

San Francisco Boys Chorus

NOEL, NOEL, NOEL!

75TH ANNIVERSARY WINTER CONCERT

DECEMBER 17, 2022

A decorative border at the top of the page consisting of several strands of white string lights with small, glowing bulbs, set against a light, slightly textured background.

San Francisco Boys Chorus

**NOEL,
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75TH ANNIVERSARY WINTER CONCERT

DECEMBER 17, 2022

Calvary Presbyterian Church, San Francisco



Ian Robertson, Artistic Director

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

San Francisco Academy Orchestra

Andrei Gorbatenko, Music Director

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Welcome to the 2022 winter holiday concert in this, our 75th anniversary year! Our young choristers are thrilled to present their performances today, the culmination of this semester's hard work by all involved. This concert is the highlight of our winter activities which will include performances with the San Francisco Symphony at Davies Symphony Hall and appearances at Ghirardelli Square, Grace Cathedral, San Francisco Airport, Marin Country Club, Sunset Music and Arts, Christ the King Church Lessons & Carols, San Francisco Yacht Club, and The Mannakin Theater and Dance Company. What a joy it is for us to partake in such a busy schedule after the restrictions of the pandemic. Our mission is to provide outstanding performance opportunities, such as today's concert, and superior musical education for boys from all walks of life. The gift of a musical education like that of the SFBC is one that will continue with these boys for the rest of their lives.

We are teaching teamwork, self-discipline, camaraderie, and integrity, all within the framework of vocal training and musical history. These are traits that will serve them throughout their lifetime. I would like to express my deepest thanks to our exceptional faculty of directors and accompanists, our hard-working Board of Directors and to all our families for their support and flexibility which enables their young singers to enjoy these life changing opportunities.

Happy Holidays to all!

Ian Robertson
Artistic Director

SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS

Rehearsals offered in San Francisco, San Rafael, Oakland, and San Mateo.

PROGRAM

JUNIOR CHORUS

Dr. Edward Cetto, conductor

Barry Lloyd, pianist

Mogenamba

Traditional Swahili Folk Song

Dai Ditty Dai Dai

Traditional Israeli Folk Song

Iko, Iko

Traditional Jamaican Folk Song

The Happy Wanderer

Friedrich-Wilhelm Möller (1911–1993)

Text by Florenz Friedrich Sigismund

Please join us in singing the final refrain of *The Happy Wanderer*:
Valderi, valdera, valderi, valder-ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, valderi, valdera,
beneath God's clear blue sky.

APPRENTICE CHORUS

Leandra Ramm, conductor

Barry Lloyd, pianist

Arroz con Leche

Traditional Mexican Folk Song

Arroz con leche me quiero casar
con una señorita de San Nicolás
Que sepa bordar, Que sepa coser,
Que abra la puerta para ir a jugar
Con ésta sí con ésta no
Con esta señorita me caso yo!

Rice pudding I want to be married
To a young lady from San Nicolas
Who knows how to sew, Who knows how to knit,
Who knows how to open the door to go out to play.
To this one I will, To this one I won't
To this young lady I'll marry (soon).

I'm Nobody! Who are you?

I'm nobody! Who are you?
I'm nobody! Who are you?
Are you nobody, too?
Then there's a pair of us — don't tell!
They'd banish — you know!
How dreary to be somebody!
How public like a frog
To tell one's name the livelong June
To an admiring bog!

Look at the World

Look at the world
Everything all around us
Look at the world
And marvel every day
Look at the world
So many joys and wonders
So many miracles
Along our way.

Praise to thee, O Lord for all creation
Give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share and every blessing
All things come of thee
Look at the earth
Bringing forth fruit and flowers
Look at the sky
The sunshine and the rain
Look at the hills
Look at the trees and mountains

The Twelve Days of Christmas

Lee R. Kesselman
Poem by Emily Dickinson

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Valley and flowing river
Field and plain
Praise to thee, O Lord for all creation
Give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share and every blessing
All things come of thee.

Think of the spring
Think of the warmth of summer
Bringing the harvest
Before the winter's cold
Everything grows
Everything has a season
Till it is gathered to the father's fold

Praise to thee O Lord for all creation
Give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share and every blessing
All things come of thee.

Traditional English Christmas Carol

ADVANCED BELLS

Todd Jolly, director

All My Heart Today Rejoices

Johann Georg Ebeling (1637–1676)

arr. Todd Jolly

INTERMEDIATE CHORUS

Todd Jolly, conductor

Franz Zhao, pianist

Un flambeau, Jeannette, Isabella

Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643–1704)

English translation by Suzi Nassen Stefl

Un flambeau, Jeannette, Isabella
Un flambeau, courons au berceau!
C'est Jésus, bonnes gens du hameau
Le Christ est né, Marie appella
Ah! Ah! Ah! Que la mère est belle
Ah! Ah! Ah! Que l'Enfant est beau!

Bring a torch, Jeannette, Isabella
Bring a torch, to the cradle run!
It is Jesus, good folk of the village
Christ is born and Mary calls us:
Ah! Ah! Beautiful is the mother
Ah! Ah! Beautiful is the Son!

C'est un tort quand l'Enfant sommeille
C'est un tort de crier si fort
Taisezvous, l'un et l'autre, d'abord!
Au moindre bruit, Jésus s'éveille
Chut! Chut! Chut! Il dort à merveille
Chut! Chut! Chut! Voyez comme Il dort!

It is wrong when the Baby is sleeping
It is wrong to talk so loud
Silence, all, as you gather around Him!
Talk and noise might waken Jesus
Hush! Hush! Marvelous is the Baby!
Hush! Hush! See Him as He sleeps!

Doucement, dans l'étable close
Doucement, venez un moment!
Approchez, que Jésus est charmant!
Comme Il est Blanc, Comme Il est rose!
Do! Do! Do! Que l'Enfant repose!
Do! Do! Do! Qu'Il rit en dormant!

Softly come into the stable
Softly in a moment come
Look and see how charming is Jesus
His skin creamy white, His cheeks are rosy!
Hush! Hush! See how the child is sleeping!
Hush! Hush! See how he smiles and dreams!

Nérot Dolkim

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

English translation by Edward Kalendar

arr. Todd Jolly

Nérot dolkim, nérot dakim
Al kol chalon barchov
Urim borkim urim zakim
Bishmé hatchol larov

The burning Chanukah
Candles in every window
give off a wonderful glow

Panis angelicus from *Messe à trois voix*

César Franck (1822–1890)

Panis angelicus
Fit panis hominum
Dat panis coelicus
Figuris terminum
O res mirabilis
Manducat Dominum
Pauper, pauper,
servus et humilis

The bread of the angels
Becomes the bread of mortals
The bread of heaven
Puts an end to prefigurations!
O wondrous thing!
The poor,
the slave and the humble
Feed on their Lord.

The Snow Is Singing

Daniel Shaw

The snow is singing, the snow is softly singing on and on
Beneath the wind, above the swell, the snow softly singing
Beneath the wind, above the swell, the snow is silent, ringing
The snow is softly singing on and on

Tyger

Elaine Hagenberg (b. 1979)

Text from *Songs of Innocence* by William Blake

Tyger Tyger, burning bright
In the forests of the night
What immortal hand or eye
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?
In what distant deeps or skies
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?
On what wings dare he aspire?
O What the hand, dare seize the fire?

What the hammer? What the chain
In what furnace was thy brain?
What the anvil, what dread grasp
Dare its deadly terrors clasp!
When the stars threw down their spears
And water'd heaven with their tears
Did he smile his work to see?
Did he who made the Lamb make thee?

— INTERMISSION —

**CONCERT CHORUS, GRADUATE CHORALE, AND
SAN FRANCISCO ACADEMY ORCHESTRA**

Ian Robertson, conductor
Franz Zhao, organ

Messe de Minuit pour Noël, H9

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

Michael Jankosky, Andy Kwan, Harlan Hays, soloists

Marc-Antoine Charpentier was a French Baroque composer during the reign of Louis XIV. His Christmas mass, the “Messe de Minuit pour Noël,” is thoroughly in the French tradition, celebrating the joyful news of the birth of Christ with cheerful happiness. In this midnight mass, composed in 1694, traditional French Christmas hymns have been rearranged, lending the work a dance-like energy alongside charming tone coloring.

Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy

Offertory

Sanctus

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, dominus Deus Sabaoth
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis

Holy, holy, holy lord, the God of Sabaoth
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest

Chorale: Was Gott tut ist wohlgetan

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Four-part chorale setting

Extended chorale setting

Was Gott tut, das ist wohlgetan!
Es bleibt gerecht sein Wille;
Wie er fängt meine Sachen an,
Will ich ihm halten stille.
Er ist mein Gott, der in der Not
Mich wohl weiß zu erhalten,
Drum laß' ich ihn nur walten.

What God does that is done well!
His will remains just
However he deals with my affairs.
I want calmly to place my whole trust in him
He is my God, who in my troubles
knows well how to support me,
therefore I let him alone rule over me.

Johann Sebastian Bach was a German composer and musician of the late Baroque period. Since the 19th-century Bach revival he has been generally regarded as one of the greatest composers in the history of Western music. A chorale is usually a simple and catchy melody to which a hymn is sung by soprano singers with a congregation, while the three lower voices provide harmony. The church reformer Martin Luther advocated the use of hymns sung in German during services and himself translated texts from Latin into German so that the people could understand them and participate. Bach's arrangements of hymn tunes found their way into cantatas, organ preludes, motets, and other pieces.

GRADUATE CHORALE

Harlan Hays, director

Dulaman

Traditional Gaelic, arr. Michael McGlynn

Connor Herrmann, Ford Cocciolo, Tyler Winslow and Issei Robinson—Soloists

“A ‘nÍon mhín ó! Sin anall na fir shuiri”
“A mháthair mhín ó! Cuir na roithleán go dtí mé!”
Dúlaman na binne buí, dúlamán Gaelach,
Dúlaman na farraige, dúlamán Gaelach.
Rachaidh me chun ‘lúir leis a’ dúlamán Gaelach
“Ceannódh bróga daor,” arsa’ dúlamán Gaelach.
Bróga breátha dubha ar a’ dúlamán Gaelach.
Bairéad agus tríús ar a’ dúlamán Gaelach
“A ‘nÍon mhín ó! Sin anall na fir shuiri”
“A mháthair mhín ó! Cuir na roithleán go dtí mé!”
Tá ceann buí óir ar a’ dúlamán Gaelach.
Tá dhá chluais mhaol’ ar a’ dúlamán Maorach.

“O gentle daughter, here come the wooing men.”
“O gentle mother, put the wheels in motion for me.”
Seaweed of the yellow peaks, gaelic seaweed.
Seaweed of the ocean, gaelic seaweed
I would go to the tailor with the gaelic seaweed
“I would buy expensive shoes,” said the Gaelic seaweed.
The Gaelic seaweed has beautiful black shoes
The Gaelic seaweed has a beret and trousers.
“O gentle daughter, here come the wooing men.”
“O gentle mother, put the wheels in motion for me.”
There is a yellow gold head on the Gaelic seaweed.
There are two blunt ears on the stately seaweed.

CONCERT CHORUS AND SAN FRANCISCO ACADEMY ORCHESTRA

Ian Robertson, conductor

Franz Zhao, piano

Todd Jolly, percussion

A Christmas Greeting (1907)

Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Poem by Caroline Alice Elgar

Bowered on sloping hill sides rise
In sunny glow, the purpling vine;
Beneath the greyer English skies,
In fair array, the redgold apples shine.
To those in sun, To those in snow,
Love is but one;
Hearts beat and glow, By oak or palm,
Friends, in storm or calm.

On and on old Tiber speeds,
Dark with the weight of ancient crime;
Far north, thro' green and quiet meads,
Flows on the Wye in mist and silv'ring time.

The pifferrari wander far,
They seek the shrines, and hymn the peace
Which herald angels 'neath the star,
Foretold to shepherds, bidding strife to cease.

England sleeps in shroud of snow,
Bells, sadly sweet, knell life's swift flight.
And tears, unbid, are wont to flow,
As 'Noel! Noel!' sounds across the night.
To those in snow, To those in sun,
Love is but one;
Hearts beat and glow, By oak or palm,
Friends, in storm or calm.

Il Est Né, Le Divin Enfant

Traditional French Carol

arr. Audrey Snyder

Il est né, le divin enfant,
Jouez hautbois, résonnez musettes!
Il est né, le divin enfant,
Chantons tous son avènement!
Depuis plus de quatre mille ans,
Nous le promettaient les prophètes
Depuis plus de quatre mille ans,
Nous attendions cet heureux temps.
Ah ! Qu'il est beau, qu'il est charmant!
Ah ! que ses grâces sont parfaites!
Ah ! Qu'il est beau, qu'il est charmant!
Qu'il est doux ce divin enfant!

He is born, the divine child,
Play the oboes, ring out the bagpipes!
He is born, the divine child,
Let us all sing his coming!
For more than four thousand years,
The prophets promised him to us
For more than four thousand years,
We were awaiting this happy time.
Oh! But he is handsome, he is charming!
Oh! But his graces are perfect!
Oh! But he is handsome, he is charming!
He is so sweet this divine child!

Take What You Need

Reena Esmail (b. 1983)

Harlan Hays, baritone

This piece was commissioned by Street Symphony for Urban Voices Project. It was premiered on December 9, 2016 at Street Symphony's Messiah Project, at the Midnight Mission in Downtown Los Angeles.

Of the many performances of Take What You Need, very few of them have been in traditional concert halls. Most performances have taken place in jails, homeless shelters, support groups, schools, memorial services, places of worship—in places where people can gather to see and honor the humanity in one another. Take What You Need was first written for Urban Voices Project, a choir made up of people who are experiencing or who have recently experienced homelessness—so many of whom have trusted this piece with their own stories of loss and redemption, and who I am so honored to count among my dearest friends. But this piece is also meant to be a resource for musicians and communities to come together and build the lasting relationships that plant seeds for social change.

—Reena Esmail

Take a moment	Take charge
Take a breath	Take a stand
Take time	Take pride
Take care	Take joy
Take heart	Take pause
Take hope	Take a moment
Take a step	Take a breath
Take a chance	Take what you need
Take courage	

Happy Hanukkah My Friend

Words and Music by Wilde and Konecky

Spin the dreidel light the lights	Come let's share the joy of Hanukkah
Ev'ryone stay home tonight	May our friendship grow
The story is told	as the candles glow
The young and the old together	Oh, won't you
As twilight greets the setting sun	Come and share the joy of Hanukkah
Light the candles one by one	And we're hoping all
Remember the past	you're wishing for comes true
Traditions that last Forever	Happy Hanukkah, my friend, from me to you!

**CONCERT CHORUS, INTERMEDIATE CHORUS, AND
SAN FRANCISCO ACADEMY ORCHESTRA**

Ian Robertson, conductor

Franz Zhao, piano

Fiesta Navidad

Jay Althouse (b. 1951)

Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo
May you have a very merry Christmas;
Happy New Year, too.
And may all the joy of the season
last the whole year through.
December is a time of celebration:
La Fiesta dela Posada.
New Year is a time for joy and laughter.
Jubilo y celebración!
La Fiesta.

Happy Kwanzaa

Traditional, arr. Mac Huff

Habari Gani, Habari gani Kwanzaa!
Happy Kwanzaa! Feel the joy,
as we sing of the love togetherness can bring.
Umoja. Set the table, a mat of straw,
thankful for the first fruits of the year.
Each day I'll light a candle just for you.
come join the party. it's a celebration,
Karuma at Kwanzaa time of year.
Red or yellow, black or white,
young or old, it's all right,
It's a celebration that should last
throughout the year, Happy Kwanzaa
Together there is so much we can do.

While we drink from the cup of togetherness
It's that part of the year that you don't want to
miss.
I give a gift from the heart, so you know it's true.
So recite a principle and tell me what it means
to you.
Kuumba. Creativity! Imani, Faith!
Umoja. Unity! Kujichagu lia. Self determination!
Nia. A good purpose!
Ujama. To have your own!
Ujima. Work together!
Habari Gani Kwanzaa!

Winter Wonderland Medley

Bernard, Smith, Thompson, Mandel

Sleigh Bells Ring

Jingle Bells

Come on we're going for a Sleigh Ride

SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS AUDIENCE SING-ALONG

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Felix Mendelssohn
arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With th'angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Hail! the heav'n born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.

SOME GREAT WAYS TO SUPPORT SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS

- Ask your employer to match your donation.
- Donate or solicit goods and services for the Chorus to offer at its Auction in March.
- Hire the Boys Chorus to sing at your next event.
- Donate your vehicle—call at 855-550-4483
- Download our Music on Apple, Amazon and Spotify.
- Promote your business with an ad in our concert programs.
- For more information email development@sfbc.org or visit our website at sfbc.org

SUPPORT THE ANNUAL FUND

During the holidays, the San Francisco Boys Chorus is everywhere—from singing at tree lighting ceremonies to performing on the Opera and Symphony stage. All this is possible because of the remarkable training these nearly 150 boys receive.

However, tuition and fees only cover less than 50% of the costs. The Chorus must still raise \$2,500 for each boy. Please go online to sfbc.org/annualfund today to make a contribution. The boys will thank you!

SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS

JUNIOR CHORUS

Oliver Baird
Wesley Baird
Jameson Chelf
Ivo Drummond
Ben Gulezian
Sebastian Hikade
Andrew Horng
Otto Isard
Omi Kaipa
Leo Kreutzer
James Lee
Ziad Nasrallah
Alexander Nassim
David Olmer
Ishaan Pitroda
Joseph Quinillo Gutierrez
Theodore Stanton-Landis
Theodore Dwyer Taruskin
Cyrus Tiffin
Christopher Xu
Elliott Yang
Luke Yang
Jaythan Zhen

APPRENTICE CHORUS

Anthony Awunyo-Akaba
James Butterfoss
Tristan Chow
James Coniglio
Francis Eberhard
Philip Friedman
Félix Gallisá
Paxton Hefter
Oliver Jamil
Theodore Kaegi
Max Lagunas
Ethan Lin
Dominic Moser
Ian Noble
Jameson Ong
Lee Reeves

Daylon Thomas
Lawrence Threlfall

INTERMEDIATE CHORUS

Miles Baird
Andrew Brassfield
Logan Cook
Tristan Fisher
Philip Judson
Mathai Kurien
Xavier Nassim
West Pinckaers
Jacob Rainow
Stephen Reid
William Solari IV
Sei Takahashi
Tally Thomas
Arnan Tin

CONCERT CHORUS

Owen Baird
Henry Benton-Aufferbeck
Chuck Cai
Landon Chai
Roshan Chandran
Kenneth Chen
Drake Cheng-Fitzpatrick
William Dickie
William Ezell
Sian Galvan
Nathan Harah
Clarke Helland
Nathan Horwath
Jaden Janah
Kevin Liang
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Enzo Luis Magabo
Solah Malik
Adrian Mann
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Diego Melgar

Semaj Newman
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Harry O'Sullivan
Theodore Raber
Elias Soliman
Oliver Stolte
Wawo Takahashi
Isaac Wang
Rell Williams
Asher Yeung

GRADUATE CHORALE

Aidan Baird
Hovey Clark
Ford Cocciolo
Lucas Durrant
Connor Herrmann
Roger Ou
Issei Robinson
Sebastián Vera Cuevas
Séio Vernay-Kim
Aden Williams
Tyler Winslow
Enrico Wilson-Wong

ADVANCED BELLS

Miles Baird
Owen Baird
Henry Benton-Aufferbeck
Andrew Brassfield
Roshan Chandran
Semaj Newman
Elias Soliman
Arnan Tin
Rell Williams

BEGINNING BELLS

Tristan Chow
Phillip Friedman
Félix Gallisá
Oliver Jamil
Daylon Thomas

SAN FRANCISCO ACADEMY ORCHESTRA

Andrei Gorbatenko, Music Director

Darren Sagawa, concertmaster	Christina Lesicko, viola	Isabella Grimes, flute
Sarah Biagini, violin	Kris Desby, cello	Colton Potter, oboe
Ko Hayashi, violin	Daniela Gonzales Siu, cello	Paulo Avila, trumpet
Heather Hunter, violin	Andrei Gorbatenko, double bass	
Sarah Lee, viola	Ray Furuta, flute	

SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS

FACULTY

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San Mateo Director & SFBC Bellringers Director
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Director
Harlan Hays, Graduate Chorale Director and
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Chorus Director
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Director
Justin McCoy, East Bay Junior Chorus Director
and Accompanist
Spiro Tsingarlis, Marin Intermediate and
Apprentice Chorus Director
Franz Zhao, Theory Instructor and Accompanist
Barry Lloyd, Marin Junior Chorus Director and
Accompanist
Margaret Elam, Beginning Bells

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SPECIAL THANKS TO CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FOR THE USE OF THEIR BEAUTIFUL SANCTUARY.

BIOGRAPHIES



The GRAMMY Award-winning **SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS** (SFBC), now celebrating its 75th anniversary, was founded in 1948 to provide trained boy singers for the San Francisco Opera. Today, led by Artistic Director Ian Robertson, the SFBC is comprised of nearly 150 singers from 50 Bay Area cities and more than 120 schools at campuses in San Francisco, Oakland, San Mateo, and San Rafael.

Over the past 75 years, members of SFBC have appeared in over 150 productions with the San Francisco Opera, including *La Bohème*, *Tosca*, *Mefistofele*, *Die Zauberflöte*, and many others. Since 1952, SFBC choristers have also performed frequently with the San Francisco Symphony including recent productions of *Deck the Hall*, Ravel's *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, and a performance with Paul Simon at the Symphony's Black and White Ball.

For more than 35 years, the SFBC has toured both domestically and internationally. To date, the Chorus has visited over twenty countries, including Austria, China, the Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Romania, Russia, and Scotland, and the former Soviet Union. In 2023, the Chorus will perform in Edinburgh, London and Paris as part of its 75th anniversary European concert tour.

The Chorus has performed for Bay Area Nobel Laureates, His Majesty King Charles III, the late HRH Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain, His Majesty King Gustav of Sweden, General Colin Powell, Mikhail Gorbachev, and Pope John Paul II. The Chorus has performed for Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Tony Bennett, and at the inaugurations of Gavin Newsom, Mayor Edwin Lee, and President Barack Obama.

SFBC performs at numerous civic and private engagements in the Bay Area, including singing the national anthems for the Oakland Athletics, the Golden State Warriors, the Golden Gate Bridge 75th Anniversary celebration, and at Grace Cathedral's World Tree of Hope lighting ceremony. For many years, KQED has broadcast SFBC's holiday concert in four California television markets.



IAN ROBERTSON has been Artistic Director with the San Francisco Boys Chorus (SFBC) since 1996 and has been responsible for the group's phenomenal

growth and artistic renaissance as one of the nation's premiere youth choral performance and educational organizations. He has led the SFBC on numerous international tours and in their several acclaimed recording projects. He continues to enhance the collaborative reputation of the SFBC with San Francisco Opera, San Francisco Symphony and many other music groups.

Maestro Robertson has also served for 36 years as Chorus Director with the San Francisco Opera until his retirement in 2021. While at San Francisco Opera he conducted many performances and prepared more than 350

productions. He was awarded the Olivier Messiaen Foundation Prize in 2003 for his artistic contribution to the preparation of the SF Opera's production of *Saint François d'Assise* and in 2012 was awarded the SF Opera Medal in recognition of his outstanding achievement as an artistic professional.



ANDREI GORBATENKO

is currently in his 21st season as Music Director of the San Francisco Academy Orchestra and enjoys a balanced schedule of conducting,

teaching, recording, touring, and performing as a contrabassist in both orchestral and chamber music capacities.

He has written numerous education programs for the San Francisco Academy Orchestra including an unprecedented graduate program in orchestral studies. The program, designed to be administered by an orchestra rather than a brick and mortar conservatory offers emerging professionals, lessons, classes, mock auditions, and performance opportunities with members of the San Francisco Symphony.

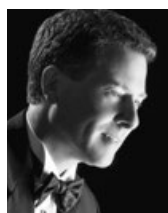
Gorbatenko's other recent activities include a North American tour with Mohammad Reza Shajarian, "Iran's greatest living master of traditional Persian music," administrative tours of the Midwest and East Coast on behalf of the San Francisco Academy Orchestra, and recordings at the Fantasy Studios and George Lucas Skywalker Ranch where he has recorded as both bassist and conductor.

Gorbatenko holds arts degrees from Skyline College and The University of California, and has also participated in the programs of The American Orchestral League, The Conductors Institute at Bard. He has performed in the American Academy of Conducting Orchestra at

the Aspen Music Festival where he also studied bass with Eugene Levinson, former principal bassist of the New York Philharmonic. He enjoys performing new music but feels that, "whether through architecture, literature, or music, the responsibility of bringing to life the imaginations of the dead is the greatest privilege of all."

The mission of the **SAN FRANCISCO ACADEMY ORCHESTRA** is to preserve,

promote, and present the art of orchestral performance as a vital form of human expression. Since the year 2000, the above mission has been achieved specifically by offering emerging professionals the opportunity to rehearse and perform alongside members of the San Francisco Symphony. This side-by-side method of pedagogy, which is referred to by Andrei Gorbatenko as the "Academy Experience," has been utilized in twenty years of orchestral events alongside members of the San Francisco Symphony.



TODD JOLLY directs the Intermediate Chorus, the SFBC Bellringers, the San Mateo rehearsal site, and serves as the Assistant Concert Chorus Director of the San Francisco

Boys Chorus. Since 2007, he has served as the Minister of Music at St. John's Presbyterian Church, Berkeley. For 21 years he was a music teacher and the Choirmaster at Stuart Hall for Boys, San Francisco. As the first music director of San Francisco Renaissance Voices, he saw the organization through its initial decade. A musician, educator, and pastor, he is also a published and commissioned composer and arranger who freelances as a percussionist. He has played, sung, and directed groups across the United States and in Europe. He is a member of American Choral Directors Association, Early Music America, and San Francisco Presbytery.



HARLAN HAYS is voice coach and Graduate Chorale Director for the San Francisco Boys Chorus. An SFBC alum, Harlan was educated at the San Francisco

Conservatory of Music, studying Voice with Cesar Ulloa and Sheri Greenwald, and currently teaches voice as an Artist in Residence at the Ruth Asawa SF School of the Arts.

He has performed with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus and the Marin Symphony Chorus since 2016, and is currently a member of the Extra Chorus at San Francisco Opera. Recent performances include Verdi's *La Traviata*, Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*, Beethoven's *Fidelio*, and Britten's *Billy Budd*. Harlan has sung with the chorus at Opera San Jose and Berkeley Opera, and was a featured soloist in Verdi's *La Traviata* and Moniuszko's *Halka* with Pocket Opera.



SPIRO TSINGARIS is a San Francisco native, and has performed as a member of the San Francisco Symphony Chorus under the direction of Vance George

and Michael Tilson Thomas. He is the fiddle player and male vocalist for the Bluegrass/Gospel group Fret Not.

He holds his Bachelor of Music in Choral Conducting and his Master of Arts in Vocal Music Education, and studied choral conducting under Dr. Joshua Habermann. Spiro has served as the Music Director at Tamalpais High School for the past 20 years, as the Choral Director at First Baptist Church of San Francisco, and he has been a guest lecturer at the Lark Theater's Great Films Great Scores series.



LEANDRA RAMM trained under the tutelage of renowned children's choral director Francisco Nuñez of Young Peoples Chorus of NYC. She received her education

at the Manhattan School of Music and training at Holy Names University in their musicianship and Kodály program. Apprenticeship programs include Arizona Opera, Opera Carolina, and Sarasota Opera. Before she moved to the West Coast, Leandra was on the faculty of The School of Rock, The Institute of Music for Children (New Jersey), and New York's St. Paul's School. Leandra performs with the San Francisco Opera Chorus, San Francisco Symphony Chorus and San Francisco Opera Guild, working with 'Opera Teens' and 'Opera Scouts'. Leandra is also on staff at American Conservatory Theater, as a director in the Young Conservatory.



DR. CETTO leads the Junior Chorus of the San Francisco Boys Chorus. In a past life, he was Director of Choral Activities at the Conservatory of Music,

University of the Pacific in Stockton for twenty-five years. Teddy holds musical degrees from the University of Iowa, the Boston Conservatory of Music and the Hartt School at the University of Hartford. He is a Kodály specialist (teaching music to children). He is an avid church musician conducting in Menlo Park and sings at Grace Cathedral. His motto: *Si hilaris reminici*: "If it's fun, they'll remember."



JUSTIN G. MCCOY

is a Chicago native who obtained his undergraduate degree in Pipe Organ from Ohio Wesleyan University with some focus on

choral music education. He plays the piano, pipe organ, drums/percussion and sings professionally.



FRANZ ZHAO holds a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the University of Southern California, and a Master of Music from the San Francisco

Conservatory of Music. Active as both a soloist and a collaborator, Franz has had the pleasure of performing in masterclasses with artists such as Leon Fleisher, Mack McCray, and the Alexander String Quartet, and has performed and given recitals throughout the Bay Area, Southern California, New York, as well as in Asia and Europe. In addition to his work with SFBC, Franz also currently acts as staff pianist and vocal coach at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and the Ruth Asawa School of the Arts.

Also active as a composer, Franz has appeared on NPR's From the Top as both a composer and pianist, where he was a recipient of the Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award. His works have been featured on radio stations such as KDFC and KQED.



BARRY LLOYD is a graduate of both the San Francisco Conservatory of Music (BA in piano and composition) and the American Conservatory Theater (MFA in acting).

Dubbed "San Francisco's Crown Prince of Cabaret" (by the then mayor of SF, Dianne Feinstein), he has been a staple of the cabaret scene for the past 45 years. He has been pianist, music director and arranger for some of the brightest stars of cabaret. In 2000 he began his solo career, performing his highly acclaimed one man shows across the country from San Francisco to New York City. Lloyd has been working with the SF Boys Chorus for 15 years and is proud to continue his association with this fine artistic organization.



MARGARET ELAM finally convinced her parents to allow her to begin studying music at age 6, launching her on a trajectory that included several lead roles

with Humboldt Light Opera, California State University, Long Beach Summer Opera, and Humboldt University. Ms. Elam earned a B.A. in Music, with Honors, with a focus on voice, from Humboldt State University.

While in Fresno, she performed singing roles with Second Space Theater and Good Company Players, while also accompanying the Junior Company Players. In addition, she was a vocal coach on nine musical theater productions for Good Company Players. Ms. Elam conducted a children's choir at First Covenant Church in San Francisco and has remained busy as a soloist, including regular engagements at Lakeside Presbyterian Church, where she is active in the choral and bell programs.

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SAN FRANCISCO
BOYS CHORUS



DEC 22/23 **Mannakin Theater & Dance Event**

JAN 7 **New Chorister Auditions**

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JUNE 3 **75th Anniversary Concert**

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This Scholarship honors the memory of Norman Wong. The Chorus mattered deeply to Norman, and his experiences as a chorister, camp counsellor and faculty member helped shape his life. He was involved with the Chorus during the leadership of Artistic Director William Ballard.

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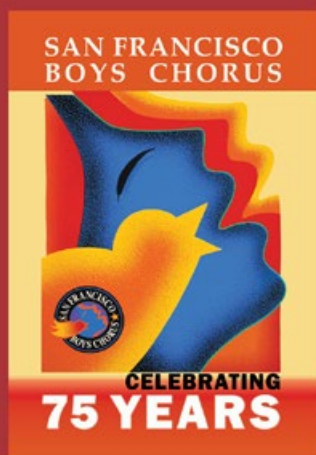
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