University of Memphis Honor Choir Concert

Alexander Lloyd Blake, conductor
Francis Cathlina, conductor
Liz Parsons, collaborative pianist

Friday, January 28, 2022
7 PM
Rose Theater

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music
Kevin Sanders, Director

College of Communication and Fine Arts
Anne Hogan, Dean
PROGRAM

-selected from the following-

University Singers Repertoire

Come, Thou Fount
arranged by Molly Ijames

Sehnsucht
Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Rytmus
Ivan Hrušovský
(1927-2001)

Honor Choir Repertoire

Poor Wayfaring Stranger (SATB divisi)
Alexander Lloyd Blake
(b. 1987)

Man of Truth (TTB)
Shawn Kirchner
(b. 1970)

United We Dream (SATB minimal divisi)
Melissa Dunphy
(b. 1980)

Bonse Aba (SATB)
Victor Johnson
(b. 1978)

I Will Be Earth (SSA)
Gwyneth Walker
(b. 1947)
PERFORMERS

First Assembly Christian School
Emme Hope Ballard
Macy Bragg
Courtney Conklin
Kyle Dean
Calee Douglas
Brooke Evans
Chaeili St. Bernard

Brighton High School
Teagan Abernathy
Peyton Ervin
Whitney Garland
Ma’Kaya Givhan
George Glidewell
Elijah Howard
Evans Torres

Hernando High School
Maddie Cummings
Chase Epps
Madison Glidewell
Ashlyn Joyner
Zash Nance
Ian Thomas
Kayla Weatherly
Morgan Woods

Overton High School
Briah Bland
Nyla Wilson
Jennyfer Baez
Khaylan Bell
Denisha Hankins
Monterrya Chrisman
Ruth Herrera

Whitehaven High School
Ethan Brooks
Ja’Cari Burnette
Cadence Chambers
Jaliyah Jones
Brandon Marshall
Morgan Matthews
Ay’sha McConnell
Nathan Transou

East High School
Kathleen Silkes

Briarcrest High School
Ella Harris
Evelyn McGee
Emma Mulrooney
Holly Scheinblum

Southwind High School
Nasir Denny
Angel Gonzalez
Alyson Griffin
Cymalia Johnson
Tyreek Solomon
Nick Tran
Issis Walker
Courtnei Wilson

Germantown High School
Katelyn Byars
Jandon Cobb
Bryson Coleman
Cicely Heard
Myles Land
Aaliyah Ross
Shiloh Sanders
Kaleb Steward
London Wilkerson

Bartlett High School
Roman Dawidow
Jewel Frison
Jeremiah Hatley
Kaitlynn McDonald
Anglee Pham
Dylan Swinger
Chloe Thorne
David Webster

White Station High School
Natela Bonaparte
Jake Brooks
Tyus Davis
Lyle Dodson
Taylor Ellis
Maddie Frost
Allie Maury
Cal Winsett
Emilin Ruales

Arlington High School
Camden Carter
Morgan Ervin
Alex Hutchinson
Laurie Isgett
Jordan Moneyhan
Emily Richard
Lauren Smith
Christian Taylor

Ridgeway High School
Jaylah Carson
Ethan Dickerson
John Ford
Malaki Gipson
Taylor Henry
Amiah Johnson
Melanie Martinez
Jillian McCormick
Christopher McKay
Ra’Shelle Miller
Yasmine Miller
Kaleb Spring

Hamilton High School
Dylan Bolden
Tarlaija Chornes
Ke’Osha Jordan
Ja’Cyla Love
Jordan Moore
Zanaiyah Woods

Kingsbury High School
Jesona Arrington
Marjoryh Chacon
Carlyse Irby
JaCinta Leblanc

Olive Branch High School
Shelby Andersen
Kaitlyn Batts
Ryan Cashon
Ethan Davis
Logan Durley
Jeremiah Edwards
Amelia Lackey-Jenkins
Malik Mitchell
Abby Parr
Finn Sobalvarro
Jacobie Steen
Ellen Taylor
PERFORMERS

Covington High School
Lauren Cromwell
Jordan Haley
Cameron Hall
Jashaun Jones
Olivia Jones
Samaria Macklin
Riley McDaniel
Emilin Ruales

UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Soprano
Emily Hale
Karoline Larsen
Abby Luckett
Sarah McGinnis
Clara Norell
Gracelyn Penn

Alto
Caroline Phillips-Burk
Sarah Froncek
Cait Mocan
Lindsay Reeves
Stephanie Rolfe
Bella Grace Valente
Evann Velasquez
Morgan Williams

Tenor
Ethan Baskin
Cody Christmas
Samuel Johnson
Nicholas Kroboth-Larsen

Bass
Shawn Campbell
Calvin Ellis
Andrew Heady
Marvin Holt
Camden Kegley
Ethan Smith
SirLatimore Wilson
ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS

Alexander Lloyd Blake
Dr. Alexander Lloyd Blake works as an award-winning conductor, composer/arranger, vocal contractor, singer, and music activist. Named Musical America’s 30 Professionals of the Year in 2019 and the Louis Botto Award for Innovative actions and Entrepreneurial Zeal from Chorus America, Blake was recently featured in both the NY Times and LA Times for work in diversity and anti-racism within classical music.

Blake is the Founding Artistic Director of Tonality, an award-winning choral ensemble focused on spreading a message of unity, peace, and social justice through a culturally diverse choral setting. He also serves as the Choir Director at Los Angeles County High School for the Arts (LACHSA). He also serves in Los Angeles and New York City as a Principal Associate Conductor of the National Children's Chorus. As an arranger, Blake’s “Wade in the Water” was a featured arrangement at the North Carolina Music Educators Association convention in 2013 and is published with Santa Barbara Music Publishing. His arrangements of “Deep River” and “Poor Wayfaring Stranger” are published by Alliance Music Publishing and Walton Music Publishing, respectively. Other musical activities include an opera conducting premiere at the 2019 Prototype Festival in New York City and preparing choirs for live performances with UCLA Center for the Art of Performance.

Recent film and TV credits include singing on the soundtrack of Jordan Peele’s “Us”, Disney’s “Lion King”, and Pixar’s “Spies in Disguise.” Blake also worked as the choral contractor and vocal arranger for Andy Grammer’s performance at the 2019 ARDYs (Radio Disney Awards). Blake recently prepared singers for the 2020 Grammy Awards and performed at the 92nd Academy Awards.

Blake completed the Doctorate in Musical Arts degree at the University of Southern California in 2019. He completed the Master of Music degree at the University of California Los Angeles in 2014 and the Bachelor of Arts degree (cum laude) in Vocal Performance at Wake Forest University in 2010.
ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS

Francis Cathlina
Conductor-teacher Francis Cathlina, D.M.A., is a Vietnamese-American whose work lies at the intersection of choral music and narrative. Within a concert experience, the musicians engage the audience in a story told through choral artistry. Such innovative programming connects the power of choral music to 21st-century students and audiences.

Currently, Dr. Cathlina serves as the Visiting Director of Choral Activities at the University of Memphis. He guides a comprehensive Choral Department of five ensembles through administrative leadership and vision; he teaches graduate and advanced undergraduate conducting; and he conducts the University Singers (flagship SATB choir) and Mazi (treble choir).

As a first-generation musician, Dr. Cathlina’s Eastern heritage shapes his teaching. He cultivates a collaborative and rigorous culture, which has yielded ensemble recognition at the national level during his tenure with the UNT Men’s Chorus and the Centennial High School choirs. Early in his career, he was designated the “Young Director of Distinction” by the Texas Choral Directors Association (TCDA).

An active guest conductor, Dr. Cathlina builds masterful technicians and creative communicators through inclusive pedagogy. Recent clinics involve students in Mississippi, Tennessee, and Texas. Future engagements include guest conductor of the Arkansas Region 1 Treble Choir and the Texas All-Region 30 Mixed Choir.

Dr. Cathlina’s scholarship focuses on vocal pedagogy in choral rehearsals and conducting. In summer 2021, the American Choral Directors Association’s Choral Journal published his two-part article “7 Essentials for Developing Voices in Choir: Part I” and “Part II.” Additionally, he serves the profession as an adjudicator and coordinator and regularly presents interest sessions throughout the United States. He is an invited presenter for Southwestern ACDA (SWACDA), Texas Music Educators Association, Illinois Music Educators Association, and Tennessee Music Educators Association in 2022.

Dr. Cathlina holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting with a vocal pedagogy cognate from the University of North Texas, a Master of Music in choral conducting from Michigan State University, and a Bachelor of Music Education from Baylor University. Prior to his doctoral studies, he taught public school, working with elementary through high school-aged singers with diverse backgrounds. Dr. Cathlina lives in Memphis, Tennessee with his husband, Kyle, and their dog, Coco.
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Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music