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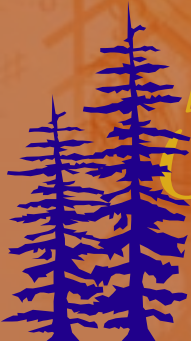
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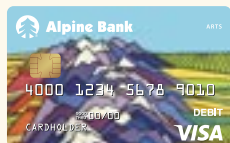

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Message from the Board

Our 51st season launched in September and introduced a new performance schedule of quarterly concerts that will feature both Saturday and Sunday offerings at the Montrose Pavilion. Both the orchestra and chorus will share the stage for all shows this season.

We are excited to welcome our second of three orchestra guest conductors, Charlotte Ruth Harrison. Troy Raper was our December guest conductor, and Steven Aguiló-Arbues will conduct in April.

Part of the selection process for our new orchestra conductor will be encouraging audience input immediately following each performance. Feedback will help the search committee reach a decision in May, when they expect to announce the new conductor.

As an incentive to participate, a beautiful hand-painted violin will be awarded as the prize in a drawing that will highlight the orchestra conductor search. Audience members who complete a guest conductor survey at any of the December, February, and April concerts will be entered into the drawing.

The artist is professional painter and VSA Chorus member Kaitlynn Hurford, who has generously offered her artistic talents by painting a violin that is the focus of our season-long conductor search. For inspiration, she's using the colors and imagery from our season 51 concerts and brochure.

We hope you will be eager to participate in this important process. This decision is a vital one—one that will help us continue to bring classical music to life on the Western Slope.

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CHARLOTTE RUTH HARRISON

Orchestra Guest Conductor

Charlotte Ruth Harrison is a multi-faceted musician with a presence that inspires and uplifts. Born and raised in Utah, Harrison studied oboe performance with Dr. GERALYN GIOVANNETTI at Brigham Young University and graduated *magna cum laude*. She earned a master of music specializing in orchestral conducting from the University of Texas at Arlington under the tutelage of Dr. Clifton Evans. Her musical studies have spanned genres and ensemble types including Baroque, classical, contemporary, jazz, chorale, and more.

An active conductor, oboist, educator, singer, and pianist, she is passionate about inspiring and mentoring other musicians and has taught music to all different age groups.

Sought after for her emotionally moving playing, Harrison has served as principal oboist and English horn player in the top orchestras and bands at BYU and UTA. Her virtuosic solo playing has led her to play in masterclasses with many of today's leading oboists.

"I am delighted to join the VSA Orchestra and Chorus to explore and celebrate music from young and growing composers. Whether you are here to extend your knowledge of classical and contemporary music, or to enjoy a night of beautiful melodies, this will be a memorable and fun concert."

Most recently, Harrison held the position of assistant conductor and librarian for the UTA Symphony Orchestra from 2020-2022. Before this she conducted the BYU Group for New Music from fall 2019 to spring 2020. She has also guest conducted several community orchestra rehearsals including the Utah Philharmonic Orchestra and the New Texas Symphony Orchestra.

Harrison has also had the privilege of working with many of the country's finest conducting educators in masterclasses including Marin Alsop, Dianne Wittry, John Farrer, Edward Cumming, Mark Laycock, Dirk Brosse, and Salvatore DiVittorio. She was chosen as one of two finalists for the Respighi prize in conducting at the New York Conducting Workshop and conducted the Chamber Orchestra of New York in their Memorial Day concert in May 2022.

Harrison currently resides in the Utah Valley area with her family. In between her professional gigs on oboe and conducting, she enjoys cooking, eating, and exploring the great outdoors.



KATY KRISTOFFERSEN

Chorus Conductor

Katy Kristoffersen’s 20 years of experience in coaching and teaching are backed by undergraduate and master’s degrees in music education. Since 2010, Kristoffersen has expanded her practice into mindfulness coaching and loves to incorporate these techniques into all areas of teaching. “Mindfulness is a multi-faceted, dynamic practice that can elevate every part of our day-to-day life.”

She’s been pleasantly surprised to discover how effectively she’s been able to integrate a mindfulness practice into her experiences as musician, director, and collaborator. Her intuitive approach for composing, arranging, playing piano, and singing, facilitate her desire to make music accessible and fun for all. “Music is fundamentally about joy, and I look forward to being a part of the joy the VSA brings to our communities.”

VSA Chorus Conductors

Kelly Neill	2002-2004	Season 31 - 33
Chris Davis	12/2004	Season 34
Aleta Jupille	03/2005	Season 34
Chris Davis	2005-2007	Season 35 - 36
Bethany Ward	12/2007	Season 37
Mary Anne Rathburn	4/2008	Season 37
Bethany Ward	2008-2010	Season 38 - 39
Lenore Hample	2010-2013	Season 40 - 42
Jan Tuin	2013-2017	Season 43 - 46
Allyson Connelly	2017-2019	Season 47 - 49
Katy Kristoffersen	2021-present	Season 50 - present

Note: Seasons run from fall through spring



VSA Orchestra Conductors

Walter Birkedahl	1970-1980	Season 1 - 9
Antonia Brico *	11/1978	Season 8
Rodney Ash *	2/1979	Season 8
Rodney Ash	1980-1985	Season 10 - 14
Keith Cochrane	1985-1989	Season 15 - 18
Dr. James Horton	1989-1993	Season 19 - 22
Michael J. Kern	1993-2022	Season 23 - 50
Scott Betts *	9/2022	Season 51
Troy Raper *	12/2022	Season 51
Charlotte Ruth Harrison *	2/2023	Season 51

** guest conductors*

Note: Seasons run from fall through spring





SANDRA SUNDSTROM

Concertmaster

Sandy grew up in Colorado Springs, CO, in a family of musicians. She was involved in orchestras, choirs, and bands throughout her youth, and earned her bachelor of music in education with an instrumental major and choral minor from Arizona State University. Sandy has taught band, choir, and orchestra in all levels of education, elementary through college.

In 2010, she and her family moved to Grand Junction. Sandy is a violinist with the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra (GJSO), High Desert Opera, and Rockestra, and has an active private studio teaching violin, viola, and cello. Her quartet performs in churches and for area events, and she plays in regional gigs, performs regularly in Aspen for summer weddings, and is a recurring violin coach for Camp Con Brio. Sandy adjudicates for the District 51 Solo/Ensemble, local auditions, and judged the Colorado West Invitational Music Festival in 2013. She was an active member of the GJSO Board for many years and served on their music director search committee.

In 2013, she started as a paraprofessional in Mesa County School District. Sandy assists orchestras at several middle schools, and in 2014, she was a long-term sub for choirs at a local high school.

Sandy and her husband have two daughters, a son, and three grandchildren. They absolutely love living in Grand Junction: the people, surrounding views, and connections they've made.

What is a concertmaster? The concertmaster is the principal or “first chair” violinist who leads the orchestra in its tuning prior to the concert and customarily plays all violin solos within pieces. The concertmaster also marks the orchestra’s scores with the appropriate bowings to ensure all the violinists are moving and playing in unison, offers suggestions to other string sections, and translates instructions from the conductor into specific technical language for strings.

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WELCOME OUR NEW BOARD MEMBER

Stephanie Helleckson - Member-At-Large

Stephanie Helleckson has been involved with the VSA for almost 20 years. She has periodically played in the orchestra as a violinist since 2006 and sung with the chorus under the direction of Jan Tuin. She now teaches music locally and joined the VSA Board of Directors in 2022 to assist with the orchestral conductor transition and support the continued success of the VSA. “My reasons are a bit selfish. I want to continue playing in the orchestra with my father and brother for many years to come!”



Stephanie Helleckson

Stephanie took her first violin lesson at age 5 and has loved music ever since. Former VSA concertmaster Lu Vorys was her first official teacher, and Stephanie has been singing and playing with her family (Brent, Karen, and Jacob Helleckson) in concerts around the area since 1997.

In 1998, Stephanie joined what would become the Valley Youth Orchestra, playing chamber music in a dirt-floor cabin in Paonia. She consistently performed with the VYO and VSA until graduating from high school in 2010, after which she obtained bachelor's degrees in music and anthropology at the University of Colorado Boulder. She also holds a masters in arts administration from Florida State University, where she studied under internationally recognized conductor André Thomas and Met Opera Soprano Marcy Stonikas.

In the course of her adventures, Stephanie founded the North Fork Community Choir, published original research on the acoustics of kivas at Mesa Verde National Park, worked at a humane society on Maui, and spent a summer working at the Sitka Music Festival in Alaska. She has served on the boards of three music organizations, created four organizations, and worked in over half a dozen nonprofits in positions ranging from intern to executive director.

Her most recent projects include:

- Teaching 20+ voice, violin, and piano students
- Directing the North Fork Community Choir
- Co-teaching the strings program at the North Fork School of Integrated Studies
- Performing in the VSA with her dad and brother
- Managing her own writing and editing business

When not working or making music with family, Stephanie can be found kayaking down the Gunnison, cooking with new spices, or brushing up on her Hawaiian. Please find her after a concert and say hello!

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OUR HISTORY: BRINGING CLASSICAL MUSIC TO LIFE!

In 1970 a small group of classical musicians met in the parlor of Wilma and Charles Lowell's Eckert home. By 1982, there were 30 musicians practicing once a week in Delta and performing four annual concerts. Over the years, the group has progressed, growing in size and musical ability.



In the late 1990s and early 2000s, the Grand Mesa Singers and the Christmas in the Valley Chorus were seasonal contributors, mainly at Christmas concerts. In 2002, these choral groups combined, and the Valley Symphony Orchestra (VSO) became the Valley Symphony Association (VSA) to include both orchestra and chorus.

Today, over 100 VSA performers will once again bring their skill, passion, and talent to the stage. They live and work in our midst, represent the North Fork, Uncompahgre, and Grand Valleys, and hail from throughout Montrose, Ouray, Hotchkiss, Eckert, Olathe, Palisade, Paonia, Delta, Ridgway, Austin, Cedaredge, and Grand Junction. Our musicians are teachers, parents, neighbors, students. They have jobs. They have children. They have homes and schedules and commitments. They teach at local colleges, high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools. They work in business, the arts, government, agriculture, law enforcement, and health care. Some are retired. Some are entrepreneurs. Some are military veterans. Some are snowbirds. Some are teenagers. And they are all VSA musicians.

Learn more about VSA musicians by visiting ValleySymphony.net/About Us.

As a regional, all-volunteer performing arts organization, the VSA takes pride in their 51-year history of bringing classical music to life on the Western Slope, their commitment to keeping classical music vital, and their goal of building future audiences.

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FEATURED MUSICIAN

Edie Burgess - Flute

Growing up, there was always someone in Edie's house playing an instrument. When she was just learning to read, she remembers standing in church by her mom, who was the church organist and also sang alto, and asking her how she knew what the next note would be. She showed Edie how the notes moved up and down on the little lines and how you followed along. "That's when I started learning music."



Edie Burgess

She's lived in Cedaredge since she was 8. She has been playing flute since the 5th grade and started piano lessons that same year. In junior high school, she took lessons locally and then from Allen Porter in Grand Junction before heading to college in Nebraska. She came back to the area, got married, and started a family.

Edie first joined the VSA in the late 1980s. In the early 1990s she took a hiatus until 2010 when she started playing with the Montrose Community Band and then rejoined the VSA in 2014.

Her husband owned a machine shop for 37 years. Edie spent several years working with him and also in local restaurants. "I always said I would never own a restaurant. Then 13 years ago, my husband and I opened the Graystone Restaurant in Eckert!" They're open a few days a month, cater, and do private house parties.

An interesting and inspiring fact about Edie: "Most people don't know that, 10 years ago, I was paralyzed from the waist down from West Nile. The hardest thing I've ever done was learning to walk again."

"I just want to play, so in the end, having a place to play and others to play with is what matters."

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Return to Life | Tickets \$5 - \$45

Saturday • September 17, 2022 • 7:30pm

Sunday • September 18, 2022 • 3:00pm

John Estacio's *Frenergy*, Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto #1 featuring Zhengyi Huang, piano, winner of GJSO's 2022 Young Artist Competition, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 in A Major

Behind the Music: Symphonie Fantastique | Tickets \$5 - \$45

Saturday • October 15, 2022 • 7:30pm

Sunday • October 16, 2022 • 3:00pm

Edward MacDowell's *Hamlet and Ophelia* and Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*

A Christmas Classic | Tickets \$5 - \$45

Thursday, December 15, 2022 • 7:30pm

A traditional holiday concert performed by the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra and Western Colorado Chorale with sing-a-longs & more!

John Williams: Maestro of the Movies | Tickets \$5 - \$45

Saturday, January 14, 2023 • 7:30pm

The Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra performs your favorite songs written by John Williams! It's a thrilling evening of heartwarming songs from cinema.

Singer Morgan James In Concert | Tickets \$50 - \$75

Saturday, January 28, 2023 • 7:30pm

Morgan James is an American soul singer, songwriter, and actress. James is well known for her numerous musical collaborations with the Jazz collective Postmodern Jukebox.

Re:Awakening | Tickets \$5 - \$45

Saturday • February 11, 2023 • 7:30pm

Sunday • February 12 • 3:00pm

Emilie Mayer's Symphony No. 5 in F Minor, Antonio Rosetti's Concerto for 2 Horns in Eb Major, and Felix Mendelssohn's *Hebrides* Overture

Classical Goes West | Tickets \$5 - \$45

Saturday • March 11, 2023 • 7:30pm

Sunday • March 12, 2023 • 3:00pm

Elmer Bernstein's *The Magnificent Seven* Symphonic Suite, George Clinton's *The Rose of Sonora*, Ennio Morricone's "Gabriel's Oboe" from *The Mission*, & Aaron Copland's *Billy the Kid Suite*. Guest Conductor Renee Noel Gilliland.

Brahms & Rutter | Tickets \$5 - \$45

Saturday • April 29, 2023 • 7:30pm

Sunday • April 30, 2023 • 3:00pm

Johannes Brahms' *Schicksalslied*, op. 54 (Song of Destiny), John Rutter's Gloria, and Johannes Brahms' Symphony No. 2 featuring the GJSO Chorus.

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YOUNG COMPOSERS: BE INSPIRED!

CONCERT PROGRAM

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791) Age 8

Symphony 1 Eb major Mvt I

Franz Schubert
(1797- 1828) Age 16

Symphony 1 in D major Mvt I

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
(1809-1847) Age 15

Symphony 1 in c minor Mvt II

Georges Bizet
(1838-1875) Age 17

Symphony 1 in C major Mvt III

Alexander Glazunov
(1865-1936) Age 15

Symphony 1 in E major Mvt IV

Intermission

George Gershwin
(1898-1937) Age 20

Nobody But You
From the musical *La La Lucille*

Anwen Borgo
(Born 2004) Age 18

Something Better

Katy Kristoffersen
(Born 1982) Age 40

To a Child
Poem by Sophie Jewett

Nathan Howe
(Born 1982) Age 40

Bloom

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791) Age 24

Laudate Dominum
From *Vesperae solennes
de confessore*
Soprano Soloist: Aspen Bue

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
(1809-1847) Age 17

Chorus 44 "Not Only Unto Him"
from *St. Paul Oratorio Op. 36*

■ Chorus ■ Orchestra ■ Both

YOUNG COMPOSERS

CONCERT NOTES

We're excited to present our winter concert, which is about the young composer's journey, past and present.

The orchestra will treat us to a creative presentation of movements from the first symphonies of five masters. We will experience the first steps of these classical heroes and marvel at their timeless genius.

The chorus will share a Gershwin piece to celebrate how his mentors encouraged his authenticity as a young composer—lucky for us! Then, we'll look into the contemporary composer's journey from three different vantage points of young Western Slope composers. They create in our midst and have written compositions for especially for today's concert. Together, they highlight the arc of contemporary musical composition in a special way:

🎵 Former VYO/VSA violist, Anwen Borgo is a freshman at the prestigious Berklee College of Music studying music composition.

🎵 VSA Chorus Conductor Katy Kristoffersen, who, although not published, has been composing throughout her life.

🎵 Nathan Howe is a published, well-known choral composer and VSA Chorus member.

The orchestra and chorus will join forces to end our concert with two emotionally moving pieces from Mozart and Mendelssohn.

From the past, to the present, and into the bright musical future, we are inspired by young composers who give us the music we love to perform.

“MUSIC CAN CHANGE THE WORLD.”

-Beethoven

The Valley Symphony Association's long-held belief in the transformative power of orchestral and choral music continues to educate, entertain, and inspire.



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YOUNG COMPOSERS

CONCERT NOTES *continued*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) was the youngest child in his musical family. After watching his older sister Nannerl's piano lessons with their father, Mozart began plunking out melodies at age 3. His father, Leopold, began giving him lessons, too, and by the age of 4 or 5 Amadeus began composing songs on the piano. In 1762 Leopold took Nannerl and Mozart, who was only 6, on their first of several international tours where the two child prodigies showed off their incredible musical talents to adoring aristocracy. Mozart's mind was like a sponge during these tours, and he soaked in all the different styles from the greatest musical minds throughout Europe. It was on one of these trips around age 8 that he wrote his first symphony.



Franz Schubert (1797-1828) was born in 1797 in Austria. His father was a schoolteacher, so Schubert's education began at home at age 5. His first musical lessons came from his brother on piano and his father on violin, but he quickly exceeded their skill levels. By age 8 the family sent him to Michael Holzer, the local church organist and choirmaster. But even this seasoned musician said that he couldn't teach the young man much because of his innate musical abilities. In 1804 at the age of 7 Schubert was admitted into the prestigious Stadtkonvikt in Vienna where he was able to study with the famous Antonio Salieri. While there he studied the works of Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven and began to devote significant time to composition. It was for the Stadtkonvikt orchestra that he composed his first symphony in 1813 at the age of 16.



Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809-1847) was born into a well-respected and-educated Jewish-German family. Felix and his older sister, Fanny, took their first piano lessons from their mother, Lea Soloman, at the age of 6. From there they studied in Paris with Marie Bigot and then with Ludwig Berger and Carl Friedrich Zelter in Berlin. Zelter introduced him to counterpoint and older composers like Bach whose styles he would incorporate into his own compositions. Unlike Fanny, who couldn't pursue a full musical career due to societal pressures, Felix began performing in public at age 9. He also started to compose prolifically. He wrote 13 string symphonies by the time he was 14 and his first full symphony at age 15 in 1824.



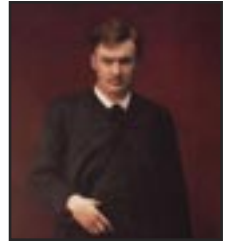
YOUNG COMPOSERS

CONCERT NOTES continued

Georges Bizet (1838-1875) was the only child of two musicians. His mother, Aimee Delsarte, was an accomplished pianist from a family of musicians and most likely taught Bizet his first piano lessons. His father made a living from teaching voice lessons, and Bizet used to sit outside the door listening to the lessons. Upon discovering this, his father also found that Bizet could sing a difficult piece that one of his students was learning from memory. Realizing his enormous musical abilities, his father and mother took him to audition at the Paris Conservatory. He was accepted and started studies at the Conservatory at the age of 9. Bizet flourished at the Conservatory winning prizes for piano and counterpoint and being inspired by other young French composers like Gounod and Camille Saint-Saens. After hearing Gounod's new symphony in 1855, Bizet decided to write his own when he was only 17.



Alexander Glazunov (1865-1936) was born in Russia in St. Peterburg in 1865. His mother was a pianist, and he started learning piano at a young age. He also began composing early on. Apparently, his early compositions showed promise, because upon meeting him, the composer and conductor Balakirev recommended that he study with the famous Rimsky-Korsakov. Rimsky-Korsakov accepted him and was very impressed with how quickly his new pupil learned. Their lessons only lasted a few years before Glazunov was ready to lead his own studies. At the young age of 16 Glazunov not only composed his first full, and quite complex, symphony but was able to have Balakirev publicly premiere it to great success.



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YOUNG COMPOSERS

CONCERT NOTES continued

George Gershwin (1898-1937), born Jacob Gershwine, was an American composer whose music styles spanned classical, popular, and jazz. After hearing a friend's violin recital at the age of 10, Gershwin was enamored with music. He left school at the age of 15 to work as a "song plugger": a pianist or vocalist employed by department or music stores to sell new sheet music. He published his first song, "When You Want 'Em, You Can't Get 'Em, When You've Got 'Em, You Don't Want 'Em," at the age of 17, earning him 50 cents. He would later be rejected by prominent Parisian teachers Nadia Boulanger and Maurice Ravel, because both were worried that his unique jazz style would be overly influenced by classical teaching. In his letter to Gershwin, Ravel famously wrote, "Why become a second-rate Ravel when you're already a first-rate Gershwin?" Gershwin would go on to compose "An American in Paris," "Porgy and Bess," and "Rhapsody in Blue."



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YOUNG COMPOSERS

CONCERT NOTES continued

Anwen Borgo (2004 - present) A freshman at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston MA, Anwen is studying film and video game scoring. She can often be found creating film and video game soundtracks, hanging out with friends, or performing for two college orchestras the BCSO (Berklee Contemporary Symphony Orchestra) and BMPO (Berklee Motion Picture Orchestra).



However, Boston wasn't always where her musical journey was. Up until college, she lived her life just outside Ridgway playing viola with the VSA and Valley Youth Orchestras. In February 2020, two of her pieces were premiered by the VSA Orchestra at their "Kaleidoscope of Local Color" concert.

"Writing for a full choir is surprisingly something I haven't done before, and I am so excited to have my piece performed. When I compose, after I write the first couple of bars, the piece tends to write itself: I hold on for dear life and attempt to capture everything that my brain decides will come next. During COVID, however, whether from stress, anxiety, or grief, I had composition block. This is the piece that broke the block. It's about how a live choir can't be one person but requires many people of such different ranges and styles to unify to create 'Something Better,' hence, the title of the piece. Alone we can't do much, but together we can create amazing things."

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- HANNAH YATES - PATIENT

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YOUNG COMPOSERS

CONCERT NOTES *continued*

Katy Kristoffersen (1982-present) was enamored by music from the very beginning. At the age of 2, she was reaching for the piano to emulate her older siblings, who were becoming accomplished musicians. One of her mom's favorite stories was hearing the piece of music that Katy's brother Brian had been practicing coming out of the piano room while Brian was at a soccer game, only to find a 3-year-old Katy plunking out the notes by ear. Katy started composing piano pieces at the age of four. She was a frustrating student to all of her teachers, tricking them into thinking she had practiced while unable (or flat out refusing) to read a note of music. She stopped writing in middle and high school, afraid that her ear was "stealing" ideas from all of the music she heard. Katy had the great privilege of studying with Dr. Ethan Sperry at Miami University (Ohio). Dr. Sperry, a world renown name in the choral and world music sphere, helped to draw out her confidence as an arranger and composer. She is forever grateful to have so many opportunities to arrange and compose music for all kinds of ensembles and musicians, and to guide and encourage students of all ages to fearlessly explore their own musical gifts.



Katy wrote "To a Child" for this concert, inspired Sophie Jewett's poem. The metaphor of a tree and bird as parent and child resonated with her. "I believe in the deep connection between parents and children, and I think it surpasses what we see with our eyes. I am keenly aware that every moment of my present life with my kids becomes a memory of their childhood. It is tricky, beautiful, and sad. This piece is dedicated to that delicate relationship."

Nathan Howe (1982 - present) is a Colorado composer, and choral conductor. He has published octavos with Shawnee Press, Hal Leonard, MusicSpoke, and Jackman Music. He also self publishes at nathanhowemusic.com. Nathan taught middle and high school choir and orchestra for several years in northeastern Colorado. He now works in higher education while continuing to compose and promote music in schools and the community.



His music has been performed by All State, NWACDA, and other honor choirs, and his choral music and children's songs have been performed in churches around the world. Nathan holds a bachelor of music education degree from the University of Northern Colorado and a master of science degree in educational leadership from Western Governors University. He lives in Montrose with his gorgeous wife, Alli, and their four children.

Nathan wrote "Bloom" for this concert. "As I thought about the concert theme of childhood, I remembered how my wife's father liked to say, 'Kids will grow in any type of dirt.' I love the image, because like persistent plants, children like to assert their individuality and change their surroundings. It's something we as adults should revisit more often. This song spends some time with that metaphor, repeating the refrain, *Yet I may bloom from any kind of ground.*"

ORCHESTRA ROSTER

Guest Conductor

Charlotte Ruth Harrison (Orem UT)
♪ *Donnin Custer & Eunice Acker*

Concertmaster

Sandra Sundstrom (Grand Junction)
♪ *San Juan Foot & Ankle Center*

Violin 1

Chase Houck (Grand Junction)
Stephanie Helleckson (Paonia)
Naomi Lee (Montrose)
Lindsay Shoemaker (Paonia)
D. Jo Lowell (Grand Junction)
Hannah Wieder (Montrose)
♪ *Dr. Mary Kleinsorge, DC*
♪ *In Memory of John Shoemaker*

Violin 2

Rachael King (Austin) *
Emma Gomez (Montrose)
Talitha Costello (Grand Junction)
Lois Drysdale (Delta)
Maggie Cline (Olathe)
Tasha Pratt (Montrose)
Vince Farnsworth (Montrose)
Maya Varela (Montrose)
Dawnell Cook (Montrose)
Julie Martensen (Montrose)
Aaron Clubb (Delta)
♪ *Farnsworth Gallery*

Viola

Dan Lamar (Montrose) *
Julie Applenhaz (Montrose)
Barb Kremiski (Grand Junction)
♪ *Bill Starnes*
♪ *First Contact Medical Specialists:
Montrose Emergency Physicians*

Cello

Carissa Doctuer (Grand Junction) *
Mary Novak (Grand Junction)
Brent Helleckson (Paonia)
Tim Larson (Montrose)
♪ *Mary Novak*
♪ *Pam Petersen Hearing Services*
♪ *Superlative Concrete Seal*

Contrabass

Mike Kristoffersen (Ridgway)
Laura Payne (Montrose)
Troy Raper (Grand Junction)
♪ *Welcome Western Colorado*

Flute/Piccolo

Edie Burgess (Eckert) *
Desirée Simler (Delta)
♪ *Davis Clothing Company*

Oboe

Sammie Alteri (Montrose)
♪ *Troy & Lori Raper*

Clarinet

Holly Burgess (Montrose) *
Stacey Ryan (Montrose)
♪ *Glen Hast*
♪ *Rounds & Brooks CPAs PC*

Bassoon

Carol Franklin (Grand Junction) *
Toru Arisawa (Grand Junction)
♪ *Ramona Good*

French Horn

Sheri Williams (Cedaredge) *
Jeff Williams (Cedaredge)
Julie Huffman (Montrose)

Trumpet

Dave Reddish (Montrose) *
Kendra Sitton (Montrose)
♪ *Avis Rental Car*

Trombone

Cindy Swanson (Montrose) *
Christian Pfretzschnier (Grand Junction)
♪ *Avis Rental Car*

Tuba

Austin Reed (Montrose)

Timpani

Anne Clayton (Delta)
♪ *The George Miller Family*

Percussion

Andrew Bruington (Delta)
♪ *Dr. Mary Vader*

Piano/Keyboard

Anne Koehler (Montrose)
♪ *Cedar Point Health*

*Denotes principal chair

♪ Denotes section underwriter

CHORUS ROSTER

Katy Kristoffersen (Ridgway), Conductor - † *Peggy Kristoffersen*
Max Reilly (Grand Junction), Accompanist

Soprano 1

Diane Balk (Montrose)
Aspen Bue (Montrose)
Kaitlynn Hurford (Montrose)
Mary Redmond (Montrose)
Luanne Svaldi (Montrose)

Soprano 2

Christine Bloss (Montrose)
Kathy Foglesong (Montrose)
Ann Holmes (Montrose)
Cathy Hoffman (Montrose)
Barb Krebs (Montrose)
Julie Laube (Montrose)
Sarah Morales (Montrose)
Amiee Rawlings (Montrose)

Alto 1

Brenda Anderson (Cedaredge)
Judy Bunyard (Montrose)
Anne Harper (Montrose)
Sue Warren (Montrose)
† *The Ruthanna B. Snow*
Charitable Foundation
† *Shirley Richardson Taylor*

Alto 2

Melissa Chapple (Montrose)
Dianne McCully (Cedaredge)
Chris Munday (Montrose)
Liz Soler (Montrose)
Marka Wellington (Cedaredge)
† *Sprague Mayger & Priscilla Fry*
† *The Ruthanna B. Snow*
Charitable Foundation

Tenor 1

Nancy Garcia (Montrose)
Deborah Gordon (Montrose)
Sam Kevan (Austin)
Bonnie Koehler (Delta)
Kevin Pulsipher (Delta)
† *Vince & Carolyn Snowbarger*

Tenor 2

Judy Lokey (Montrose)
Erv Rawlings (Montrose)
Vince Snowbarger (Ridgway)
† *Vince & Carolyn Snowbarger*
† *Dr. Sam & Lana Kevan*

Bass 1

Nathan Howe (Montrose)
Keith Laube (Montrose)
Bob McCormac (Cedaredge)
Seth Ryan (Montrose)
† *Seth & Stacey Ryan*

Bass 2


Rod Bunyard (Montrose)
Robin Nicholoff (Hotchkiss)
Jim Parks (Montrose)
John Thrasher (Delta)
Van Tuin (Paonia)
† *The George Miller Family*

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Lois Drysdale	Violin 2	Marie Heroux
Rachael King	Violin 2	Ramond James Financial Services-Toby King
Dan Lamar	Viola	Abel's Ace Hardware
Beth Pertz	Cello	C&N Storage, David Pertz, Joan & Jim, Mitch Bramlage-Edward Jones
Sammie Alteri	Oboe	Kelley Alteri
Stacey Ryan	Clarinet	Paige & Char Proctor, Jim & Eleanor Ennis, Seth Ryan

Chorus

Katy Kristoffersen	Conductor	Spencer Merage
Sarah Morales	Soprano 1	Fernando Morales
Shelley Becker	Soprano 2	Shelley Becker
Christine Bloss	Soprano 2	Carma Reagan
Catherine Hoffman	Soprano 2	Catherine Hoffman
Kaitlynn Hurford	Soprano 2	Newcraft Dental Arts LLC
Demeris York	Soprano 2	Marie Heroux, John York
Cheryl Harshman	Alto 1	In Memory of John Harshman
Phillis Seuhmann	Alto 1	LeRoy & Ruth Hansen
Marka Wellington	Alto 2	United Women of Faith
Nancy Garcia	Tenor 1	Nancy Garcia
Bonnie Koehler	Tenor 1	Uppity Horn Women
Kevin Pulsipher	Tenor 2	Kevin Pulsipher
Hartland H. Clubb, Jr.	Bass 1	DaVeto's Restaurant
Seth Ryan	Bass 1	Paige & Char Proctor, Stacey Ryan, Jim & Devon Rea, 7th Judicial District DA's Team
Jim Parks	Bass 2	Jim Parks





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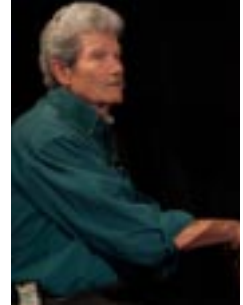


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FEATURED MUSICIAN

Robin Nicholoff - Bass 2

I sang and performed bass solos in choral groups that were seasonal contributors to the VSA's performances of *The Messiah* in the early 1980s and again in the mid-1980s under the direction of VSA Orchestra conductor Keith Cochrane (all prior to when the chorus came under the VSA umbrella in 2002). I spent a couple of decades singing with the North Fork Community Choir before joining the VSA Chorus in 2019. The March concert that year, which was mostly jazz tunes, was very fun, because I had been playing piano and singing jazz tunes with VSA Orchestra members Mike Kern, Toby King, and Andrew Bruington in the Take 5 jazz band.



Robin Nicholoff

According to my parents, I sang my first solo for an audience when I was 3 years-old. It was at the Northminster Presbyterian Church in Springfield, OH, where I was born and raised. Though I don't remember that performance, I do remember singing in church choirs, school choirs, and musical productions through high school. My love for music extended to the piano, and I started taking lessons at age 5. By 7th grade I auditioned to study with Dr. William Walters at Wittenberg University, which led to four years of classical piano lessons and a couple of recitals at the university.

By age 15 I was exposed to the increasingly popular American folk songs which led me to quit piano and teach myself guitar and mandolin. After a year or so I started teaching guitar to other high school students and performing in coffee houses and on college campuses. After cutting off the tip of a left finger in a construction accident, I had to quit guitar, but it led to my learning jazz piano and playing with various groups, which I love. I also love singing with the VSA Chorus and other Western Slope choirs. Someone once said, "Music is life," with which I totally agree.

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