

FINDING US



BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH SONGS AND STORIES

SATURDAY, JUNE 14 AT 4PM

**SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

**7600 HAROLD AVE
GOLDEN VALLEY, MN**

**TICKETS:
\$20 SUGGESTED DONATION**

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on the ancestral and current homelands of the Dakota people who have resided here for many centuries. The Dakota were subject to atrocities of the U.S. government which attempted to eradicate indigenous peoples as their lands were stolen. This is where we live today, and we encourage our audience to contemplate ways to stand in solidarity with indigenous peoples, such as by staying informed about the lasting effects of this history, supporting Native-led organizations, and seeking further resources.

To learn more, please refer to this list of Native organizations in the Twin Cities:
Minneapolis Native American Organizations & Resources

<https://www.minneapolis.org/native-american-community/organizations-resources/>

Remembering Andi

This season we had to say goodbye to a member of our Calliope family. On March 22, Andria (Andi) Gallegos passed away from breast cancer. Andi was a member of the Alto 1 section, and served on the music committee. Andi was part of the small group that curated the musical selections you are hearing today. We will cherish the rehearsals, concerts, and retreats that we had with Andi, and her memory will forever live on. Deep peace to you, Andi. Deep peace.



Looking for ways to get involved in local community?

We are stronger together! Our members encourage our audience to support or follow the work of these local organizations we have compiled on this page:

Local Orgs and Resources



Calliope Members

Calliope Women's Chorus Leadership 2024-2025

Klo Vivienne Garoute, Artistic
Director
Michelle Rademacher, Associate
Director & Piano Accompanist
Maddy Hull, President
Kristine Becker, Vice-President
Laurel Rand-Lewis, Secretary
Catherine Kirkpatrick, Treasurer

At-large Board Members

LeeAnn Bera
Jennifer Horton
Anita Oakman
Sammantha Winchester
Anna Bergstrom

Soprano 1

Alyssa Oakman
Anna Hammell
Anne Briggs
Belle Wanke**^
Estelle Bayer^
Jess Jade
Katie Kaufmann
Katie Morris
Kelly Raymond**
Laurel Rand-Lewis*^
Marissa Bauer
Sabrina Keller

Soprano 2

Amanda Holt^
Anita Oakman^
Angela Edwards
Bridget Ravis-Hart
Cleo Straw**
Diamond Pouliot
Grace Henry
Hunter Wengersky^
Jane Sturges^
Jennifer Horton*^
Julia Volker
Kallan Mercier
Maddy Hull^
Mags Mouton
Nat Weiland
Rocío McKenzie
Sarah Kuntz
Sheila Brassel**

Alto 1

Aimee Luu
Andrea Charais
Anna Bergstrom
Annie Schoonover
Autumn Lancaster
Giorgi Keppers
Katherine Butler
Kim Mours
Kristin Gadow
Kristine Becker*^
Laura Keohokalole^
Rachel Ekker**
Sam Winchester**
Su Sethna

Alto 2

Alice Bjorneberg^
Annie Crepeau
Bebe Magee^
Bri Steigauf
Catherine Kirkpatrick*^
Chioma Uwagwu
Desi Boyer^
Helena (Junior) Salt
Jess Marchek
Katelyn Sangren
LeeAnn Bera*^
Lisa Grossman
Nora Henry^

Spring 2025 Chorus Members

*Denotes section leaders

^Denotes Iris singer

**Not present for concert

Program

*Performed by Iris

Part I - Intro

Take This Gift* Tracy Wong

Drummer: Emma Kilbreath

Wanting Memories* Ysaye M. Barnwell

Vuelie Christophe Beck & Frode Fjellheim

Story 1 Jennifer Horton

One Voice* The Wailin' Jennys

Part II - Challenges in Belonging

Story 2 Nora Henry

The Village Andrew Pearson, Andrew Jackson, Stephen Wrabel; arr. Ash

"Che Guevara T-Shirts"..... Rocío McKenzie

"between the push to assimilate and the pull to preserve"..... Rocío McKenzie

Always Coming Home Joan Szymko

Cellist: Mike Scott

Part III - Found Communities

"Portraits"..... Klo Garoute

Imagine John Lennon, Yoko Ono, arr. Mac Huff

Soloist: Maddy Hull

Story 3 Nora Henry

This Is Me Benji Pasek, Justin Paul, arr. Steve Milloy

Soloists: Laurel Rand-Lewis, Katie Morris, Estelle Bayer

Story 4 Maddy Hull

Part IV - The Action of Community

Starting Now Jocelyn Hagen

Rise Up Jake Runestad

We Shall Overcome Traditional, arr. Klo Garoute

Deep Peace Gaelic traditional, William Sharp, arr. Bill Douglas

Lyrics & Notes

Take This Gift - Music by Tracy Wong; lyrics by Tracy Wong and Cherie Chai

Composer's Notes

"This optimistic piece is characterized by catchy, singable melodies and a syncopated rhythmic drive in the vocal and piano writing. The text was co-written by the composer and the vocal percussionist Cherie Chai, and celebrates the life-long relationships created and nurtured within the choral community."

"The work features a particular light-hearted vocal play motif ("la la li la lay") that is usually heard in "Canggung", a Malay folk song. Together with hints of modal scales and supported by percussion, the piece merges folkloric elements with contemporary choral sounds."

-from tracywongmusic.com

Lyrics

My feet are rooted to the ground (la la li la lay)
My voice is soaring in the skies (la la li la)
I am tied to the past, beautifully tangled with you
Hand in hand we look to the stars
Here, take this gift
It's not mine to keep
Here, take this gift
Share it far so all may know
Let our love for singing grow
We are branches
Independent, intertwined
We are sunlight
Spreading warmth, dazzling bright
Here, take this gift
It's not mine to keep
Here, take this gift
Share it far so all may know
Let our love for singing grow.

Wanting Memories (as recorded by Sweet Honey in the Rock) - Music and lyrics by Ysaye M. Barnwell

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me
To see the beauty in the world
Through my own eyes

You used to rock me in the cradle of your arms
You said you'd hold me
'Til the pains of life were gone
You said you'd comfort me in times like these
And now I need you
Now I need you, and you are gone

[Refrain]

Since you've gone and left me
There's been so little beauty
But I know I saw it clearly through your eyes

Now the world outside is such a cold and bitter place
Here inside I have few things that will console
And when I try to hear your voice
Above the storms of life
Then I remember
All the things that I was told

[Refrain]



Vuelie (From Disney's Frozen) - Music and syllable setting by Christophe Beck & Frode Fjellheim

Contextual Notes by Zoe Johansen:

"Norway is renowned for their various genres and singing styles, these include; black metal, traditional folk, and yoiking. Yoik is the traditional song style of the indigenous people of Scandinavia, the Sami people, and is intended for social use rather than performance based. "It can serve as a tool for sharing memories, for community building (both within a family and within a society), for personal self-expression, to calm the reindeer or to frighten wolves" (Krumhansl et al. 2009). Musical features typical of this style of music include "the use of a marked rhythm, with syncopations, altering accentuations and vocal timbres, and the addition of glissandos and ornamental figures (such as vibratos). Different breathing styles are utilised to produce the desired sounds" (Burke, N.d). Yoiking is also characterised by the use of a pentatonic scale and commonly demonstrates irregular intervals and a rhythmic structure which is unlike that valued in Western music (Jones-Bamman, 2004). As a result of the use of glissando notes, it is difficult and untraditional for musical instruments to accompany a yoik.

[...]Vuelie... was written and composed by Norwegian composer Frode Fjellheim. This piece featured as the opening musical number in Disney's animation film Frozen. Vuelie is a modern piece inspired by the Scandinavian Sami people's culture and traditional form of song, yoiking, because of this the song features many traditional Scandinavian musical elements. The a combination of traditional yoik music has been combined with traditional choral music as each has a long history in European countries such as Norway."

-from nordic-music.weebly.com

Director's Notes:

While the Sami-inspired text does not have linguistic meaning, we are performing this piece because of its association with the joy of homecoming, community, and welcome.

One Voice - As performed by The Wailin Jennys; music and lyrics by Ruth Moody

This is the sound of one voice
One spirit, one voice
The sound of one who makes a choice
This is the sound of one voice

This is the sound of voices two
The sound of me singing with you
Helping each other to make it through
This is the sound of voices two

This is the sound of voices three
Singing together in harmony
Surrendering to the mystery
This is the sound of voices three

This is the sound of all of us
Singing with love and the will to trust
Leave the rest behind it will turn to dust
This is the sound of all of us

This is the sound of one voice
One people, one voice
A song for every one of us
This is the sound of one voice
This is the sound of one voice



The Village - Music and lyrics by Andrew Pearson, Andrew Jackson, & Stephen Wrabel; arranged by Ash

No, your mom don't get it
And your dad don't get it
Uncle John don't get it
And you can't tell grandma because her heart can't take it
And she might not make it
They say, "don't dare, don't you even go there.
Cutting off your long hair. You do as you're told."
Tell you, "wake up, go put on your makeup.
This is just a phase you're gonna outgrow."

There's something wrong in the village
In the village, oh
They stare in the village
In the village, oh
There's nothing wrong with you
It's true, it's true
There's something wrong with the village
With the village
There's something wrong with the village

Feel the rumors follow you from Monday all the way to Friday dinner
You got one day of shelter
Then it's Sunday hell to pay, you young lost sinner
Well I've been there, sitting in that same chair
Whispering that same prayer half a million times
It's a lie though
Buried in disciples
One page of the Bible isn't worth a life

The Village (continued)

There's something wrong in the village
In the village, oh
They stare in the village
In the village, oh
There's nothing wrong with you
It's true, it's true
There's something wrong with the village
With the village
There's something wrong with the village
There's something wrong in the village
In the village, oh
They stare in the village
In the village, oh
There's nothing wrong with you
It's true, it's true
There's something wrong with the village
With the village
There's something wrong with the village



Always Coming Home - Music by Joan Szymko; Lyrics by Ursula K. LeGuin

Composer's Notes:

"Return with us, return to us, be always coming home —the closing words of Ursula LeGuin's "Initiation Song from the Finders Lodge." In her futuristic novel, "Always Coming Home", the role of the 'Finders' clan is it to brave the unknown regions to search for and to bring new and useful things back to all the people in their community. Written for Aurora Chorus, a large adult women's choir, "Always Coming Home" explores the full dynamic range and the subtle emotions that a mature women's choir can deliver."

-from joanszymko.com

Lyrics:

Please bring strange things.
Please come bringing new things.
Let very old things come into your hands.
Let what you do not know come into your eyes.
Let desert sand harden your feet.
Let the arch of your feet be the mountains.
Let the paths of your fingertips be your maps
and the ways you go be the lines on your palms.

May your mouth contain the shapes of strange words.
May you smell food cooking you have not eaten.
May the spring of a foreign river be your navel.
May your soul be at home where there are no houses.
Walk carefully, well loved one,
walk mindfully, well loved one,
walk fearlessly, well loved one.
Return with us, return to us,
be always coming home.

Imagine - Music and lyrics by John Lennon & Yoko Ono; arranged by Mac Huff

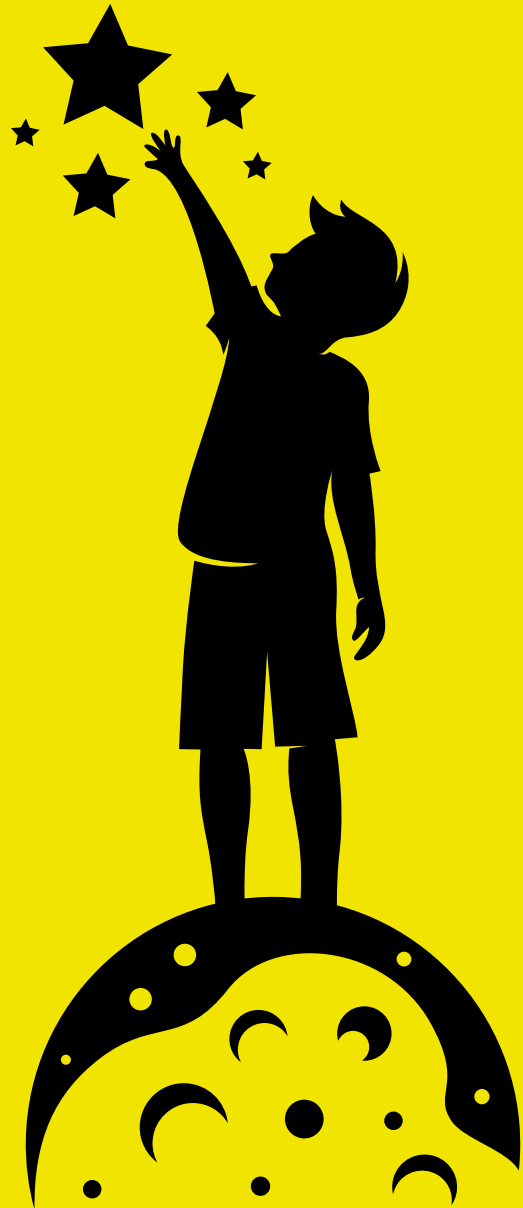
Imagine there's no heaven
It's easy if you try
No hell below us
Above us only sky
Imagine all the people
Living for today... Aha-ah...

Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
And no religion, too
Imagine all the people
Living life in peace... You...

You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will be as one

Imagine no possessions
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man
Imagine all the people
Sharing all the world... You...

You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will live as one



This Is Me (From The Greatest Showman) - Music and lyrics by Benji Pasek, Justin Paul; arranged by Steve Milloy

I'm not a stranger to the dark
Hide away, they say
'Cause we don't want your broken parts
I've learned to be ashamed of all my scars
Run away, they say
No one will love you as you are

But I won't let them break me down to dust
I know that there's a place for us
For we are glorious

When the sharpest words wanna cut me down
I'm gonna send a flood, gonna drown them out
I am brave, I am bruised
I am who I'm meant to be, this is me
Look out 'cause here I come
And I'm marching on to the beat I drum
I'm not scared to be seen
I make no apologies, this is me

Another round of bullets hits my skin
Well, fire away 'cause today, I won't let the shame sink in
We are bursting through the barricades
And reaching for the sun (we are warriors)
Yeah, that's what we've become

Won't let them break me down to dust
I know that there's a place for us
For we are glorious

This Is Me (continued)

When the sharpest words wanna cut me down
Gonna send a flood, gonna drown them out
I am brave, I am bruised
I am who I'm meant to be, this is me
Look out 'cause here I come
And I'm marching on to the beat I drum
I'm not scared to be seen
I make no apologies, this is me
...This is me
And I know that I deserve your love
There's nothing I'm not worthy of
When the sharpest words wanna cut me down
I'm gonna send a flood, gonna drown them out
This is brave, this is bruised
This is who I'm meant to be, this is me
Look out 'cause here I come (look out 'cause here I come)
And I'm marching on to the beat I drum (marching on, marching, marching on)
I'm not scared to be seen
I make no apologies, this is me
(Whenever the words wanna cut me down
I'll send the flood to drown them out)
I'm gonna send the flood, gonna drown them out
This is me



Starting Now - Music by Jocelyn Hagen; text by Joyce Sidman from What the Heart Knows: Chants, Charms, and Blessings

Composer's Notes:

"I think all of us have things in our lives that we wish to change, and it can be frustrating when those changes take longer than we had hoped. Big and swift tidal changes are extremely rare, and more often one can point to all the little changes along the way that paved room for the revelational change to occur. We have to work towards our goals with intentional, incremental adjustments, bit by bit, like a sculptor with a grand piece of marble. This is what I was thinking about when composing "Starting Now." The piece begins with a spark and heaps of forward momentum, and in the end, it's the repetitive drive of the harmonic progression of four chords mixed with the empowering words of the poem that gives the listeners the most powerful message: Stay the path. Don't give up. Continue with all you've got even when you're tired and weary. Stay positive.

Change takes time, but with determination and patience, I believe that we can all succeed in transforming our lives, and with them, the world."

Lyrics:

It is time for us to wake:
we who stumble through the day
with our gripes and complaints,
who drift numbly
through thronging halls and streets —

you and I,
who rant about injustice,
who see all that is wrong in this world
but believe we are shackled
and powerless.

Starting Now (continued)

It is time to look into
each other's faces,
we who glide along the surface,
time to dive down
and feel the currents
of each other's lives.
Time to speak until the air
holds all of our voices.
Time to weave for each other
a garment of brightness.
Open your eyes.
Feel your strength.
Bless the past.
Greet the future.
Join hands.
Right here.
Our moment:
starting now.



Rise Up - Music by Jake Runestad; lyrics taken from speeches and writings by Susan B. Anthony

Rise up!

There shall never be another season of silence.
Deepen your sympathy then convert it to action.

Pray every single second of your life, not on your knees but with your work.

Think your best thoughts,
speak your best words,
do your best work.

There is so much yet to be done.
Rise up!



We Shall Overcome - Traditional; arranged by Klo Garoute

Historical Notes (excerpts from The Kennedy Center's webpage "We Shall Overcome"):

""We Shall Overcome[...] soon became the anthem of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. It offered courage, comfort, and hope as protesters confronted prejudice and hate in the battle for equal rights for African Americans.

"We Shall Overcome" has a long history with input from many people and places. Part of the melody seems to be related to two European songs from the 1700s, "Prayer of the Sicilian Mariners" and "O Sanctissima." Enslaved Black people in the U.S. mixed and matched similar tunes in the songs "I'll Be All Right" and "No More Auction Block For Me."

After 1900, it seems the lyrics of another gospel song, "I'll Overcome Someday" by the Methodist minister and composer Reverend Dr. Charles Tindley, were added to the musical mix—though the music was very different. Around 1945, gospel arrangers Atron Twigg and Kenneth Morris apparently put together the essential pieces of the now-famous words and melody.

"We'll Overcome" first appeared as a protest song during a 1945–1946 labor strike against American Tobacco in Charleston, South Carolina. African American women strikers seeking a pay raise to 30 cents an hour sang as they picketed. "I Will Overcome" was a favorite song of Lucille Simmons, one of the strikers. But she gave the song a powerful sense of solidarity by changing the "I" into "We" as they sang together. Other lyrics were improvised for pro-union purposes, including "We will organize," "We will win our rights," and "We will win this fight."

In 1947, Simmons brought the song to Highlander Folk School and shared it with other labor activists there. Zilphia Horton, head of the school's cultural program, learned it and later taught it to Pete Seeger. At some point, the nationally known folk singer revised the lyrics "We will" to "We shall."

We Shall Overcome (continued)

"We Shall Overcome" proved easy to learn and sing at different types of civil rights protests, such as sit-ins, marches, and huge rallies. [...] The song spread rapidly as the Civil Rights Movement gained momentum. Protesters sang it as they marched for voting rights. They also sang it as they were beat up, attacked by police dogs, and hauled off to jail for breaking laws enforcing segregation. [...]

"We Shall Overcome" and other protest songs provided the soundtrack to the Civil Rights Movement. [...] Over the years, "We Shall Overcome" made the leap overseas, becoming a protest song among freedom movements around the world. It has been sung by protesters in China, Northern Ireland, South Korea, Lebanon, and parts of Eastern Europe."

-from kennedy-center.org

Lyrics

We shall overcome, we shall overcome
We shall overcome someday.
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall overcome someday.
We are not afraid, we are not afraid,
We are not afraid today.
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall overcome someday.
We are not alone, we are not alone
We are not alone today
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We are not alone today.
We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand,
We'll walk hand in hand someday.
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall overcome someday.
We shall overcome, we shall overcome
We shall overcome someday.
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall overcome someday.

Deep Peace - Gaelic traditional; lyrics by William Sharp

Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you;
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace to you.



Thank you!

Thank you to Spirit of Hope Church for welcoming our choir into their beautiful space. Thank you to Jerry Rubino for coordinating our concert logistics with SOH, to Trudy Hoag for all you do, to our technical support folks for ensuring things ran smoothly during the concert and with our live stream. And thank you to you, our audience members, for supporting our choir. Cheers to you!



Upcoming Events

Calliope will be tabling at People's Pride on June 28. Come say Hi!
Fall auditions will be held in August. Visit our Facebook Page for details.



Calliope.Womens.Chorus



@calliopechorusmn



@calliopemn



CalliopeWomensChorus.org