATIVE PIANISTS

AMY BELLES

Collaborative Pianist

Amy joined the UC Berkeley staff in 2018, having worked on the CSU East Bay staff under Dr. Buddy James 2012-17. Her choral accompanying includes work with Cantare Con Vivo, Cantabile Youth Singers, Oakland Symphony Chorus, Voci women's ensemble, and the Mt. Eden and Monte Vista High School choirs; she has also vocal directed for Woodminster Amphitheater. Favorite performances include Schumann's Symphonic Etudes and accompanying in Davies Symphony Hall. She studied piano privately at the post-graduate level with Zita Sandor.



MATT BOURNE

Collaborative Pianist

Matt is a pianist who performs and accompanies vocalists and choral groups all around the Bay Area. He is a musical director and conductor for musical theatre productions at many local companies. He is the staff accompanist for Campolindo High School, pianist at First United Methodist Church of Hayward, a piano teacher, and a composer. He is a Bay Area native and a graduate of the music program at UCLA.

FACULTY



KYMRY ESAINKO

Collaborative Pianist

Kymry is the principal pianist for the Santa Rosa Symphony and accompanist for the Oakland Symphony Chorus, Pacific Edge Voices, and the choral program at Head-Royce School. Accomplished chamber music and jazz pianist, he has worked with artists as varied as vocalist Ute Lemper, cellist Johannes Moser, Dave Brubeck, Bobby McFerrin, Meredith Monk, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Sufjan Stevens, and Club Foot Orchestra. He holds degrees in American history and piano performance from Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music.

CHRISTINE FERNANDEZ

Collaborative Pianist

Christine grew up playing piano based on a strong foundation through the Suzuki Method. She's won in various venues such as East Bay Music Festival, MTAC Alameda County Branch Memorial Scholarship Foundation Auditions, Holy Names University Concerto Competition, Palo Alto Philharmonic Concerto Competition, and subsequently performed with Berkeley Youth Orchestra, Holy Names University Orchestra, and Palo Alto Philharmonic Orchestra. She holds a BA in Piano Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.



KAZ KIM

Collaborative Pianist, Teaching Assistant

Kaz began playing the piano as a preschooler. After studying at the Juilliard Pre-College Division as a teenager, she moved west to attend UC Berkeley where she double-majored in Cognitive Science and Music (focus on Composition). Before becoming a parent, she worked at Warner Bros. Television selecting music for TV shows and movies while moonlighting as a keyboardist in a rock band. She is delighted to play more piano while her children joyfully sing with PEBCC.

FACULTY

VOCAL PEDAGOGY



TERESA CARDINALE

Vocal Pedagogy

Theresa holds a Master's degree in Vocal Pedagogy from Holy Names University in Oakland. These intense studies trained her in numerous and current approaches for working with each individual voice. She is sensitive and astute in assessing the varying needs of the people who come to her for vocal training.

Theresa has worked with many high school students from the Piedmont East Bay Childrens Choirs, Head Royce School, Musically Minded Academy and College Preparatory schools. Theresa leads vocal workshops and master classes with community choruses and church choirs and has been an adjudicator for vocal competitions and scholarship auditions many times.

SHAUNA FALLIHEE

Vocal Pedagogy

Shauna Fallihee has the pleasure of serving Bay Area singers and audiences as a voice and movement educator and active performer. Shauna has been featured with numerous Bay Area ensembles including San Francisco Choral Society, Masterworks Chorale, San Francisco Composers Chamber Orchestra, Open Opera, West Bay Opera and the Old St. Mary's Cathedral Noontime Concert Series. Deeply dedicated to the performance of new music, Shauna has performed world premieres and contemporary works with Empyrean Ensemble, Facing West Shadow Theater, NothingSet Ensemble, San Francisco Composers Chamber Orchestra, Opus Project, Wild Rumpus, Ensemble Mik Nawooj, Stanford Laptop Orchestra and enjoyed a decade with new music chamber choir Volti.



Shauna has taught for numerous college and high school voice and choral programs and is presently on the voice faculty at Holy Names University, City College San Francisco, and maintains a large private voice studio. She is a Master Teacher Trainer for The Dailey Method, an alignment-focused Barre and Cycle fitness program. Shauna's own unique program Embodied Singer integrates movement, myofascial release, meditation, and traditional vocal pedagogy. www.embodiedsinger.com

FACULTY



AUDREY HOWITT

Vocal Pedagogy

Audrey teaches voice in the San Francisco Bay Area and has been an associated voice teacher with several award winning choirs including Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir under the baton of Robert Geary, the Young Women's Choral Project of San Francisco under the direction of acclaimed director Susan McMane, the Head Royce School under the tutelage of Robert Wells, and the San Francisco Girls Chorus.

She has sung with San Francisco Symphony Chorus under the direction of both Vance George and Ragnar Bohlin. Ms. Howitt has also sung with the San Francisco Chamber Singers (now Volti) under the direction of Robert Geary. She has appeared in opera and musical theatre roles, covering both the mezzo-soprano and the soprano repertoire.

She holds a master's degree in music from Holy Names University and is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She maintains a private studio in Alameda. divalounger@gmail.com

CLARISSA LYONS

Vocal Pedagogy

Soprano Clarissa Lyons has worked with PEBCC since 2005, acting as a counselor, voice teacher, and pedagogy advisor. After graduating from UC Berkeley, she received master's degrees from the Manhattan School of Music and Bard College Conservatory. A graduate of The Metropolitan Opera Lindemann Young Artist Program, she has also sung with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, Wolf Trap Opera, and Mark Morris Dance Group. She has appeared as a recitalist at Carnegie Hall, the Park Avenue Armory, Carmel's Sunset Center, Berkeley's Hertz Hall, and Opera America's National Opera Center. Clarissa maintains a private voice studio and resides in the East Bay with her husband, PEBCC alum John Shumway, their daughter Fiona, and rescue basset hound mix Lennie.



COURTNEE RHONE

Vocal Pedagogy

Courtnee graduated from Dillard University in New Orleans, LA with a Bachelors in Vocal Performance. She is a graduate of California State University East Bay where she pursued her master's degree in Music. She began teaching at the Louisiana Academy of Performing Arts in 2008. When she moved to California, she continued teaching students around the Bay Area. She enjoys working with children of all age groups that have a love for music.



She has performed with several concert choirs around the Bay Area and had roles with opera companies such as Verismo Opera and Golden Gate Opera.

Furthermore, she participated with the Franco-American Vocal Academy in Angers, France in 2017. Courtnee also won 2nd place in the National Association of Teachers of Singing competition, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter in 2017. It is important to her to pass down the knowledge and skills that she has been taught, allowing her students to succeed while having fun.

FACULTY



LUCIA SCARDIGNO

Vocal Pedagogy

Lucia has been seen with opera companies throughout Northern California performing the title roles of Madama Butterfly, Turandot, Aida, Suor Angelica, as well as Leonora in “Il Trovatore”, Santuzza (Cavalleria Rusticana) and Amelia in “Masked Ball”, among others. She has performed under such batons as those of Hugo Rinaldi of Marin Opera and Maestro Coradetti (a protégé of Toscanini). Favorite musical theatre roles include the Mother Abbess in “The Sound of Music” and Lady Thiang in “The King and I” with the Willows Theatre Company, and the fun role of the music teacher in “On the Town.” Other credits include voice over work for film and radio, opera cabaret, and singing telegrams, and recital and oratorio work. Ms. Scardigno has been teaching voice for over 28 years. Her students have performed in concert halls in Europe, on Broadway and in Broadway touring companies, Disney Cruise ships, at Juilliard, and even Motley Crue concerts!

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This Donor Roll will continuously be updated throughout the 2020-21 Concert Season.

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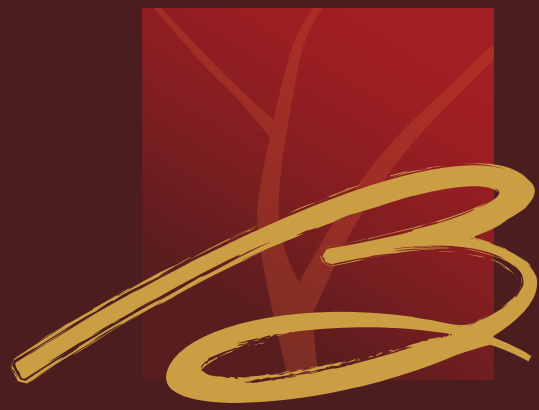
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