



BOB JONES UNIVERSITY

Division of Music

presents

A CHORAL FESTIVAL

featuring

UNIVERSITY SINGERS

CONCERT CHOIR

UNIVERSITY CHORALE

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Allen Hightower, guest conductor
Stephanie Huish, piano

Rodeheaver Auditorium
January 17, 2026
5:00 P.M.

The Gift to Sing Marianne Forman
(b. 1981)

University Singers

Measure Me, Sky Jonathan Reid
(b. 1991)

Concert Choir

Sure on this Shining Night..... Morten Lauridsen
(b. 1943)

University Chorale

Illuminare..... Elaine Hagenberg
(b. 1979)

Combined Choirs

Splendor

Splendor paterna gloriae,
de luce lucem proferens,
lux lucis et fons luminis,
diem dies illuminans.

*Splendor of God's glory,
Brings forth light from light,
Light of light, light's living spring,
Day, all days illuminates.*

- Saint Ambrose (340-397)

Caritas

Caritas abundat in omnia,
de imis excellentissima
super sidera,
atque amantissima in omnia,
Quia summo regi
osculum pacis dedit.

*Love abounds in all,
From the depths most excellent
To beyond the stars,
And loving toward all,
She has given the highest king
The kiss of peace.*

- Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)

Nox

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. *Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.*
-Traditional Greek

Nox et tenebrae et nubila,
confusa mundi et turbida
Caligo terrae scinditur
percussa solis spicula

*Night and darkness and fog,
Confused world and turmoil
Earth's gloom torn apart,
Struck by the sun's piercing ray.*

- Aurelius Prudentius Clemens (348-413)

Munera pacis

Ecce jam noctis tenuatur umbra,
Lux et auroae rutilans coruscat:
Suplices rerum Dominum canora
Voce precemur:
Ut reos culpae miseratus, omnem
Pellat angorem, tribuat salutem,
Donet et nobis bona sempiternae
Munera pacis.

*Behold, already night and shadows taper off
Light and dawn sparkle and quiver
We humbly beg the Lord through song
Our voices pray:
Though we are guilty, view us with compassion
Banish anguish, bestow health
Grant us everlasting goodness
Give us peace.*

- Pope Gregory (540-604)

*Peace I leave with you,
My peace I give unto you:*

*Not as the world giveth, give I unto you.
Let not your heart be troubled,
Neither let it be afraid.*

-John 14:27

Illuminare his

Illuminare his qui in tenebris
et in umbra mortis sedent:
ad dirigendos pedes nostros in viam pacis.

*Illuminate those who in darkness
And in the shadow of death are seated
Direct our footpath in the way of peace.*

- Canticle of Zechariah (Luke 1:68 -79)

Illuminare is Elaine Hagenberg's first extended work, consisting of five-movements for SATB chorus and chamber orchestra. Using lesser-known sacred Latin texts, the piece takes us through a season of beauty and goodness that has been disrupted by darkness and confusion. But as Light gradually returns, hope is restored, illuminating our future and guiding us in peace.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices before the performance. Cameras, flash photography and recording devices create distractions and may infringe on copyright law. The use of all such devices is prohibited.

Upcoming Music Events

Spanish Brass, January 29, 7:30 p.m., Rodeheaver Auditorium
Symphonic Wind Band, February 13, 7:00 p.m., Stratton Hall

Hannah Crider Piano Recital, February 14, 11:00 a.m., Gustafson Fine Arts Center 119
Rivertree Singers, February 14, 7:00 p.m., War Memorial Chapel

UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Patty Casarow, director; Kenon Renfrow, piano

Soprano Alyssa Autry, Madeline Ayers, Rachel Ayers, Teaghan Bair, Savanna Barker, Gwendolyn Brown, Abigail Chapman, Kiersten Clepper Dora Gagne, Brianna Guenter, Leah Hoffman, Elaine Hollis, Sophia Kane, Sophia Klink, Danielle McKensie, Emmalein Merkle, Ariana Meyer, Elizabeth Millar, Emmy Omundi, Joelle Russell, Emma Snyder, Rebekah Waldock, Olivia Yorgensen, Yutong Zheng **Alto** Kostandina Babuli, Rebecca Cain, Emagene Cooper, Anna Field, Liberty Gillen, Lydia Greenwood, Katherine Griffith, Elissa Henson, Hannah Hoy, Lydia Kershner, Yerin Kim, Natalie Layton, Mary McIntire, Makenzie Prouse, Meredith Roher, Gracie Romberger, Joy Russell, Joy Rutledge, Megan Schaub, Bethany Suttles, Rose Marie Swillum, Emily Tuttle, Emily VanDenBerghe **Tenor** Caleb Aniol, Kameron Bond, Joel King, Edward Labadorf, Enbo Liu, Luke Ocampo, Mark Small, Gunnar Vogrinec, Seth Watson, Ye Mao **Bass** Micah Chapman, Hezekiah Freeze, Nathaniel Helman, Zamar Hughes Joshua Lawson, Andres Melgar, Zacchaeus Palus, Matthew Roberts, James Shelton, Timothy Speaks, Peter Wilson

CONCERT CHOIR

Laura Brundage, director; Deanna Moore, piano

Soprano Sydney Ballard, Abigail Brown, Grace Cantor, Kinsley Ding, Mikaila Key, Mary Grace Mobley, Rachel Myers, Kendall O'Neill, Dacia Weaver, Rylie Wiedell, Alyssa Willett **Alto** Sarai Baide, Annaliese Belcher, Elizabeth Brown, Lillian Cornett, Hannah Crider, Yilin Huang, Sarah Olson, Caroline Tucker, Grace Webster, Bethany Makujina, Macy Skillman, Jessie Spindler **Tenor** Micah Brewster, Daniel Cornelius, Ben Hyink, Logan Marine, Jonathan Rose, Harrison Smith, Asher Wierema, Silas Wilson **Bass** Will Baltzersen, David Bixby, Greg Boyd, Tyler Drinon, Miguel Herrero, Ben Horkavy, Mike (Dongchu) Hou, Daniel (Tianze) Lin, Ben Nguyen, Rudy Reyes, David Roland

UNIVERSITY CHORALE

Andrew Huish, director; Stephanie Huish, piano

Soprano Ellie Bowen, Allison Calamore, Kelsey Campbell, Meredith Fernet, Natasha Ninan, Sara Perreault, Julia Probus, Lisa Welch, Samantha Welch **Alto** Pauline Cadelinia, Natalie Fuller, Rebekah Hawks, Anna Heinrich, Hope Horgen, Allie Kicher, Sophia Kicher, Eliza Mattox, Emma Rohrer, Caressa Weberg **Tenor** James Berrey, Timothy Guerrero, Nate Johns, Ascher Schlichting, David Scott **Bass** Nick Anisimov, A.J. Baker, Ben Beach, Wesley Bradshaw, Paul Crocker, Jack Fure, Stefan Gradwell, Owen Hilton, Micah King, Michael McMillin, Caleb Wilkins, Daniel Zhou

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Violin I Micah Hyink, Elizabeth Dorey, Anna Ervin, Anna Coker **Violin II** Laura Roland, David Ong, Lauren Chapman, Kathryn Jones **Viola** Mike Hou, Anna Heinrich **Cello** Caleb Aniol, Ben Hyink **Double Bass** Luke Bomar **Flute** Emily Tuttle **Oboe** Leah Bedard **Horn** Tim Bedard, Elijah Gleiter **Percussion** Noah Broadwell, Timothy Lauriault

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Thank you to *Chick-fil-A Taylors* for their generous contribution to this evening's concert.

Allen Hightower is a seventh generation Texan, and resides in McKinney, Texas with his wife, Dr. Kristin Hightower and their two daughters Caroline and Julianne. As the director of Choral Studies at the University of North Texas, Allen leads the master's and doctoral programs in choral conducting and oversees a comprehensive choral program of eight ensembles. Allen serves as the conductor of the UNT A Cappella Choir, and the UNT Grand Chorus, which collaborates annually with the UNT Symphony Orchestra in performances of major choral-orchestral works. As a member of UNT's Early Music faculty, he leads the vocal ensemble Vox Aquilae, an artistic partner of the UNT Baroque Orchestra.

Since arriving at UNT in 2016, the A Cappella Choir has received invitations to perform for the Texas Music Educators Association in 2020, the National Conference of the American Choral Directors Association in 2021, and the Southwestern Division of ACDA in 2022. Vox Aquilae and the UNT Baroque Orchestra were featured at the January 2022 virtual conference of the National Collegiate Choral Organization.

As a teacher and conductor, Dr. Hightower has visited 30 states, Asia, and Europe. His students hold positions of leadership as choral conductors in public schools, colleges and universities, and churches and community choirs throughout the United States.

Prior to his appointment at UNT, he held the Weston Noble Endowed Chair in Music at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where he served as conductor of the renowned Nordic Choir and artistic director of *Christmas at Luther*. As Luther's Director of Choral Activities, he gave leadership to a choral program that included four conductors, six choirs, and over 530 singers. Under Hightower's direction, the Nordic Choir performed at the 2014 North Central Division of ACDA, recorded six compact discs, made annual concert tours throughout the United States, and toured Europe on two occasions.

From 2000 to 2010, Hightower served as Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at Sam Houston State University. During his tenure, the SHSU Chorale toured Europe, performed for the 2007 National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association, 2010 Southwestern Division of ACDA, and 2003, 2006, and 2010 conventions of the Texas Music Educators Association. His high school teaching career included tenures at Klein High School in Spring, Texas and at Odessa Permian High School in Odessa, where he led the PHS Kantorei and Satin Strings in performance at the 1996 TMEA convention.

Outside of his work in academia, Allen has served as the Artistic Director of the Houston Masterworks Chorus and Orchestra, leading an annual concert series of choral-orchestral masterworks. As a deeply committed church musician, he has served Baptist, Congregational, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches in Texas, California, and Minnesota. He currently serves on the music staff of Stonebriar Community Church in Frisco, Texas, and has served as the Church Music Vice-President of the Texas Choral Directors Association. He was as Adjunct Professor of Conducting at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

As a conducting student of the Texas choral legend Bev Henson, Allen earned his undergraduate degree in music education and piano from Sam Houston State University. He went on to earn a master's degree in choral conducting from the Eastman School of Music where he was a student of Baroque scholar Alfred Mann, and a master's degree in orchestral conducting from Baylor University, where he served as assistant conductor to Stephen Heyde and accompanist to Donald Bailey and the Baylor Chamber Singers. Allen earned his doctorate in conducting from the University of California, Los Angeles, where he served as assistant conductor to Donald Neuen. Hightower pursued additional orchestral conducting studies with Jung-Ho Pak at the University of Southern California, choral conducting studies with Joseph Flummerfelt at Westminster Choir College and choral-orchestral conducting with Helmuth Rilling at the Oregon Bach Festival. After winning first prize in the graduate division of the American Choral Directors Association's Conducting Competition in 1997, Allen served as assistant to Paul Salamunovich, conductor of the Los Angeles Master Chorale.