

*The Choral Foundation & the Kenneth Babcock Memorial Music Fund  
Presents Our 23<sup>rd</sup> Season Finale Performance*

# **The William Baker Festival Singers**

Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor

Christine Freeman, Associate Music Director & Senior Vocal Coach

Jamea J. Sale, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director

Ed Frazier Davis, Director, Institute for Choral Creativity & Senior Composer in Residence

Dr. Sean Sweeden, Composer in Residence      Megan Moore, Choral Intern

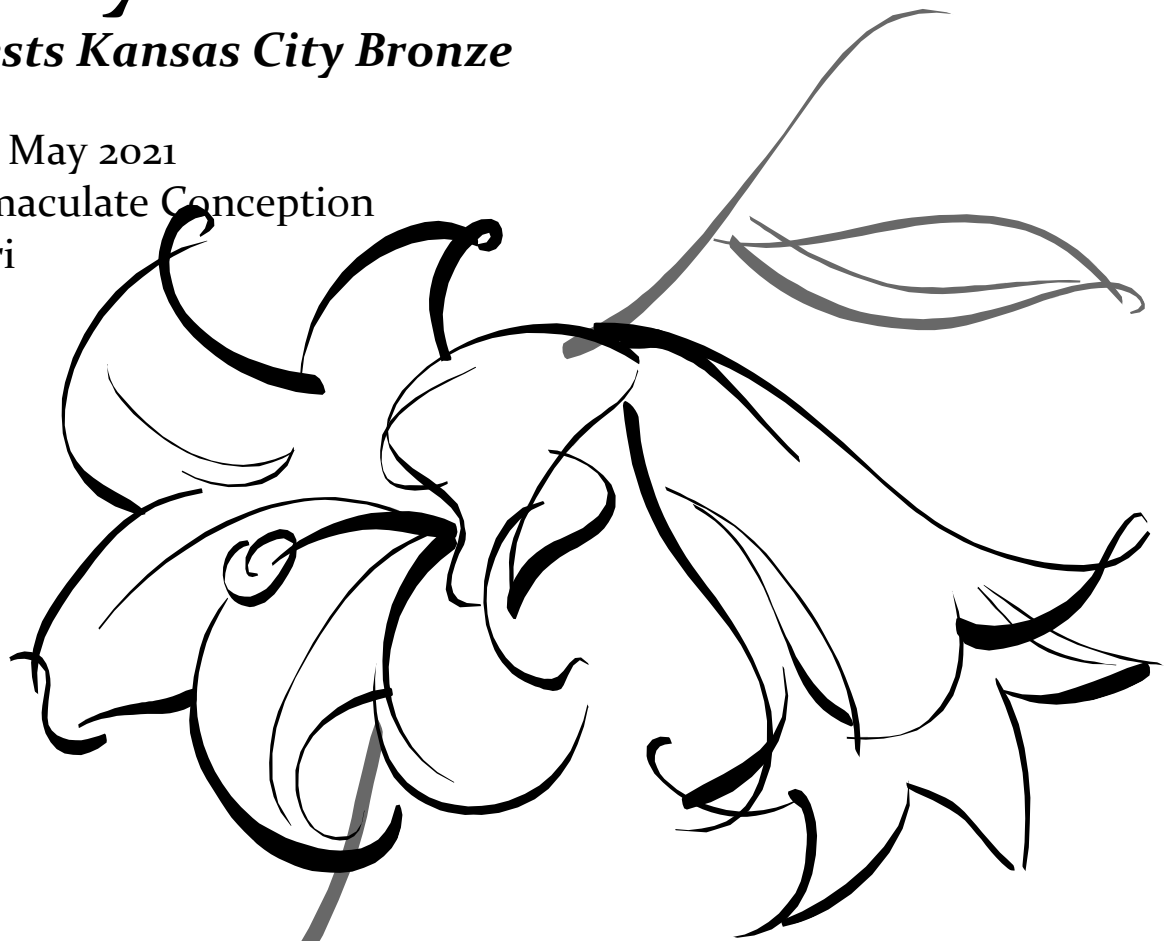
## ***Kansas City Home Concert***

*With Special Guests Kansas City Bronze*

Sunday Afternoon, 2 May 2021

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Kansas City, Missouri



*When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun.*

**SOLI DEO GLORIA**

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul?*

# The William Baker Festival Singers

**William O. Baker, DMA**

Music Director & Conductor

**Jamea J. Sale, MME**

WBCF Executive Associate Music Director  
Director, Institute for Healthy Singing

**Lynn Swanson, MME**

Music Director, Cobb Summer Singers

**Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM**

Music Director, Summer Singers of Atlanta

**Amy Thropp, MM**

Music Director, Zimria Festivale Atlanta

**Christine M. Freeman, MME**

Associate Music Director/Senior Vocal Coach

**Scott C. Smith**

Choral Associate & Administrator, Atlanta

**Ed Frazier Davis, MM**

Director, Institute for Choral Creativity  
Senior Composer in Residence

**Jennifer Lahasky, MM**

Music Director Elect, Lee's Summit

**Sean Sweeden, DMA**

Composer in Residence

**Megan Moore**

**Sydney Sewell**

Choral Interns

**Ellen Hicks**

Librarian & Concert Manager, Atlanta

**Chris Barnard**

Concert Manager, Kansas City

**Leanne Elmer Herrmann**, Staff Accompanist

**Ivy Belk Pirl**, Staff Accompanist

**Michelle Reed**, Staff Accompanist

**The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc.**

5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100

Roeland Park, Kansas 66205 913.488.7524

HealthySinging.org SullivanChoralLibrary.org

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*Laura Rene Baker '99*

*Chris Barnard '09*

*David Beckers '02*

*Jocelyn Botkin '04*

*Dale Bolyard '19*

*William Brubaker '15*

*Jerry Carpenter '04*

*Ed Frazier Davis '16*

*Eric Edman '12*

*Elizabeth Fairfield '19*

*Emily Fish '18*

*Christine M. Freeman '06*

*Karen Kay Hall '12*

*Marcia Higginson '02*

*Jill Holtkamp '07*

*Daniel Huxman '19*

*Jim Jandt '01*

*\*Gary Jarrett '02*

*Jill Jarrett '12*

*Amanda Kimbrough '08*

*Ross Kimbrough '11*

*Jennifer Labasky '14*

*\*Section Leader*

*Rebekah Maples '20*

*Roger McDougale '18*

*Kimberly Megow '19*

*Ken Moncrieff '19*

*Megan Moore '20*

*Martina Pezzino '16*

*Jamea Sale '02*

*\*Erica Seago '17*

*Ethan Sberman '17*

*Cindy Sheets '09*

*Pratima Singh '06*

*Stephanie Sullivan '11*

*\*Sean Sweeden '16*

*Joshua Tackett '20*

*Nicholas Trivelas '20*

*Jessika Toro '19*

*Denice Trawicki '03*

*Leilani Velasco '20*

*Ted Williams '18*

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## *Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor*



**William O. Baker** has earned a reputation as an entrepreneurial conductor and creator of choral organizations. He founded the DeKalb Choral Guild in 1978 at the age of 19. By the age of 21 he had conducted Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Schubert's *Mass in G*, and Handel's *Messiah* with professional orchestras, launching a career of ambitious artistic leadership that now has extended over forty years. In the last decade alone he has conducted the *St. Matthew Passion* and the *Mass in B minor* of Bach, and the *Sacred Service* of Ernest Bloch, at the time of the performances the only Kansas City-based conductor to lead the works in over a quarter-century.

Baker created the Atlanta-based William Baker Festival Singers, originally called Gwinnett Festival Singers, in 1985, and established the William Baker Choral Foundation in 1990. In 1998 the conductor moved his home to the Kansas City area and created the Kansas City ensemble of the Festival Singers. The Choral Foundation has created over a dozen ensembles based in three states, involving hundreds of singers each year. His choirs have performed for numerous conventions of the American Choral Directors Association, the National Association for Music Education, and the American Guild of Organists, in addition to the 1982 World's Fair and music festivals in the United States and Great Britain, most notably appearances before capacity audiences at Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival since 1989. He has led the Festival Singers in the production of over two dozen nationally released recordings and in television and radio appearances across the nation, including *The First Art*, *The Sounds of Majesty* and National Public Radio's *Performance Today*.

No stranger to the orchestral podium, William Baker created the Mountain Park Wind Symphony in 1994 and the Kansas City Wind Symphony in 1998. Primary orchestral performances have included Vivaldi: *The Seasons*, Sibelius: *Finlandia*, Bach: *Brandenburg Concerto No. 2*, Bizet: *Suite L'Arlesienne*, Haydn: *Symphony No. 59 "Fire,"* Mozart: *Symphony No. 41*, Beethoven: *Symphony No. 7* and *Symphony No. 9*. Choral collaborations have included projects with members of the Kansas City Symphony, the Kazanetti Chamber Orchestra, the Atlanta Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Kansas City Civic Orchestra, the Baton Rouge Symphony, the Gwinnett Symphony Orchestra, the Charleston Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra of the American Heartland.



Dr. Baker served as Minister of Music for significant Lutheran, Presbyterian and United Methodist congregations across the South and the Midwest. Major appointments have included the historic Grace United Methodist Church in Midtown Atlanta and The Village Church in suburban Kansas City, the nation's second largest Presbyterian congregation. He presently serves as Music Director for the historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Lee's Summit, Missouri. He is the author of two devotional books: *Hearts & Hands & Voices* and *Wonder, Love & Praise*. Dr. Baker is co-host of *Choral Conversations*, a monthly podcast with legendary classical music commentator Patrick Neas.

An Atlanta native, Dr. Baker studied voice and choral conducting at Mercer University and the University of Georgia before culminating his formal education at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago where he earned the Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting. His accomplishments have been recognized in his home states through proclamations by two Georgia Governors, Joe Frank Harris and Sonny Purdue, by Kansas Governor Jeff Colyer, by United States Congressman Phil Gingrey, by proclamations from the cities of Kansas City, MO and Roeland Park, KS, by the Johnson County (KS) Commission, and by a 2015 proclamation by the State of Georgia House of Representatives. In 2012 he was honored for his contributions to the cultural life of his hometown by the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta. In 2015 he was named Conductor Emeritus of The DeKalb Choral Guild.

# *The William Baker Festival Singers*

## *2021 Semi-Finalist for The American Prize in Choral Performance*



The William Baker Festival Singers has been hailed by *The Kansas City Star* as “The best of the several volunteer choirs in the city...” Though the membership of the 50-voice semi-professional chorale is comprised entirely of volunteers, a large majority of the singers hold music degrees and many are vocational musicians. It is the mission of the Festival Singers to bring the highest standards of musicianship and professionalism to the realm of volunteer choirs. Now completing its 23<sup>rd</sup> concert season, the metro Kansas City-based ensemble has enjoyed numerous triumphs through a tradition of ambitious concerts, recording, touring and broadcasting.

Tours have included performances in some of America’s most prestigious venues, including Trinity Wall Street Church in New York City, The National Cathedral and the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, DC, the Cathedral Basilica in St. Louis, St. James Cathedral in Chicago, St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans, the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Atlanta, and the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City. Their richness of tone, diversity of programming and expressiveness has won praise from audiences and critics alike. In April 2013 the Festival Singers presented their debut concert in Helzberg Hall, a performance that featured the *Requiem* of Maurice Durufle performed with members of the Kansas City Symphony. John Heuertz, in the *Kansas City Star* said, “It’s hard to know where to begin praising this chorus’ performance...What came across Thursday night above all was the great warmth in this chorus’ singing. It was almost like hearing a family.”

The signature repertoire of the William Baker Festival Singers is short-form sacred a cappella classics and spirituals from all eras and cultures. The chorus also performs a major choral/orchestral masterwork each spring. Recent concerts have included the *Requiems* of Faure, Durufle, Mozart, Brahms and Rutter, the *Dona Nobis Pacem* of Vaughan Williams, and the *Laudes Organi* of Kodaly. The Festival Singers own the distinction of being the first Kansas City-based ensemble to perform the *Mass in B minor* and the *St. Matthew Passion* of Bach, in addition to Ernest Bloch’s *Avodath Hakodesh (Sacred Service)* in a quarter century.

**Visit Us On:** *Facebook (William Baker Festival Singers)*  
*Twitter (@WBFS\_KC)* *YouTube (WBakerCF)* *Instagram (@choralfoundation)*



The Festival Singers is an ensemble of **The William Baker Choral Foundation**, a national organization based in Roeland Park, Kansas, that presently sponsors choral ensembles based in three states involving hundreds of men, women and youth. The Foundation also sponsors **Amber Waves Music Publishing**, the **Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library**, the **Institute for Healthy Singing**, the **Institute for Choral Creativity**, the **Choral Conversations Podcast**, and an ambitious continuing education program for **Choral Interns**.

For additional information, please call the Home Office of the Choral Foundation at 913.488.7524, or email [Mail@FestivalSingers.org](mailto:Mail@FestivalSingers.org).

Reconditioning  
the  
**VOICE**  
Online  
Workshop



Saturday,  
MAY 15, 2021  
4:00-5:00 PM CST  
Fee: \$25



**Jamea J. Sale, MME**  
Director: Institute  
for Healthy Singing

## It's been a YEAR!

**Has that mask brought on some strange singing habits?  
Is your voice in need of some re-conditioning?**

**Join us for an hour of Healthy Singing Techniques,  
Reconditioning Exercises and Guidelines, and more!  
Vocal Exercises provided by the VoiceCare Network.org!**



ENROLL ONLINE AT:  
[HealthySinging.org](https://HealthySinging.org)

The **INSTITUTE** for  
**HEALTHY SINGING**  
*Sing for a Lifetime*

### *Sydney Sewell, Choral Intern/Atlanta*



**Sydney Sewell** comes to the William Baker Choral Foundation from a rich musical background. She began her musical studies in the Atlanta area as a student in the Atlanta Area Suzuki Piano Association, where she studied piano under Robin Blankenship for thirteen years. Sydney later attended Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, where she graduated with the Bachelor of Music Education. She taught choral music at the high school level for two years after graduating. Sydney has also directed and assisted with several church choirs in the Statesboro and Atlanta areas. She was appointed Student Intern in May. She conducted selections with the 2019 Cobb Summer Singers under Dr. Norma Raybon, in the 2019, and assisted with the 2019 Summer Singers of Atlanta under Dr. William Baker.

Sydney's long-term goals include completing her master's and doctorate in choral conducting and conducting a collegiate or professional ensemble. She is thrilled to be a part of the Choral Foundation and is enjoying her work as Student Intern for the 2019-2021 New South Festival Singers under the direction of former Music Director Andrew Phillip Schmidt and Interim Conductor William Baker.

## ***Kansas City Bronze***

***Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor***

***The Reverend Gabe Combs, Associate Music Director***



**Kansas City Bronze** is a twelve-member handbell ensemble under the sponsorship of the Choral Foundation. The ensemble held its first rehearsals in the fall of 2018.

Kansas City Bronze's performance on March 16 of this year in the nave of the historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Lee's Summit, Missouri was the last Choral Foundation concert before all public performances were shut down due to the pandemic. Kansas City Bronze developed innovative ways to rehearse safely, holding summer reading sessions and rehearsals beginning in June 2020. They performed an informal concert through the open windows of the Choral Foundation offices in Roeland Park on August 9, and presented their first formal concert of the season on November 8. Kansas City Bronze returned to St. Paul's for their 2021 Spring Concert on April 18.

Though there are presently no membership openings in the ensemble, interested ringers may apply for the substitute list and for future membership consideration by emailing [Mail@FestivalSingers.org](mailto:Mail@FestivalSingers.org), or calling 913-488-7524.

## ***Dr. Sean Sweden, Composer in Residence***



A native Arkansan, **Sean Sweden** began studying music with his parents at a young age, singing in church choirs, various ACDA honor choirs, and musical theatre. He studied percussion with Philip Parker, voice with Dr. Jon Clements, and saxophone with Kenneth Futterer at Arkansas Tech University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Percussion and Vocal Performance. While there, Sean performed in a wide variety of ensembles including percussion ensemble, band, choir, jazz band, theatre orchestra, music theatre workshop, and opera workshop. In May 2013, he earned the Master of Music in Percussion Performance from the University of Arkansas, where he studied percussion with Chalon Ragsdale and composition with Dr. Robert Mueller. Sean received the Doctorate of Musical Arts in Percussion Performance at the University of Missouri at Kansas City in May 2018. While there, he studied with principal percussionist of the Kansas City Symphony, Christopher McLaurin, as well as Dr. Nick Petrella. Sean is published with C-Alan Publications, won the Lee University Percussion Ensemble Composition Contest in 2014, and the VocalEssence Welcome Christmas Carol Contest in 2016. Dr. Sweden plans to compose for a variety of ensembles, but is especially interested in creating works that combine percussion and chorus. Sean continues to perform, teach, and study percussion, sing, and also further his compositional style. Sean was appointed to membership in The William Baker Festival Singers in 2016 and has been a featured soloist in numerous concerts and recordings. He was appointed Composer in Residence in 2020 and serves as a fellow of the Institute for Choral Creativity.

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# THE WILLIAM BAKER FESTIVAL SINGERS

Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor

Christine M. Freeman, Associate Music Director & Vocal Coach

Jamea J. Sale, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director

Ed Frazier Davis, Director, Institute for Choral Creativity & Senior Composer in Residence

Megan Moore, Choral Intern      Dr. Sean Sweeden, Composer in Residence

# AUDITIONS



*The William Baker Festival Singers has delighted audiences in twelve states and from New York City's Trinity Wall Street Church to the Washington National Cathedral since coming to KC in 1998.*

*The Festival Singers' 2021-2022 Concert Season signature programming includes short-form sacred a cappella classics and spirituals in addition to tour performances and Bach's St. John Passion.*

*Chorus in Residence at the historic St. Mary's Episcopal Church*

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*Auditioning NOW for Limited Openings for 2021-2022*

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**[www.FestivalSingers.org](http://www.FestivalSingers.org)**

# Kansas City Home Concert

Sunday Afternoon, 2 May 2021, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Kansas City, Missouri  
The William Baker Festival Singers, Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director

With Special Guests, Kansas City Bronze Christine M. Freeman, Associate Director  
Jamea Sale, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director Dr. Sean Sweeden, Composer in Residence  
Megan Moore, Choral Intern/Kansas City Sydney Sewell, Choral Intern/Atlanta  
Ed Frazier Davis, Director, Institute for Choral Creativity & Senior Composer in Residence

## Welcome

### I

#### IN TIMES AND PLACES

Sandra EITHUN, Born 1963  
Alfred Music Publications

#### Anthem on ABERYSTWYTH

Robert James LAMB, Born 1967  
Beckenhorst Press HB642

*Kansas City Bronze*  
Associate Music Director Gabe Combs, conducting

### II

#### CANTIQUÉ DE JEAN RACINE, Opus 11

Gabriel FAURÉ, 1845-1924  
Broude Brothers BB 801

*Sung in French*

O Redeemer Divine, our sole hope of salvation,  
Eternal Light of the earth and the sky,  
We kneel in adoration,  
O Savior, turn on us Thy loving eye.

Send down on us the fire of Thy grace all-consuming  
Whose wondrous might disperse the powers of Hell,  
And rouse our slumbering souls with Thy radiance,  
That they may waken Thy mercy to tell.

O Christ bestow Thy blessing on us we implore Thee,  
Who here are gathered on penitent knee,  
Accept the hymns we chant to Thine everlasting glory,  
And these Thy gifts we return unto Thee.

*-Jean Racine, 1639-1699*

*Richard Bell, violoncello*  
*Katherine Sióchi, harp*  
*Choral Intern Megan Moore, conducting*

### III

#### O VIRTUS SAPIENTIAE

Hildegard VON BINGEN, 1098-1179  
Arranged by Andrew Phillip Schmidt  
Arranger Manuscript

*Sung in Latin*

O strength of Wisdom who circling, circled  
Enclosing all in one life-giving path, three wings you have:  
One soars to the heights, one distills its essence upon the earth,  
And the third is everywhere.  
Praise to you, as is fitting, O Wisdom.

*-Hildegard von Bingen, 1098-1179*

#### SING JOYFULLY

William BYRD, 1542-1623  
Stainer & Bell, Ltd.

Sing joyfully unto God our strength,  
Sing loud unto the God of Jacob,  
Take the song, and bring forth the timbrel,  
The pleasant harp and the viol.

Blow the trumpet in the new moon,  
Even in the time appointed  
And at our feast day.

For this is a statute for Israel  
And a law of the God of Jacob.

*-Psalm 81:1-4*

*Choral Intern Megan Moore, conducting*  
*Christine Freeman, soloist*



## IV

### O HEILAND REISS DIE HIMMEL AUF

Johannes BRAHMS, 1833-1896  
Edition Peters, 6560

*Sung in German*

O Savior tear open the heavens, flow down to us from above;  
Tear off Heaven's gate and door, tear off every lock and bar.

O God, pour out dew from Heaven,  
In the dew, O Savior, flow down.  
Break, you clouds, and rain down the king of Jacob's house.

O Earth burst forth that mountain and valley become green;  
O Earth, bring forth this little flower,  
O Savior, spring forth out of the Earth.

Here we suffer in great distress,  
Before our eyes stands bitter death.  
Come lead us with Your powerful hand  
From this misery to our Father's land.

Therefore we thank You, Our Redeemer,  
Forever and ever.  
Therefore, we praise you at all times,  
Always and forever. Amen!

## V

### *New Works Through The Institute for Choral Creativity*

### AT OUR LAST AWAKENING

Ed Frazier DAVIS, Born 1987  
Composer Manuscript

*Premiered by the Festival Singers, March 2021*

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening  
Into the house and gate of heaven,  
To enter into that gate and to dwell in that house,  
Where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling,

But one eternal light: no noise nor silence,  
But one equal music;  
No fears nor hopes, but one equal possession;  
No ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity,  
In the habitation of Thy glory and dominion,  
World without end. Amen.

*-John Donne, 1572.1631*

*Richard Bell, violoncello  
Katherine Siochi, harp*

### SWEET LITTLE JESUS BOY

Robert MacGIMSEY, 1898-1979  
Arranged by Sean Sweeden  
Arranger Manuscript

*World Premier Performance*

Sweet little Jesus Boy, they made you be born in a manger.  
Sweet little Holy Child -didn't know Who You were.  
Didn't know You come to save us, Lord,  
To take our sins away,  
Our eyes were blind, we couldn't see  
We didn't know why You were.

Long time ago You were born,  
Born in a manger low, sweet little Jesus Boy.  
The world treat You mean, treat me mean too,  
But that's how things are down here,  
We don't know who You are.

You have told us how, we are trying,  
Master, You done showed us how, even when You were dying.  
Just seems like we can't do right, look how we treated You.  
Please, Sir, forgive us Lord,  
We didn't know it was You.

*Women of the Festival Singers  
Associate Music Director Christine Freeman, conducting  
Matthew Anderson, vibraphone*

### THERE WILL COME SOFT RAINS

Samuel WU, Born 1995  
Composer Manuscript

*Kansas City Premier*

There will come soft rains and the smell of the ground.  
And swallows circling with their shimmering sound;  
And frogs in the pool singing at night  
Wild plum trees in tremulous white;  
Robins will wear their feathery fire,  
Whistling their whims on a low fence wire;

And not one would know of the war,  
Not one will care at last when it is done.  
Not one would mind, neither bird nor tree  
If mankind perished utterly;  
And spring herself, when she woke at dawn,  
Would scarcely know that we were gone.

*-Sara Teasdale, 1884-1933*

## **GOLĪ AZ DAST BERAFT**

Daniel SABGZHABAEI, Born 1992  
Composer Manuscript

*Kansas City Premier  
Sung in Farsi*

A flower slipped from my hand;  
What remains there is a thorn.  
What remains is pain and suffering.  
In my hands remains an infant.  
This is my Beloved's memorial.

## **VI**

### **SONG OF REMEMBRANCE**

Arnold SHERMAN, Born 1948  
Hope Publishing Company

*Kansas City Bronze  
Choral Intern Megan Moore, conducting  
Erica Seago, flute*

## **VII**

### **THREE EARLY AMERICAN HYMNS**

American Traditional arranged by Alice Parker  
Lawson Gould Music 51334, 51340 & 51109

#### **Exaltation**

Come away to the skies my beloved arise  
And rejoice in the day thou wast born,  
On this festival day come exulting away,  
And with singing to Zion return.

We have laid up our love and our treasures above,  
Though our bodies continue below;  
The redeemed of the Lord shall remember His Word  
And with singing to Paradise go.

Hallelujah! We sing to our Father and King,  
And His rapturous praises repeat;  
To the Lamb that was slain, Hallelujah again;  
Sing all heaven and fall at His feet.

*-Charles Wesley, 1707-1788*

#### **Pisgah**

When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies,  
I'll bid farewell to every fear and wipe my weeping eyes.  
Should earth against my soul engage,  
And hellish darts be hurled,  
Then I can smile at Satan's rage and face a frowning world.  
Let cares like a wild deluge come and storms of sorrow fall,  
May I but safely reach my home, my God, my Heaven, my All.  
There shall I bath my weary soul in seas of heavenly rest,  
And not a wave of trouble roll across my peaceful breast.

*-Isaac Watts, 1674-1748*

#### **Saints Bound for Heaven**

Our bondage it shall end by and by.  
From Egypt's yoke set free,  
Hail the glorious jubilee,  
And to Canaan we'll return by and by.

Our Deliverer He shall come by and by.  
And our sorrows have an end  
With our three score years and ten,  
And vast glory crown the day by and by.

And when to Jordan's floods we are come,  
Jehovah rules the tide and the waters He'll divide,  
And the ransomed hosts shall shout we are come.

Then with all the happy throng we'll rejoice!  
Shouting glory to our King till the vaults of Heaven ring,  
And through all eternity we'll rejoice!

## **VIII**

### **RIDE IN THE CHARIOT**

American Spiritual arranged by Brandon Waddles  
GIA Publications G-8532

Ride up in the chariot soon-a in the morning,  
And I hope I'll join the band.

Walk and talk with Jesus soon-a in the morning,  
And I hope I'll join the band.

Oh, Lord, have mercy on me,  
And I hope I'll join the band.

Chatter with the angels soon-a in the morning,  
And I hope I'll join the band.

*Christine Freeman, soloist  
Choral Intern Sydney Sewell, piano*

### **WALK TOGETHER CHILDREN**

American Spiritual arranged by Moses Hogan  
Hal Leonard Publishing 08703332

There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land.  
Walk together children, don't you get weary,  
There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land.

Gonna walk and never tire,  
There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land.

Gonna sing and never tire,  
There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land.

Gonna shout and never tire,  
There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land.

## SWING DOWN CHARIOT

American Spiritual arranged by Ed Frazier Davis  
Composer Manuscript

Swing down sweet chariot, stop and let me ride,  
Rock me Lord, rock me Lord, calm and easy.  
I got a home on the other side.

Well, Ezekiel looked down in the middle of the field,  
He saw an angel workin' on the chariot wheel.  
He wasn't so particular 'bout workin' on the wheel,  
He just wanted to see how the chariot feel.

Well, Ezekiel looked out as he got on board,  
He saw the chariot bumpin' on down the road.  
He wasn't so particular 'bout bumpin' on down the road,  
He just wanted to lay down his heavy load.

*Ed Frazier Davis, soloist*

## IX

### HE NEVER FAILED ME YET

Robert Ray, Born 1946  
Hal Leonard Music 44708014

I will sing of God's mercy, every day, every hour,  
He gives me power.  
I will sing and give thanks to Thee,  
For all the dangers, toils and snares  
That He has brought me out.  
He is my God, and I'll serve Him,  
No matter what the test.  
Trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out.  
He never failed me yet.

I know God is able to deliver in time of storm,  
I know that He'll keep you safe from all earthly harm.  
One day when my weary soul is at rest,  
I'm going home to be forever blest.

And didn't my God deliver Moses from King Pharaoh?  
And didn't he cool the fiery furnace  
For Shadrach, Mishach, and Abednego?  
When I think of what my God can do...  
He delivered Daniel, I know He'll deliver you!

*Amanda Kimbrough, soloist*  
*Choral Intern Megan Moore, conducting*  
*Choral Intern Sydney Sewell, piano*

## MEGAN MOORE, Choral Intern/Kansas City



Megan Moore is an up-and coming singer and conductor in the Kansas City community. Originally from the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, she graduated summa cum laude from William Jewell College in May 2017, with B.A. degrees in Music, Psychology, and Applied Critical Thought and Inquiry. During her time at Jewell, she studied voice under Dr. Ronald Witzke; served as student conductor for the award-winning Concert Choir and William Jewell Handbells; and was involved in the Chapel Choir, Choral Scholars, and Schola Cantorum. Additionally, she offered her voice and conducting skills as a Choral Scholar for Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral under the direction of John Schaefer, then Paul Meier. Recently, Megan has sung in Carnegie Hall with Mid-America Productions and Winthrop University under the direction of Dr. Jeremy Mims, as well as in Texas-based Voci d'Amici, conducted by Dr. Loyd Hawthorne. Locally, Ms. Moore sings soprano in the many renowned vocal ensembles, including Musica Vocale (led by Dr. Arnold Epley), Cardinalis (led by Dr. Anthony Maglione), and Songflower Chorale (led by Dr. Geoffrey Wilcken).

Additionally, Ms. Moore serves as the Choral Assistant St. Mary's Episcopal Church in downtown Kansas City. During the work week, she serves as an Account Administrator for a travel insurance company and spends lots of time preparing for her many musical endeavors. She was appointed Choral Intern for the Kansas City ensembles of the Choral Foundation in June 2020.



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## **JAMEA SALE, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director Director of the Institute for Healthy Singing**

**Jamea Sale** is a native of Colby, Kansas. She graduated from Kansas State University in Manhattan in 1987 with a Bachelor of Music in Voice and Instrumental Music Education, and in 2012 she completed the Master of Music in Vocal/Choral Pedagogy at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. She met rigorous requirements for membership to the International Voice Care Network at St. John's University in 2010. Other memberships include ACDA, NAFME, NATS, and Olathe Music Teachers Association.

Jamea has been a member and soloist with the William Baker Festival Singers and the Summer Singers of Kansas City since 2002, and served as Student Intern for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 concert seasons. She was appointed as Choral Assistant in Kansas City in August 2012, Education Director for the Institute for Healthy Singing in 2016, Executive Associate Music Director of the William Baker Choral Foundation in 2017, and Director of the Institute for Healthy Singing in 2018.



With a certification in Preschool Musikgarten Education, Jamea led experiential music programs for parents and toddlers for five years. She served as Assistant Choral Director and Vocal Coach at St. James Academy High School in Lenexa, Kansas, for 3 years and has taught Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade music in the Olathe School District. Presently she serves as the Vocal Coach and Choral Assistant for Allegro con Brio & Allegro con Moto. In her Roeland Park, KS studio (JameaSale.com) Ms. Sale works with singers of all ages, including persons in need of vocal recovery treatment.

In cooperation with the Institute for Healthy Singing and Allegro Choirs of KC, and in collaboration with the Zhuhai Classical Children's Chorus and the University of Kansas' Dr. Melissa Grady, Ms. Sale is conducting a Longitudinal Examination of the Progression of Voice Change in Adolescent Females. The study in process is documenting 100 young female singers' vocal development over the course of 9 months. Ms. Sale is available for group workshops and private consultation through the Institute for Healthy Singing.

## **CHRISTINE M. FREEMAN, Associate Music Director & Senior Vocal Coach**

Christine M. Freeman was appointed Associate Music Director of Kansas City ensembles and Senior Vocal Coach for the William Baker Choral Foundation in August 2011. She is a native of Topeka, Kansas. Mrs. Freeman holds a Bachelor of Music Education, emphasis Voice, and a Master of Music Education in Choral Pedagogy from the University of Kansas in Lawrence. She was appointed to membership in The William Baker Festival Singers in 2006, and served as Student Intern for the Choral Foundation in the 2007-2008 season, where she conducted Foundation ensembles in Kansas City, Atlanta, and at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston. Christine Freeman has conducted the Festival Singers and the Summer Singers of Kansas City, along with members of the Kansas City Symphony, in performances of Vivaldi *Beatus Vir*, Haydn *Te Deum*, and Mozart *Regina Coeli*. She recently conducted the Festival Singers in performances at the National Cathedral, the Basilica of the National Shrine, and at the historic Christ Church in Alexandria, Virginia. She appears as soloist on recordings of the Festival Singers and as conductor on *A Festival for Christmas*, *Promised Land*, *The Sacred Fire*, and the newest release *True Religion*. She has been a featured soloist for the Lee's Summit Summer Singers and the *Hark! Christmas Spectacular*.



In addition to her work with the Choral Foundation, Mrs. Freeman is a Music Educator and is beginning her seventh year in the Blue Valley School District instructing middle school choral music. She previously taught elementary and middle school music for eight years in the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas. She has been a clinician for honor choirs in Kansas and Missouri. Mrs. Freeman is active in professional organizations and was recently awarded by her colleagues the (ECKMEA) East Central Kansas Music Educators Association "Outstanding Middle Level Choir Teacher of the Year" Award. She was previously nominated for the (KCDA) Kansas Choral Directors Association "Prelude" Award. She was the KCDA Repertoire and Standards Chair for Children's Choirs from 2012-2015 where she organized the Statewide Treble Honor Choir. With her husband Daniel and their two children, she makes her home in Olathe, Kansas.

## **ED FRAZIER DAVIS, Director of the Institute for Choral Creativity & Senior Composer in Residence**

**Ed Frazier Davis** (b. 1989) is an English-American composer, baritone, and conductor living and working in Kansas City, Missouri. He was appointed Composer-in-Residence for the William Baker Choral Foundation in August 2016 and Director of the Institute for Choral Creativity in 2020.



Lauded for its "compelling, [...] colourful orchestration" (Musical Toronto), Ed's music is poly-stylistic and draws from many eclectic influences, from Medieval song to post-minimalism and practically everything in between. He has composed music for a wide variety of media, but as an experienced singer he has a particularly strong affinity for writing choral music. His music has been commissioned and performed throughout the world by many renowned performers and organizations, including Access Contemporary Music, the Aspen Music Festival, Bella Voce, The Crossing, soprano Erin Wall, the Lincoln Trio, PLEXUS, and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Ultimately, he seeks to write music that breaks established artistic binaries—e.g. traditional vs. modern, accessible vs. unfamiliar—to create art that is fulfilling to as wide an audience as possible.

Ed's career has developed considerable momentum in the past few years. From 2012 to 2016, he served as Composer-in-Residence for the Chicago Chamber Choir, the last season of which was under renowned conductor and educator Doreen Rao. In 2014, he was named second place winner of the American Prize in Choral Composition (Student Division), as well as a finalist in Chanticleer's annual student composer competition. In 2015, he received the premiere of his first international commission from the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Children's Chorus (conducted by Sir Andrew Davis), and was selected as one of four

composition fellows at the very first Big Sky Choral Initiative. In 2016, he made his Southern Hemisphere debut with an acclaimed commission from Melbourne-based chamber ensemble PLEXUS.

# The William Baker Choral Foundation

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**The William Baker Festival Singers, Prairie Village, Kansas, 1998**

**The Summer Singers of Atlanta, Midtown Atlanta, 1990**

Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM, Music Director & Conductor

**The New South Festival Singers, Atlanta, Georgia, 1985**

*Gwinnett Festival Singers, 1985-1998 William Baker Festival Singers Atlanta, 1998-2015 Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, 2015-2017*

William O. Baker, DMA, Founder & Interim Conductor

**Zimria Festivale Atlanta, Dunwoody, Georgia, 2014**

Amy Thropp, MM, Music Director & Conductor

**The Summer Singers of Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri, 1999**

William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

**The Cobb Summer Singers, Marietta, Georgia, 2006**

Lynn Swanson, MME, Founder & Music Director

**The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit, Lee's Summit, Missouri, 2014**

William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director Jennifer Lahasky, MME, Music Director Elect

**The Institute for Healthy Singing, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2015**

Jamea J. Sale, MME, Director

**The Institute for Choral Creativity, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2020**

Ed Frazier Davis, MM, Director

**Kansas City Bronze, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2018**

**Choral Conversations Podcast with William Baker & Jamea Sale, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2018**

**The Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2016**

**Amber Waves Music Publishing**

William O. Baker, DMA, President R. Douglas Helvering, DMA, Contributing Editor



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